

Pennsylvania Volunteer News

September 2009



“Youth is like spring, an over praised season more remarkable for biting winds than genial breezes. Autumn is the mellower season, and what we lose in flowers we more than gain in fruits.”

- Samuel Butler

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS & INTERNS FOR ALL THEIR HELP IN AUGUST!

Work accomplished included helping to restore the mesic-till and serpentine barrens, receptionist duties, tracking bog turtles, administrative tasks, volunteer orientation, tornado clean-up (that's a new one) and so much more.

Special thanks to the following for all their help:

Mike Bertram
Beth & Rebecca Bussard
Barbara Checchi
Lori Colgan
Dave Greer
Gabby Haenn

Kevin Hart
Wilson King
Diana Mizer
MaryLou Moderski
Ilene Nelson
Janet Novak

Ian Osborne
Joe Pignatelli
Sharon Renz
Sandy Spinner
Kent Wagner
Henry Whitesel
Dorothy Wright

And special thanks to Christine Dettore, Eric Koopman, Christine Meinhart and Shelly Tharp from the Monroe County Planning Commission for braving the heat and humidity to assist with the tornado clean-up efforts at the Blakeslee Farm in Cherry Valley.

Thank you!

Many thanks,



Molly T. Anderson
Pennsylvania Volunteer Program Manager

STEWARDSHIP WORKDAYS

Tuesday, September 15th - 9:00 AM: Boundary Posting at the Thomas Darling Preserve @ Two-Mile Run

Please join us at the Thomas Darling Preserve (Monroe County) to assist with posting the boundary with new signs. To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Monday, September 21st - 9:00 AM: Invasive Plant Removal at the Chrome Barrens Preserve

Please join us at the Chrome Barrens Preserve (Chester County) to assist with invasive plant removal to restore the grasslands. To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Thursday, September 24th - 9:00 AM: Firebreak preparations at Pilot Barrens, MD

Please help out with preparing firebreaks at the Pilot Barrens (Cecil County). To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Mike Bertram at the2nomads@verizon.net or Henry Whitesel at whiteselh@zoominternet.net.

Thursday, October 1st - 9:00 AM: Firebreak preparations at Pilot Barrens, MD

Please help out with preparing firebreaks at the Pilot Barrens (Cecil County). To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Mike Bertram at the2nomads@verizon.net or Henry Whitesel at whiteselh@zoominternet.net.

Friday, October 2nd & Saturday, October 3rd - 9:00 AM: Boundary Posting at the Eales Preserve @ Moosic Mountain

Please join us at the Eales Preserve @ Moosic Mountain (Lackawanna County) to assist with posting the new boundary of the preserve with signs. To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Thursday, October 8th - 9:00 AM: Habitat Restoration at the New Texas Barrens

Please help out with habitat restoration at the New Texas Barrens (Lancaster County). To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Mike Bertram at the2nomads@verizon.net or Henry Whitesel at whiteselh@zoominternet.net.

Friday, October 9th through Sunday, October 11th: 6th Annual Fall West Branch Forest Camping Weekend

Come explore the West Branch Forest with The Nature Conservancy staff, volunteers and their families to assist with various stewardship activities as well as learn about our many conservation efforts to protect and restore Penn's woods. To join us for this year's fall camping weekend and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Tuesday, October 20th - 9:00 AM: Boundary Posting at the Thomas Darling Preserve at Two-Mile Run

Please join us at the Thomas Darling Preserve (Monroe County) to assist with posting the boundary with new signs. To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Friday, October 23rd - 9:00 AM: Preserve Maintenance at the Chrome Barrens Preserve

Please join us at the Chrome Barrens Preserve (Chester County) to assist with chipping brush piles from previous workdays and trail maintenance. To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org.

Saturday, October 31st - 9:00 AM: Habitat Restoration at the Goat Hill Barrens

Please help out with habitat restoration at the Goat Hill Barrens (Chester County). To volunteer for this workday and for more information/directions, please contact Mike Bertram at the2nomads@verizon.net or Henry Whitesel at whiteselh@zoominternet.net.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in participating in any or all of these projects and/or would like more information, please contact Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org or (717) 232-6001, extension 117.

INDEPENDENT PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES:

- **NEW OPPORTUNITY Deer Density Research:** We are looking for volunteers interested in assisting with Deer Density Research at the West Branch Forest (Clinton County). Training will be provided. If you are interested in learning more and/or signing up to help out for the Spring 2010 season, please contact Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: *Spread the word about TNC!*

- **HELP NEEDED for Bog Day at the Tannersville Cranberry Bog (Monroe County) on Sunday, October 11th:** We are seeking volunteers to man the table display at this event during shifts beginning at 9:00 a.m. and throughout the afternoon until 4:00 p.m.

OFFICE OPPORTUNITIES: *Volunteers needed in the Conshohocken and Harrisburg Offices!*

- **Administrative support:** Help is needed at the Conshohocken Office with projects that include filing, mailings, organizing, copying, online research, etc.
- **Volunteer Receptionist:** Help is needed at the Harrisburg Office to answer phones and greet guests as well as help with other administrative projects.

EVENTS: *Get outdoors and enjoy Mother Nature!*

- **Nature Hike on Saturday, September 19th.** Please join Mike Bertram, member and work crew leader of the Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens, on a hike to explore the natural history of Goat Hill Barrens Preserve (Chester County). Please RSVP by September 16th to Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org or (717) 232-6001, extension 117.
- **Bog Walk on Sunday, September 20th.** Please join staff from the Monroe County Conservation District to explore the Tannersville Cranberry Bog for an end-of-the-summer walk highlighting the last few flowers of the year. Pre-registration is required. For more information and/or to register, please contact the Monroe County Conservation District Office at (570) 629-3061. Cost: \$4/nonmembers; \$2/members and children under 12 years old.
- **Nature Walk at Florence Shelly Preserve on Sunday, October 4th.** Please join Hank Hartman on a walk along the Florence Shelly Wetlands Preserve (Susquehanna County) to learn about the tree species found there. For more information and to RSVP please call (570) 756-3052 or (570) 756-3362.
- **6th Annual Fall West Branch Forest Camping Weekend on Friday October 9th through Sunday, October 11th.** Come explore the West Branch Forest with The Nature Conservancy staff, volunteers and their families to assist with various stewardship activities as well as learn about our many conservation efforts to protect and restore Penn's woods. Please RSVP by October 2nd to Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org or (717) 232-6001, extension 117.
- **Nature Walk at the Eales Preserve at Moosic Mountain on Sunday, October 18th.** Bring your camera and/or binoculars and enjoy the sights and sounds of The Nature Conservancy's Eales Preserve at Moosic Mountain (Lackawanna County) with local naturalists, Gerry and Len Janus. Please RSVP by October 14th to Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org or (717) 232-6001, extension 117.

For more information about these trips and more, please visit our Upcoming Events webpage at <http://www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/pennsylvania/events/>.

MORE NEWS

SPECIAL THANKS

We wish to extend our many thanks to all the individuals and groups who came out to assist the Blakeslee family with the tornado clean-up efforts at their farm in Cherry Valley.

Staff from the Conservancy and the Monroe County Planning Commission, neighbors, local school students and concerned individuals all took the time to lend a hand. In a time of such tragedy and uncertainty, this act of kindness is remarkable and it's greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU!

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

The issue of "Energy Sprawl"

Last week a Nature Conservancy study about "Energy Sprawl" was published in the peer-reviewed journal PLoS One, among other publications, raising awareness about the amount of space it takes to produce energy and the tendency for energy production to take more space over time. The Conservancy is trying to make sure that energy sprawl is one of the things policy makers are thinking about.

To find out more about this issue please click the link below:

<http://blog.nature.org/2009/08/new-energy-production-nature-impacts-energy-sprawl-renewable-rob-mcdonald/>

PRESERVING PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvanians can now see projections on how monthly temperatures and precipitation may change for their home state or other parts of the world by visiting *Climate Wizard*, a new web tool that allows people to use an interactive map to explore past and projected climate change data on their computers. Users can zoom in on a specific location to see how temperatures and precipitation may change by month, season or year.

To check out the *Climate Wizard* tool, please click the link below:

<http://www.climatewizard.org/>

WISH LIST

We are currently seeking donations of the following items:

Digital Camera
(In good, working condition)

Wood chipper
(In good, working condition)

Walkie-talkies
(In good, working condition)

Pickup Truck
(In good, working condition)

If you have other items you would like to donate, please contact Molly Anderson at (717) 232-6001, extension 117 or molly_anderson@tnc.org

PENNSYLVANIA TRIVIA

The first to respond with the correct answer to this month's trivia question will win a prize. Please email your answer to molly_anderson@tnc.org.

September 2009 Question:

What snack item is Pennsylvania known as a world-class producer of, cranking out 30,500 tasty tons per year?

Answer for August 2009 Trivia: The U.S. House of Representatives established the first public medical facility known as Pennsylvania Hospital in 1751.

Pennsylvania Volunteer News is produced monthly.

If you have any questions, comments or would like to include an update or announcement in next month's edition, please contact Molly Anderson at molly_anderson@tnc.org or (717) 232-6001, extension 117 before the 1st of the month.