



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*

- **International Vulture Awareness Day,**
Sept. 5th, 10:00am-12:00pm
- **Cosmic Cafe & Star Party,** Sept. 10th
8:00pm
- **Sound Walk on the Stephenson**
Trail, Sept. 12th 6:45am
- **Nature R&R at Anglin Falls,** Sept. 17th,
5:30pm – email signup required
- **Bug Big Day! Sept. 18th**
Homeschool session: 9:30am-11:00am
Documentary & bug viewing: 5:00-
7:00pm
- **Group Hike at Anglin Falls,** Sept. 23rd,
5:30pm – email signup required
- **Homeschool Activity,** Sept. 24th
10:30am-12:30pm
- **Night Hike,** Sept. 29th 7:30pm
- **Family Activities: see details on p. 2**
-Sundays at 2:00pm
-Sept. 12th & 26th off site

RECURRING EVENTS

- **Forest Meditations each Saturday**
9:00-10:00am
- ***Group Hikes each Saturday 1:00pm**
except Sept. 12th is 1 mile sensory walk

SEPTEMBER 2026 FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING NATURE'S CLEAN UP CREW



Vultures are a bird that can get a bad reputation, labeled as scary, dangerous, dirty, and ugly. The truth is, they are an essential part of global ecosystems: they clean up deceased fauna, reducing the transmission of diseases and parasites.

A black vulture warming itself up in the sun

Kentucky is home to the turkey vulture and black vulture, both of which have fairly stable populations but many vultures around the world are facing declining numbers. Unfortunately, vultures in the U.S. experience human-caused threats like vehicle collisions, lead poisoning, and intentional killing. There are many misunderstandings and myths associated with vultures and their ecological and cultural importance is often overlooked. Join us in learning about these amazing critters on...

International Vulture Awareness Day at the Pinnacles

September 5th, 10:00am-12:00pm



- 10:30am: vulture monologue by Bob Martin followed by a reading of *Victor T. Vulture* by Roger & Libby Jones, readings of *Vulture View* and *I Got Barfed on by a Turkey Vulture*
- Time for questions and sharing your own writing/poetry
- activities including making vulture vomit slime, vulture sculptures, games, and a community art piece
- trivia of vulture myths & facts
- vulture-themed community art gallery
- information on the Berea Road Ecology citizen science project
- ...and more!

NATURE R&R

September 17th, at Anglin Falls
meet at the Center at 5:30pm

Email Wendy at warrenw@bera.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.

ANGLIN FALLS HIKE

September 23rd, meet at the Center at 5:30pm

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

When it's sunny and hot in the summer, Anglin Falls is a great place to hike. The falls are rain-dependent, so it may or may not be flowing strongly.



BUG BIG DAY

September 18th,
5:00-7:00pm

This time of year, the forest is full of insects--especially caterpillars. Come view live native caterpillars up close and see the awesome documentary *The Extraordinary Caterpillar*.

NIGHT HIKE

September 29th,
7:30pm

Join us for the last night hike of the year! We will do a slow, 1 mile loop to look for nocturnal critters. Please bring a flashlight and be prepared for uneven terrain.

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.

September
10th,
8:00pm

COSMIC CAFE & STAR PARTY

Cosmic Cafes are casual meetings open to all who are interested in the night sky. If the weather allows, we will observe the night sky through telescopes!



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

Sept. 6th: Ant Antics--Learn about the amazing ant and make your own replica ant colony.

Sept. 13th: Animal Migration--Learn the 'who', 'why' and 'where' of migration and create your own interactive journal.

Sept. 20th: Bug Big Day--Learn about native insects, especially caterpillars!

Sept. 27th: Lightning Bugs--Bring the flickering lights of summer nights inside by crafting your own glowing firefly.

Whimsical Woods Series at MCPL, 1-3pm

Fairies were said to once roam the old forests. Recreate those magical times by making your own nature-inspired woodland fairy family.

Sept. 12th: Berea Branch, Community Room

Sept. 26th: Richmond Branch, Room #138

**HOMESCHOOL SESSIONS-- registration required,
email zagrayk@bera.edu**

*Sept. 18th 9:30-11:00am: Bugs!

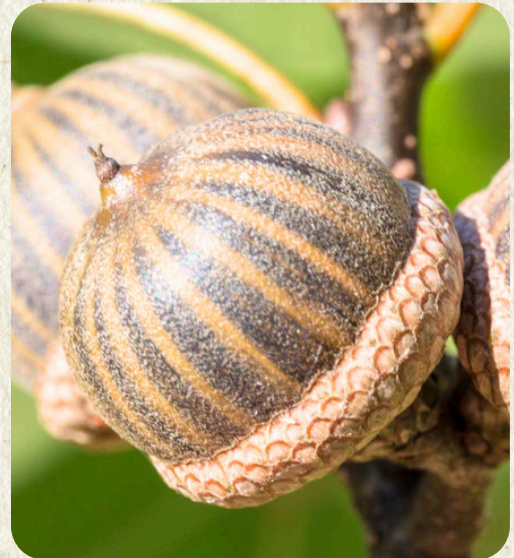
*Sept. 24th 10:30am-12:30pm: The Lives of Trees

Tree of the Month!

by Michael Mecham

September's tree of the month is *Quercus palustris* (Pin oak). The pictured tree is ID 5337, and is part of our campus Urban Forest. It sits between the front of Presser Hall and Chestnut Street, and measures 22.1 inches in diameter. Pin oak acorns have characteristic "pin stripes," which gives the tree its name! Pin oaks are one of few tree trees that does not "self-prune," and will hold onto dead branches indefinitely. This sometimes gives a perfectly healthy Pin oak tree a sickly look...

Their wood is less sought after than other oak species, but is used for wood pulp and paper. They prefer full sun, are fast growing for oaks, and grow to be between 70-90ft tall!



You can explore all of the trees on campus through the QR code or through our website under "Forest Ecosystem."

