

BEREA COLLEGE FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER

March 2020 Friends of the Forest Newsletter

Group Hikes!

Our Saturday group hikes at The Pinnacles continue from 1:00-3:30 led by various members of our team. Meet in the FOC.

Group hikes will also be at Brushy Fork on Fridays at 1:00! Meet at the fountain by the Alumni building and Shinn's Tower.

Students watch for an email to SIGN UP for the Saturday 12:45 SHUTTLE from ALUMNI CIRCLE

Welcoming Back Spring!

Did you know it begins early this year? We're looking forward to March 19th!

Kelly's Trail Hike

rescheduled for March 15th, 1:00-6:00 pm

Join us for a group hike honoring Kelly Ambrose's idea of "required fun". Kelly's Trail is the newest and longest trail here at The Pinnacles that leads to Robe and Basin Mountains. Named after Berea College professor Kelly Ambrose, whose students learned that spending time outdoors is essential for one's mental and physical health, this trail was built to honor Kelly's work.

The hike is a 6 mile round-trip and is challenging, so please plan to bring snacks, water, and wear appropriate clothing.



Save the Dates

Presentations sponsored by The Woodworking School at Pine Croft

Kelly Mehler: April 20th, Peter Galbert: May 12th

Megan Fitzpatrick: June 2nd, Nancy Hiller: June 16th

Michael Puryear: July 14th

See www.pinecroftwoodschooll.com for more info.

Work by Kelly Mehler



CENTER HOURS:

Every Day 10:00AM-4:00PM

Closed @ 3:15 on Tuesdays

What's coming up?

All events are free, open to the public, and kid friendly.

*Group Hikes: Saturdays

1:00-3:30 pm at The Pinnacles

*Group Hikes: Fridays

12:00-2:00 pm at Brushy Fork

*Weekday Walkers: Wednesdays

10:45-12:00, meet at the FOC

*Stellar Monday: Astronomy Club

March 2nd, 6:00 pm

*Kelly's Trail Hike: "Required fun!"

March 15th, 1:00-6:00

*Documentary Dialogue: TBA

Watch on our website, social media, or stop into the Center for more info!



Berea College
Forestry Outreach
Center



@bereacollegefoc



Naturalist

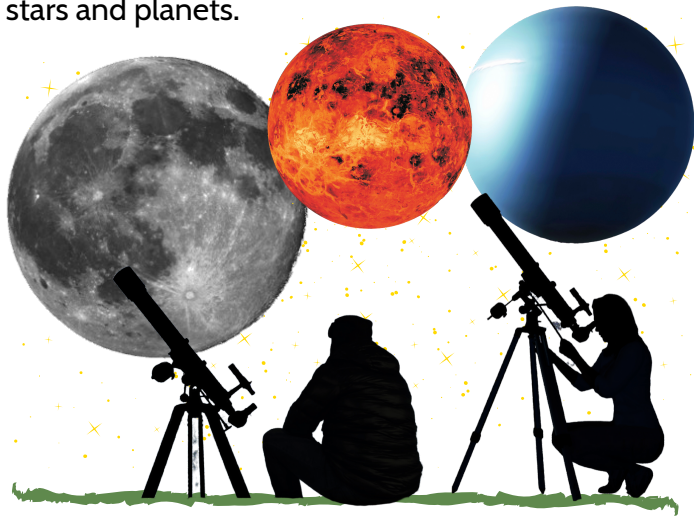
Project: Biodiversity of
the Berea College
Forest

<https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu/>

Stellar Monday

March 2nd, 6:00 pm

Ever seen a falling star? Ever wonder what they are? Join us and Jeff Hutton to learn about what's always falling out of the sky and how this stuff may be related to life on the Earth! We will have a short presentation inside followed by viewing through telescopes. If it's a clear evening, we can observe the first-quarter moon, the planet Venus, and maybe even the distant blue planet that was first named "George"--Uranus. Also visible will be the beautiful Pleiades, a young star cluster that is so important in many cultures. We can also view the Great Orion Nebula, the birthplace to many new stars and planets.



Join Us in Our Work...

Contact the FOC to volunteer to lead programming, work at the greeter's desk, or help the foresters with trail maintenance. Email zagrayk@berea.edu, call 859-756-3315, or stop in and see us! We appreciate all you do!

...or Make a Donation!

If you or someone you know would like to support the work being done at the FOC and/or Forestry, please go to this link:

<https://give.berea.edu/give/191405/#!/donation/checkout>

Select "Other" and, a few lines down, designate the Forestry Outreach Center or Forestry



Welcome back, Michelle!



The warmer months mean more programming here at the FOC! Through the generosity of the Snowy Owl Foundation, Michelle Berendsen has returned to offer environmental education programming. As a result, we've scheduled class visits from area schools throughout March and April. We're also planning spring and summer partnerships with the

Madison County Public Library, Madison County 4-H, and Upward Bound. Watch for additional announcements about upcoming educational programs!

Project Spotlight

Our labor student, Blake Day, studies chemistry and was interested in researching about the roll of legumes in the nitrogen cycle in soil. He wrote a lesson plan that the FOC can use when high school students come visit. He also wrote a blog post for our website. Here is some of what he found!



Clovers fall under the category of legume, which includes many agricultural plants such as peanuts and green beans. Legumes have sacs of bacteria on their roots that the plant. In return, the legume receives a form of nitrogen that it can absorb and use for metabolic processes. Not all of the nitrogen is used up by the legume, though, allowing other nearby plants to be nourished as well.

Most homeowners enjoy the pristine look of their lawn, but they may not realize they are hurting the quality of the soil by removing clovers. This harm then requires owners to buy bagged fertilizer to reverse that damage. However, simply by allowing clovers to exist in harmony with the grass, a homeowner can keep the health of their lawn.