

Open House



We held our annual open house on Saturday May 2.

Dave Beale lead a nature walk, Terry Laux offered a Reptile and amphibian program, and Pam Meade and Pat

Prentice donated plants for a plant sale.

There were also representatives from local environmental organizations. Even the litterbug made an appearance.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's open house successful.



Inside this issue:

<i>Myths about Ticks</i>	2
<i>Calling All Volunteers</i>	3
<i>Summer Camp Update</i>	3
<i>ELC Wish List</i>	3
<i>Meeting Space Available</i>	4

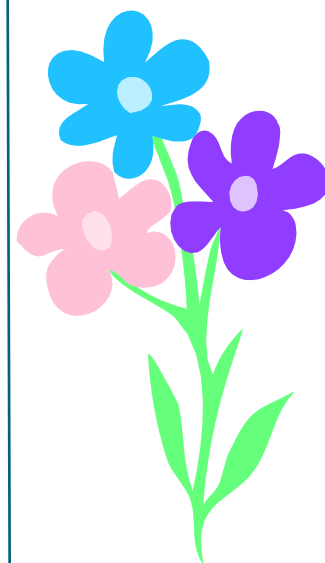
SummerFESTT

Kick off summer with the annual SummerFESTT Children's Fair! This popular event provides our community's children and their families with an event that is both educational and enjoyable.



SummerFESTT and the Children's Fair is Saturday, June 6th at the Belmont Complex. The Children's Fair is from 12 to 5pm and Tweens and Teens is from 6 to 9pm. All activities are held in the arena. Admission is Free to the arena and pool. The pool closes at 8pm

The Crooked Creek ELC will have a table from 12-5. Come check out the SummerFESTT activities.



Myths About Ticks

While you are outside this summer keep an eye out for ticks. There are many misconceptions about ticks. Here are some common myths about ticks.

⇒ Ticks "burrow under the skin"

No they do not. Ticks only insert their hypostome (1/8")

⇒ Ticks fly, jump or drop from trees.

They actually do not. They wait on the end of a tall blade of grass or twig for an animal to go by. Then crawl up and find a place to attach and feed.

⇒ Use of petroleum jelly, nail polish, alcohol, hot match, etc... helps the tick back out.

It has been scientifically proven in clinical research that this does not happen. Ticks will activate their defenses and regurgitate infected fluids into YOU, potentially giving you a disease. - DO NOT USE THESE!!

⇒ If the tick's "head" breaks off in the skin, another tick will grow from it.

ABSOLUTELY NOT. An infection will result much like a splinter, and will work its way out of the skin over time.

⇒ "It won't happen to me"

Yes, it very well may. Lyme Disease is the second fastest growing infectious vector-borne disease in the United States. AIDS is number one. Never mind ALL the other diseases ticks transmit.

⇒ Rotating the tick will release it from the skin.

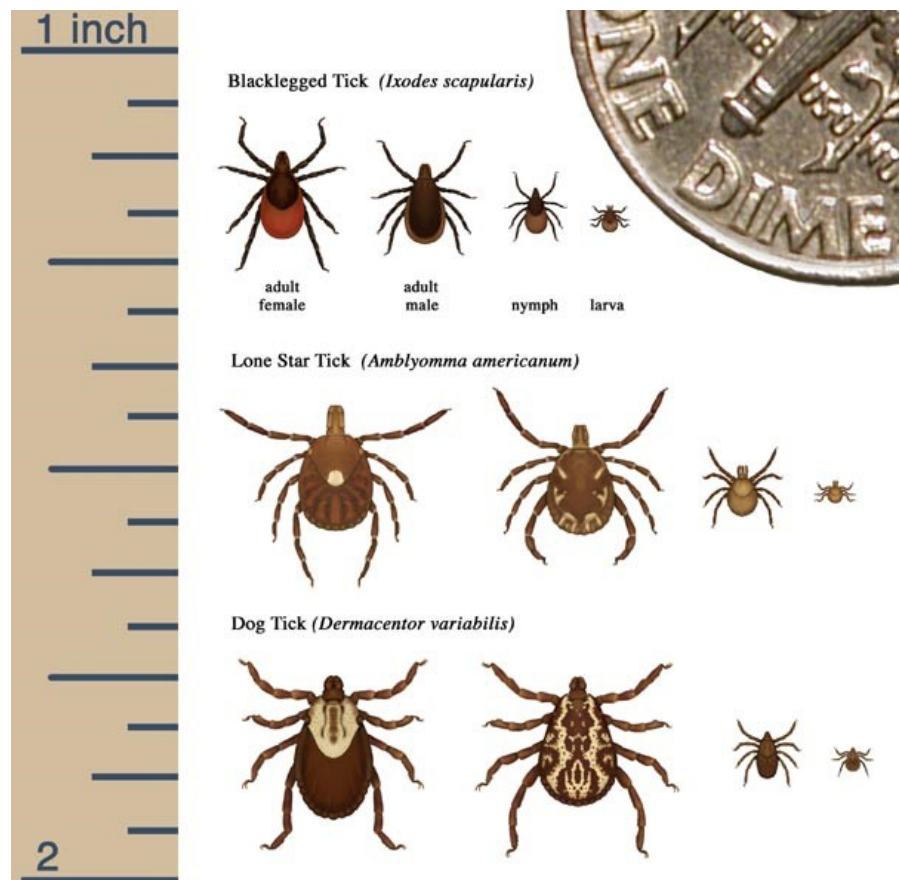
Ticks have barbs on the hypostome, NOT THREADS... you cannot unscrew a tick.

⇒ "Hard" ticks are small and "soft" ticks are big.

Hard ticks have a scutum or "shield-like" plate on their back. Soft ticks have no scutum. Most ticks are hard ticks.

Tick myths courtesy of www.tickedoff.com/MYTHS.htm

If you have a tick and are unsure of how to remove it contact your doctor.



http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/LYME/images/TickMaster4_12.jpg

Calling all Volunteers

Do you want to help your community but don't know where to start? The ELC is always looking for volunteers to help with workshops and other events. If you are interested in presenting a topic at the ELC, contact Dennis for availability.

We also need volunteers to help with general maintenance. These items may include tending to the

garden, clearing fallen branches, mowing grass, staining, or weeding.



Please take some time to help the ELC be the best it can be. If you want to help but don't have time to volunteer, donations are always accepted. If you want to volunteer or have any questions, please contact the ELC by phone 724-763-6316 or by email

elcaet@windstream.net.

Summer Camp Update

We are no longer accepting registrations for the Young Naturalist Outdoor Adventure Camp. We have reached sixteen participations. This is the maximum number of

participants we can have attend the camp.

We are creating a list of interested individuals to contact for next year's camp. If you would like to be

contacted when we open registration for next year's camp contact the ELC at 724-763-6316 or

elcaet@windstream.net.

ELC Wish List

To help the ELC prepare for summer we are asking for donations of:

- Large trash bags
39 gallon or larger
- Cleaning products



- Paper products
- Light bulbs
compact florescent and
4ft florescent tubes
- Hand and dish soap
- Your time

We need gardeners, groundskeepers, teachers, naturalists, presenters, and anyone interested in helping.

If you'd like to help with current programs, or have an

idea for a program you'd like to lead, contact the ELC for availability.

Donation of time, talent, goods, and services are always appreciated. If you can spare any of these, please contact Dennis Hawley, ELC Program Coordinator, at 724-763-6316 or elcaet@windstream.net.

Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center

142 Kerr Road
Ford City, PA 16226
Phone: 724-763-6316
E-mail: elcaet@windstream.net



Mark Your Calendar

June 6 SummerFESTT

June 21 Father's Day

June 21 Summer Begins

June 28 Geocaching Event
at Crooked Creek
Park

July 13-17 Summer Camp

www.crookedcreekelc.org

Meeting Space Available

Is your organization planning a meeting or retreat? Why not have your next meeting or retreat at the Environmental Learning Center?

The Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center is a great place to hold business meetings, classes, or weekend retreats.

The Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center offers tables, chairs, a

fully equipped kitchen, media equipment, wireless internet, and overnight accommodations all located in secluded, beautiful surroundings.



Environmental and resource conservation programming is also available for an additional fee.

Reserve early to ensure you can get the dates you want.

For more information call 724-763-6316 or email

elcaet@windstream.net.

Created by Sarah Cloutier- Americorps Member