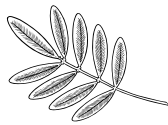


BEREA COLLEGE FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER

April 2020 Friends of the Forest Newsletter--Part 2

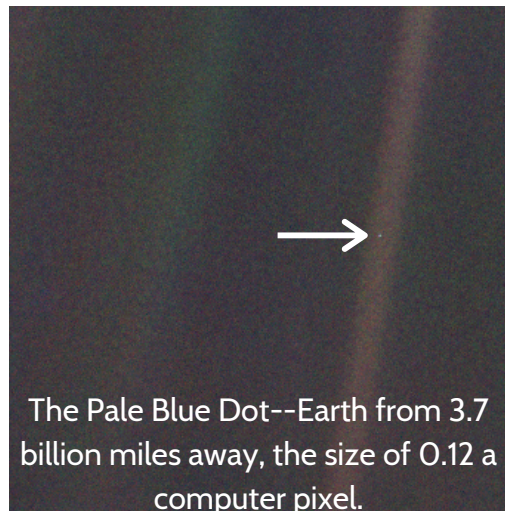


**Happy Earth Day!**  
50 Years of Celebrating the  
Pale Blue Dot--April 22nd



Let's take a moment to remember what April brings us: wildflowers, mushrooms, cleansing rains, new blooms, refreshing oxygen, and soon, sunshine. In a time of ambiguity, it can be easy to forget the simplicities in our lives that help us move forward. Though we are at a standstill in our societal lives, the Earth keeps turning with us on it. Our pale blue dot is going through its changes, and it needs us now more than ever to remember this is our home. We stand on its soil together, we breathe from the trees and plants together, we explore and adventure its great heights together. Now, we truly need to "preserve and cherish" our pale blue dot together. Here's to 50 more years of celebrating Earth Day every day.

"On it everyone you love, everyone you know, everyone you ever heard of, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives...To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known." -Carl Sagan, *Pale Blue Dot*, 1994



The Pale Blue Dot--Earth from 3.7 billion miles away, the size of 0.12 a computer pixel.

The Forestry Outreach Center and the College trails are currently CLOSED.

Follow us on our social media for these regular posts:

- Mushroom Monday**
- Try This! Tuesday**
- Wildlife Wednesday**
- Thinking Thursday**
- Fern Friday**
- Stellar Saturday**
- Sky Watch Sunday**

All posts are perfect for sparking an interest in learning!

Keep an eye out for 2 newsletters a month!



Berea College Forestry Outreach Center



@bereacollegefoc



Naturalist

Citizen Science Project: Biodiversity of the Berea College Forest

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



## What Are We Up To?

In addition to our daily social media posts and bi-monthly newsletters, the FOC team has been keeping track of the forest to provide you with fun, educational activities and information!

Our Naturalist, John, has had more time to go out searching for and documenting rare species. Using this information we are better able to manage our forest to protect these species and preserve them for future generations. Follow him on iNaturalist.org to keep up with all of the cool species he finds. With thousands of different species in our forest, every day is different!

Environmental educators Michelle, Kayla, and Wendy have been working on virtual lessons that parents and teachers can use with their children and students! They can be found at <https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu/virtual-lessons> or by clicking on the "Virtual Lessons" button on the front page of the website!



## Share with Us!

As you spend time outdoors, if you take pictures, write, or just experience nature, we would love to hear about it! Send us a direct message or post on social media and tag us! We will feature wildlife pictures in our upcoming newsletters or Instagram and yours could be one of them!

Also, if you have any questions about what you're seeing, email our Naturalist at [john\\_abrams@bera.edu](mailto:john_abrams@bera.edu)!

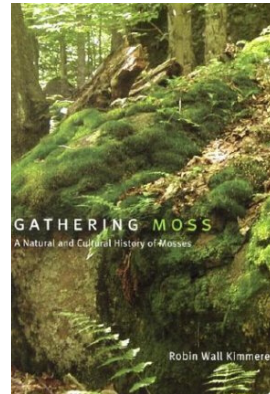
## Wildlife Spotlight



## From Our Staff:

### What we're reading

In *Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses*, Robin Wall Kimmerer "explains the stories of mosses in scientific terms as well as in the framework of indigenous ways of knowing." (Goodreads) Educator and FOC director, Wendy Warren, referenced this book in a blog post. You can find this and other weekly blogposts with information for caregivers and educators on the FOC website: <https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu/2020/04/09/thinking-thursday-april-9/>



### What we're watching

*Our Planet* is a documentary series narrated by David Attenborough that helps us "experience our planet's natural beauty and examine how climate change impacts all living creatures." (Netflix)

A perfect viewing to celebrate Earth Day!

## Night Skies Over the Pinnacles

The peak of the annual Lyrid meteor shower will be April 21st-23rd! To view it, here are some tips:  
-go to a place as far away from lights as possible  
-go to bed early and set your alarm for about 2 AM  
-be patient!

There will be a New Moon on April 23rd, meaning the sky will be fairly dark! If it is a clear evening, head outside and see if you can catch a glimpse of a "shooting star"--really, dust grains and ice that are remnants of an old comet.

If you see a meteor, let us know on Facebook or Instagram! Keep up-to-date on all things astronomy on our website, thanks to Jeff Hutton:

<https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu/skies-above-the-pinnacles/>

