



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>

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events at the FOC/Pinnacles unless otherwise noted. Free, all welcome.

*Outdoor activities weather-dependent

- *SATURDAY GROUP HIKE TIME CHANGES TO 1:00PM

Student shuttle leaves Alumni Circle at 12:45pm, returns around 3:30pm
Group Hikes each Saturday, weather and holiday dependent.

- Forest Meditations 9:00-10:00am every Saturday

- *Nature R&R/Forest Bathing: -September 27th, 10:00am-12:00pm

- *Night Walk: September 21st, 7:30pm at Brushy Fork

Family Activities:

geared towards elementary ages

Activity: Nature Bracelets, September 7th, 2:00-3:00pm

Activity: Clay Nature Crafts September 14th, 2:00-3:00pm

Activity: Autumn Equinox, September 21st, 2:00-3:00pm

Activity TBD: September 28th, 2:00-3:00pm



@bereacollegefoc



Citizen Science Project: Biodiversity of the Berea College Forest

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



SEPTEMBER 2025 FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NEWSLETTER

SUMMER FUN IN THE FOREST

We hope you all had an amazing summer! Here are some highlights of what we were up to...



Two sessions of Forest Neighborhood camp meant learning about the forest and how to be a good neighbor to wildlife and each other.



218 individual eastern box turtle observation submissions were added to our statewide database to track turtle populations!

Our summer students worked on various projects: program planning, fossil sorting, and adding to our playscape!



We had our first nesting couple of chimney swifts, a vulnerable bird species, use the tower we built next to the Center!

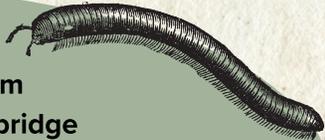
FOREST MEDITATIONS

Saturdays 9:00-10:00am



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.

NIGHT WALK



September 21st, 7:30pm

Brushy Fork--Meet at the bridge

Join our ecologist and FOC staff on a slow walk through the woods. **Please bring a flashlight/headlamp.**

Directions to Brushy Fork and the bridge can be found on our website.

NATURE R&R

September 27th, 10:00am-12:00pm

Nature Relaxation & Restoration/Forest Bathing is a 2 hour, slow-paced, restorative forest experience--not a hike or walk and is great for all ages.

Please bring a portable chair or something to sit on and dress for the weather. Weather dependent, RSVP for updates: Reserve a free spot by searching

“Berea College Forestry Outreach Center” on Eventbrite or call 859-756-3315.

Directions to locations found online at forestryoutreach.berea.edu.



Learn about the night sky in

September with an article by Jeff Hutton, head of the Pinnacle Astronomy Club!

Look under the “Forest Ecosystem” tab on our website.



FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Always free and open to all. * **Outdoor activities** are weather dependent. RSVP on Facebook for more info and updates. Geared towards elementary ages.

September 7th
Nature Bracelets
2:00-3:00

Join us to make bracelets inspired by nature! We will have beads and string to make monarch caterpillar bracelets. We will also make nature bracelets out of tape and go on a walk to collect items to add, and/or let nature add things for us to learn about seed dispersal!

September 14th
Clay Nature Crafts
2:00-3:00pm

We'll use clay crafts to explore nature and our creativity! You can use natural materials in your creations to make snails, mushrooms, and leaf and snake scale prints!

September 21st
Autumn Equinox
2:00-3:00pm

The autumn equinox--when day and night will be equal--is September 22nd! Celebrate heading into autumn with a leaf suncatcher craft and making a simple sundial!

September 28th
Activity TBD
2:00-3:00pm

Activity to be determined, check our Facebook and website for updates.



Tree of the Month!

by Michael Barnes

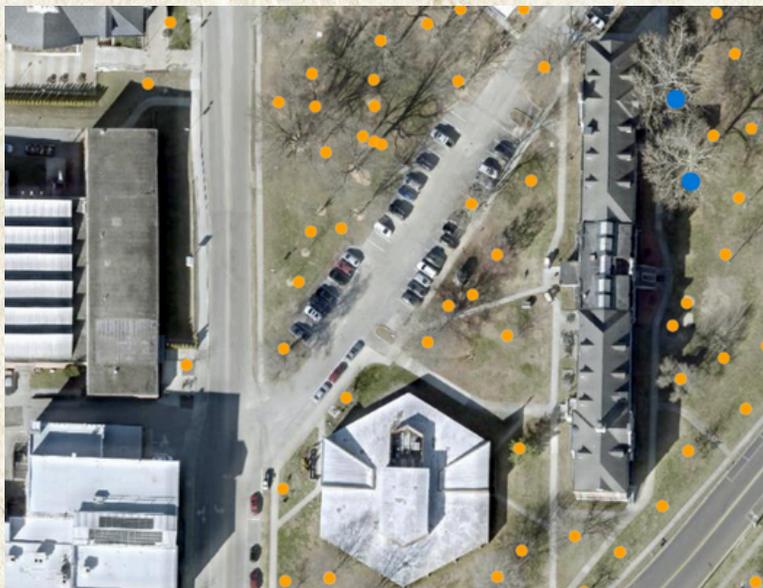
September's tree(s) of the month are two American Sycamores, *Plantanus occidentalis*, that reside on either side of the cloistered entry to Kentucky-Talcott. The first Sycamore (Tree I.D. #3527) towers over the building and measures an amazing 38.5 inches in diameter. The second (Tree I.D., #3528) stands just as tall and measures an even more impressive 47 inches in diameter.

Sycamores are known for their exfoliating bark that often sloughs off exposing the smooth, whitish inner bark, and also for their round spiky fruit.



The Sycamore can grow in full sun to shade and thrives in moist sandy loams with silt clays. They can grow up to 70 feet tall with a 50-foot spread and are native to 35 states in the U.S.

They are usually fast growing and often live to 200 years. If you have the room, they are great trees for the urban environment because of their tolerance for pollution, drought and salt.



Did you know you can view a map of all of the trees on campus? These two sycamores have the blue dots on the map to the left.



Explore the campus tree map yourself! Scan the QR code or look under the "Forest Ecosystem" tab on our website.