

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: TBD per COVID-19 regulations; January meeting is cancelled. December meeting was cancelled.

New Year, New Views:

Jennings Adds Self-Guided Walkabouts

As the new year approaches (and perhaps especially this year) people often reflect on events of the past and look to the future in anticipation of what lies ahead. In nature and the outdoors, we can find inspirational lessons for this time of transition. The cool, crisp air of wintertime can refresh both body, mind, and spirit! From December 26 through January 8, visitors can take time to reflect on these lessons during a *special, limited-time only* New Year, New Views Self-Guided Walkabout at Jennings Environmental Education Center. This exploration will not only showcase some of the best scenery of the park, but will highlight insights into rest, resilience, hope, and more, as visitors view and contemplate the flora, fauna, water, and winds of change around them. A free 12-stop guide and map to the stops will be available at park brochure racks, in the park office, or electronically by request. Two of the stops are shown in the photos below. Routes of various lengths are possible. For questions, or to request an electronic guide, contact Jennings at 724-794-6011 or email jenningsp@pa.gov.



2020 Year in Review?

Normally every January, the front page of the Catalyst summarizes highlights of conferences, education/outreach activities, and other watershed-related events of the past year that the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed Coalition was involved with. Though some of these events and activities did still take place on a virtual scale rather than in-person, many of them were cancelled or postponed. Following the theme of 2020, we decided to “cancel” our Year in Review as well, but are hopeful 2021 allows for more in-person watershed gatherings, educational activities, and conferences!



The Foltz School House, built in 1880, is currently being restored under the direction of Jennings Environmental Education Center. New insulation was delivered recently and some small projects have been happening inside. Look for more news as restoration work ramps up! And the next time you're at Jennings, be sure to take a look at one of the final five public one room school houses to close in Pennsylvania!

A New Year, A New Intern

We'd like to introduce **Isaac Busler** as the newest intern at Stream Restoration Incorporated! Isaac is a Junior at Butler Senior High School. Throughout his schooling, his favorite subjects have always been science, math, and computers. Isaac enjoys 3D printing, Raspberry Pi applications, learning programming, and also runs track and cross country. He plans to study computer engineering and entrepreneurship in college.

"I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity" of the internship, says Isaac. "I'm thankful for this work experience to help prepare myself for the future."

In 2021, Isaac is tasked with trekking to the locations of several sondes, also known as data loggers, which have been strategically placed throughout the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed. Isaac's job will be to collect the data stored in the data loggers, which will help ascertain the general quality of the streams and alert us to any potential problems. Data loggers keep track of certain water quality parameters for future study, including water temperature and conductivity, which measures the amount of dissolved ions in the water.

As an intern, Isaac will visit approximately 12 sites within the Slippery Rock Creek watershed every couple of months. He will download data from the sondes, process and upload it to the SRWC web site, incorporating it into a single file accessible by the public. In addition, Isaac will assist volunteers as needed and collect water samples annually at the data logger locations. Isaac's new internship is funded with gratitude by the Colcom Foundation and their commitment to a sustainable future. The Colcom Foundation generously provides funding to organizations for environmental projects with a focus on environmental sustainability, natural resource preservation, land and water conservation, and responsible balance for humankind in a fragile, yet resilient ecosystem. To learn more about them, visit <https://colcomfdn.org>.





The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



January Word Search

It's January! Happy New Year! As we say goodbye to 2020 and welcome the start of 2021, we hope you and your families enjoyed a fun holiday season! To kick off a new year, we have a word search puzzle for you, all about January. 20 words are hidden in the puzzle below. Circle the words, and if you can find all 20, be sure to send us your completed paper! We'll send you a \$1 Amazon credit through a parent's email address. You can save your credits to buy something extra special. Good luck, and Happy 2021!

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|---------|----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| January | Freezing | Sledding | Sweater | Hockey |
| Winter | Snow | Hot chocolate | Scarf | New Year |
| Cold | Icicle | Hibernate | Mittens | Resolution |
| Frost | Snowman | Snowflake | Boots | Countdown |

S	N	E	L	D	C	X	Y	E	T	A	L	O	C	O	H	C	T	O	H
F	R	E	E	Z	I	N	G	C	L	E	A	T	H	I	S	J	O	K	U
A	X	L	A	D	S	W	N	O	O	V	B	S	N	T	T	I	N	S	C
D	J	A	N	W	Q	U	I	U	R	Y	H	O	C	H	K	L	V	Z	O
L	M	E	S	A	H	U	D	A	S	N	V	E	Q	Z	C	X	I	E	U
O	D	D	B	S	L	Q	D	W	A	B	D	G	M	U	R	C	S	S	N
C	O	W	A	K	T	R	E	X	I	Z	C	M	N	Q	I	N	R	J	T
J	Q	S	U	S	N	A	L	O	W	N	I	C	A	C	E	N	S	N	D
M	N	A	N	B	T	R	S	E	A	K	T	F	L	A	T	S	L	U	O
C	H	D	I	E	N	N	E	T	Q	U	O	E	P	P	W	N	A	U	W
I	C	I	R	C	T	S	X	W	O	S	N	O	R	X	Z	O	P	L	N
K	N	C	S	N	W	T	C	H	G	O	L	V	A	G	L	W	B	O	T
B	O	T	Z	I	C	M	I	A	R	B	B	L	E	I	Z	F	Z	X	A
E	I	H	C	H	O	B	A	M	C	H	O	C	Y	H	O	L	H	J	H
H	T	O	K	E	Y	S	W	E	A	B	Z	D	W	M	N	A	O	A	O
C	U	A	C	O	L	K	C	B	W	H	O	C	E	U	Y	K	Q	N	S
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F	R	O	S	T	D	O	I	W	N	H	S	R	L	N	L	P	I	A	B
C	B	F	R	O	Q	W	S	H	G	F	O	W	M	S	C	A	R	F	I

Name _____ Age ____ Parent email address: _____



Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
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