

# Seedling

Summer 2018

Schuylkill County Fair July 30 to August 4

**Kestrel Cam goes live**

**Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Technician welcomed**

**Conservancy presents award**

**Spotted Lanternfly  
info inside**

**4-H educator profiled**



**PEOPLE • CONSERVATION • RESOURCES**

The rolling landscape of Schuylkill County affords a variety of fruits and vegetables. From the container garden of a row home to the raised bed in back of a country home, gardening has exploded in growth in our backyard. There's nothing like a fresh homegrown beefsteak tomato sandwich crowned with homegrown spinach between two slices of homemade bread. From apples to zucchini, Schuylkill County can grow it all!







## Jenna St. Clair, District Manager

As some of you know, I was home on maternity leave for much of the spring. We welcomed our daughter Cora June to the world on March 14<sup>th</sup>. I cannot thank the Conservation District staff and board enough for their hard work in keeping up “business as usual” and for their support in my absence.

It was right back to business when I returned and we kicked off the summer season with our annual Bear Creek Festival at Schuylkill County Fairgrounds. The rain held off, giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy all of the activities offered: wagon rides, tomahawk throwing, pony petting, live music, building wood crafts, potato digging, pH testing, cow milking... just to name a FEW!



Jenna tosses a tomahawk at the recent Bear Creek Festival

If you have never attended Bear Creek Festival, you are really missing out but mark your calendar for June 2, 2019—you’ll have another chance!

I welcome your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and questions about the Schuylkill Conservation District and can be reached at (570) 622-3742 x 3335 and [jstclair@co.schuylkill.pa.us](mailto:jstclair@co.schuylkill.pa.us).



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## *Hot fun in the summertime with your Seedling!*



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## Welcome Kyle to the Conservation District

My name is Kyle Schutt and I am the Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Technician here in Schuylkill County. I graduated from Shippensburg University with a Bachelor's degree in Biology with a concentration in Ecology and Environmental Biology. I started here at the Conservation District in early May and have been monitoring mosquito populations at various sites across the county.

All mosquitos are collected and shipped to Harrisburg where they are identified and tested. This monitoring will give me a better understanding of the populations in the county and how I can best control them to make the county as safe as possible for the public.



### WAYS TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES

- Don't let water go stagnant. Mosquitoes need stagnant, still water to lay eggs and for the young to successfully hatch and mature.
- Dump it out. ...
- Pick up your litter. ...
- Pay attention to your water features. ...
- Drain or throw out tires. ...
- Declutter and get rid of junk.



## Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Online Kestrel Cam Goes Live

For the fourth year, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Berks County is hosting a 24/7 live stream via a camera mounted within a local American Kestrel nest box installed by the Sanctuary. The American Kestrel Nest Box Program is part of Hawk Mountain's long-term study of kestrel reproductive ecology, now in its 65th year.

The Kestrel Cam streams from a nest box on a private farm local to the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, and it runs from about mid-March to the end of June, dependent on the nesting pair and their chicks. The recorded footage is then trimmed and used for Hawk Mountain's Act 48 approved American Kestrel Webcam Curriculum. The curriculum is designed for elementary and middle school levels with a focus on kestrel nesting ecology and interactive technology. Contact Director of Education Erin Brown for more information by sending email to: [brown@hawkmountain.org](mailto:brown@hawkmountain.org).



The American Kestrel Nest Box Program provides outreach to the local community and hands-on training for spring conservation science trainees and interns, including experience in data collection, banding, and live nestling handling and documentation. Today, more than 200 kestrel nest boxes have been placed within a 25-mile radius of Hawk Mountain, and each year all boxes are cleaned and monitored. Successful nestlings are banded at two weeks of age to continue the long-term research. Visit [www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org) to keep up with live stream, or visit the American Kestrel YouTube channel to view highlights from the 2017 stream.

# *Dive Deeper: Youth Water Educators Summit*

The Penn State Extension 2018 Dive Deeper: Youth Water Educators Summit will be held on September 20 at the Central Hotel & Conference Center, 800 East Park Dr., Harrisburg from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Summit is a multi-state environmental education summit spotlighting innovative teaching about water. This biennial conference is for anyone who teaches youth about water or anyone interested in educational tools and resources for teaching about water.



It will be an all-day event with hands-on workshops, networking lunch, and amazing guest speakers.

- Enjoy new informative speakers, take home new curriculum ideas, & create new networking opportunities;
- Learn about current and emerging water issues in the mid-Atlantic region; and
- Discover new technology resources to enhance your STEM education offerings.



## ***New at the 2018 Summit!***

Two pre-conference tour options are being offered this year for the first time. Pre-registration is required and there is an additional cost for both.

Contact Jennifer Fetter at 717-921-8803 or [4HWater@psu.edu](mailto:4HWater@psu.edu) for more information.

## ***Pennsylvania's Century and Bicentennial Farm Program***

- The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture recognizes Pennsylvania farms and farm families who have been farming the same land for 100 and 200 years with the Century and Bicentennial Farm Program.
- The Century Farm Program started in 1977.
- The Bicentennial Farm Program started in 2004.
- As of April 2018, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has recognized more than 2,100 century and 180 bicentennial farms in Pennsylvania.
- Century farms have been recognized in every county, except Philadelphia.
- Bicentennial farms have been recognized in 40 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.
- More than 245 farms recognized by the program were established in the 1700s.
- Visit: [www.agriculture.pa.gov](http://www.agriculture.pa.gov) for more information.





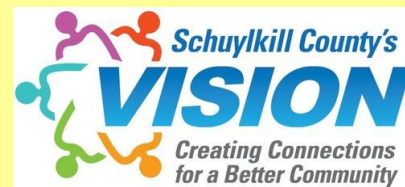


# SEEDS

## ***2018 Schuylkill Summer Walking Passport... June 1 - August 31***

Get active this summer! Schuylkill County's VISION invites you to participate in our many walking activities scheduled over the summer. All of the walks are described in a 2018 walking passport description.

Simply print out the calendars provided (3 month passport 2018) by visiting [www.schuylkillvision.com](http://www.schuylkillvision.com) and take them to the hosted walks; ask your walking host to initial the completed event on the calendar. Once you reach 20 events completed you can send the calendar to Schuylkill County's VISION to claim a prize.

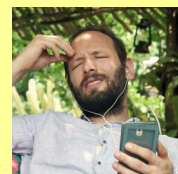


Your calendars will be entered into a grand prize drawing for each 20 events you participate in. We will be drawing a winner for a grand prize at the beginning of September. You may send the calendars to Schuylkill County's VISION, 11 East Main Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972 or scan and email them to [jelberfeld@schuylkillvision.com](mailto:jelberfeld@schuylkillvision.com).



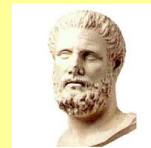
\$500 cash awards from the PA State Association of Township Supervisors will be given to any PA youth group who completed projects between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. Projects must involve youth in planning and implementation and must have a major impact on one or more townships of the second class and governed by a board of supervisors. School groups, scouts, 4-H, church groups are eligible. Guidelines and entry forms are available at [www.psats.org](http://www.psats.org). Deadline is July 2. Info: Brenda of PA Township News: 717.763.0930.

**Stumped by a garden issue? Help is just a phone call away! Call Master Gardeners at the Hort Hotline**



Questions on trees, shrubs, flowers, lawn, and so much more can be answered by calling the Hort Hotline at 570.622.4225 ext. 23 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays throughout the season until October. Messages can be left and your question will be answered asap.

**"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food."  
- Hippocrates**





# 2018 WALK SCHEDULE



Schuylkill On the Move is a project of Schuylkill County's VISION and promotes positive steps toward good health through walking and an appreciation of the natural beauty and fascinating history of our area. For more information on each walk: [porcupinepat@yahoo.com](mailto:porcupinepat@yahoo.com)

- **Sunday, January 28th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Stump Dam".** "Hiker Jim" Murphy will take you to the Gumboot then Black Diamond Road to Blackwood and then Stump Dam. You'll follow the old Lehigh Railroad to Silverton. Meet at Llewellyn Hose parking lot. (9 miles, easy) This walk goes on even with light snow on ground.
- **Sunday, January 28th, 2:00-4:30 p.m., "Fort Dietrich Snyder and Appalachian Trail".** Located on top of Blue Mountain at Rte. 183. A short hike to a monument for the fort location. See a natural spring along an abandoned farm pond and continue to hike the AT. Meet at Rte. 183 on top of Blue Mountain. (3 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, February 24th, 10:00-11:00 a.m., "Cabin Fever Walk".** "Porcupine Pat" guarantees that this walk will cure your fever! Meet at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake Park. (3 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, February 25th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "County View".** "Hiker Jim" offers plenty to see including the "88" and diversion canal plus "The Old Jerk" and a spectacular view of County Schuylkill. Meet behind Mt. Pleasant Hose Company in Buck Run on Rte. 901. (8.4 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, March 11th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Broad Mtn. Bench Trail".** Trek the old Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railbed and historic Centre Turnpike with "Hiker Jim." There is a lot to see on this dog friendly hike. Meet at 806 Valley Road, Pine Knot. (10.6 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, March 25th, 2:00- 4:00 p.m., "Tri-Valley Trail Trek".** "Porcupine Pat" takes you on a wilderness-like experience in the outskirts of Hegins. Meet in front of Tri-Valley High School in Hegins. (3 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, April 8th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "West Creek Headwaters and Waterfall Hike".** Start on Old Airport Road with "Hiker Jim" as you follow the stream to the waterfall and end in Forestville. The downhill is rocky in spots. Meet outside of 901 Pub on Old Airport Road. (8 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, April 14th, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., "Rausch Gap".** State Park Education Specialist Robin Tracey takes you on a hike up the mountain and across to the Village of Rausch Gap. There will be one difficult stream crossing. You'll be taken back in time! Meet at the concrete pad at the state game lands parking lot on Gold Mine Road off Rte. 443 outside of Pine Grove. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome but must be leashed. (9.5 miles, difficult)
- **Sunday, April 15th, 1:00-3:30 p.m., "Peak Experience".** Traverse the top of the Blue Mountain above Port Clinton on this trek that features an overlook and charcoal history. Meet "Porcupine Pat" at the entrance to Conrad Weiser State Forest along Rte. 61 northbound just north of Port Clinton. (3-4 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, April 28th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., "Spring Wildflower Walk".** Naturalist Mike Centeleghe helps you to enjoy the many beautiful flowers of Frog Hollow which is managed by the South Schuylkill Garden Club. Meet in the parking lot of Frog Hollow on Stone Mountain Road just outside of Friedensburg. Open to all ages. (2 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, May 6th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Dyer Run Gorge".** "Hiker Jim" leads you on this Gorge Trail that was re-opened in 2014. Walk in a wilderness area then downhill on "Stephen's Road." Meet at 806 Valley Road in Pine Knot. (7 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, May 19th, 10:00 am.-3:00 p.m., "Silver Creek Fire Tower & Reservoir Hike".** Meet Robin Tracey at the Locust Lake State Park parking lot to carpool. We'll go to the reservoir then down to the fire tower for lunch. Bring a lunch and dogs are welcome but must be leashed. (8 miles, difficult)
- **Saturday, May 19th, 1:00-3:00 p.m., "SCEETR Sojourn".** Visit the site of a major watershed improvement project managed by Schuylkill Headwaters. "Porcupine Pat" leads this walk that features mine water drainage being cleaned before it empties into the nearby river. Meet at the New Philadelphia Post Office along Rte. 209. (3 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, June 9th, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., "Cold Springs".** Cold Springs at Hawk Watch, Fort Indiantown Gap. **You must register for this walk by calling Robin at 570-467-2506.** Bring a lunch. **No dogs please.** Meet at the AT parking lot at Rtes. 443 & 72 to carpool. (8 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, June 10th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., "Mine Hill to Mine Hill Gap".** "Hiker Jim" offers another view of Broad Mountain. See strip mine regrowth, the "black desert", Mine Hill Gap and views of Heckscherville Valley. Meet at Sunbury Road and Hillside Road. (7 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, June 16th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., "St. Anthony's Wilderness Walk".** Hike Pennsylvania's second largest roadless area with Mike Centeleghe who will also teach you about the trees of Penn's Woods. Open to all ages. Meet in State Game Lands 211 parking lot on Gold Mine Road. (3 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, July 7th, 2:00-4:00 p.m., "Rte. 61 Schuylkill River Trail Segment".** Hike a new stretch of the Bartram Trail, aka Schuylkill River Trail, with "Porcupine Pat". Scenic views from Tumbling Run to Seven Stars. Meet at the Schuylkill County Ag Center for carpool to the trailhead. (2 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, July 21st, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., "Sweet Arrow Splash".** Join Mike Centeleghe for a walk around the lake at our first county park. End up at the Waterfall Pavilion area to catch and observe some aquatic critters. Open to all ages. Meet at the Waterfall Road parking lot. (3 miles, easy)



- **Saturday, July 21st, 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., “Trout Run”.** Robin Tracey leads you on this hike near the creek that includes a visit to the Bordner Cabin. Dogs must be leashed and bring a lunch. Meet at the Trout Run Trailhead located just off Rte. 443 in Swatara State Park. (8 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, July 22nd, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “Broad Mt. Bench Trail”.** Trek the old Mine Hill and Schuylkill Haven Railbed and historic Centre Turnpike with “Hiker Jim.” There is lots to see on this dog friendly hike. Meet at 806 Valley Road, Pine Knot. (10.6 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, August 11th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., “Swatara State Park Stroll”.** Hike the Swatara State Park with Mike Centeleghe to view natural beauty and see some of nature’s edibles. Open to all ages. (3 miles, moderate)
- **Saturday, August 18th, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., “Long Loop Hike”.** You will hike with Robin Tracey on most of the trails in Tuscarora State Park. See great lake views and cross the dam breast. We finish our hike on the Spirit of Tuscarora Trail. Dogs must be leashed and bring a lunch. Meet at the Crow Trail parking lot at Tuscarora State Park. (8 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, August 19th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “West Creek Headwaters and Waterfall Hike”.** Start on Old Airport Road in Mt. Pleasant with “Hiker Jim” as you follow the stream to the waterfall and end in Forestville. The downhill is rocky in spots. Nice shady walk! Meet outside of 901 Pub on Old Airport Road. (8 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, August 26th, 2:00-4:00 p.m., “Frackville Foray”.** Hike leader John Domalakes showcases the grave of Frackville founder Daniel Frack and then an awesome overlook of the Mahanoy Valley. Meet at St. Joseph’s Church on North Line Street, Frackville. (3 miles, easy)
- **Monday, September 3rd, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., “Wolf Creek Falls & Reservoir Hike”.** Meet Robin Tracey at the east end of the Wal-Mart parking lot in Saint Clair. **You must register for this walk by calling Robin at 570-467-2506.** A hidden gem! Bring a lunch and dogs must be leashed. (7.5 miles, difficult)
- **Sunday, September 9th, 1:00-4:30 p.m., “Mystical Red Hole Ramble”.** Hike leader John Domalakes leads this tour that features this historic site from the 1750’s French and Indian War. Meet in the parking lot of the Schuylkill County Ag Center, Rte. 901, Pottsville for carpool to the trailhead. (3-4 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, September 16th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “Mine Hill to Mine Hill Gap”.** “Hiker Jim” offers another view of Broad Mountain. See strip mine regrowth, the “black desert”, Mine Hill Gap and views of Heckscherville Valley. Meet at Sunbury Road and Hillside Road. (7 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, September 22nd, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., “The Pinnacle”.** Gorgeous views from the top of Blue Mountain. Meet Robin Tracey in the State Game Lands parking lot off Rte. 61 south near Port Clinton to carpool. **You must register for this walk by calling Robin at 570-467-2506.** Bring a lunch. **No dogs please.** (11 miles, difficult)
- **Saturday, October 6th, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., “Lebanon Reservoir and Swatara Furnace”.** Robin Tracey leads you on this historic and scenic tour. Meet at the concrete pad at State Game Lands off Gold Mine Road. See a large reservoir and follow the old railbed and then drive to the Swatara Furnace. Bring lunch and dogs are welcome. (7 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, October 7th, 1:00-4:00 p.m., “Walk in Penn’s Woods—Tuscarora State Park”.** Walk in Penn’s Woods aims to get people out to enjoy the woods and to learn about how these woods work for us – from recreation and wildlife habitat to seeing the outcomes of timber harvests. Last year every county in PA hosted this kind of walk and this year is no exception. Meet at the office of Tuscarora State Park. Open to all ages. (2 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, October 14th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “County View”.** “Hiker Jim” offers plenty to see including the “88” and diversion canal plus “The Old Jerk” and a spectacular view of County Schuylkill. Meet behind Mt. Pleasant Hose Company in Buck Run on Rte. 901. (8.4 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, October 21st, 1:00-4:00 p.m., “Peddler’s Grave”.** Visit the site of the first murder in our area along a turnpike from the late 1700’s. Meet in the parking lot for the Coal Miner’s Memorial on the north side of Shenandoah for carpool to the trailhead. (5 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, November 4th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “Dyer Run Gorge”.** “Hiker Jim” leads you on this Gorge Trail that was re-opened in 2014. Walk in a wilderness area then downhill on “Stephen’s Road.” Meet at 806 Valley Road in Pine Knot. (7 miles, moderate)
- **Sunday, November 4th, 1:00-3:00 p.m., “Bartram Trail North Stretch”.** Some nature, some history on this trail section. Meet at the Auburn Trailhead on Rte. 895 just before the river to travel to hike start location. (4 miles, easy)
- **Saturday, December 1st, 10:00-11:00 a.m., “Sweet Arrow Sojourn”.** “Porcupine Pat” leads us on a different path for a jaunt around the park that includes some nice scenes of the water. Meet at the Waterfall Road parking lot of Sweet Arrow Lake County Park. (3 miles, easy)
- **Sunday, December 9th, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., “Stump Dam”.** “Hiker Jim” Murphy takes you to the Gumboot then Black Diamond Road to Blackwood and then Stump Dam. You’ll follow the old Lehigh Railroad to Silverton. Meet at Llewellyn Hose parking lot. (9 miles, easy)

**Many thanks to our sponsors. Learn more about our sponsors by visiting their websites.**



[www.schuylkillcd.org](http://www.schuylkillcd.org)



[www.schuylkill.org](http://www.schuylkill.org)



[www.schuylkillvision.com](http://www.schuylkillvision.com)



[www.schuylkillhistory.org](http://www.schuylkillhistory.org)



[www.schuylkillconservancy.org](http://www.schuylkillconservancy.org)



# Keep an eye out for the **SPOTTED LANTERNFLY**



**ADULT**  
**1 INCH LONG AND**  
**1/2 INCH WIDE**



**NYMPH**  
**STAGES**



**HATCHED &**  
**UNHATCHED**  
**EGG MASSES**

Report sightings of the  
Spotted Lanternfly to:

**1-866-253-7189**  
**Badbug@pa.gov**

**For more information:**  
**[www.spottedlanternfly.com](http://www.spottedlanternfly.com)**



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL TRAIL SYSTEM ACT & WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

In 2018, America will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act as well as the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Join the celebration by sharing your stories, photos, or favorite memories, or by simply getting out on the trail – and maybe bringing along a friend.

With the passage of the National Trails System Act in 1968, America was given a gift – the creation and protection of some of Americans' favorite places to discover the great outdoors. Trails that celebrate outdoor adventure such as the Appalachian Trail and trails that allow us to walk through history, such as the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail.

So, join the conversation on Facebook, Twitter, or right here on our website dedicated to this tremendous nationwide celebration of trails and all the places they allow us to explore. Share your love of trails and the outdoors. Go ahead – wear your heart on your sleeve – or on your backpack: this is a time of celebration.

While you're here, please take a moment and sign up to get email updates to find out what's going on in your neck of the woods as well as get key updates to the 50th anniversary. *(Editor's note: Locally, the internationally-acclaimed Appalachian Trail, for the most part, forms the southern boundary of Schuylkill County.)*

The Wild & Scenic Rivers Act also celebrates its 50th anniversary. In the days of fur trappers and pioneers, free-flowing rivers were the lifeblood of commerce, transportation and fisheries across America. Today, they are critical yet often-overlooked sources of clean water, critical habitat, and rejuvenating recreation for Americans seeking a break from the frenetic world of technology and reconnection with the deep flow of time and nature. Across the nation, river enthusiasts, communities and government agencies are preparing to celebrate wild rivers with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act.

Congress passed this landmark legislation on Oct. 2, 1968, to preserve selected rivers with outstanding natural, cultural, and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations.



Of the approximately 3.6 million miles of streams in the U.S., less than one quarter of one percent – 12,734 miles – are protected by the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. These miles include some of the most primitive and breathtaking landscapes in North America.





# LandSCAPES



***“A heritage worth saving is a legacy worth protecting”***

## ***Joseph Orlowsky receives K. Roland Bergner award***



The City of Pottsville is renowned for its street trees that line Centre Street, Garfield Square, the Charles Baber Cemetery and a host of other neighborhoods. In recognition of his strident efforts to make Pottsville a better place to live, work and play, the Conservancy awarded Joseph “Joe” Orlowsky the prestigious *K. Roland Bergner Memorial Land and Nature Advocate Award*. Joe has done much over the years to procure, plant and maintain the trees around the city. The photo shows Conservancy board member Frank Snyder presenting the award to Joe on Arbor Day (the last Friday in April) in a ceremony held at Charles Baber Cemetery.



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[www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com) to  
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information**

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Clean your house with baking soda, vinegar and lemon.

(SAMPLE INFO  
FROM EARTH 911)

**Like us on:**



Search *Schuylkill County Conservancy* and check out our stories project. You will be interested to see the variety of stories listed and you are cordially invited to leave one too!



# Mother Nature's Neighbors

## Meet Briana Luckenbill, 4-H Educator

### How long have you served as educator and what is your personal background in 4-H?

I have been the 4-H Educator in Schuylkill County since June 1, 2005. My background: Schuylkill County 4-H Alumni: Livestock Program-raised market hogs, market goats, market lambs, market steers, dairy goats, and Breeding Boer goats. I've attended numerous 4-H leadership conferences, attended 4-H Camp, served as a 4-H Camp Counselor, and served as the 4-H Summer Intern in 2002, 2003, and 2004 while in college.

### 4-H provides many opportunities for a young person to grow while learning by doing. How does your role as coordinator make these opportunities possible?

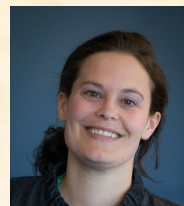
4-H gives youth the opportunity to be themselves. To learn, grow, and explore what interests them here and now. It allows them the chance to make friends with other youth and adults who have similar interests. What I see in my club members is outstanding growth and potential. Watching them grow from a shy or quirky adolescent to a teen leader within their club and community that is ready to take on "real world" experiences with confidence and maturity. 4-H is the pathway to the future. As the coordinator, I am organizing and promoting the opportunities that the youth have available to them. However, it's the 4-H Volunteers that make it happen. They are the individuals that make the program grow and thrive. I provide the opportunities and the volunteers are the individuals that work with the youth one on one and encourage them to attend the event.

### Why is 2018 a special year for Schuylkill County 4-H?

This year marks 100 years of 4-H programming in Schuylkill County. Our local 4-H program was established in 1918 and is now serving nearly 2,000 youth and leaders in Schuylkill County annually. Today, 4-H is about much more than corn and cows. It covers just about every area of interest, from animals to workforce preparation, and from woodworking to the performing arts. While agriculture, horticulture, and family and consumer science remain strong projects in 4-H, new interests, such as environmental science and engineering, are now included.

### Do you have a favorite 4-H story?

I will never forget the time I was attending 4-H Camp as a camper. I must have been around 10 years old. I attended camp with Schuylkill County but our county also attended camp with Carbon County 4-H. My father was the staff member from Carbon that year, so I was fortunate that I got to camp with my dad. Unfortunately, I became very homesick and cried every night. Each day I was perfectly fine. However, each night I cried. The counselors did not know what to do because they thought it was odd I was homesick when my father was already at camp. They would take me to my father in hopes of consoling me. My dad would ask why I was crying when he was there and I would cry back to him that I didn't want him, I wanted mom. Oh boy, my dad would laugh because he couldn't understand why I was homesick when I was lucky enough to have a parent at camp. Now as an adult and as a 4-H Educator, I realize how unsettling it is for a child to sleep away from home at camp. I am compassionate about it more then I believe others are because of my homesickness. However, I know the growth I went through because of that experience and am more apt to work with those kids that might be struggling. But as an adult now, I look back at my personal experience and laugh at my situation. It was comical because I was lucky to have a parent at camp. It just was not the parent I wanted at camp.



I did however camp with my father for almost two decades. First as a camper, next as a counselor and lastly as a 4-H staff member before he retired. Those were some of the best memories I have of 4-H and spending time with him. That's what makes 4-H so special. It's a program that allows families to work and participate together.

### Schuylkill County 4-H has a number of clubs that serve the county. What clubs are in the county and is it possible to start another?

Schuylkill County has 11 clubs. The majority of the clubs center around animal science, but not all.

- 4-H Cloverbuds- youth ages 5-7
- Bridle Wild- ages 8-18- horse
- Blue Mountain Livestock- ages 8-18- livestock
- Grassy Meadows- ages 8-18- livestock
- Nocked and Loaded- ages 8-18- shooting sports
- Appalachian Rabbit- ages 8-18- rabbits
- Schuylkill County Livestock Judging- ages 8-18 - livestock judging
- Schuylkill Stampede- ages 8-18- livestock
- South Schuylkill Dairy- ages 8-18- dairy and livestock
- South Schuylkill Equestrian- ages 8-18- horse
- West Penn- ages 8-18- dairy and livestock

In regards to establishing new clubs, Schuylkill County is always looking at launching new clubs. The project areas we would like to focus on at this point would be: Nature/Gardening/Environmental Science, Robotics, Cooking/Sewing/Crafting





**The Schuylkill County Envirothon was held in early May. Thanks to all the agencies from the PA Game Commission to DCNR-Forestry and district staff and volunteers for their good help. Also, thanks to the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority for their financial support that makes the event possible.**







Celebrating all things

*Environmental*

**NATURAL**

**OUTDOORS**  
*Agricultural*

in Schuylkill County



**The 17th Annual Bear Creek Festival took place on June 3. Over 1,500 people of all ages attended and enjoyed the wide range of activities from music to programs by the Red Creek Wildlife Center. The festival took place at the Schuylkill County Fairgrounds and fun was had by all!**





# Master Gardener



PennState Extension



## Certify Your Pollinator Friendly Garden Before Sept 1, 2018

Your name will be entered into a drawing for  
a Pollinator Basket filled with Pollinator Friendly gardening supplies!

Winners must be residents of Schuylkill County

### Why Certify?

- Bring Back the Bees
- Promote Pollinator Awareness
- Beautify Your Landscape

### What is Required?

- Water & Shelter
- Nectar & Pollen Sources
- Avoid Invasive Plants
- Reduce Pesticide Use

### How Do I Certify?

- Easy on-line certification form at:  
<http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/public-outreach/cert>



### Questions?

Penn State  
Master Gardeners  
Of Schuylkill County  
[schuylkillmg@psu.edu](mailto:schuylkillmg@psu.edu)  
570 622 4225 x23

Celebrate National Pollinator Week, June 18-24, 2018







**Life can be a balancing act with many obligations here and there. We lightened your load by sorting these interesting and innovative websites for you.**

- <https://dmachoice.thedma.org/> DMAChoice won't eliminate all junk mail since many direct mailers are not members of the Direct Marketing Association, but it's a good start. The Association now charges a \$1 fee whether you register for DMAChoice online or by mail. If you're looking for a great way to reduce your junk mail DMAChoice has a wealth of information for consumers besides ways to remove yourself from mailing lists.
- [www.50waystohelp.com](http://www.50waystohelp.com) Use Energy Efficient Lightbulbs. Turn Your Computer Off Overnight. Don't Pre-Rinse the Dishes. Don't Pre-Heat Your Oven. Always Recycle Glass. Choose Your Diapers Wisely. Use A Clothesline. Have A Vegetarian Day....much more!
- [www.schuylkillfair.com](http://www.schuylkillfair.com) The 2018 county fair will be held from July 30 to August 4. Check out the variety of activities and entertainment available for this year's fair.
- [www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com](http://www.redcreekwildlifecenter.com) Red Creek brings a host of programs about PA wildlife to the county fair. Visit them at the Weston Pavilion near the Shadle Nature Center and check out their schedule at the county fair's website listed above.
- [www.bluemountainwildlifestore.com](http://www.bluemountainwildlifestore.com) Welcome to the Blue Mountain Wildlife Incorporated website. They are the stewards of the Kernsville Dam Recreation Area - 252 acres of wilderness and wetlands along two miles of the scenic Schuylkill River just northwest of Hamburg, Pennsylvania. Blue Mountain Wildlife was founded in 2001 for the preservation and conservation of the wildlife and wetlands along the scenic Schuylkill River in northern Berks and southern Schuylkill Counties and is a certified 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

## Schuylkill Conservation District Board and Staff

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- District Chair:  
Glenn Luckenbill
- Vice Chair:  
Scott Graver
- Directors:
- Commissioner Gary Hess
- Stanley Fidler
- Helen Masser
- Dottie Sterner
- F. Diane Wolfgang
- Eric Leiby
- Glenn Hetherington

### ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

- Chris Bentz
- John Usalis
- Robert Carl, Jr.
- Frank Zukas
- "Boots" Hetherington
- Russell Wagner
- Ben Vaupel
- Diana Beausang

### STAFF PHONE EXTENSIONS FOR 570.622.3742

- Jenna St. Clair, District Manager, 3335
- 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, 3334
- Christy Zulli, Conservation Program Technician, 3327
- Bill Reichert, Upper Swatara Flood Recovery Manager, 3331
- Wayne Lehman, County Natural Resources Specialist, 3333
- Andrea Reiner, Agricultural Program Coordinator, 3325
- Ryan Michlovsky, Conservation Program Coordinator, 3330
- Lorie Reichert, Conservation Program Asst., 3316
- Drew Kline, Parks & Rec. Supervisor, 3334
- Alexa Kramer, Natural Resources Conservationist, 3336
- Kyle Schutt, Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Technician, Cell: 484.331.4499

**Check out the Dr. James S. Shadle Nature Center during the Schuylkill County Fair from July 30 to August 4. Open from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. plus 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday.**



**Summer 2018  
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