



For Immediate Release

Contacts:

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| Kristin Sewak | Melissa Reckner |
| Natural Biodiversity | Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team |
| (814) 509-6036 | (814) 444-2669 |

Outdoor Heritage Month coming in April

Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, Natural Biodiversity and partners announce full slate of environmental events

(JOHNSTOWN, PA) Natural Biodiversity, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, and many other committed partners are pleased to announce April as Outdoor Heritage Month in Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains! Global, national and local initiatives inspiring stewardship will be promoted throughout Outdoor Heritage Month and beyond!

Outdoor Heritage Month recognizes, conserves, and celebrates the rich natural and cultural heritage of Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains and propels its citizenry, leaders, entrepreneurs, and youth toward discovery and stewardship of our natural resources. Each year, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives declares April Outdoor Heritage Month in the Alleghenies through an official resolution. The full slate of education and service events planned for April 2010 will kick-off an entire year of stewardship in the Alleghenies.

The theme of Outdoor Heritage this year is ***Learn and Serve Outdoors: Discovering Nature's Wonders and Working to Protect Them***. Many featured programs and events will involve hands-on learning experiences intended to inspire lifelong environmental stewardship by cultivating an appreciation for the natural world. Events from a variety of organizations and agencies have been posted to the Outdoor Heritage calendar at www.ohmonth.com/mon_events. Organizations are invited to advertise any public conservation, recreation, or stewardship events by going to www.ohmonth.com/submitevent_frm and filling in the required fields.

The educational centerpiece of this effort is Outdoor Adventures, occurring May 6 & 7 at Summer's Best Two Weeks at the Quemahoning Lake. Outdoor Adventures is an annual school field trip that not only provides young children with the chance to learn about nature, but also to experience it and become inspired to nurture it. Recognizing its educational value, the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators named it the Outstanding Environmental Education Program of 2010. This year, students can hang out with National Wildlife Federation's Ranger Rick, go fishing, catch stream bugs, scale a climbing wall, and more.

Outdoor Heritage Month and its many activities are made possible by numerous sponsorships and grants from local citizens, businesses, organizations, and government agencies. Top level sponsors include Natural Biodiversity, Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team, Johnstown Area Heritage Association, Stonycreek Conemaugh River Improvement Project, USDA APHIS, Dominion Foundation and Western PA Conservancy, Foundation for PA Watersheds, PA Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Grants Program, and Jenner Rod and Gun Club.

Outdoor Heritage partners are pleased to announce many exciting events for all ages and ask that you participate in some way. Attend an educational event, volunteer or donate. A complete calendar of events and information on how to get involved can be found at www.ohmonth.com.

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Assignment Editors' Note: If you are interested in obtaining pictures or interviews prior to this event, please contact Kristin Sewak at (814) 509-6036 or ksewak@naturalbiodiversity.org.