



Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center

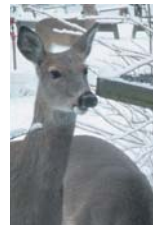
Winter Wonderland Walk

Join us on Sunday, January 25 at 2:00 pm at the Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center for the Crooked Creek Watershed Asso-



ciation's annual "Winter Wonderland Walk". Get outdoors and join us as we see what nature has to offer at this interesting time of year. Afterwards, warm up with some hot chili and cider and check out our

mounted animal displays in the lodge.



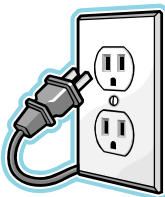
New Years Resolutions

Every year people make new years resolutions. They usually include things like loosing weight or quitting smoking. This year make resolutions that will not only decrease your utility bills but will help the environment as well.

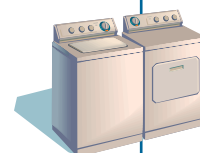
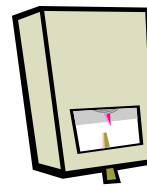
- Replace traditional incandescent light bulbs with energy efficient ones. Compact Florescent bulbs last longer and use less electricity to operate.



- Unplug chargers and other electric devices when not in use. Laptop chargers, phone chargers, toasters, televisions, and most other electrical devices produce something called "phantom usage". When plugged in these devices continue to draw a small amount of electricity even when not in use.



- Turn your thermostat down. Set your thermostat no higher than 68 degrees.
- Wash your clothes in warm, or cold water instead of hot. If you use warm or cold water, it reduces the amount of electricity used and also helps your clothes retain colors and last longer.



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Special points of interest:

- The ELC's new email address is elcaet@windstream.net. Please update our contact information in your address book.

Bird Feeding 101



There are so many different types of bird seed available that sometimes it can be confusing which to choose. Different types of seed attract different types of birds. Be careful to only chose native seeds for your feeders. Using non-native seeds could introduce invasive plants.

- Black-oil sunflower seeds can attract chickadees, titmice, cardinals, nuthatches and others.
- To see doves at your feeding station consider cracked corn.
- To attract hummingbirds use sugar water during warm months.

- Fruits such as raisins, bananas, currants, or sliced apples can attract mockingbirds, robins, bluebirds, or waxwings. Orioles are especially fond of oranges.

In addition to the type of seed you provide, different birds also prefer different types of feeders.

- Tray or platform feeders will attract the most species of birds. They are most likely to attract juncos, doves, and sparrows.
- House or hopper feeders attract a wide variety of species.



- Tube feeders typically have small perches and attracts smaller birds such as finches.



- Many species will also be attracted to seeds on the ground under the feeders. Juncos, sparrows and other birds will enjoy seeds kicked out of the feeders.

Your feeder may attract more than just

birds. Bird feeders can attract squirrels, raccoons, and deer.

Many feeders can be modified with anti-squirrel devices to deter the other animals from eating the bird seed.



Star Party

The ELC held a star party on Saturday December 20. Larry Curcio, our presenter, gave the group an overview of telescopes followed by an introduction to celestial objects such as the big dipper, Polaris or the North Star, and constellations such as Orion, and Cassiopeia.



We would like to thank Mr. Curcio and his family for making the trip to the ELC and sharing his knowledge with us.

If you have a topic you would like to present, please contact the ELC at 724-763-6316 or elcaet@windstream.net.

Is Your E-Mail Address Changing?



If you are currently using an alltel.net email address, the answer is yes. In May 2009 all alltel.net email addresses will cease to exist and will become windstream.net. Our new address will be elcaet@windstream.net. Please update your contact information so we can continue to receive your emails. Any emails sent to an alltel.net address after May 2009 will not be received and will be returned to sender.

If you are currently using an alltel.net address you will need to change a few settings on your computer to update your mail software. I have included the instructions from www.windstream.com on how to complete the transition from alltel.net to windstream.net. Please remember to tell all your contacts about the address change.

Question

How do I transition my e-mail setup from Alltel.net to Windstream.net?

Answer

If you are transitioning your e-mail address from @alltel.net to @windstream.net (ex. johndoe@alltel.net into johndoe@windstream.net), please find your e-mail application listed below and follow the steps to change your setup:

Outlook Express, Outlook 97, and Outlook 2000

Go to the Tools menu and select Accounts. Click on the Mail tab and click on Properties.

On the General tab, replace your Alltel e-mail address with your @windstream.net e-mail address. Click on the Servers tab and replace the existing information with the following:
Incoming mail server: pop.windstream.net
Outgoing mail server: smtp.windstream.net
Account name: Your Windstream.net e-mail address
Place a checkmark on My server requires authentication and click OK.

Outlook 2003

Go to the Tools menu and select E-mail Accounts.

Select View or Change Existing E-mail Accounts Click Next.

Select the account you would like to modify, and then click Change to modify the account information.

Replace the current information with the following:

E-mail Address:

Your Windstream.net e-mail address

Incoming mail server:

pop.windstream.net

Outgoing mail server:

smtp.windstream.net

User Name: Your Windstream.net e-mail address

Click on More Settings.

Click on the Outgoing Server tab and place a checkmark on My outgoing server (SMTP) requires authentication. Click OK.

Click Next and then click Finish.

Outlook 2007

Go to the Tools menu and select Account Settings.

On this window, double-click on

the profile that shows your current e-mail address. Replace the current information with the following:
E-mail Address: Your Windstream.net e-mail address
Incoming mail server: pop.windstream.net
Outgoing mail server: smtp.windstream.net
User Name: Your Windstream.net e-mail address

Click on More Settings.

Click on the Outgoing Server tab and place a checkmark on My outgoing server (SMTP) requires authentication. Click OK. Click Next and then click Finish.

Mac Mail 10.4 and 10.5

Go to the Mail menu and select Preferences...

Select Accounts.

On this screen, make sure your current Alltel.net account is selected on the left and modify the following information only:

Email Address: your Windstream e-mail address

Incoming Mail Server:

pop.windstream.net

User Name: your Windstream e-mail address

Password: your Windstream e-mail account password

After this, click on Server Settings below.

On the Outgoing Mail Server field, type in smtp.windstream.net. Change the Authentication to Password.

For the User Name and Password, put in your Windstream e-mail address and password. Click OK.

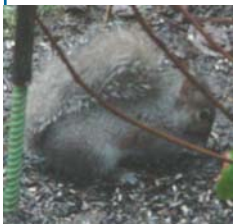
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Mark Your Calendar

Jan. 1 New Years

Jan. 19 Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

Jan. 25 Winter
Wonderland Walk

Support the Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center

Armstrong County has no county or state parks. Therefore, the Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center is uniquely suited to fulfill the need for a facility and organization to provide environmental and resource conservation education. The ELC relies on grants, user fees, donations, and sponsors to sustain operation.

You can help the ELC continue its mission by becoming a sponsor!

Feel the pride and satisfaction that comes from helping to improve environmental and re-

source conservation education and the quality of life in our community. Become a sponsor today.

Your sponsorship dollars support:

- Environmental and resource conservation programming
- Trail enhancement and maintenance
- Herb garden upkeep
- Repair and maintenance of buildings and grounds

Thank you to our newest sponsor



Thank you for your donation. It is appreciated. We are looking forward to your continued sponsorship.

To become a sponsor or to make a non-monetary donation, contact the ELC at 724-763-6316 or elcaet@windstream.net

Created by Sarah Cloutier, Americorps Member