

Hello from the Shermans Creek Conservation Association!

Happy New Year! Hopefully on your list of resolutions for 2011 is to take some steps to be greener or do things better for the environment . SCCA can help you . come to our meeting at 7:00 on Monday to see how! Here is another easy step towards that resolution . With a new year comes new telephone directories. With access to white pages/yellow pages on the web that is updated throughout the year, who needs those wasteful yellow pages delivered to your door step every year? And it seems like there are more and more delivered to my door, even for other areas. Rather than directly recycling the directories, why get them delivered at all? Here is a site to remove your name from the list - Visit this link and enter your zip code to access the companies that deliver your books, and take yourself off their list: www.yellowpagesoptout.com Another option is there is usually opt out information inside the covers if you still have last year's directory lying around.

SCCA Announcements, Meetings and Upcoming Events

If interested in volunteering for helping with any of the following events (in blue/italics), please contact SCCA at shermanscreek@embarqmail.com or call Linda Sieber at 582-3376. For a membership form, please print and mail the form found on our website at <http://www.shermanscreek.org/application.htm>.

SCCA Members and Community Meeting Update – Next meeting January 24, 2011

Our January meeting will include elections and plan of programs for the year. Meetings are held in the Carroll Township Municipal Building at 50 Rambo Hill Road in Shermans Dale from 7PM . 8PM. Members and non-members invited to attend. Mark your calendars for SCCA meetings in 2011! . March 28th, May 23rd, July 25th, Sept 19th and November 14th.

Family Watershed Monitoring – Can be suitable for all ages from 2 yrs- 102 yrs!

Become a Watch the Wilder volunteer! The program can be tailored to your unique situation and the type of monitoring you would prefer . choose trees, plants, and flowers; weather; wildlife; birds; and much more. In as little as ten minutes, your family's observations help us to understand how our eco-systems are changing and helps us to adapt for the future. Read more about it on the Watch the Wild website http://www.natureabounds.org/Watch_the_Wild.html. Monitoring consists of filling out an observation form, as well as taking photos. Interested? Let us know if you'd like to volunteer. If you have a site in mind, that's great! If not, we can work with you to find one close to your home. Contact SCCA to sign up!

2011 SCCA Memberships Renewals Have Begun!

Shermans Creek 2010 Crocks– limited supply remaining!

SCCA is on FACEBOOK (<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=335349491749>)!

Other items of interest in Perry County and surrounding areas...

Winter Events at Little Buffalo State Park; Jan 29th and Feb 20th

For additional information on any of these events, contact Ben Ranney, Park Naturalist at littlebuffsp@state.pa.us or 717-567-9255.

- **Jan 29th 1:30-2:30, Build a Soda Bottle Bird Feeder:** Bring a 1 liter soda bottle and we'll help you turn it into a bird feeder for the winter months. Participants bring a bottle, all other supplies provided. We have the spotting scope set up to watch the feeders and we'll also learn a little about what sort of seeds attract which species of birds. Meet at the park office.

- **Jan 29th 3:00-4:00, Saturday Matinee – American Eagle:** Have you noticed that seeing a Bald Eagle is more common lately? Enjoy a remarkable film about Bald Eagles and learn how they are doing in Pennsylvania. Meet at the park office.
- **Feb 20th 1:30-3:30, Winter Fun Day:** Bring the kids out to the park for winter fun day. We'll go for a short nature hike looking for signs of animals. We'll play in the snow if we have any, and read stories and drink hot chocolate around the wood stove. Dress to be outdoors. This program is geared toward kindergarten through 2nd grade ages. Meet at the Old Visitors Center (classroom annex) in the park's East Picnic Area.
- **Feb 20th 3:30 – 4:30, Sunday Matinee – Pennsylvania Elk:** Meet the Elk of Pennsylvania and learn about the efforts to establish a herd in North Central PA. This 30 minute film is a great introduction to the majestic creatures. Meet at the park office.

The Appalachian Audubon Society Monthly Events

Unless otherwise noted, programs take place at Christ Presbyterian Church, 421 Deerfield Rd, Camp Hill, 17011 near the Cedar Cliff Plaza in the Allendale development. Call 960-9441 or 732-5615 for further information and visit <http://www.appalachianaudubon.org/events.htm>. All programs except the Annual Banquet are **free of charge**. **Public is welcome** and encouraged to attend. Enjoy a ½ hour of refreshments and social time starting at 7:00 p.m. Programs begin at 7:30.

- **January 20, 2011, Managing Pennsylvania's Bats:** White Nose Syndrome (WNS) in bats was first reported in New York three years ago, and has quickly spread to Pennsylvania and several other states. Aura Stauffer, Wildlife Biologist for PA Bureau of Forestry, has been tracking down and researching bats across Pennsylvania for many years. Aura will give us an insight into the natural history of these mysterious creatures, and will discuss bat management on state forest lands. She will also provide an update on WNS, including the latest research and how the disease is spread.
- **February 17, 2011, Native American Life in the Susquehanna River Basin Region:** Did you ever wonder what life was like for Eastern Woodland Native Americans in the 17th and 18th Centuries? Mr. Steve Runkle will present an overview of Native America life in the Susquehanna River Basin, including a discussion of the various tribes that inhabited the region. Steve will also acquaint us with their dress, dwellings, occupations, medicine, amusements, and much more. Steve has a keen interest in local history and Indian tribes that once lived in the Susquehanna Basin. He is a volunteer with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission's Public Information and Outreach Program.

See AAS website for scheduled monthly events from March . May or stay tuned to future SCCA e-updates.

The Appalachian Audubon Society Field Trips

- **February 26, 2011, Ramsay's Winter Road Trip:** Join our AAS birding extraordinaire+ on another winter birding trip. It will be a long day trip, most likely to the New Jersey Shore, leaving early and returning late. We will be looking for loons, ducks, scoters, gulls, purple sandpiper and any other interesting birds that are around. For details, contact Ramsay at 761-1871 or rkoury123@aol.com.
- **Sunday, March 13, 2011, Ned Smith Waterfowl Watch:** Hosted by the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art, this annual waterfowl watch along the Susquehanna River in Millersburg was also an annual event for beloved artist and outdoorsman, Ned Smith. Birding experts will be on hand to help identify and count the waterfowl. The event is held from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please dress warmly and bring along your binoculars and spotting scopes. Contact Beth Sanders at the Ned Smith Center at 692-3699 or Judy Bowman at 761-3815 for further information.

See AAS website for scheduled field trips from April . May or stay tuned to future SCCA e-updates.

Wildwood Park Winter Lecture Series

Wildwood Park is located between Linglestown Road and Interstate 81, just outside of Harrisburg (100 Wildwood Way). All lectures begin at 7:00 PM and will be held in the Olewine Nature Center. All lectures are free and registration is not required.

- **Clean Stream and a Healthy Chesapeake Bay, January 18, 2011:** After 20 years of effort, the Chesapeake Bay is still impaired and as a result EPA is requiring states to meet new pollution budgets for local streams. Lamonte Garber, Agricultural Program Manager for the Pennsylvania office of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation will discuss how bay-related requirements will affect residents, farmers, business and communities.
- **February 1 Sustainability for the Ground Up:** With so much discussion these days about "going green", it is often difficult to decide where to start. In this program Wohlsein Construction's Sustainability Chair and Project Manager Bill Sutton will take us through the basics of sustainability and our everyday impact on the environment. He will explore the range of ways to incorporate sustainability into your lifestyle and business.
- **February 15 Local Food: Balancing Information and Action:** The daily inundation of information on the problems within our nation's food systems sometimes leaves consumers confused. Cheryl Burns, the Ag Outreach Specialist for Capital Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) and coordinator for the South Central PA Buy Fresh Buy Local chapter, will provide guidance for assessing the impact of our food choices as well as actions that promote healthy and vibrant food systems.
- **March 1 Energy Audits: Savin' the Green:** In March, people celebrate St Patrick's Day with the wearing of the green. Rising energy prices and mounting environmental concerns shift the focus to the saving of the green. Jen Briggs and Bonnie McCann of Waste Not Energy Advisors discuss how a professional energy audit can help you save the planet and save a buck.

Wildwood Park Events and 4th Annual Used Nature Book Sale

Many events at Wildwood this February . see their website for more details (<http://www.wildwoodlake.org/events/>) here is a quick summary of some of the events.

- **February 1 -27th – 4th Annual Used Nature Book Sale**
- **February 5 – Let's Go Tracking**
- **February 5 – Winter Tree Walk**
- **February 6 – Winter Matinee – Finding Nemo**
- **February 24 – Steve Hoffman to speak on Rocky Mountain Hawk Migration**

PA Game Commission Needs Local Residents Assistance – Bat Counts

The PA Game Commission needs citizens to help collect bat data this summer to better assess bat mortality throughout the northeastern United States, including Pennsylvania, being caused by White-Nose Syndrome. Monitoring maternity colonies in summer roosts like houses, barns, and church steeples can give biologists a good idea of how bat populations in an area are doing from year to year. Scout groups, 4-H clubs, local environmental organizations, and individual homeowners can all participate. For more information, go to <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=712212&mode=2>

See you on Shermans Creek!!

Shermans Creek Conservation Association

If you do not wish to receive future monthly updates or other announcements from SCCA, please respond to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the Subject Line. If you have any comments/suggestions or even announcements you would like included, please email us as shermanscreek@embarqmail.com