

## THE CATALYST

### SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**NEXT MEETING:** 7 pm on 9/14/17 at Jennings Environmental Education Center, pizza and pop provided.  
8/10/17 meeting attendance: C. Denholm, M. Dunn, B. Kuban, F. VanAtta

### Upcoming SRWC Meeting Info

A public meeting to present the Blacks Creek Restoration Plan will take place during the next SRWC meeting, to be held on September 14th at Jennings Environmental Education Center at 7PM.

Also, Westminster College students will be at the October 12th SRWC meeting where they will be presenting their data from conducting water sampling at the De Sale 2 system.

### Lyme Disease: The Latest Data

The latest data available from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) indicate what many of us in western PA already knew: Pennsylvania leads the nation in reported incidences of Lyme disease. A new map created by the PA Department of Health breaks down the average annual number of cases per 100,000 population, and shows the Lyme cases over a five year period (2012-2016) for each PA county. Butler County is in the highest incidence region, with over 150 annual cases per 100,000 residents. In contrast, there were only 16 reported cases of West Nile Virus in the year 2016 in PA. Six states reported hundreds of cases of West Nile last year.

Cases of Lyme are on the rise in many regions, with the main culprit traced to the key animal in the Lyme disease transmission cycle: the white-footed mouse, which can flourish without pressure from predators. Many of our readers enjoys outdoor activities as we do, so we'd like to pass along some basic reminders of how to protect yourself from Lyme disease. To protect yourself from ticks, which transmit Lyme by attaching to skin and sucking blood, one of the best things to do is wear insect-repellent clothing. The fabric has the repellent (permethrin) embedded into the fibers and is effective in its protection against ticks, mosquitoes, and many other pests, for 70 washings. Be sure to protect your feet, because many ticks, especially nymphs, are found close to the ground. Light colored clothing also makes it easier for you to notice if a tick has hitched a ride on you. Insect repellent containing DEET should be applied to exposed skin for the best protection against ticks.



If you find a tick attached to your skin, use fine-tipped tweezers to remove it. Do not cover the tick in petroleum jelly, pour lighter fluid on it, use dish soap, or any other supposed remedies. These actions can make the tick regurgitate its contents into you, which could result in becoming infected.

When you come in for the day, you should run all your clothing through a hot dryer for at least 10 minutes, which will kill any live ticks that might be present in your clothing. Then, take a shower and thoroughly check your entire body, paying special attention to hidden spots — behind the ears, hair line, armpits, groin, and belly button. Parents should check their young children.

Whether or not you find a tick, be alert for symptoms that could arise from a tick-borne illness if you live in an area with known Lyme disease occurrences. A bull's-eye rash indicates Lyme disease, but not everybody with Lyme gets one. You might have a different rash or none at all. New data suggest the rash occurs in less than 50% of Lyme cases, possibly as low as 1 in 3, and even less often in children. You may develop flu-like symptoms—fever, headache, nausea—or joint pain or dizziness. Contact your physician if you have any suspicion of Lyme disease. Ticks can carry diseases other than Lyme. For more information about Lyme and other tick-borne infections, go to [www.lymedisease.org](http://www.lymedisease.org).

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Some of the festivities at the Lake Arthur Regatta.

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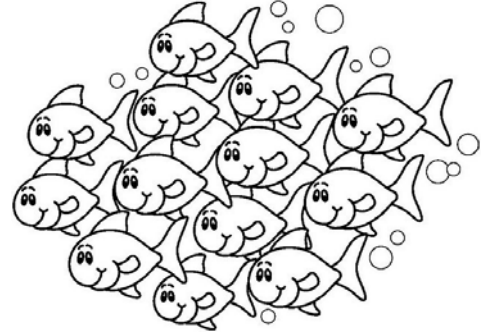
# The KIDS Catalyst

## SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



### Back to School!

It's back to school time! Did you know a group of fish is also called a "school"? In fact, groups of different kinds of animals all have a unique name they are known by. Some of these are common, but some you may never have heard of — and some sound pretty funny! A group of bats is called a cauldron! A group of otters is called a romp. A "crash" is the term for a group of rhinoceroses. And a group of porcupines is known as a prickle! Unscramble the letters on the right to spell out the name of the animals' groups on the left. If you mail us your completed paper, we'll send a \$1 Amazon credit to you, through a parent's email address. (Just be sure to do your homework first!) The credits can be saved up so you can buy something extra special! Have a great school year!



A group of... is called a...

1. FISH

SCHOOL

OCOLHS

2. CHICKENS

\_\_\_\_\_

LKCOF

3. ANTS

\_\_\_\_\_

LOYONC

4. LIONS

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EPIRD

5. WOLVES

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CKPA

6. GEESE

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GGGLEA

7. HORSES

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HRDE

8. SNAKES

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STNE

9. KANGAROOS

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OMB

10. WHALES

\_\_\_\_\_

ODP

11. GIRAFFES

\_\_\_\_\_

WRTEO

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Parent email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated  
A PA Non-Profit Organization  
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