



Environmental Education Newsletter

Lycoming CCD: Environmental Education Mini Grant Program

Do you have a project that will result in the conservation natural resources and educate a wide audience? We are looking fund local conservation projects impacting local resources while educating adults and youth in Lycoming County. Maximum grant award will be \$3,000. Application deadline will be December 1, 2023. More information is available by emailing centz@lyco.org.

Envirothon, Accept a Nature Challenge!



The Envirothon is a fun, academic event. It challenges high school students (grades 9-12) to think critically about the natural world and their role in it. Envirothon combines in-class curriculum and outdoor training helping students to learn more about Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Soil & Land Use. The 2024 Current Issue is Renewable Energy for a Sustainable Future.

2023 Lycoming Sullivan Envirothon:
Lycoming County Top Team- Montgomery Team A

The 2024 Lycoming/ Sullivan Envirothon will be held on April 23rd at the Consolidated Sportsman's Grounds. Educational scholarships of \$500 will be awarded to the Top Team Members in each County. This team will go on to represent Lycoming County at the PA Envirothon at Camp Mount Luther on May 22nd, 2024. www.envirothonpa.org

Trout in the Classroom Program



[Trout in the Classroom](#) program is a unique partnership with the PA Fish and Boat Commission and PA Trout Unlimited. The classes will learn about cold-water conservation while raising rainbow trout from eggs to fingerlings in a classroom aquarium.

Check out the Getting Started Tab on PA Trout in the Classroom website. New tanks must register by June 30th each year. Our LCCD EE Mini grants are a great way to pay for tank equipment.

Rainbow Trout tank from Jersey Shore Life Skills Classroom including the Trout in the Classroom Quilt Project and hydroponic kit.

Waterdale Environmental Education Center



Connecting the Importance of Clean Watersheds to Public Drinking Water Protection

Located in the pristine and beautiful mountain valley of the Mosquito Creek Watershed near the Williamsport Municipal Water Authority Filtration Plant, the historic Waterdale Lodge is the center for a cooperative collaboration of public water supply utilities, academic resources, and local and state conservation agencies and organizations. This partnership provides opportunities for community education and outreach programs which emphasize the science and importance of good stewardship and protection of our natural resources and public water supply sources. [Waterdale EE Center](#)

Keystone Ten Million Tree Partnership



In 2018, The Keystone Ten Million Tree Partnership set a goal to plant 10 million trees in PA. In 2021, Lycoming County joined the partnership to help in the effort. Twice a year, we provide free seedlings and tree shelters for plantings. <https://tenmilliontrees.org/>

Students from Montgomery High School participate in a Riparian buffer planting along a tributary of White Deer Hole Creek in Williamsport.

ALLARM Stream Team

ALLARM has developed a standardized protocol for chemical and biological stream monitoring (Stream Team), which will generate data of known quality on key health indicators. Participants monitor water temperature, conductivity, nitrate-nitrogen, pH, stage and water clarity, and conduct biological (macroinvertebrate) and visual assessments of their streams. ALLARM collaborates with the Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association (MSRA), the Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association (LSRA), and diverse local partners which has allowed Stream Team to expand since its inception to ten counties: York, Cumberland, Columbia, Lycoming, Clinton, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lebanon, Dauphin and Susquehanna. [ALLARM Stream Team](#)

Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs)

The Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) is a learner-centered framework that focuses on investigations into local environmental issues and leads to informed action. MWEEs are made up of multiple components that include learning both outdoors and, in the classroom, and are designed to increase environmental literacy by actively engaging students in building knowledge and meaning through hands-on experiences. [CBF-MWEE](#)

[MWEE 101](#) is the first course in an online series. This self-guided course introduces educators to the basics of the MWEE through a series of case studies. By the end of the course, participants have a basic understanding of the essential elements, supporting practices, the MWEE Toolbox, the Environmental Literacy Model (ELM), and the research that supports the MWEE as an effective educational approach. When participants complete the course, they receive a

certificate of completion and are eligible for CEU/CPD credit in some states. [Noaa MWEE Courses](#)

Camp and Scholarship Opportunities

LCCD may provide *full* scholarships to interested students. Please contact us!

PA Rivers Conservation and Fly-Fishing Youth Camp (ages 14-17)

The Cumberland Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited is hosting the 28th Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp. If you would like to have fun, work hard, and engage in a unique experience, get your application in early. The deadline for the early acceptance period is December 31, 2023. Campers selected for the early acceptance period will be notified early January, 2024. If any vacancies remain, applications accepted during the regular acceptance period (1/1/24 through 2/29/24) will be notified in early March, 2024. [PRCFFYC](#)

Wildlife Leadership Academy: Field Schools (ages 14-17)

Wildlife Leadership Academy will empower you to become a Conservation Ambassador in order to create a sustained wildlife, fisheries and natural resource legacy for future generations. They are looking for highly motivated students with an interest in wildlife and/or fisheries conservation and the outdoors. Applicants will be selected based on academic achievements and activities, non-academic achievements and activities, and a personal essay.

<http://picweb.org/>



JUNE 18-22



JUNE 25-29



JULY 9-13



JULY 16-20



JULY 23-27

Educators Ag Institute

Educator's Ag Institute will prepare you to **bring agriculture to life in your classroom** and across your curriculum. It is a **standards-based program** that makes real connections. Teachers use the information they've received to integrate agriculture and information about the earth's natural resources into their curriculum. Many educators form lasting bonds with other educators, which extends the idea sharing as they go forth to bring Ag into their classrooms!

<https://pfbfriends.com/educators-ag-institute/>

For more information, contact:

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