

THE CATALYST

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION MONTHLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

NEXT MEETINGS: Tentatively planned for 7 PM on 7/13/23 at Jennings Environmental Education Center. Pizza/pop provided. 6/8/23 attendance: M. Dunn, C. Denholm, L. Furst, S. Smith, W. Taylor

American Society of Reclamation Sciences: Inspiration in Idaho

The 40th annual meeting of the American Society of Reclamation Sciences (ASRS) was held from June 4 – 7 in Boise, Idaho, and attended by several members of the SRWC. This was the second conference for the society with the current name, which was previously known as the American Society of Mining and Reclamation (ASMR). The DeLamar Mine field tour was a wonderful way to kick off the conference proceedings. A very knowledgeable group from Integra Resources shared the rich history of the site, including the battles fought in the War Eagle Mine underground in the 1800s. Located near Silver City, Idaho, the gold and silver mine has a long history of various stages of active development and reclamation. Silver City is an historic and artistic town known for its associations with Billy the Kid and Geronimo, but is only occupied by most of its residents seasonally due to the annual snowfall. Current efforts for reclamation include seasonal capture of water which is treated and pumped to a land application system which is distributed through a sprinkler system. Because of the high elevation and yearly snowfall, a limited window exists each year for water treatment. Exploratory drilling has taken place which may precede possible future mining of existing reclaimed tailings piles using newer methods, as well as mining in new areas.

Back in Boise, a varied group of presenters from industry professionals, academia, and regulatory agencies provided a wide range of expertise and shared their knowledge and new experiences. Presentation



topics at the conference varied greatly in scope and included water treatment, carbon dioxide monitoring, mine reclamation, and urban landscape reforestation. Along with the wonderful poster presentations on Tuesday evening, mother nature provided quite the display with hail storms and a double rainbow.

The riverfront parks, Boise Zoo, art museums, state capitol building, and a multitude of restaurant and refreshment options held plenty of opportunities for conference attendees to enjoy all that Boise had to offer during the free lunch and dinner breaks. Keep an eye out for ghosts if you tour the old Idaho State Penitentiary! And remember - if visiting in June, even if it isn't in the forecast, don't forget your rain coat!





A hike along the Iron Creek Trail in Sawtooth National Forest was a highlight for several SRWC participants during their time in Idaho at the American Society of Reclamation Sciences conference in June (see article page 1).

Summertime Fun at Jennings

Soak in summer's warmth and sunshine with some super fun educational activities at Jennings Environmental Education Center! There's no better time to be outdoors! You can stay up-to-date with the latest information on programs for various ages by visiting <https://events.dcnr.pa.gov> and then typing Jennings Environmental Education Center in the search box, but we are also going to highlight a few for you right here:

Wildflower Identification Workshop: August 5th 9 AM to 12 PM

Wildflowers are nature's fireworks! The variety of colors, shapes and sizes abound. Join Jennings' staff to deepen your identification skills and gain more appreciation for the uniqueness of the summertime flowers all around us. This in-depth workshop, **for ages 16 and older**, will guide you in becoming a better naturalist by explaining the meaning of botanical terms while dissecting a flower to understand plant structure and parts. Then practice using field guides and apps to identify flowers growing in the Jennings prairie. This is a FREE workshop, however, pre-registration is required no later than Wednesday, July 31st by clicking on the green button to the right or calling the Center at 724-794-6011.

DiscoverE: Hide 'n Seekers (ages 4-5), Outdoor Explorers (ages 6-8), and Penn's Adventurers (ages 9-12) Various July dates

DiscoverE is a hands-on day camp experience that allows children to explore nature while building confidence, curiosity of the natural world and social skills. Each age group has its own unique theme and activities, with either 3 or 4 sessions. There is a fee per child per program, and registration must be done individually for each session. There are several dates throughout the month of July for the DiscoverE classes. Register online via the website listed above and selecting Jennings and the appropriate class.

Morning Bird Walks: July 14, August 18 (9 AM to 11 AM)

Join Jennings staff for casual bird walks this summer on July 14th and August 18th. Birders of all levels are welcome. We'll meet in the prairie side parking lot at 9:00 AM. Some binoculars will be available on a first-come-first-served basis. This is a free experience and registration is not required. This walk will happen rain or shine. For questions please call the Center at 724-794-6011.



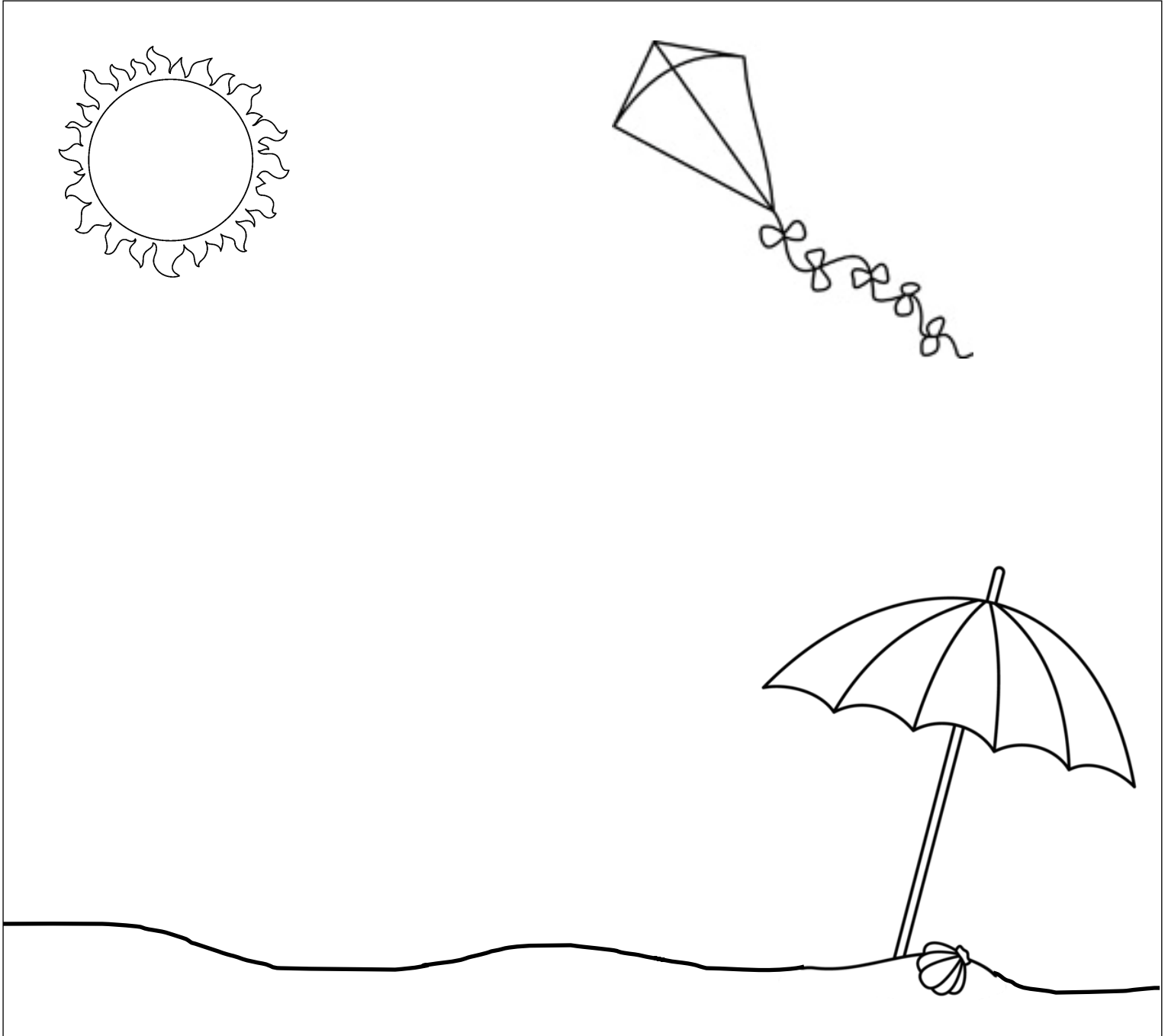
The KIDS Catalyst

SLIPPERY ROCK WATERSHED COALITION FUN ACTIVITY



Summer Sandcastle Challenge!

Summer means fun in the sun! Whether at the pool, stream, lake, or ocean, it's always a great day when it's a day spent by the water. And when at the beach, one of the most fun activities is building a sand castle! Did you know the world record for largest sand castle was set in the year 2021 in the seaside town of Blokhus in Denmark, and stood at 69 feet tall? It was created using 5000 tons of sand! We'd like to see what sandcastle or sand-sculpture you can imagine! Your challenge is to draw one and color it in, in the space below! If you send us your completed picture, we'll send you a \$1 Amazon credit through a parent's email address. Credits can be saved to buy something extra special! Happy summer to you!



Name _____ Age ____ Parent email address: _____



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