



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

TREE WEEK OCT. 9TH-18TH PROGRAM SCHEDULE ON P. 3

- Fall Break Family Hike, Oct. 8th:
10:30am
- Aprendiendo con la Naturaleza,
Oct. 9th, 4:30pm @ Memorial Park
- Nature R&R/Forest Bathing at Anglin
Falls, Oct. 22nd: 5:00pm
- Sunset Hike Oct. 27th, 5:15pm
- Hands-on Inquiry Hike, ages 12+
Oct. 29th, 10:30am
- Family Activities: see details on p.2

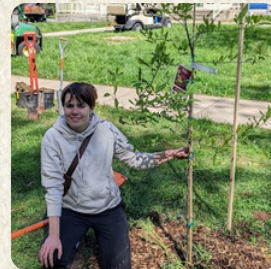
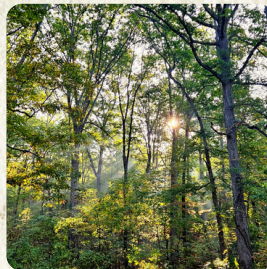
RECURRING EVENTS

- Forest Meditations each
Saturday, 9:00-10:00am
- *Group Hikes each Saturday
1:00pm:
*Oct. 10th is at Pinnacle Knob &
Oct. 31st is a Halloween Hike, dress
in costume!

OCTOBER 2026 FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING TREE WEEK OCT. 9-18

If you've walked by or on Berea College's campus, you've surely seen the massive trees that look over the buildings and lawns. For decades and, in some cases, hundreds of years, these trees have given shade, beauty, shelter, and memories to those who walk under their branches. The Urban Forestry team, led by Michael Barnes, have carefully inventoried each tree on campus. The team monitors the health of the trees and understand how best to care for them. The team also anticipates where and when new trees will be needed to keep the campus forest thriving and full. There are currently 2,731 trees mapped with the help of the GIS staff. 565 are "old growth"--trees with diameters greater than 22 inches. Together, they sequester over 50,000 lbs. of carbon and retain over 620,000 gallons of storm runoff per year. They breathe life onto the campus and each breath we take and give reminds us that nature is interwoven in our lives.



In 2018, The University of Kentucky's Urban Forest Initiative started Tree Week--an annual, statewide celebration of trees to shed light onto the wonderful and life-sustaining gifts that they give us. Berea has participated since 2020 alongside just a handful of cities. Now, 20+ cities are hosting events! Check out the full schedule on the website www.ufi.mgcafe.uky.edu/treeweek

and the Berea schedule on page 3 of this newsletter!

There's something for everyone including an interactive performance, hikes, family activities, and more. Plus, the

**Berea Earth Warriors Concert Series on October 17th,
9:00-9:00am
at the amphitheater!**

NATURE R&R

October 22nd, at Anglin Falls
meet at the Center at 5:00pm

Email Wendy at warrenw@berea.edu to
sign up. We will meet at the Center first.

We live in an age where stressors are all around us--and hope sometimes seems hard to come by. Research is increasingly describing what our bodies need: time together in the natural world we are a part of and opportunities for our bodies to remember this connection. As our stress levels come down, all of our body's systems function as they should. Join us to experience this for yourself.

FOREST MEDITATIONS

Saturdays, 9:00am
meet at the Center

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

ROOTED IN TIME:

Celebrating Trees Across
Cultures--Oct. 11th, 1-3pm

Join us for an interactive theatrical experience following the story of **Granny Chestnut**, a giant puppet designed by local artist April Morales, as she visits her distant tree relatives the fig tree, piñón pine, and the cherry blossom tree and celebrates their rich history and cultural impact.

1:00 - Tree themed Crafts and Art Exhibit

1:30 - Rooted in Time: Performance with Granny Chestnut

2:30 - Taiko Drums, Crafts, and chance to interact with the cast

The audience is invited to walk alongside Granny Chestnut and enjoy the journey through music, art and storytelling. Costumes are encouraged!



SUNSET HIKE

October 27th, 5:15pm

Join us to enjoy a sunset at the Bluegrass Overlook! We will meet at the Center at 5:15pm to make it to the top before sundown. Please bring a flashlight/headlamp and water.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Geared towards elementary ages. ***Starred outdoor activities** are weather-dependent. RSVP on Facebook for more info and updates.

Sundays, 2:00-3:00pm

Oct. 4th: Owls-- Learn about these silent, nocturnal animals and craft a new friend to bring home with you.

Oct. 18th: Spiders--Learn about the amazing world of spiders. Make your own spider and craft a web it can call home.

Oct. 25th: Pumpkin Carving--Bring your pumpkin-carving skills and personalize your very own Jack O' Lantern to add to your Halloween décor.

Whimsical Woods Series at MCPL, 1-3pm

The Moss People: Learn about the Moss People of old German folklore and make your own nature-inspired moss person to take home.

Oct. 10th: Berea Branch, Meeting Room

Oct. 24th: Richmond Branch, Room #138

HOMESCHOOL SESSIONS

*Oct. 29th, 10:30am: Hands-on Inquiry Hike, ages 12+--We will hike up to the Bluegrass Overlook while developing an inquiry question and learn how to begin exploring that question.

Geared towards homeschoolers, middle/high school ages.

APRENDIENDO CON LA NATURALEZA

October 9th, 4:30pm @ Memorial Park

A bilingual program exploring and learning from the natural world!

TREE WEEK

OCTOBER
9-18, 2026

forestryoutreach.berea.edu
859-756-3315

Saturday, 10th

American Chestnut Hike
w/ Berea College Forester
1:00pm, Pinnacle Knob Trail

Sunday, 11th

Rooted in Time - Celebrating Trees Across Cultures
Performance, art exhibit, and crafts
1:00-3:00pm, Forestry Outreach Center
(rain location, Baird Lounge in the Alumni Building on campus)

Tuesday, 13th

Nature R&R/Forest Bathing
w/ Nature Therapy Guide, Wendy Warren
5:30pm, meet at Brushy Fork bridge

Thursday, 15th

Group Hike at Anglin Falls
w/ Ecologist John Abrams
1:00pm, meet at FOC
*signup required – email zagrayk@bera.edu

Friday, 16th

Artist Talk with David Cooke
5:00-6:00pm, Berea College Visitor Center
check out David's wooden bowl exhibition in Hutchins Library all week!



Find all event details at
forestryoutreach.berea.edu/bera-tree-week-2026

Saturday, 17th

Tails and Trails – Dog friendly event!
Dog activities and tree giveaway
9:00-11:00am, Forestry Outreach Center

Berea Earth Warriors Concert Series
Free live music until dusk!
9:00am, Pinnacles amphitheater

Berea College Campus Arboretum Tour
w/ Urban Forester Michael Barnes
12:00pm, Berea College Visitor Center

Sunday, 18th

What Berea's Tree Canopy Could Be...
Tree advocacy and action discussion
w/ Urban Forestry team
1:00-2:00pm, Forestry Outreach Center

Cyanotype Printmaking & Family Activity: Spiders
2:00-3:00pm, Forestry Outreach Center

Throughout Tree Week...

Native Bagel's/Nightjar's Specials
Check out their hazelnut mocha, caramel apple chai, honey pecan cream cheese, and black walnut Old Fashioned during tree week!



See the statewide event
schedule at
<https://ufi.mgcafe.uky.edu/>