



BEREA COLLEGE

FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER

at the Pinnacles: Homelands of
Shawnee and Cherokee Peoples

Tues.-Sat. 10am-4pm, Sun. 12-4pm
Trails open dawn to dusk, daily
2047 Big Hill Rd. Berea, KY 40403
859-756-3315
<https://forestryoutreach.berea.edu>

FEBRUARY EVENTS

All events at the FOC/Pinnacles unless otherwise noted. Free and open to all. Outdoor activities weather-dependent

- Nature Walk/Hike at the Pinnacles at 1:00pm every Saturday, meet at FOC
- Forest Meditations 9:00-10:00am every Saturday starting Feb. 15th. Indoors or in the pavilion, depending on weather
- The Great Backyard Bird Count Info Session, February 13th 4:30-5:30pm at the MCPL Berea Branch Meeting Room
The Great Backyard Bird Count is February 14th-17th, learn more at birdcount.org
- Family Activity: Exploring Animal Tracks, February 23rd 2:00-3:00pm

Discovery Drawers available each day we are open & returned by 3:30pm



@bereacollegefoc



Citizen Science Project: Biodiversity of the Berea College Forest

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

FEBRUARY 2025 FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NEWSLETTER



LOVE AND HOPE IN THE FOREST

Some years it's hard to remember, but signs of spring start to show themselves in the month of February. Here are a few of the first signs to notice as you spend time outdoors this month:



Wood frogs begin to call, mate and lay eggs.



Wildflowers like harbinger-of-spring start to bloom.



Mourning cloak butterflies are one of the earliest to emerge from their chrysalises.



Eastern cottontails are more active, ready to find fresh food.

Songbirds will start to sing again

and you might hear the "peent" of a woodcock!



FOREST MEDITATIONS

Saturdays 9:00-10:00am
starting February 15th



Come join us for Forest Meditations every Saturday from 9-10am at the Forestry Outreach Center. This is an opportunity to connect with ourselves, each other, and the world. All are welcome. We will meet in the classroom until the weather gets warmer at which time we'll switch to the pavilion. Bring your mats or cushions if you like. Chairs will be provided.

We will start with a short introduction to the sit, meditate for about 20 minutes, and then invite you to reflect on your experience in any way you wish. It could be through writing, drawing or quiet contemplation. We would then welcome anyone who would like to share from their experience. We would love to have you linger afterwards for coffee and conversation.

"I had always found comfort in the leaves, in their silence. They were like a parchment that holds words of wisdom. Simply holding them in my hand gave me some of the peace a tree possesses. To be like that-to just be-that's the most noble thing of all."

-Silas House, A Parchment of Leaves

FAMILY ACTIVITY: EXPLORING ANIMAL TRACKS

February 23rd, 2:00-3:00pm

As winter turns to spring, animals start emerging from their slumbers... and there's plenty of mud on the ground for them to leave footprints behind! We will learn about how to tell what clues might help you find what critters are scampering about.



THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2025

Learn how to become a ***citizen scientist*** and contribute to decades of research about bird populations with just 15 minutes of your time on February 14th-17th. Great for all ages and skill levels to connect with birds and nature.

Learn more on birdcount.org

Participation Info Session

w/ Forestry Outreach Center staff

WHEN: February 13, 4:30-5:30 pm

WHERE: Meeting Room at the Berea Branch of the Madison County Public Library

