

# Seedling

Summer 2022

Visit us during the Schuylkill County Fair. Stop by the Weston Pavilion. Program schedule is inside!

**Mark your calendar  
for Lakefront Festival  
on Sunday, Oct 9  
from 11-2 at Sweet  
Arrow Lake**

Info inside on car heat  
dangers for pets.

**MANY PROJECTS MADE FOR A  
BUSY SPRING...IN PHOTOS!**



PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES



HELP THE FRIENDS OF  
TUSCARORA AND LOCUST  
LAKE STATE PARKS BY  
SHOPPING AT BOYER'S



## Jenna St. Clair, District Manager

I hope everyone has been enjoying the beautiful weather and abundant sunshine here in Schuylkill County. While prices for just about everything are climbing, there is much to enjoy at little to low cost right here in our backyard.

Enjoy the parks and trails in the county at your pace, join a guided hike, or watch an educational program. Click the following links to plan your visit and see what's coming up:

[Sweet Arrow Lake County Park](#)

[Porcupine Pat](#)

[Schuylkill on the Move](#)

[Schuylkill County's Vision](#)

[Tuscarora State Park](#)

[Locust Lake State Park](#)

The Schuylkill County Fair returns on August 1-6, 2022. The sights and sounds have always been a summer favorite of mine. Porcupine Pat has full line-up of interesting programs scheduled for the week, included in your cost of admission!



Planning is underway for our FREE environmental education event this fall at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park, so keep an eye on our social media accounts for details and updates. Save the date: Sunday, October 9! Free admission, free activities, free parking.

Jenna (with her daughter Cora), staff and student interns worked at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation near Summit Station. They performed community service on the Memorial Day of Caring held this spring.

I welcome your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and questions about the Schuylkill Conservation District and can be reached at (570)622-3742 x3335 and [jstclair@co.schuylkill.pa.us](mailto:jstclair@co.schuylkill.pa.us).

Jenna St. Clair  
District Manager



**Keep an eye open for the Lakefront Festival to be held on Sunday, October 9 from 11 am to 2 pm at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. Activities, hikes, food and much more!**

**We'll be on social media and other outlets to PR.**





## Car Heat Dangers

Elapsed Time (minutes)	Outside Air Temperature (°F)					
	70	75	80	85	90	95
0	70	75	80	85	90	95
10	89	94	99	104	109	114
20	99	104	109	114	119	124
30	104	109	114	119	124	129
40	108	113	118	123	128	133
50	111	116	121	126	131	136
60	113	118	123	128	133	138
More than 1 hour	115	120	125	130	135	140



A pet in a parked car, even with the windows open, can quickly over-heat and die on a warm day!! If you see an animal in distress in someone's car, call 911 immediately and try to find the owner. If you cannot find the owner immediately, and you are still waiting for first responders and the animal seems to be in grave condition, state law allows you to break the car window or make entry to save the pet's life. Called the "Hot Car Bill." Read on:

<https://www.fox29.com/.../pennsylvania-police-remind-pet...>



**Celebrate Park and Recreation Professionals Day!** #ParkandRecDay, is back for its fourth year on July 15, 2022, and is celebrated during National Park & Recreation Month. It's a national celebration honoring essential industry professionals across the country, who make our communities better places to live, work and play.

More than one source says that there is no Poison Oak in PA. Yes, you read that right!

Poison Sumac is found in wetlands with few in our county.

Every year I need to be reminded again and again...



Mark your calendars for Lakefront Festival at Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. Sunday, October 9 from 11 am to 2 pm. Free and open to the public with many activities for all.



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**HEALTH TIP**

# PREVENTING TICK BITES

KNOW WHERE TICKS ARE LIKELY  
TO GATHER AND AVOID THEM

## FIND A TICK?



REMOVE TICK with  
fine-tipped tweezers

CLEAN AREA



KEEP RECORD  
OF BITE DATE

LOOK FOR WARNING  
SIGNS OF DISEASE  
(RASH OR FEVER)



**STAY CLEAR** of tall, thick vegetation

**WEAR LONG-SLEEVED SHIRTS**  
and long pants when outdoors

**SPRAY CLOTHING** with .5%  
permethrin insect repellent

**USE INSECT REPELLENT**  
that contains at least 20 percent  
DEET, picaridin or IR3535 on any  
uncovered skin

**CHECK YOURSELF AND  
CHILDREN** for ticks daily.  
Favorite hiding spots: armpits,  
ears, belly button, waist, head,  
hair, between legs, behind knees



For additional information about Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Protecting the Wild, including the show's filming schedule and adventures, visit [www.wildkingdom.com](http://www.wildkingdom.com) or follow us on [Facebook](#).

## ***TreePennsylvania Provides Trees to Communities***

*Does your community need trees along its streets or in its parks? Do you have a community tree planting project in mind for this fall?*

TreePennsylvania, the state's non-profit urban and community forestry council, is once again able to assist communities in Pennsylvania working to increase tree canopy cover and manage their urban and community forest. The new Bare Root Tree Program can provide communities with between ten and twenty large-caliper bare root trees for planting on land owned by the municipality (streetside rights-of-way and parks).



For fall 2022 plantings, the preliminary applications will be available online July 15 and must be submitted by July 29. Once applicants are approved, they are responsible for scheduling a site visit (consultation) with a DCNR Service Forester or Penn State Extension Urban Forester. When the planting plan is approved, TreePennsylvania will purchase the trees on behalf of the community. Communities are required to pick up their trees at a designated regional location and date, then plant them within a week. For the fall planting season, the trees will be delivered in early November.

Large bare root trees are well suited for volunteer planting events. The trees are similar in size to traditional balled and burlap trees used in street and park tree plantings, but without the soil around the roots. The soil in the root ball makes up much of the weight of a balled and burlap tree, which can be well over 200 pounds. Without the soil, the bareroot trees are lightweight and more easily handled by volunteers. For more information about bare root tree planting, check out the article "[Communities Save Money Planting Large Bare Root Trees](#)" or view "[Large Bare Root Trees Cost Effective and Volunteer Friendly](#)" webinar.

### ***Sign Up to Receive New Newsletter About Pennsylvania Forests***

DCNR's Bureau of Forestry has launched a new online newsletter called *Forest Focus*. The newsletter was created to connect people to Pennsylvania's forests, trees, and natural resources -- providing informative features on emerging issues, research, and management found across the commonwealth.

The newsletter will be released each quarter and will have four to five feature length articles on current hot topics.

Each edition will also share a "Forest Friday," which is written by one of the many forestry professionals in the bureau -- sharing information on a seasonal topic such as what may be blooming now or to share a moment in forest history.

There are many interesting and exciting things going on in Penn's Woods and the bureau is pleased to share this information with its readers. Sign up to receive the Forest Focus email newsletter by clicking here: <https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1951210/1936708/>



### ***How can I help a great cause while doing something I already do?***

Do you shop at [Boyer's Food Markets](#) in Tamaqua, Frackville, Orwigsburg, Schuylkill Haven, Lansford, Pottsville, McAdoo, Hazelton, Shenandoah, Ashland, or Pine Grove? Yes - Boyer's has our entire area blanketed with Boyer's options for each of our Friends!

Did you know you could earn the Friends of Tuscarora and Locust Lake State Parks money just by scanning this tag at the register when you check out. The Friends group will send you a free tag if you visit their Facebook page and place a comment.

It's free and doesn't cost you anything at the store. Boyer's is a generous community partner and will send us a percentage of your order!

You get your grocery order and we earn some dollars for some very needed projects at both parks!



**A very busy spring in pictures!**  
**From tree plantings to the Envirothon then Schuylkill Haven High School's Trout Release and helping to helping to celebrate Locust Lake State Park's 50th!**



## **PA Environmental Council Launches Online Guide To New Federal Infrastructure Funding Opportunities** *by Josh Raulerson, PA Environmental Council*

In November 2021 Congress passed, and President Biden signed into law, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The \$1.2 trillion package includes funding for a range of energy, transportation, water quality, climate resiliency, conservation, and legacy pollution cleanup projects.

Naturally, many of these grant programs are germane to work currently being planned or carried out in Pennsylvania by nonprofit organizations like PEC, as well as by state and local governments, researchers, land-owners, and other stakeholders.

But with such a vast and wide-ranging piece of legislation, prospective grantees may not be able to readily identify exactly what funding prospects exist, which ones hold the most promise for the Commonwealth, and how to access them.

PEC sees a need for thoughtful analysis and careful curation to help us and our partners make the most of this historic opportunity. We began by combing through all 1,039 pages of the published Act, flagging anything that caught the eyes of PEC program staff.

PEC then enlisted [Signal Group](#), a public affairs consulting firm based in Washington D.C., to help us better understand what we were seeing, and to compile the relevant data in an accessible format. Finally, we worked with Pittsburgh-based [Environmental Planning & Design](#) to create an online database that would make the content searchable, sortable, and easy to update.

The Tracker is a running list of current or upcoming opportunities of potential interest to Pennsylvania NGOs, government entities, and others focused on things like trails and active transportation, clean energy, watershed health and water infrastructure, abandoned mine lands and orphan oil & gas wells, natural resource management, and the outdoor economy. Policy changes and new studies mandated by the legislation are also noted.

Listings are organized by funding source, timelines, eligibility, current status, and other searchable parameters, and can be sorted by type or by amount of funding available. All include a plain-English synopsis of each program along with further information and next steps for applicants, as well as links to federal government resources and documentation.

With help from Signal, PEC will continue to monitor the Infrastructure Act's rollout as it evolves over the next 1-2 years, and will update the tracker accordingly. It is important to note, however, that each update is only a snapshot of a moment in time, and that the database is not meant to be comprehensive.

Rather, we hope it will serve as a quick reference and a jumping-off point for others beginning to explore the possibilities. [Click Here for the PEC Infrastructure Funding Tracker](#).



### **Help Community Research on Predators of Spotted Lanternfly**

A Penn State graduate study wants to know if you notice something feeding on a spotted lanternfly. Sightings of birds or other predators preying on spotted lanternflies should be reported to the Birds Biting Bad Bugs Facebook page.

Reports should be as detailed as possible, including:

- \* Common name of the predator
- \* Life stage of the lanternfly
- \* Date and location of the observation
- \* Any behaviors you noticed
- \* Pictures of the encounter

In particular, the study is interested in whether the predator attempted to eat the insect, dropped it, or finished eating it. Did it spit out the wings, but eat the rest?

Reports also may be emailed to [birdsbitingbadbugs@gmail.com](mailto:birdsbitingbadbugs@gmail.com).





# NEWS LEAF

## Master Gardeners of Schuylkill County

[schuylkillmg@psu.edu](mailto:schuylkillmg@psu.edu)

570.622.4225 ext. 23

### “From the Greenhouse Column” by Master Gardener Tom Reed

Where does the time go? We are halfway through the year and well into the growing season. I hope your gardens are doing well with blooms, vegetables, and fruits. If you are successful, think about entering some of your crops and blooms in the Schuylkill County Fair. The Premium Booklet is out at various locations with the rules and regulations for showing your entry. Give it a shot! The fair runs from August 1 to 6 and is always a fun time!

As usual there seems every year we have something to contend with. Past years it has been the Spotted Lantern Fly and, of course, it is still around. Various early instars are out and about and they are very tiny and quick. They will now be feeding on tender shoots and plants and are not strong enough to penetrate bark yet. They will be on a various number of different plants. I have seen them on basil, hostas, and even tomato plants. So be aware of them!

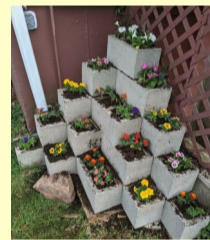
These past few weeks the “Garden Hotline,” has been getting calls on a weed problem. That weed is Poison Hemlock. It is in the carrot family along with plants such as Queen Anne’s Lace. This plant is extremely toxic to livestock especially if ingested and also to humans and must be handled very carefully. It grows to a height of 3 to 8 feet, has lacy, triangular leaves, and smooth stems with purple spots. It blooms from May through August. To remove, you must wear protective clothing and eye protection. The sap can cause burns.

Proper identification is required so take a good photo and contact the Master Gardener Hotline 570-622-4225. Do not cut a sample unless wearing PPE and properly bag and label it if you are bringing it in. There are look alike plants out there so be careful.

Soon the fresh produce will be ripening! Whether you grow your own or visit the many local farm markets in our area enjoy the bounty. It is always a treat to pick tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, and greens and have a great garden salad! Enjoy the summer and hope to see you at the fair.



### Interesting garden ideas



## A Garden Tip 4U

### Protect Plants with Plastic Forks

If you spotted critters in your garden, like rabbits or mice, then stick a few forks in the ground around their favorite hangout. The sharp tines will deter most small animals and keep young plants out of harm’s way.



**Listen to Master Gardeners on WPPA AM 1360 or 105.9 at 10 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month year round.**



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## PROGRAM SCHEDULE AT THE WESTON PAVILION -- 2022

**Monday, August 1 -- 6:00 pm:** "Appalachian Mountain Olde Time Toys" with "Porcupine Pat" McKinney. The toys program focuses on toys that were popular from 50 to 200 years ago.

**Tuesday, August 2 -- 6:00 pm:** "Are all Indians the Same?" with Dave "Big Owl" McSurdy. Items will be shown of different cultures from around the country.

**Wednesday, August 3 -- 6:00 pm:** "What's Invading my Backyard?" with Kyle Schutt, Insect Pest Management Technician for the Schuylkill Conservation District. Kyle highlights the invasives, such as the lanternfly, that are found in Schuylkill County. He will describe ways to control them and the damage that they do.

**Thursday, August 4 -- 6:00 pm:** "Life on Silk" with Larry Moyer, Penn State Master Gardener and South Schuylkill Garden Club member. Larry presents a video on the importance and beauty of spiders. He features his own amazing photos too!

**Friday, August 5 -- 6:00 pm and Saturday, August 6 at 6:00 pm:** "The Venom Institute" with Rudy Arceo, President and Founder of The Venom Institute. This program spreads the word about the beauty and importance of reptiles in nature and the environment. Live critters will be showcased in this family-oriented program.

The Dr. James S. Shadle Nature Center will be open from 5:00 to 7:30 pm each day of the county fair. For more info: [porcupinepat@yahoo.com](mailto:porcupinepat@yahoo.com)



## Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

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- Martie Hetherington, Chesapeake Bay Coordinator, 3328
- "Porcupine Pat" McKinney, Education Coordinator, 3326
- Missy Seigfried, Conservation Fiscal Technician, 3324
- Stephanie Lubinsky, Conservation Program Technician, 3329
- Robert Evanchalk, Assistant Parks and Recreation Supervisor (part time)
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- Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 3316
- Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 570-527-2505
- Alexa Smith, Natural Resources Conservationist, 3336
- Kyle Schutt, Insect Management Technician, Cell: 484.331.4499



**Schuylkill  
County Fair  
August 1—6  
Programs at the  
Weston Pavilion**



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