



# BEREA COLLEGE FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER

at the Pinnacles: Homelands of Shawnee and Cherokee Peoples

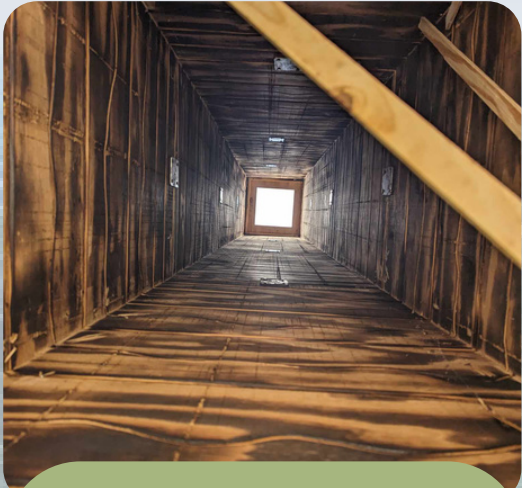
2047 Big Hill Rd. Berea, KY 40403-----859-756-3315  
Tues-Sat: 10am-4pm Sun: 12-4pm, trails open daily dawn to dusk

## September 2023 Friends of the Forest Newsletter

### Coming Together for Chimney Swifts

Supporting a struggling population during migration & beyond

We're excited to share a recent addition to the Forestry Outreach Center: a chimney swift tower! Through a collaboration involving the Center, Judith Weckman, Berea College retiree, and Jess Estridge from the Berea Makerspace, we were able to install this essential shelter for chimney swifts during nesting season and migration. The tower has been installed but there is still work to be done including painting a mural on the surface and adding an interpretive sign to give visitors more information about these spectacular birds and their importance to the ecosystem.



The inner wood was charred to help as a sealant from moisture and insect damage. Waves were carved to give the birds places to grip.

#### Why make a fake chimney?

Chimney swifts migrate during the fall and spring, sometimes in flocks of hundreds of birds. They fly as far south as Peru and need rest stops along the way. In nature, these would be standing, hollowed out trees, a fairly common fixture in large forests. Due to human expansion and deforestation, chimneys became a more easily accessible accommodation. Now, it has become common for people to cap their chimneys, leaving them inaccessible to these birds to find places to rest and raise young.



*"May your children hear and breathe the words of our Indigenous ancestors. May we all be so lucky to know an Indigenous future."*  
~Matika Wilbur, Project 562: Changing the Way We See Native America

### September Events:

All events at the FOC/Pinnacles unless otherwise noted.

Free and open to all.

Outdoor activities weather-dependent.

#### WELCOME BACK, STUDENTS!

Nature Hikes at the Pinnacles every Saturday starting Sept. 9th at 1:00pm (no hike Sept. 23rd)

\*student shuttle leaves at 12:45pm from Alumni Circle, returns ~3:30pm\*

Nature R&R: a slow-paced, relaxing and restorative forest experience

- Sept. 7th, 5:30-7:30pm @ Anglin Falls
- Sept. 23rd, 1:00-3:00pm @ Brushy Fork
- Sept. 27th, 5:15-7:15pm @ the Pinnacles

Kids Activities Sundays, 2:00pm:

- Sept. 10th: Ant-y Antics
- Sept. 17th: Changes in Nature
- Sept. 24th: Build a Bug Hotel



Berea College Forestry Outreach Center



@bereacollegefoc



Naturalist

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/>





## Nature R&R



a slow-paced, relaxing and restorative forest experience

Bring water and a portable seat or ground cover.

- Thurs, Sept. 7th, 5:30-7:30pm @ Anglin Falls
- Sat, Sept. 23rd, 1:00-3:00pm @ Brushy Fork meet at the bridge, map on our website
- Wed, Sept. 27th, 5:15-7:15pm @ the Pinnacles

Please reserve your spot on Eventbrite by searching for Berea College Forestry Outreach Center  
Learn more about Nature R&R by watching the informational video on the event pages or on <https://www.youtube.com/@bereacollegefoc>

## Kid's Activities

\*cancelled in case of rain, look on Facebook events or website for updates\*



September 10th, 2:00pm: Ant-y Antics

Let's learn all about ants by going out to find and observe them! We will finish with a story and having a snack--"ants on a log" (nut free option available).

September 17th, 2:00pm: Changes in Nature

To celebrate the fall equinox, we will observe and craft with the changes happening in nature from summer to fall. We'll also take a look at how our hickory horned devil caterpillars are changing.



September 24th, 2:00pm: Build a Bug Hotel

Wear good shoes and come scavenge the forest for the best materials to build a special home for the bugs of your choice!



Sep. 6th

Sep. 15th

Sep. 22nd

Sep. 29th

Learn about what the local night sky will look like this month on our website under *Skies Over the Pinnacles* thanks to Jeff Hutton! Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more info about an upcoming [solar eclipse viewing](#) here at the Pinnacles on [October 14th](#) thanks to the Pinnacles Astronomy Club!

## Student Spotlight

If you visit the Center or come on a group hike, you'll meet our amazing labor students!



Jeri



Kya



Citlaly



Jasmine



Abigail



Zeke

## Happy Autumn Equinox!

### September 23rd

Fall is full of beautiful changes in nature! We hope you spend some time outdoors and join us for an event this season.

Stay tuned for...

## Berea Tree Week 2023

October 7th-15th

Watch out for family-friendly events around Berea!

Check out the summer research conducted by senior, Michael Mecham, about the health of Brushy Fork Creek! You'll find it on the front page of our website.

