



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

See descriptions on p. 2

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

*Outdoor activities weather-dependent

*Saturday Group Hikes, 1:00pm

-April 4th: Anglin Falls--email signup

-April 11th: Pinnacles, Walnut Trail

-April 18th: Fossils--email signup

-April 25th: Pinnacles

Forest Meditations each Saturday

9:00-10:00am

Nature R&R: Anglin Falls:

April 16th, 5:00-7:00pm – email signup

Birdwatching Walk, Saturday April 18th

9:30-11:00am

Shakespeare in the Parks: Saturday

April 18th, 5:00-8:00pm (more info on our website)

Cyanotype Printing: Sunday April 19th,

2:00-3:00pm

Mushroom Log Workshop w/ ASPT

10:00am-2:00pm

Pop Up Wildflower Walks--follow our

Facebook and/or call us!

Family Activities:

geared towards elementary-aged kids, but all welcome

April 16th: Wonderful Wildflower Walk, leave at 2:00pm

April 26th: Bug Hotels, 2:00-3:00pm

APRIL 2026 FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NEWSLETTER

APRIL IS EPHEMERAL WILDFLOWER TIME!

When March arrives at the Forestry Outreach Center, we impatiently wait for the first spring ephemeral flowers to appear. They bloom on the forest floor from around mid-March to mid-April, gathering sunlight until the trees' leaves unfurl.



Dutchman's
Breeches



Celandine
Poppy

Each year, we greet Hepatica and Trout Lillies, Cutleaf Toothwort and Rue Anemone, Dutchman's Breeches and Celandine Poppies like old friends on an annual visit--which, in fact, they are. We try to get to the Walnut Trail, Davis Hollow Trail, or the top of the lower Pinnacle Knob loop to witness the changes in colors and textures from week to week.

The ephemeral nature of spring flowers reminds us to enjoy and appreciate the earth's gifts. Seasonal changes remind us that things are always in motion, and when we are at our best, we, too, can adjust according to ever-changing conditions.

BIRDWATCHING WALK

Saturday, April 18th 9:30-11am
meet at Center

With the cycling of the seasons, migration is upon us in April! Join Michael Mecham for a slow birdwatching walk. Bring binoculars if you have them! And check out his "Tree of the Month" on page 3!



NATURE R&R

April 16th 5:00-7:00pm

Email warrenw@berea.edu to sign up

Join us for a slow-paced, relaxing and restorative forest experience. Please bring water and a portable seat or ground cover. We will meet at the Forestry Outreach Center and caravan to Anglin Falls. Ability to navigate uneven terrain required. *Give yourself the gift of a break and reconnect with the natural world.*



MUSHROOM LOG WORKSHOP

with Appalachian Science in the Public Interest
April 25th, 10:00am-2:00pm

Come learn how you can grow your own edible mushrooms at home through log inoculation! Materials provided and you get to take a log home with you!

FOREST MEDITATIONS

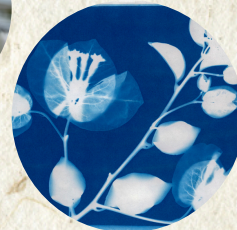
Saturdays, 9:00am
meet at the Center

Come join us for Forest Meditations every Saturday at the Forestry Outreach Center. This is an opportunity to connect with ourselves, each other, and the earth. All are welcome.

CYANOTYPE PRINTMAKING

Sunday, April 19th

The Berea College Printmaking Club will be here to share the art of cyanotype printmaking--treating paper or fabric with certain chemicals that change color in the sun! You can make all sorts of beautiful designs using natural materials like leaves. All materials will be provided. All ages welcome.



FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

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

April 12th:
Wonderful Wildflower
Walk, leave at 2:00pm

We'll go on a child-led walk in the lower forest and down to the creek to explore what flowers are blooming, what leaves are unfurling and what critters might be out and about. We will have small nature notebooks to draw/write observations in that you can take home with you.

April 26th: Bug Hotels
2:00-3:00pm

Learn how to make "bug hotels"--places that bugs can go to get out of the weather, lay eggs, or overwinter! They can be as simple or as complex as you'd like, there's many different methods. We will use upcycled and natural materials.



Tree of the Month!

by Michael Mecham

April's tree of the month is... dead trees?

That's right! Snags are standing dead trees that play a vital role in forest health. By hosting insects and providing shelter for birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles, snags play a critical role in promoting biodiversity.

Woodpeckers use snags to carve out cavities that they nest in. These cavities are used by various other birds in subsequent years, and are essential to the life cycle of many forest birds. After trees die, they continue to be an important part of our ecosystems!

Just because something doesn't fit a societal standard of "beauty" does not make it less important to an ecosystem.

- note from FOC team

