

ADOPT A TREE SPONSORS

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Program funded in part by
NYS Office of Children & Family Services
& the Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau.

GROUP SIGN UP FORM

(Trees Are Terrific!)

Please use a separate form for each classroom/group.

School & District or Organization

Teacher/Youth Leader

Contact Email

Contact Phone Number & Best Time to Call

Grade/Age Level & Number of Participants

Classroom Visit Days: (30-45 minute session)

March 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28

April 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25

Field Visit Days: (45-60 minute session)

April 30

May 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 29, 30

June 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13

Other dates are available on request.

(Please circle one)

Field Visit: School/Site or Nature Center

1st Choice Classroom/Site & Field Dates & Times

2nd Choice Classroom/Site & Field Dates & Times

Teacher/Youth Leader Signature & Date



PFEIFFER NATURE CENTER

**Trees Are
Terrific in All
Shapes and
Sizes!**

**2013 Adopt A Tree Grades 3-5
Spring Outdoor Education Program**

*Nature in your Schoolyard.
Nature at your Doorstep.*

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www.PfeifferNatureCenter.org

14 South Main Street

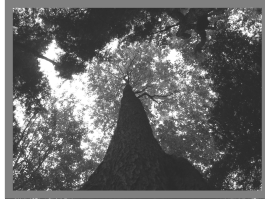
Portville, NY 14770

716.933.0187

naturalist@PfeifferNatureCenter.org

ADOPT A TREE

Adopt a Tree was created in 2002 by Pfeiffer Nature Center volunteers as a venue to provide nature-based environmental education to local children; building the next generation of earth stewards; & to meet the organization's mission of creating opportunities where science, art & nature come together.



Volunteers marked off two acres of trees on Lillibridge Road in Portville, NY to create an outdoor learning space. The two acres encompass one of the few remaining stands of accessible old growth northern hardwood forest in the eastern United States.

Each tree in the Adopt a Tree forest is jointly sponsored by businesses & individuals *paired with* local classrooms & youth groups. These supporters recognize the importance of children participating in meaningful ways to learn about old growth forest habitat & ecosystems through science, art, & language skills.

Classrooms & youth groups are invited each spring to participate in Adopt a Tree. They are encouraged to contribute \$50 which helps provide for two learning experiences with the Pfeiffer Nature Center Naturalist. The first visit is a 30-45 minute indoor lesson followed by a 60-90 minute field-based lesson conducted at the Nature Center's Outdoor Learning Laboratory on Lillibridge Road. If a class is unable to visit us at the Nature Center, we will return to the school & conduct a modified field-based lesson on school property.

Each year, the Nature Center staff & volunteers design a fun, interactive learning adventure for grades 3—5 focusing on current environmental issues that affect our forests. The lessons dovetail with both New York & Pennsylvania State Learning Standards & provide an experiential enhancement to most curricula.

Pfeiffer Nature Center utilizes environmental education curriculum designed & provided by the Council for Environmental Education, Project WET, Project WILD, & Project Learning Tree.

To date, thousands of school children have visited this beautiful spot to learn about the old growth forest ecosystem & have developed an appreciation of the value in conserving these precious resources.



2013 SPRING PROGRAM

Trees are Terrific in All Shapes and Sizes!

"To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, & to live as a people, we must have trees."

~President Theodore Roosevelt

If the theme sounds familiar, it is one adopted by the Arbor Day Foundation and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for 2013. Using the resources created by these national and state organizations in conjunction with our local expertise on the forests of the Twin Tiers, Pfeiffer Nature Center is the perfect place to tie together your learning activities on forest ecology.

For **grade 3**, there is an exciting adventure exploring the life cycle of a tree. The indoor visit, participants will see and explore tree seeds, seedlings, saplings, mature trees, see growth rings. In the field students will hunt for tree seeds, find seedlings, look at different saplings, and finally explore mature and dying trees. They will be able to capture the tree life cycle in their

personal forest journal.

For **Grade 4** the focus is creating optimal conditions (soil, water, space) to raise trees. Indoor participants will be provided saplings to care for, each in a different soil type. They will have a checklist to follow as they monitor the health and growth rate of their saplings. They'll learn how to test and read soil pH and identify basic soil types by composition. The field trip will have participants bringing their saplings to the nature center where they can compare and contrast the soil and growing conditions of saplings grown in the wild.

For **Grade 5** classrooms will learn to construct mini composting systems learning how humans can assist in a ecological friendly manner the decomposers of waste. Tree leaf matter will be used in the compost system. The field trip will involve exploring how decomposers work in the forest duff. They will disassemble a mini composter and compare and contrast a human assisted system to a naturally occurring system of decaying trees in the forest. It will be demonstrated that even in death, trees provide a valuable role in creating positive changes in the forest ecosystem.

Each grade presentation is designed to provide interactive experiences in the classroom & field, incorporate fun learning games, & weave math, science, & language into each lesson.

PFEIFFER NATURE CENTER

Pfeiffer Nature Center was founded in 1998 at the bequest of Wendy Pfeiffer Lawrence. The Nature Center's original property on Lillibridge Road was the Pfeiffer family's summer getaway for more than 50 years.

The Lillibridge Tract contains 188 acres & 6 miles of hiking trails & is home to a nationally registered historic cabin built between 1939 & 1941 from salvaged chestnut wood.

In 2003 a timber frame pavilion was constructed from locally harvested larch wood. The pavilion doubles as a shelter & classroom.