

# BEREA COLLEGE FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER

January 2021 Friends of the Forest Newsletter

## "Thinking" About Nature



This past month, we set up two "Thinking Tours" in Berea, at the Pinnacles and the City Park, to get us thinking about the natural world we interact with every day. Look out for even more family-friendly nature-based activities this year, and let us know what your favorite activity was last year.

### Land Acknowledgement: *Osiyo, Hatito. (Hello)*

We invite you to join us in acknowledging that the Berea College Forest is located on the traditional territories of the sovereign Shawnee and the Cherokee nations. Both nations hold these mountains in care and tradition. Tribes are often involved in work to protect land that many have been forcibly driven from. The harms inflicted by the separation and removal of Indigenous People from these ancestral lands run deep. The erasure of their language and stories further rewrites the narratives we tell about these lands and waterways to keep them conveniently open, and this only deepens wounds for Indigenous communities. Please take a moment to reflect on this beautiful land, to honor and show gratitude towards its original caretakers- the Shawnee and the Cherokee. We hope that you, too, will become a caretaker of this land.

Thank you to Tiffany Pyette for this Land Acknowledgment Statement.

## Take A Look at What's New Did you notice our newest addition to the Pinnacles?

Take a walk through the woods today and check out our new trailhead sign!

This beautiful sign was designed and constructed by Armando Buenrostro (pictured left) to recognize the Native peoples of this area.



The Pinnacles, Brushy Fork, and Anglin Falls trails are OPEN. The Forestry Outreach Center and restrooms are CLOSED.

We appreciate you practicing safe social distancing as well as Leave No Trace in order for the trails to remain open safely.

Read the full re-opening announcement on our social media and website listed below.



Berea College Forestry Outreach Center



@bereacollegefoc



Citizen Science Project: Biodiversity of the Berea College Forest



Seek app by iNaturalist, great I.D. tool for kids and families

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

# Hibernating Critters

Now that it's wintertime, lots of animals have gone into Hibernation (a way that some animals deal with the harshness of winter. They curl up in a safe place and stay there until winter ends). Here's a few creatures you might not have known hibernate during this season:

In the fall, bumblebee colonies begin to produce new queen bumblebees. Only the queens will go into hibernation by burrowing underground. The ones that survive will emerge in the spring to seek out a location to found a new colony.



While some bats migrate to warmer climates for the winter, many of Kentucky's bats retreat to caves to find the perfect conditions to spend the winter in a hibernation-like state called torpor.



When Wood Frogs hibernate, they stop breathing, their hearts stop beating and they can even survive being frozen.



## January Skies Over the Forest

- Last Quarter: Jan. 6th
- New Moon: Jan. 13th
- First Quarter: Jan. 20th
- Full Moon: Jan. 28th



Check out how to look for the constellation Orion and much more on our website:

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

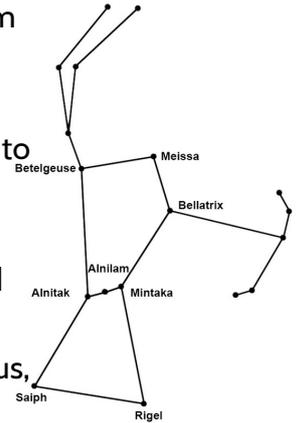


# Forest Spotlight: Our Friend Orion

We are fortunate to have astronomy enthusiast Jeff Hutton partner with us at the Center. Each month, we post Jeff's Sky Stories on our website, with his recommendations about what to watch for that month. This month, Jeff's feature begins:

He's Baaaaack!

One of the greatest things I'm looking forward to when this pandemic is over is the opportunity to again be able to see friends again-and not through a computer screen. But in January, one old friend always returns no matter what! He's bright, adventurous, and, oh, what stories he can tell! Here's his picture. Do you know who he is?



European cultures call this constellation Orion the Hunter. Other cultures have different stories about what they see in the night sky. Can you find any of those stories? Try searching Indigenous Astronomy and it will take you on a learning adventure!

Follow the Berea College Forestry Outreach Center and the Berea College Forestry Department's social media pages for information throughout December!

*Wado. Niyaawe. (Thank you).*

## Reach Out!

Questions about the forest? Hiking? The natural world? Feel free check out our website (<https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu/>)

or reach out to:

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