

The Ovenbird

Pfeiffer Nature Center and Foundation

Summer, 2009



September 12—LITERACY VOLUNTEERS TOUR OF INTERESTING HOMES (including our own cabin!)

September 12-13—GREATER OLEAN OUTDOOR & REC SHOW

September 21—NATIONAL TAKE A CHILD OUTSIDE WEEK

September 18—WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY

September 22—WORLD CAR-FREE DAY

September 27—PRIME LEAF PEEPING BEGINS!

Come Enjoy Pfeiffer Nature Center!

Family get-togethers? Company picnic? Plan an outing at Lillibridge. Pavilion rentals start at \$25 for the day! Themed birthday parties for adults and/or children start at \$50.

Enjoy one of the many free guided hikes or affordable educational programs.

Life is good. Take a picnic basket and have a front row seat for one of our spectacular sunsets.

Accessible Trail Nears Completion

Two years ago Pfeiffer Nature Center's Lillibridge Committee began talking about and planning for an accessible interpretive trail. The need was clear: we could not identify any accessible trails through old-growth forests that are open to the public anywhere in the region. People were definitely interested, from a woman with an elderly, disabled mother to program participants at the ReHAbilitation Center, from the parents of young children still in strollers to staff at a local nursing home, the thought of such a trail was unanimously exciting.



The next step was locating funding. We needed money for everything from surfacing to signage. The Olean Area Foundation for the Blind and Visually Handicapped was immediately supportive of the project, encouraging us to plan for not just for people with mobility issues, but also those with sensory impairments. Next Assemblyman Joseph Giglio provided Legislative Member Item funding for the trail, and then the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo joined us, funding signage and interpretive displays.

As with most things, what initially seemed to be very clear and straightforward became far more complex

when we began looking at details. Trail surfacing could be accomplished with a variety of materials. We looked at the environmental and aesthetic impacts of crushed limestone, gravel, compacted soil, ground rubber, and other options, each of which presented their own particular strengths and challenges. Regarding signs, how many is enough, how many too many in our old-growth forest? What options were possible for people with visual impairments?

Decisions were made, beautiful professionally-produced signs were created, and this spring we began the surfacing. Many thanks to hours of skilled site work by volunteers Ed Reisman, Mike Canada, and Jeff McMullen.

As of this writing, we still need to compact the limestone, install benches and signs, and build our other interactive displays, but we're well on our way. This accessible trail will go from our parking lot out about ¼ mile and back, for a ½ mile total trip, if you're up for it. In addition to what you'll see onsite, you'll be able to download an audio tour to your MP3 player prior to heading up to the top of the mountain for more in-depth information.

Watch for our grand opening late summer!

Just a Walk in the Woods – Or Not!

More than 150 walkers and runners came out on Saturday, June 6 for our third annual Woods Walk & Trail Run. They were joined by a similar number of family members, friends, and volunteers to cheer them on and make their day more pleasant. The weather was perfect – bright and sunny, but with a light breeze and moderate temperatures. The shade found in the woods made it even cooler on the trails.

Some of the participants walked less than a mile on a guided nature hike led by our Naturalist, Susan Avery. Walkers could also choose from a 5K hike that took them through brand new sections of our permanent trail with our huge house-sized boulders, or a 10K hike involving several passes over our ridges.

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From the Director

I'm sure you're familiar with the phrase, "When life gives you lemons, make lemonade." Pfeiffer Nature Center has a big bag of lemons, and we're squeezing them.

In the last issue of *The Ovenbird* I reported that we're facing some serious financial challenges. We really appreciate the contributions that were made as a result. I assure you that we will continue to make great use of the memberships, donations, and grants we receive, and that we're quite skilled at stretching our dollars.

That being said, it is time for us to be cautious, and to develop and pass a budget that realistically reflects both income and expenditures that we can rely on. As a result, paid staff hours are being reduced as of July 1, 2009. You may notice that our office is open fewer hours, but you *won't* see a decrease in the quantity or quality of our amazing nature programs, a decline in the value of this newsletter, or a drop in the usage of our hiking trails.

How is this be possible? It's all about YOU!

We're taking this opportunity to further streamline our operations and re-prioritize our administrative tasks. Sure, some

things will fall by the wayside, at least temporarily. Our communications may not be as timely. My desk will likely get messier (and you didn't think that was even possible!). The computer won't get backed up as often. I won't bore you with other details. The point is, I am *positive* we will make it through this difficult time and come out stronger on the other side. We'll do that by continuing to provide excellent service to the community, by relying on our wonderful volunteers and donors, and by building new partnerships.

Obviously, this won't be possible without your help. And you can help in ways both large and small. Here are just a few ideas.

Tell us you'd rather receive *The Ovenbird* electronically. We'll save paper, printing costs, and mailing costs. It's good for you, good for us, and good for the environment.

Get on the distribution list for our E-News (see related information on page 8). It'll keep you informed, and informed friends are better friends.

Join a committee. We have both standing and ad hoc committees, committees that paint with broad brush strokes and those that have a narrow focus.

You can help gather materials for and decorate holiday wreaths, maintain our fields and trails, plan and organize celebrations and events, and much more. Where do *your* strengths and interests lie?

Volunteer in our office. We'll need folks to do some general office work – write letters, make copies, keep up our database, and more. Whether you want to work once a week or once a month, we can keep you busy.

Renew your membership, sending in a few extra bucks if you can. When people ask me how to determine their membership level, I give them this rule of thumb. How much would you pay for a decent pair of walking shoes or hiking boots that you'd wear on our many miles of trails? Consider matching that in your membership level.

Spread the good word about Pfeiffer Nature Center!! We may look down, but we're far from out!

Optimistically,

Margaret Cherre

Update on the Emerald Ash Borer

Form the New York Forest Health Advisory Council—June 18, 2009

"The first occurrence of emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire) in New York State was confirmed by the NY Department of Agriculture and Markets and Department of Environmental Conservation on June 17, 2009 in Randolph, NY (Cattaraugus County). An invasive beetle native to eastern Asia, EAB kills all species of ash trees in North America, and has the potential to cause severe economic and ecological damage."

To view photos and get more information visit: www.emeraldashborer.info or www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7253.html.

What you should know about Emerald Ash Borer:

- It attacks only ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.).
- Adult Beetles are metallic green and about 1/2-inch long.
- Adults leave a D-shaped exit hole in the bark when they emerge in spring.
- Woodpeckers like EAB larvae; heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees may be a sign of infestation.
- Firewood cannot be moved in many areas of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin because of the EAB quarantine.



News....

GET NATURE NEWS ELECTRONICALLY

Saving paper, saving the planet, providing personal insights –that’s what’s behind the recent launching of Pfeiffer Nature Center’s E-News. The E stands for environment, electronic, energy-saving, eclectic, entertaining – you get to decide which is most appropriate

Our E-News is a VERY brief newsletter, e-mailed out to Pfeiffer Nature Center friends and supporters. E-News is designed to be read in less than two minutes, preferably closer to one minute, giving you tiny tidbits of information and links to where you can read more, either on our blog (www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org/nature-blog) or elsewhere online.

To this point, we’ve sent the E-News out via email, so you can only receive it if we know your email address. By the time you read this in *The Ovenbird*, we’ll hopefully have reached the next level of technological savvy, enabling you to subscribe or unsubscribe online independently. If you prefer, you can go directly to the blog itself (see the address above) and click on Posts in the upper right hand corner of the page. You can then subscribe to the blog itself, and be notified electronically of new blog posts, although you might miss out on other things in the E-News.

Regardless of which option you choose, we’re glad to offer you more ways to stay in touch, to share your knowledge and ideas, and to help spread the word about the

resources Pfeiffer Nature Center offers, all without printing a single word on paper.

Check it out!

ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS GEOTRAIL



Cattaraugus County Department of Tourism has launched a new geocache trail and Pfeiffer Nature Center is part of this extraordinary activity.

Caches are being placed in all 32 towns in the county. Geocachers can take up the challenge of finding our cache at the Eshelman Property. The cache contains a commemorative wooden nickel for the Town of Portville. Participants that collect all 32 nickels can redeem them for a geocoin available in 2010.

For more information about the geotrail, see <http://enchantedmountains.com/geotrail/>. Don’t forget we have two exciting geocaches at the Lillibridge Property with more to come!

PFEIFFER TO PARTICIPATE IN OLEAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OUTDOOR AND RECREATIONAL SPORTS SHOW

This new event for the Olean area will be held at War Vets Park on September 12 &



13, 2009. Pfeiffer Nature Center will have displays, activities, and nature seminars schedule both days.

This is an exciting

opportunity to promote the Nature Center to outdoor enthusiasts and many hands will be needed to make us successful. If you can help, please call the office at 716-933-0187.

NEW YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB

The New York State Ornithological Association would like people between the ages of 10 and 19 to know about the newly formed New York State Young Birders Club. The club, formed and led by young birders, is dedicated to providing opportunities for youth to gather and explore birding locations in the state.

Interested young birders can get more information by checking out the website at <http://www.nysyoungbirders.org/>.

Youth are also invited to attend and participate in the local Cattaraugus County Bird Club activities.



The club meets the third Friday of the month (except July and August), 7:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church, 212 Laurens Street in Olean.

For more information about the young birders program, please contact Tim Baird, timbaird46@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO STAFF DISPLAY

The Town of Portville will be holding their annual Heritage Days on Saturday, July 11. If you are interested in staffing the Nature Center’s display, please call the office at 716-933-0187.

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Pfeiffer Nature Center & Foundation

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Staff

Margaret Cherre, Director
Susan Avery, Naturalist

Water, Water Everywhere at Eshelman

Many in our community recognize the Lillibridge property as *the* Nature Center. But through the efforts of many volunteers and some new programming, the Eshelman property is seeing increased visibility and use.



For generations the 430 acres of the Eshelman site was a working farm. Initially owned by the Holcomb family, the property transferred to the Eshelman family several decades ago. Col. Eshelman donated the property to the Nature Center in 2002, tripling our initial holdings.

Unlike the Nature Center's original land on Lillibridge Road which has a strong preservationist underpinning, upon making the donation Col. Eshelman clarified his desire that an active management style be used and that the property be returned to its farming roots to the extent possible.

With this as a backdrop, the Nature Center located a young family interested in renovating and moving into the original homestead and establishing a small farm. The family remains on the property and provides caretaking services in exchange for its use. We actively manage our woodlot, rent our maple trees during sugaring season, and do our best to combat invasive species and maintain our open meadows.

In 2006 the Nature Center began building trails on this property, starting with three miles of loops, all on the east side of Yubadam Road. In 2007 we installed 31 trail markers, all made from 100-year old staves from an old silo that was part of the early farming operation. In 2009 we added new trails along the county line which take hikers through some spectacular rock formations.

Visitors can pick up a full-color trail map to guide them on their hikes as well as view the permanent trail map and current program listing at the kiosk.

The forests, fields, streams and ponds on this property are a combination of nature's

handiwork and human influence.

With plenty of transition areas (the edges of fields and forests, streams and meadows), wildlife abounds. These edge areas are alive with bird populations in from spring through fall. Quiet visitors are likely to encounter deer, turkey, bears, raccoons, beavers, otters, and a wealth of reptiles, amphibians, and insects.

This environmentally rich site provides the backdrop for our educational programs focused around enjoying and understanding the Allegheny River watershed.

The center of the Eshelman property is a mountain ridge that tops off at 1900 feet. The north end of the property crests into the Portville Ridge. The valley located at the foot of the mountain is at 1460 feet and is partially ringed by the Portville Ridge.

The top of the Portville Ridge is the only landmass in eastern Cattaraugus County that was not covered by the last glacier. However, the glacier carved out the steep slopes and wide rounded valley just below the ridge.

The Eshelman property contains many water-related features. The property has two intermittent creeks running along its east and west sides.

Dodge Creek and Coon Branch intersect in the valley. The valley supports wet meadows, bogs, and ponds.

The steep mountainsides and 40 inches of rain annually contribute to the incredible amount and velocity of water that flows onto our property.

Heavy rains literally sheet across the pasture and into Dodge Creek. Snow melts into the intermittent streams. The streams flow directly into Dodge Creek and subsequently to Allegheny River three miles downstream from our Eshelman property.

Slower-moving water is readily absorbed by loam and gravel soil type and returns to the surface as seeps.

Seeps support a variety of plant life such as the hop hornbeam, sumac, hawthorn, ironwood, crab apple, serviceberry, dogwoods, and viburnums.

In winter, the warmer ground water keeps the snow melted around seeps. A south facing seep, as we have along the Eshelman Loop, is an important winter food location for wildlife, such as turkeys.

Coon Branch is our largest intermittent creek. Coon Branch starts at top of the Lillibridge property and drops 860 feet to the valley floor in under 1.5 miles.

A bird's eye view of Coon Branch shows it wandered back and forth over the years across the east side of Yubadam Road. Small depressions and other remnants of beaver dams and ponds dot this area.

Dodge Creek also has a defunct beaver dam just below the bridge on Yubadam Road. There was plenty of evidence this spring indicating the beavers were making yet another attempt to master this waterway!

Dodge Creek is responsible for many of the watershed features on the valley portion of the property. Starting well above Clarksville, the creek has meandered through the RT 305 valley for thousands of years. At one point Bullhead Pond was in the middle of Dodge Creek. As the creek meandered through the rich glacial till, finding the path of least resistance, the previous creek path was stranded creating the pond.

Alongside the east slope of the mountain are several small bogs. These bogs were likely created as stranded depressions from when Dodge Creek flowed at a higher level than its present day course.

Unlike Bullhead Pond which receives a fresh influx of creek water during the spring floods, the bogs are located at an elevation where they depend on both runoff from the mountain and seepage from the ground to stay wet. The bogs support a unique and delicate environment of plants that survive in acid, nutrient poor area such as mosses and lichens.

The Bullhead Trail cuts through another unique feature, the wet meadow. This part of the property is saturated year round and supports wet and sun loving plants such as sedges, rushes, and the beautiful blue irises. Butterflies are also attracted to wet meadows.

Eshelman water features provide wonderful habitat for all types of plants and animals. We hope you take a trip out to observe and enjoy its wet features.

Thank You to Our Dedicated Volunteers

We had a wonderful spring full of opportunities to have people acquainted with the Nature Center.

Thanks to Tammy Reitler, from Otto-Eldred Schools for inviting us to participate in their regional Science Olympiad. It gave us an opportunity to introduce the Adopt a Tree program to our Pennsylvania neighboring school districts of Otto-Eldred, Coudersport, Smethport, Austin, Bradford, and Port Allegany.

Our spring trail work day had many people involved. Tink Holcomb, Jim Holcomb and Joe Schueckler worked on readying the community garden off RT 305. Garden plots are available for rent.

A full cadre of helping hands cleared trails at Eshelman: Mike Canada, Judy Patton, Mike Patton, Marcia Storch, Jeff Reisman, Justin Reisman, Matthew Reisman, Austin Reisman, Tonya Reisman, and Kathy Hardiman.

Lillibridge was hopping with the work of our regulars Rod Silliman, Wendy Brand, Jeff McMullen, Nick Vaczek, and Chris Piaggi. They were assisted by a great crew from Bona Responds: Mary Mahar, Marge Mahar, Mikki Cole, Alicia Dalessandro, Nicole Marker, Dave Flynn, and Andrew Serrato. A big thanks to Jim Mahar from St. Bonaventure University for including the Nature Center in their spring event.

A huge thanks along with a carton of BenGay goes to Ed Reisman, Mike Canada, Jeff McMullen, and Chris Piaggi for their tremendous work on the construction of the accessible trail at



Mike Canada & Ed Reisman on one of many afternoons constructing the new accessible trail.

Lillibridge. One short paragraph cannot neither begin to describe nor fully thank them for the time and effort it took to make this trail a reality.

We appreciate the opportunities offered by our Allegany County neighbors. Betty Webb arranged for us to speak to the Richburg Literary Society. Melanie Johnston coordinated a cabin visit for the Richburg-Wirt Historical Society. Kim Toot invited Peg to do a session on nature photography with senior citizens from the Allegany County Office of the Aging. Peg shared beautiful photographs provided by Mike Canada, as well as her own.



Mother Earth Day participants studying aquatic invertebrates.

We were very happy to be part of Mother Earth Day organized by Mark Baker. It's always a pleasure to work side by side with Mark and the folks at Hawk Hideaway.

Many thanks to the Cattaraugus County Birders and Jeff Reed for leading another series of very successful bird walks at Eshelman. We've heard nothing but praise for their efforts.

A big sore arm thanks to Jeff McMullen and Josh White for planting the nine new American Chestnut saplings at Lillibridge.

Thanks to Kim Driscoll, Kathy Hardiman, and Marilee Patterer for their continued support by bringing hiking groups from the Olean Area Hikers and Greenway Hikers on site to explore. Without them, we're not sure many folks would get the opportunity to walk the newest trail section through the awesome rocks.



Jeff McMullen tenderly planting the new chestnut saplings.

We always appreciate being included in the great programs at Allegany State Park and appreciate the efforts of Cassie Wright and Heidi Tshopp to include us.

Heather Lee set up an opportunity to promote the annual Film Festival with her high school art students at Allegany-Limestone High School. We appreciate her help in getting more exposure and hopefully teen entrants into the annual event.

Thanks to Bob Ratterman for getting us involved with his Biology class at Jamestown Community College. We enjoyed an afternoon with his recent graduates exploring the forest.

Kudos to Josh White and Rich Germoney who have dabbled in all things volunteer from teaching kids about aquatic invertebrates at Mother Earth Day, laminating signs for Woods Walk, to installing the new copper tree identification tags in the Adopt a Tree forest.

We had some terrific help from our spring intern Lauren Prisco from St. Bonaventure who helped with important office and marketing tasks.

Joe Schueckler, Mike Patton, Judy Patton, Mike Canada, Jeff, Matthew, Austin, and Justin Reisman planted this year's crop of super sweet sugar maples.

Welcome and thanks to Alison Dickinson for her contribution to include the Nature Center in the new Enchanted Mountains GeoTrail.

Thank You To Our Financial Supporters

Thank You & Welcome to New & Renewing Members Mar 1—Jun 10, 2009

Eric & Erica Abeita
 Stephen Andrea
 Edward Arnold
 Timothy Baird
 Phil Barner
 Arthur Beck
 Mary Jo Beers
 Don & Lucy Benson
 Mike Berardi
 Don & Peg Bergreen
 Joe & Tricia Bohan
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In Memory Of

Sandra Visser by Debra Komoroski

In Honor Of

Jane Miller by Melora A. Miller

A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Generous Donors

Anonymous
 Susan Avery
 Carol Bradley
 Wendy Brand
 Mike & Diane Canada
 Margaret Cherre
 Jim & Debbie Holcomb
 Sarah Larson
 Jeff McMullen
 Mike & Judy Patton
 Tom & Ronda Pollock
 Vicki & Dan Schmidt
 Joe & Theresa Schueckler
 Sue & Lou Stevens
 Marcia Storch

We are grateful for your generosity and support! Kind acts and thoughtful gifts such as these assist us in fulfilling our Mission. If we have inadvertently omitted your gift from these lists, please bring it to our attention and we will happily correct our oversight.



Create a Lasting Tribute

You can honor your family and friends in ways that will have lasting impacts on Pfeiffer Nature Center and therefore the local community. Gifts can be either memorials or tributes to the accomplishments of someone still with us, and all gifts will be acknowledged in this newsletter.

Gifts to the *Kay Pfeiffer Gerkin Endowment Fund* are maintained and managed separately from our operating funds. The principle in this fund is retained exclusively for investments and income generation, with only interest and dividends available to support our ongoing activities. Check with your financial or legal advisor to name Pfeiffer Nature Center in your estate planning.

Gifts may be made specifically to our sugar bush expansion project. We will plant sugar maples on our Eshelman property annually. While donors will not be able to identify "their" tree, they will have the benefit of knowing that their gifts provided a source of ongoing income. Maple seedlings are \$35 each.

Gifts of any size may be made to the Nature Center to honor or memorialize relatives, friends, or pets. With no minimum donation, this option provides giving opportunities for all.

We hope you'll make a gift soon!

Pfeiffer Nature Center Mission

- To preserve the integrity of the old-growth forest
- To provide an area for scientific research
- To promote community-based nature study programs for grade school, high school, college and adult students
- To further natural resource stewardship

YES, I'D LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF PFEIFFER NATURE CENTER!

Membership Levels and Benefits

All members receive a subscription to *The Ovenbird*, our quarterly newsletter, delivered to your home.

Student/senior	\$10	1 \$5 off program admission coupons
Individual	\$25	1 \$5 off program admission coupons
Family	\$35	3 \$5 off program admission coupons
Conservator	\$100	4 free family program admissions
Patron	\$250	Same as Conservator, invitation to wine & cheese reception, 1 tree planted
Guardian	\$500	Same as Patron, plus 1 decorated fir holiday wreath
Benefactor	\$1,000	Same as Guardian, plus unlimited free program admissions
Additional Donation	\$_____	

All members also receive discounted admissions and gift shop purchases at many other nature centers. *Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by NYS Tax Law.*

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL: _____ Is this a _____ new or _____ renewing membership? (Check one)

May we contact you about volunteering? _____ Yes _____ No, thank you.

Send your completed form to: Pfeiffer Nature Center, PO Box 802 Portville, NY 14770

Woods Walk (Cont.)



Runners similarly had three choices: 5K, 10K, or a grueling 10½ miles. The 5K and 10K runners and walkers shared the same trails, with trail traffic kept to a minimum by staggered start times. The 10½ mile runners chose the most difficult option, with trails that featured a whopping 3,500 feet of elevation changes over their length.

One of the benefits of this choice was the ability to earn points in the newly-formed Easter Grip Trail Running Series. Woods Walk & Trail Run was the third event in this series of seven regional runs, and more than 200 people are already accumulating points toward the season-end awards.



Woods Walk & Trail Run is made possible through the generous

support of our sponsors. **Time Warner Cable** was the primary event sponsor this year, with **Olean Medical Group** and **Olean General Hospital** returning as major sponsors.

Associate sponsors included DL Schmidt Financial Services, Park & Shop Service Stores, Fox Financial Services, Hunter Agency, and Olean Physical Therapy Professionals. Product sponsors included Sprague's Maple Farms, Tops Markets, Leki, Olean General Hospital Wound Care Center, Giant Food Mart, Ried's Food Barn, BJs Wholesale Club, Potter County Suds, Nature's Remedy, and Allegany Agway. All funds raised in this wellness event help support Pfeiffer

Seasonal Stirrings

July ~ Great Blue Heron can be seen busily attending to the need of their chicks. There is an endless procession of adults soaring in and out providing food for the chicks and defending the nest.

The blueberries at Lillibridge are maturing and attract the bear.

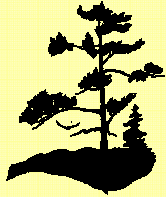
August ~ Goldenrod, asters, and grasses are in full flower. Grasses have minute flowers and can be enjoyed with a good field guide and a magnifying glass.

September ~ The Monarch butterflies are beginning their long migration to Mexico.

Pfeiffer Nature Center and Foundation

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Portville, NY 14770

Phone: 716.933.0187
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**Pfeiffer Nature Center—
where science, art, and
nature come together!**

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Hours of Operation

Office, 14 S. Main St. Portville:

Generally Tues-Wed, 8am to 4pm; other times by chance or appointment

Lillibridge Road Property:

Trails open to non-motorized usage dawn to dusk, 7 days a week, year round.

Yubadam Road Property:

Trails open to non-motorized usage dawn to dusk, 7 days a week, year round EXCEPT during hunting season Oct —Dec , when all trails are closed.

Staff is available for questions, tours, and programs as scheduled or by prior arrangement.

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Check our website or call for the most up-to-date information and upcoming programs:

**www.pfeiffernaturecenter.org**

**News Continued...**



**VOLUNTEER BILL SHELP TEACHES THIS SUMMER**

Volunteer naturalist Bill Shelp will be teaching two outdoor workshops appealing to families, on salamanders and insects. Join Bill for a fun-filled session exploring some of the smallest residents on the Lillibridge Property! Join us for Sala'Meander, August 15 and Interesting Insects, August 22, both from 10 AM—12 N, \$5 per person.

**NEED SPACE? GARDEN PLOTS AVAILABLE**

The Eshelman Committee volunteers have taken a fertile, sunny plot of land along RT 305 just north of Sprague's Maple Farms and turned it into a community garden plot. Plots vary in size and rent for a modest fee. Gardeners can contact volunteer, Jim Holcomb for more information at 716-933-6995.

**ADOPT A TREE REACHES NEW SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

This year's Adopt a Tree program was severely hampered by the budget cuts at local school districts. Several of our regular visitors were without funds to provide transportation to our site. Through the efforts of many Pfeiffer supporters, we were able to reach some new school districts by visiting them and conducting our program off-site.

New districts involved include Mayville Central School in Chautauqua County; Ellicottville Central School in Cattaraugus County; Otto-Eldred, Port Allegany, Austin, Bradford, and Smethport School Districts in McKean County.

Be sure you don't miss out on any of our exciting programs! Simply write [programs@pfeiffernaturecenter.org](mailto:programs@pfeiffernaturecenter.org) with the subject line **Count Me In** and we'll add you to our e-mail distribution list.