THE CATALYST
SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

<u>**NEXT MEETING:**</u> **TBD per COVID-19 regulations; tentatively planned for 7 PM on 6/9/22 at Jennings Environmental Education Center. Pizza/pop return; social distancing will be followed. 5/12/22 meeting attendance: J. Belgraden, C. Denholm, M. Dunn, D. Johnson, S. Smith, W. Taylor, S. Vanderwal**

<u>Schoolhouse Restoration</u>

Turns out there is more to restore in the Slippery Rock Creek Watershed than just land and streams impacted by abandoned mine drainage! This particular location was impacted by time and the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics (the law of increasing entropy — as time goes by, everything decays, breaks down, etc.) We're talking about the Foltz Schoolhouse, located in Slippery Rock and under the care of Jennings Environmental Education Center. This one room, township school was built in 1880, on the site of a former log school. After 83 years of classes, the school closed in 1963. Foltz school was one of the last five public, one room schools to close in Pennsylvania. Many residents can remember when the building was in ruins, to the point where it didn't even have a roof. Well, bring on the Jennings "Schoolhouse Crew"! These hard workers have accomplished much successful restoration over the past couple of years, showing admirable dedication to the park and to this project. In fact, their hard work was recently recognized with an award from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) for "outstanding dedication and performance" with the restoration work. Staff at Jennings are anxious to show off the results soon. From running electric to drywalling, from painting, painting, and more painting to collaborating with partners and leveraging the time, talents, and resources of the community and beyond, the "Schoolhouse Crew" has spent countless hours to bring this historical treasure back to life. We thank them for their hard work and look forward to seeing everything real soon!

DiscoverE Day Camps Return at Jennings!

Jennings Environmental Education Center is excited to announce the return of their DiscoverE Day Camps! Children ages 4 through 12 will love spending time exploring outside and learning some awesome information about our forests and more! Sessions are broken into 3 age categories:

Hide-N-Seekers (4 & 5 year olds) Tuesdays from June 14 - July 5, explore Fantastic Forests (choose an AM or PM session, $2 per session)

Outdoor Explorers (6-8 year olds) Thursdays from June 16 - July 7, Seeing the Forest AND the Tree (choose an AM or PM session, $5 per session)

Penn's Adventurers (9-12 year olds) on Wednesdays from July 13 - July 27 (one session each day) will be announced soon!

Registration and payment are required in advance: https://events.dcnr.pa.gov/jennings.../calendar/month/2022/6 (for both Hide-N-Seekers and Outdoor Explorers)

The Foltz Schoolhouse is looking much better than it has in a very long time! Built in the year 1880 (see article, first page), some loving restoration work will once again turn this building into an educational tourist attraction.
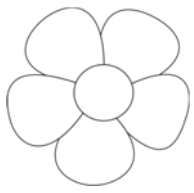
Save the Date!

Lake Arthur Regatta August 5-7

Mark your calendars for the Moraine State Park Regatta and plan for some summer-time fun! A full weekend of free family fun at the shores of beautiful Lake Arthur will have something to offer everyone. The 2021 event saw a record 28,000 attendees! This year's eco-recreational event is sure to please the crowds once again, as many exciting activities are planned. Some of the fun will include a car cruise, corn hole tournament, classes and demonstrations of yoga, tai chi, martial arts, pilates, etc., guided nature hikes, live music, a vendor marketplace featuring food trucks galore, work from local crafts and artisans, showcases from area businesses and service providers, an amazing fireworks display, children's activities, lake tours and work-shops hosted by expert instructors and local outfitters, water activities such as kayaking, canoeing, rowing, stand-up paddle-boarding, sailing, fishing, etc.

This year will mark the first time the Annual Pittsburgh Paddlesport Championships will be held at Lake Arthur, allowing spectators the fun opportunity to cheer on competitors in events such as kayaking and paddle-boarding. In keeping with tradition, a butterfly release will take place on Sunday, August 7. The sky will fill with color and movement during a mass release of close to 500 beautiful monarch butterflies, a creature the park works hard to help via milkweed and habitat protection and propagation.
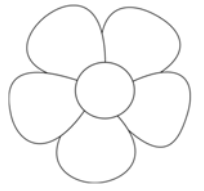
The official Regatta web site is a great place to discov-er the latest information on this event. Some activities require pre-registration. There are also opportunities to be a sponsor or a volunteer. To learn about these, visit **https://morainestateparkregatta.org/** or check out information available on the Regatta Facebook page or Instagram.
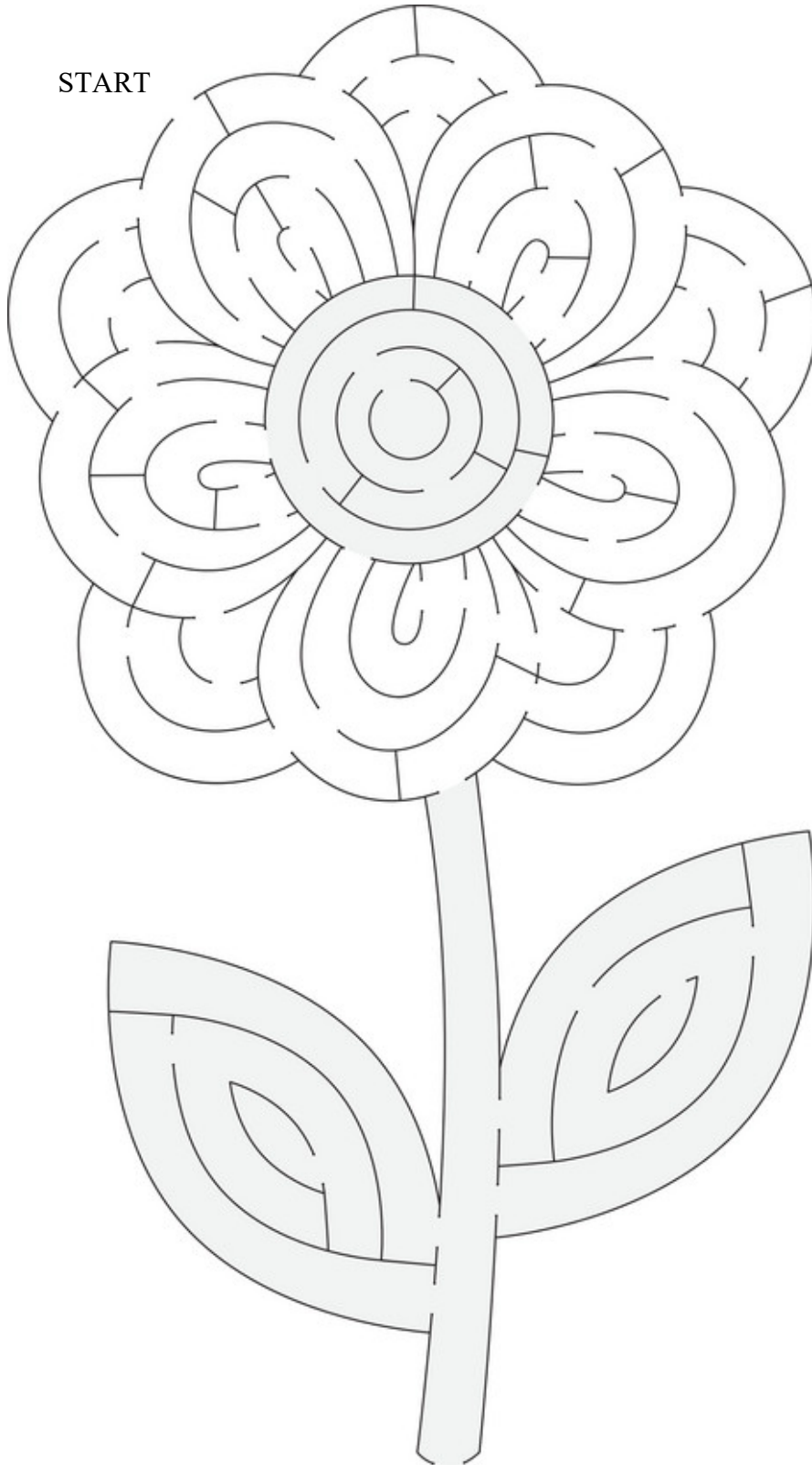
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY

April Shower Bring May Flowers… and Flower Mazes!

START

FINISH

Hi kids! The end of May and beginning of June are wonderful times to see lots of flowers in bloom in Pennsylvania! And this month's activity goes right along with that flower theme! We want to challenge you to find the correct path from start to finish in the flower maze here! If you can do it, and you mail us your completed paper, we'll send you a $1 Amazon credit to a parent's email. You can save your credits to buy something really special!

Name _____ Age ____ Parent email address: _____

Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition c/o Stream Restoration Incorporated
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