

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETING: November meeting is canceled. 10/14/21 meeting attendance: J. Belgraden, C. Denholm, M. Dunn, D. Johnson, B. Kuban, S. Smith, F. VanAtta, S. VanDerWal

2021 Student Symposium: Join Us for a Hybrid Event!

Students from across the western Pennsylvania region are invited to the 2021 Annual Student Symposium on the Environment! This year there will be a hybrid event, with both in-person and online options to participate. The event will take place at Westminster College on Monday, November 29th through Thursday, December 2nd. The schedule is as follows:

2021 Hybrid Student Symposium on the Environment:

Online Video Showcase of ALL Presentations (via YouTube)

Monday, November 29 - Thursday, December 2

Live Poster Presentation

Thursday, December 2, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Photo Contest (Online and Live)

Monday November 29 - Thursday, December 2, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Live Oral Presentations

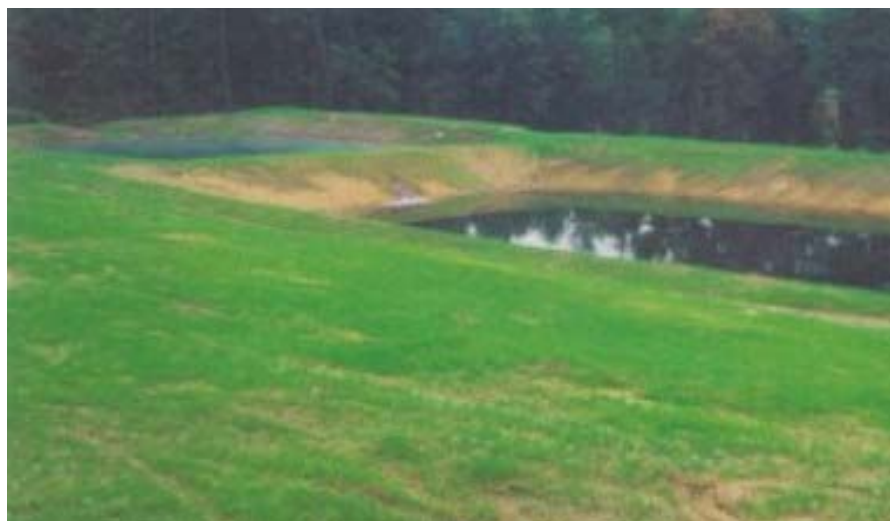
Thursday, December 2, 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

High school and college students from area schools are invited to showcase their research, projects, creative endeavors, and photos, related to the environment to environmental professionals, professors and other educators, business and industry leaders, environmental organizations, and their peers. All submissions will be evaluated by volunteer judges, and awards (cash prizes) will be announced in multiple categories during the in-person event. Participants will have the choice of attending the event in-person, or via a dedicated YouTube channel. All Symposium participants will be eligible to take part in a future employment and internship initiative (look for an email with additional information). All participants planning to attend the in-person event, including, but not limited to, presenters, exhibitors, guests, attendees, and staff, must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask.

The deadline for submission is Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021. Submissions are to be completed using the following portal link: www.westminster.edu/environmental-symposium. Registration and video-making tips are available on the web site. For more information or to ask a question, please email ENV@westminster.edu.

Nature Book Sale: November 12 and 13 at Jennings!

Have a love for the outdoors and books? Looking for environmental education and science resources for school, scouts, or 4H? Come out to Jennings Environmental Education Center for the Moraine, McConnells Mill and Jennings Commission (3MJC) Nature Book Sale! An advanced sale for educators, scout/4-H leaders, other non-formal educators, and college students will take place on November 12 from 4 pm – 7 pm, with an open sale for all on Saturday, November 13 from 9 am – 4 pm. Both sales take place in the classroom at Jennings. Books are used, in a variety of conditions, and include field guides, children's nature books, textbooks, activity guides, and more. All sales are pay-what-you-can (no prices marked), with proceeds supporting expanding educational resources at Jennings EE Center and other projects in the parks. Cash, Check, or Credit accepted.



The Ferris Passive Treatment Complex in Hilliards, Venango Township (shown above) recently underwent an extensive rehabilitation in the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed. Look for an upcoming article to detail the work done by Spur Excavation, LLC, construction contractor.

November Jennings Events

Before the weather turns bitterly cold, be sure to enjoy some time in the great outdoors! There's no better place to do so than at Jennings Environmental Education Center! It's always a fun experience walking around the variety of habitats along Jennings' several miles of hiking trails. See woodlands, wetlands, stream habitat, and a rare relict prairie carefully maintained by JEEC, and home to the endangered massasauga rattlesnake. Jennings was chosen by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and its Bureau of Parks as one of "25 Must-See Pennsylvania State Parks." With its main focus on environmental education, there are always great programs being offered to the public. Here are a few upcoming in November:

Family Science Outside: Weather Wonders

November 9, 11, 14. Time options: 9 AM, 11 AM, 1 PM

At-home learners and their grown-ups delve into the living lab of the great outdoors!

During Week 2 Temperature Trials, discover how and why temperature changes throughout the day and over time, while learning to make measurements and predictions. Children in grades 2-6 (other siblings are welcome) participate in activities with the Jennings staff, including introductory explorations and guidance on using exploration tools. Included is a loaner kit to aid in your family's investigations, including items like weather instruments, measuring tools, and more, an investigation guide to complete together as a family while out and about exploring, and resources for continuing the explorations and learning at home. Families/cooperative groups/"pods" can register for their own time slot each week. Time slots are available for one family/cooperative group/"pod" at a time (max 12 people/group).

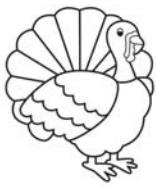
Wee Wonders: Small for Fall (November 17), Winter is Coming (December 9)

Time Options: 10 AM or 1 PM.

JEEC invites 2-4 year-olds to experience the fun of fall as we use exciting games, creative crafts, hands on experiences and outdoor adventure to stimulate your child's curiosity of the natural world. Space is limited. Program lasts for 90 minutes. Register online or by calling the center at 724-794-6011.

Naturally Grateful: A Moonlit Walk (Sat. Nov. 20, 7-9 PM)

Begin the feelings of Thanksgiving gratefulness while strolling the Jennings trails on a full moon evening. Join Jennings staff to discover how some of the holiday sentiments we practice also occur in nature. Many animals coexist in family groups and share their homes and food with others. After, warm up by a campfire to complete the experience. The walk will cover about a mile of varied terrain and pass through several different habitats. The trail is rated "easy," for those who are able to travel the distance over sloping or uneven areas. It will be held outdoors under clear, rainy or snowy skies, and will begin at the "Prairie Area and Trails" parking lot. This is a free event and no pre-registration is required.



The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY

Color a Cornucopia

The cornucopia is seen as a symbol of Thanksgiving, or of harvest time. It is a symbol of plenty, a goat's horn overflowing with flowers, fruit, and corn. You will often see multiple cone-shaped containers holding an abundance of food bursting with color around Thanksgiving time. What you are thankful for this Thanksgiving? We hope you have fun coloring the cornucopia below. If you mail us your completed picture we will send you a \$1 credit to Amazon through a parent's email address. You can save up your credits to buy something extra special. Happy Thanksgiving to all of our readers!

HAPPY
THANKS
GIVING



Name _____ Age ____ Parent email address: _____



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