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Summer Camp

**Our Motto is
"Guaranteed To Get
Wet and Muddy Every Day".**

We took it to a new level this year as can be witnessed by some of our photos...which include both campers and staff!

Our camps were filled to 95% of capacity. We also provided 39 full scholarships as well as 23 partial scholarships (in all totaling \$7,400) to families in need.

Campers ages 8 and over participated in several off site field trips including water trips (canoeing, kayaking and tubing) as well as caving, paintball, ziplining, a visit to the University of Delaware entomology department and a local zoo. Our oldest campers also spent an overnight most weeks on our property while younger campers were able to explore free play in our new mud kitchen, located in our garden area. In 2020, we will be adding a "water exploration" area to our garden area!

For our sixth consecutive year, we partnered with the Coatesville Youth Initiative and hosted two of their "breakthrough leaders" who were able to work with us as counselors. Mikah Wimbush and Torey Anderson provided our campers with nurturing supervision and lots of laughs while we provided Mikah and Torey with invaluable employment skills such as leadership, problem solving, conflict resolution and communication skills.



In a survey of camp staff, 100% said they plan on returning next year and that this was their "best job ever". Full time staff is already missing the clamor of the campers.





Transportation Roundtable

In May, the Brandywine-Christina Cluster held a Transportation Roundtable focused on the impact of roadways on our watersheds in Pennsylvania and Delaware. Participants including PennDOT, DelDOT, PA Turnpike Commission, Chester County Conservation District, New Castle County Conservation District and other conservation organizations discussed topics such as the effects of road salt, stormwater run-off from roadways, meadows and roadside buffers and more at the event and plan to continue the dialogue.

BRC is pleased to be part of this four-state initiative, funded by the William Penn Foundation, to improve the waters in the Delaware River Watershed from New York to New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Our work with six local conservation organizations: Brandywine Conservancy, Natural Lands, Stroud Water Research Center, The Nature Conservancy of Delaware and the University of Delaware Water Resources Center, is focused on the Brandywine-Christina cluster since 2014.

Trail Creek Outfitters Brands that Give Back Month

Trail Creek Outfitters has partnered with some of their brands to help BRC and two other conservation non-profits.

Trail Creek has nearly \$20,000 to invest in three local environmental non-profits. Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, The Land Conservancy of Southern Chester County and the Brandywine Conservancy, will all receive a donation, but YOU get to decide how much.

Each purchase of a participating brand product now through September 30 at Trail Creek Outfitters in Glen Mills or Kennett Square will earn you a token to vote for one of the selected organizations. The organization that receives the most tokens by the end of each week will be granted the most funds, with second and third place receiving a bit less. Voting starts over every Saturday, so we need supporters each week!

PARTICIPATING BRANDS:

Patagonia, The North Face, Kuhl, Toad & Co., prAna, Cotapaxi, Smartwool, Ten Tree and Duck Head.

Providing Education Scholarship Programs for Kids!

With every \$100 BRC receives during this event, 13 children who qualify for the National Free Lunch Program will be able to attend BRC's programs for free! Scholarships involve our outdoor adventure summer camp and public programs geared towards conservation and outdoor sports.

BRANDS that GIVE BACK

BRC Hosts Wilmington Green Jobs Corps

On July 3rd, 14 youth from the Wilmington Green Jobs Corps canoed on the Brandywine Creek with BRC and Northbrook Canoe to learn more about the creek that provides drinking water to their city. Students learned how to canoe, took chemical and biological water samples and had fun playing in the water on a hot summer day. During the six week program, the youth worked with over six conservation organizations from Dover, Delaware to West Chester, Pennsylvania to learn about the environment and green jobs. This program is coordinated by University of Delaware Water Resources Center.



Fall 2019 Member & Public Programs



TAKE AIM! TARGET CHAMPS

Sunday, October 20th
2:00pm - 4:00pm

Intrigued by the recent ax throwing craze? Not only can you try your hand at tomahawks, but we will have 2 additional stations including archery, and atl atl. What's an atl atl? Think spear throwing! Suitable for adults or families with children ages 10 and older.

Members \$10, Non-Member \$20

SUNFLOWER CELEBRATION- IT'S FOR THE BIRDS!



Sunday, September 15th
Late Bloom Date, Sunday, September 22nd
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Come spend the afternoon with us celebrating the sunflower. A hayride will escort you around the fields with picture perfect family photo opportunities as you learn about the journey of sunflowers from our land to your bird feeders. Light refreshments and sunflower snacks will await your return. Each family gets to pick their own sunflower souvenir!

Members \$4, Non-Member \$8

BINOCULARS, BONFIRES & BANANA BOATS

Saturday, October 26th
2:00pm - 4:00pm

Join us for a fall hike on our property and make use of our binoculars (or bring your own) to get up close and personal with nature. Program will be followed by a bonfire and make your own banana boats.



Members \$5, Non-Member \$10

STAR GAZING

Friday, October 4th
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Join us for a mesmerizing discussion about our night sky. The Chester County Astronomical Society will share their wealth of knowledge and telescopes. Find out how and why the night sky differs each time you view it. Maybe you will even see the rings around Saturn!

Members \$5, Non-Member \$10

THANKSGIVING TABLE TOPPER

Sunday, November 17th
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Using a blend of floral and natural items found on our property, come make a table topper to use as your Thanksgiving centerpiece or give as a gift. Suitable for ages 8 through adult.



Members \$8, Non-Member \$16

HOW TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY WATERSHED & WILDLIFE FRIENDLY

Saturday, October 19th
10:00am - 12:00pm

Do you have standing water, eroding stream banks, or a monoculture of mowed grass on your property? Learn ways that you can improve storm water run-off and wildlife habitat. We'll discuss rain gardens, bio-swales, habitat gardens and riparian buffers. Then take a hike at the Myrick Conservation Center to see some of these practices in place and how we can mimic nature's best management practices. This program is for adults only.

Members Free, Non-Members \$5

HOLIDAY CRAFT & WINTER FUN NIGHT

Friday, December 6th
5:30pm - 9:00pm

BYOD...bring your own dinner and join us for a night of creative holiday gift making followed by some winter inspired fun. All gifting and crafting will be guided. When done, we will have an outdoor adventure and finish off with a movie and "indoor" smores.

Members \$10, Non-Member \$20

BOOKS & BOOTS



Ages 3 - 5
Second & Fourth Thursdays
September through December
10:00am - 11:30am

Books come to life at the Myrick Conservation Center as Potter the Otter reads a book to inspire. The story continues with an on-theme craft and an outdoor adventure. Please remember to dress for the weather.

Members \$5, Non-Member \$10



YOUNG WATERFOWLERS PROGRAM

For Teens, Ages 11-17!

Waterfowling is an American tradition that combines hunting with an appreciation of wetlands and their wildlife.

Including Sunday field trips to: Ommelanden Hunter Education Training Center, Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, and Coastal Delaware to study marsh ecology and waterfowl identification.



Instructors: Jim Jordan, Executive Director, CEO of BRC; Joe Sebastiani, Ashland Nature Center Manager; John Campanelli, Jeff Kane, John Walls, Ron Blevins, and Neil Dougherty, BRC board member.

Wednesdays
from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM on
Oct. 2, 30, Nov. 13, & Dec. 4.
Meets at Ashland Nature Center.
3511 Barley Mill Rd
Hockessin, DE 19707
\$125, members only

In order to instill a strong conservation ethic for all of our natural resources, BRC and the Delaware Nature Society (DNS) is providing an exciting opportunity for youngsters ages 11 through 15 (Advanced Young Waterfowlers 13-17). Participants will study wildlife management, habitat protection, conservation practices and the values of wetlands during a comprehensive introduction to the American waterfowling heritage. Special topics include identification of waterfowl, conservation ethics, retriever training, decoy carving, safety skills and good sportsmanship. Students will also have an opportunity to learn duck and goose calling techniques from world champion caller and Young Waterfowlers alumnus John Walls. An optional hunt will be offered at the conclusion of the program, under the supervision of experienced guides.

Parent participation is encouraged, but not required (no extra fee). Participants will have the opportunity to fulfill the hunter safety requirements at no additional charge and will receive a certification card (required for all new hunters in PA and DE).

Advanced Young Waterfowlers -Same dates/times as above. For alumni of previous Young Waterfowler programs, we offer additional training in the art and science of waterfowling; including advanced decoy carving and calling techniques. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a specially guided hunt on a private farm.

To participate in these programs a BRC or DNS family membership is required. For additional information call 610-793-1090. On-line registration now being taken at www.brandywineredclay.org

We Need You!

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance's
Volunteer Work Day at the Myrick
Conservation Center



October 5, 2019, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

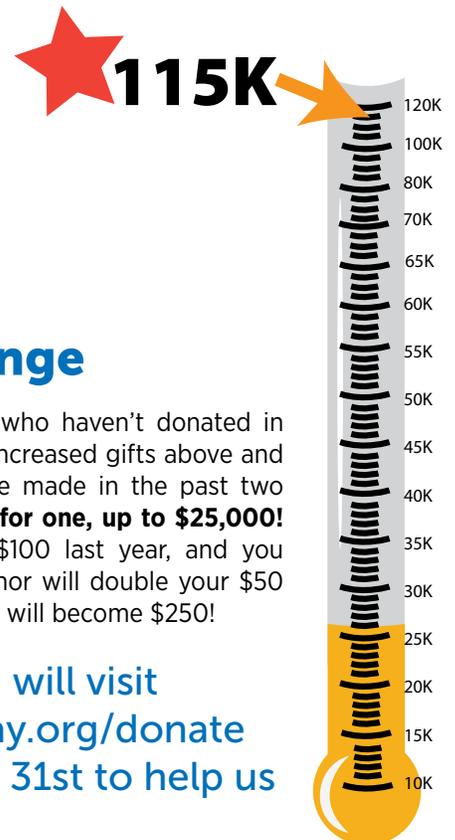
8:30-Registration, light breakfast with Starbucks Coffee

9:00- Begin work on projects

12:30- Lunch served

For more info:

**contact@brandywineredclay.org or
610-793-1090**



2019 Outlook Campaign Unique Challenge

Every year, BRC relies on support from our generous members and donors to support us in our mission to promote the restoration, conservation and enjoyment of the natural resources of the Brandywine and Red Clay watersheds.

This year, our Annual Campaign goal is \$115,000 to help continue with this mission.

We have been offered a unique matching challenge by a very generous donor.

Any new donors, or those who haven't donated in the past two years, as well increased gifts above and beyond donations that were made in the past two years will be **matched two for one, up to \$25,000!** For example, if you gave \$100 last year, and you give \$150 this year, that donor will double your \$50 increase. Thus your \$150 gift will become \$250!

We hope that you will visit brandywineredclay.org/donate before December 31st to help us with this match!

Intern Highlights



Amelia Geiser joined BRC this summer as the 2019 Summer Camp Intern. She came to us from Penn State where she is pursuing a degree in Environmental Resource Management with a Soil Science option. Amelia also serves as president of the Eco-Action club and is a board member with the Council of Sustainable Leaders.

Amelia is a natural outdoors and exemplified BRC's mission. What also set Amelia apart was her excellent leadership, organizational and communication skills. Whether she led a sleepover, or filled in for an ill counselor, this summer's camp was enhanced by her infectious enthusiasm for all things "wet and muddy".

Amelia is already thinking of returning next summer as a counselor because she loved BRC and all that it offers its campers. We all wish her well in her junior year!!

Open Space: Return on Environment Report

Did you know that houses located within a half-mile of protected open space are worth \$11,000 more on average than those that are not? And, for every \$1 received from residential development through taxes, local government spend \$1.11 on services, while every \$1 received from farmland and open space taxes only costs local governments 7 cents?

This spring Chester County Planning released the Return on Environment Report that estimates the economic impact of the County's robust open space preservation initiatives. Data such as these as well as impacts on human health, local tourism, and ecological services provided by clean water and protected fields and forests are highlighted in the report. See a summary and the full report at www.chesco.org. BRC is proud to be a sponsor of the report with many of our conservation partners.



EDUCATION Summer was a blast, but as leaves start falling, we know fall is calling...

Environmental education happens every day at BRC. Whether through a scheduled program or casual walk through our 318 acre ecologically diverse property, BRC continues to emphasize the importance of watershed stewardship. As summer comes to a close, new fall beginnings are made in the outdoor classroom. Our 2019 School Program Guide is now available at brandywineredclay.org. Featured are standard-aligned educational offerings for K-12 students and scout groups.

We look forward to ringing in the upcoming fall season with lots of hands-on and experiential learning. Our inference-based programs will get your students connecting concepts and learning in the outdoors...register for an academic program today!



Annual Dinner & SILENT AUCTION

Presented by Flyway Excavating, Inc. and sponsored by: BB&T, Manito Title, Meadow Springs Farm, LLC, Phillips Mushroom Farm and Victory Brewing Co.

Thursday, October 24, 2019, Mendenhall Inn

Look for your invite in the mail!



We are still looking for silent auction items. Please call 610-793-1090 or email contact@brandywineredclay.org if you have an item, service or experience you are able to donate!



2019 Summer Music Series

BRC hosted the Tenth Annual Dead Fest and the 2019 BRC Summer Music Series

which featured returning artists such as Cameltones and Scott Pemberton, as well as artists new to our event like Afrobear, Bones Brigade and Scantron. With one of the largest Dead Fests ever, the more than 2,000 attendees of the events enjoyed everything from classic rock and blues to funk and soul.



Membership Corner

BRC Members are committed to conserving our watersheds, protecting natural resources and inspiring the next generation to love—and protect—the outdoors. Thanks to our newest members, as of August 23rd.

- Mr. Randy Altland
- Mr. Edward Bispham
- Mr. Peter Bollman
- Mr. Luke Borda
- Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Buller
- Ms. Briand Capps
- Mr. John Helion
- Joseph and Joyce Hurley
- Mr. Matt Jarema

- Christ Keith
- Ms. Meg Kenneally
- Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kuhlman
- Ms. Courtney Markezin
- Ms. Lil Minshall
- Ms. Kate Minshall
- Mr. John Murphy
- Mr. Joseph Reilly
- Mr. John Robinson

- Ms. Erica Rossi
- Mr. Dan Schwartz
- Mr. Brian Shobaken
- Ms. Anna B. Thompson
- Mr. Rob Tice
- Ms. Amy Tunney
- Ted and Martha Varano

Membership levels and benefits can be found at brandywineredclay.org or call 610-793-1090.



1760 Unionville-Wawaset Road, West Chester, PA 19382 | 610.793.1090
contact@brandywineredclay.org | brandywineredclay.org

Address Correction Requested

STAY TUNED to our website and social media for upcoming events.

2019 FALL



UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Volunteer Work Day

Myrick Conservation Center - Saturday, October 5th

Delaware Valley Orienteering (Night O)

Saturday, October 12th

Annual Dinner & Silent Auction

Thursday, October 24th

Young Waterfowlers

October 2nd, 30th,

November 13th & December 4th

Check out updated Member Programs at brandywineredclay.org or our social media pages

WISH LIST

Four pots from Scout mess kits

Taxidermy mounts & insect collections

Soft foam balls & water toys for 2020 camp

Useable gutter, approximately 6 foot

NOW OFFERING SCOUT PROGRAMS

Call 610-793-1090 to speak with Education Coordinator, Alexa Hart to discuss availability.

