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BRC would like to thank all of the board members for their service in 2018, and welcome new directors: James Gawthrop, Brian Havertine, David Lyons, Jr. and Collin McNeil.

RED Streams BLUE

GOOD PLANNING LEADS TO STREAM RESTORATIONS

The end goal of our Red Streams Blue program is to improve impaired streams (Red) to unimpaired status (Blue) ultimately for a fishable and swimmable watershed. It all begins with an assessment of our streams and prioritizing where we can make the most progress. Then working with land owners, we identify specific stream restoration projects from tree plantings to stream restorations to reduce stream bank erosion. These larger projects can take three years to complete and start with a comprehensive study of the stream including measuring the stream banks, water volumes and flow and sediment and rock size in the stream. Using this data, our contracted engineer develops a restoration design and seeks the permits required. Once the project is approved construction begins and is completed with habitat plantings of grasses, wildflowers, trees and shrubs.

Currently BRC has projects in the design phase in Red Clay watershed at Bucktoe Creek in New Garden Township and Nixon Park in Kennett Square (with funding already secured for construction in 2019!). In the Brandywine Watershed, we're continuing our focus on Plum Run with a design for 4,400 ft of stream restoration coordinating with East Bradford Township on their trail plans along Plum Run leading to Strode's Mill. Funding is currently secured for 50% of the construction for this project.

With 17 projects currently completed and several in the planning stage, we're making good progress on turning red streams blue in 2019 and for the future.

Aaron Clauser of Clauser Environmental, collecting stream data on Bucktoe Creek.



WATCH YOUR SALT

Most of us know that watching the amount of salt in our diet is important for maintaining good health. During cold weather months SUEZ reminds industrial, commercial and residential property owners that too much salt used to keep paved surfaces clear of ice can also be harmful to nearby sources of drinking water.

To avoid the ill effects of run-off pollution, it's important to manage and follow instructions carefully for the proper application of deicing material. SUEZ has been working with other area water purveyors, government officials and environmental groups to help reduce the amount of chlorides that run off into area waterways. All of us can play a role by understanding that much of what we put on the land ends up in the water, and salt is no exception.



EDUCATION AWARDS AND PROGRAMMING

Michelle Lozowski, a kindergarten teacher at West Chester Friends School was awarded BRC and SECCRA's Teacher of the Year Award. Michelle's mindfulness for the natural world is translated to her students through encouragement to observe, question, imagine and wonder. This lays a strong foundation for communicating core environmental stewardship values and building lifelong learners that will be contributing members of their communities.



Michelle in front of the urban pond on the West Chester Friends School campus next to the kindergarten building. Her students visit this habitat on a regular basis to see what living things call it their home.



Dawn Coughlan was named BRC's Environmental Instructor of the Year. She finds that teaching at BRC aligns perfectly with her strengths in fostering a love and appreciation of nature in children. Dawn enjoys leading Lenape Native American programs because it offers the opportunity to "step back in time" with the students and explore.

After a hot and humid summer, school programming in the Fall is a time to dry out and enjoy the changing colors. Although the wet weather decided to hang around, it didn't affect students coming to participate in beginning of the year team building and learning about the unique qualities of the Fall season. Join BRC this upcoming Spring for one of our standards-aligned school programs. Limited availability; register today!

NEW MEMBERS 8/24/18 - 12/31/18

Ms. Lise Borel
Sean and Megan Boyle
Ms. Pamela Brittingham
Ms. Marie Crossley
Mr. Blake DiGiacomo
Ms. Priscilla du Pont
Mr. Brad du Pont
Ms. Laura Fox

Ms. Kate Hackett
John and Elizabeth Hays
Mr. Richard Hedrick
Mr. William Lassen
Mr. David Lyons
Scott and Amy Killen
Mr. Eric Mathis
Jodie McKeith

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Merrill
Ms. Sally Miller
Ms. Michele Muldoon-Dotto
Colleen and Ed Oexner
Ms. Kathy Overman
Shodan Patel
Richards Automotive
Ms. Kris Schwork

Ms. Katie Sierakowski
Ms. Tiffany Smith
Bret and Anna Snyder
Mr. Craig Thomas
Ms. Shannon Tucholski
Jeff and Carol Yetter



Volunteer Work Day

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

On Oct. 6, BRC welcomed volunteers to the Myrick Conservation Center property for our Annual Volunteer Work Day. Projects completed included: tree and invasive removal, Browning Barn clean-up, restoration of the Lenape Village and Team Challenge areas, putting the vegetable garden to bed for the winter and bluebird house clean-up. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who took the time out of their busy Fall schedules to help us keep the property well maintained for all visitors.

2019 POLAR PLUNGE

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance
Watershed Conservation | Environmental Education

**SATURDAY FEB 9, 2019
10AM TIL NOON**

BRANDYWINE PICNIC PARK
ROUTES 52 & 100 690 S. CREEK RD WEST CHESTER, PA

REGISTER ONLINE AT
www.brandywineredclay.org or call 610-793-1090

SPRING 2018 PUBLIC PROGRAMS

BOOKS & BOOTS

Ages 3 - 5

Second Thursday, Every Month

January through April

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 register by the Wednesday (12pm) before class. Please remember to dress for the weather.

Members \$6, Non-Member \$8

NATURE THEMED FAMILY BOARD GAME NIGHT



Friday, March 1

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Winter doldrums getting you down? Step away from the TV and electronics and join us for a family game night that will get you excited about getting back outside in spring! All games are nature and outdoor inspired. After dinner snacks will be served

Members \$5, Non-Member \$8

SPRING FIT WALK WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Sunday, March 17

10:00am - 11:00am

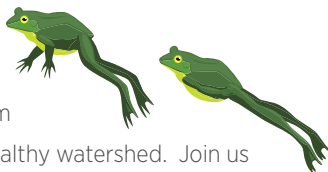
Join one of our education coordinators (also a certified personal trainer) and her dogs for a Saint Patty's Day leprechaun hunt. We will walk the property that will be transformed with bodyweight exercise stations. In the process, count the number of leprechauns you find and win a prize for the correct number. Dogs must be leashed and owners are asked to pickup after their furry friends.

Members Free, Non-Member \$5

SPRING FROG FORAY

Friday, April 12

7:00pm - 9:00pm



Amphibians are a good indicator of a healthy watershed. Join us for an evening program and hike searching and listening for our local frogs found at the Myrick Conservation Center. Come dressed for the weather with sturdy, weatherproof shoes suitable for uneven trails and bring a headlamp or flashlight.

Members Free, Non-Member \$5

SPRING CAMP FOR A DAY

Ages 6 - 12

Tuesday, April 16

9:00am - 3:00pm

(no before or after care)

Send your child to camp for a day at the Myrick Conservation Center. This multi-age, single group camp will spend the day outdoors exploring all things spring, including a scavenger hunt and garden craft. Please register by April 12th. Come dressed for the weather. Space is limited.

Members \$35, Non-Members \$50

HOW TO MAKE YOUR PROPERTY WATERSHED & WILDLIFE FRIENDLY

Wednesday, May 1

6:30pm - 8:00pm

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 and maybe even reduce lawn maintenance. 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. Come prepared for an outdoor hike.

Members Free, Non-Members \$5



MOTHER'S DAY INSPIRED TEA

Friday, May 10

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Mothers and their child(ren) are invited to join us for an evening hike. After the hike we will make something special just for mom to use as they relax on their day. Tea and dessert will be served.

\$10 per child, Mothers Free!

WILD NEIGHBORS

Saturday, June 1

12:00pm - 1:15pm

You won't save what you don't love, so join us to fall in love with some of Pennsylvania's common species! Wildlife rehabilitators get a chance to see animals up close and personal on a daily basis, and you can experience them, too, with a visit from some of Philadelphia Metro Wildlife Center's wild animal ambassadors. Learn about the work wildlife rehabilitators do, and find out how we can be better stewards of our environment by reducing the negative human impact on our local wildlife, supporting vital wildlife habitats, and fostering peaceful coexistence with our wild neighbors.

Free to Public, Donations Suggested



Program registration link can be found online at <http://www.brandywineredclay.org/events>



ANNUAL MEETING CELEBRATES THE YEAR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS WITH FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

BRC hosted the Annual Dinner and Silent Auction on Thursday, October 25th at Mendenhall Inn. Another record crowd was in attendance to celebrate our mission, as well as honor the lifetime achievement of Watershed Conservation Director Bob Struble on his retirement from BRC after 43 years.



Thank you to all of the attendees who came out to support us and recognize Bob's contribution.

DO YOU ENJOY VOLUNTEERING & BEING OUTSIDE?

Volunteer opportunities are available for the following events:

Saturday February 9th
Polar Plunge

Saturday March 30th
Red Clay Valley Clean Up

Sunday April 7th
Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point

Saturday April 27th
Brandywine Creek Clean Up



If interested please complete a Volunteer Application found on our website at:

www.brandywineredclay.org or contact Betsy Stefferud at 610-793-1090 for more information.

WE EXTEND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN TO HELP BRC CLOSE OUT 2018 ON A FINANCIALLY SOUND NOTE.

Each and every donation contributes to vital environmental education programs reaching thousands of school students as well as multiple watershed restoration projects to improve water quality in our region.

BRC greatly appreciates the generous donor who pledged a \$25,000 leadership gift as a challenge for our year-end appeal.

Thanks to you,, we have raised a combined total of \$93,290.82 .



RED CLAY VALLEY CLEAN UP

SAVE THE DATE!

Volunteers will be needed on March 30, 2019 for the Annual Red Clay Valley Clean Up. Please stay tuned to our website and FB page for sign-up information.



Even though it's chilly now, BRC is always thinking ahead to warmer weather!

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER CAMP 2019:

February 4th for members and
March 4th for non-members



SAVE THE DATE!

77th Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point Races Sunday, April 7, 2019

Plans are underway for the Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point races at BRC's Myrick Conservation Center. Bring your family, friends and colleagues - - enjoy a day outdoors watching pony & horse races and participate in the many family-oriented activities. Post time for the first race is 12:00 Noon.

Many sponsorships opportunities are available as well as volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in volunteering at the races -please contact the BRC Office at 610-793-1090 or email Betsy @ bstefferud@brandywinereclay.org



2019 WINTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Polar Plunge
Saturday, February 9th

Books & Boots
Thursday, February 14th
Thursday, March 14th
Thursday, April 11th

Red Clay Clean Up
Saturday, March 30th

Brandywine Hills
Point-to-Point Races
Sunday, April 7th

Brandywine Creek
Clean Up
Saturday, April 27th

BRC Trout Rodeo
Saturday, May 4th

WISH LIST

Native Animal & Wildlife Posters
Taxidermy Mounts & Insect Collections
Gently used archery equipment
Nature Themed Games

NOW OFFERING

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

