

Brandywine Valley Association
1760 Unionville-Wawaset Road
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382-6751

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The Brandywine and Red Clay Valley Associations'



Your Leaders in Local Watershed Conservation and Education

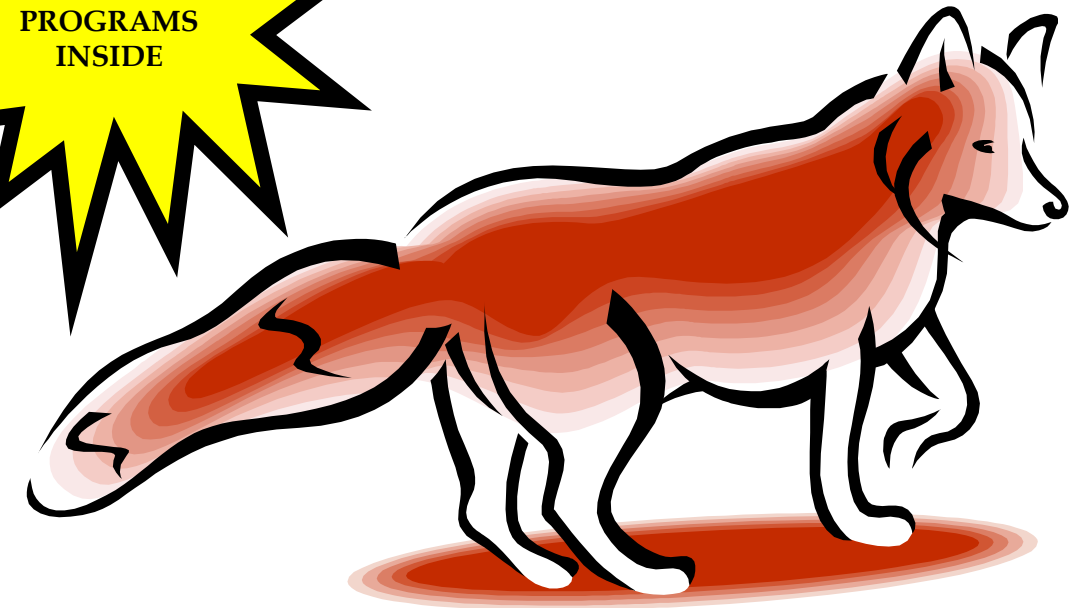
The Myrick Conservation Center, a 318-acre property used for education purposes, is open daily to the public. Located on Route 842 (Unionville-Wawaset Road), 6 miles west of West Chester and 3 miles east of Unionville, the Center is home to the Brandywine Valley Association (BVA) and the Red Clay Valley Association (RCVA) -- non-profit organizations dedicated to promoting the restoration, preservation, conservation and enjoyment of the natural resources of the Brandywine and the Red Clay watersheds. Both organizations are supported through membership dues and private donations.

The Brandywine Valley Association, established in 1945, is "the oldest small watershed association in the country." Its major role is steward of the Brandywine Watershed, a 325-square mile area encompassing the Brandywine Creek and its tributaries throughout southeastern Pennsylvania and northern Delaware.

The Red Clay Valley Association, BVA's sister organization, established in 1952, is "the second oldest small watershed association in the country." It serves as steward to the 55-square mile watershed encompassing the Red Clay Creek and its tributaries in southern Chester County, PA and northern New Castle County, DE.

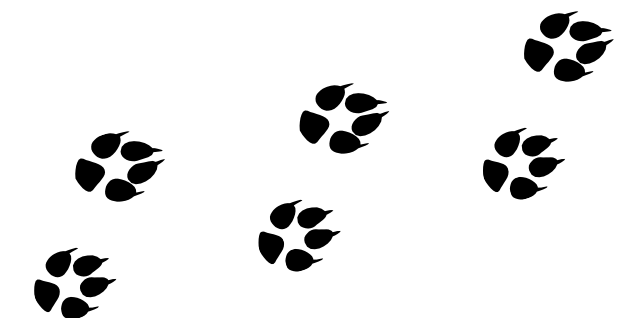
Both Associations are noted for their innovative environmental education programs serving schools and residents of all ages in the two watersheds year round. BVA and RCVA also partner with other organizations for environmentally relevant projects within their watershed communities.

Call 610-793-1090 or visit BVA's website at www.brandywinewatershed.org or RCVA's website at www.redclayvalley.org for more information about these dynamic organizations.



Myrick Conservation Center Summer Camp Programs

2008



Summer Camp 2008

The Brandywine and Red Clay Valley Associations' 318-acre Myrick Conservation Center offers unique, outdoor opportunities for children ages 4-16. Each program focuses on a particular theme, but all children will leave the Center with a better understanding of, and an appreciation for, the natural world. The Myrick Conservation Center Summer Camp Program, now in its twenty-third year, is pleased to offer this collection of outstanding nature camps! Programs meet at the Myrick Center's Browning Barn from 9AM to 3PM, unless otherwise noted in the program description. The 4 & 5 year olds will meet from 9AM to 11:30 or 12:30 to 3PM. Several programs feature overnight camping trips that generally take place on Thursday evenings. To maximize fun and safety we limit our programs to 10 to 15 participants.

Ages 4 & 5

SUPER SUMMER SENSES

June 23 - June 27 (AM 9:00-11:30)

July 7 - July 11 (AM 9:00-11:30)

Use your senses to explore the Myrick Center - feel the warmth of the summer sun and the cool of the shade. Search for all sorts of summer colors and listen for the sounds of summer animals. Feel a smooth frog and a bumpy toad, smell summer flowers and bring something home from the organic vegetable garden to taste. **\$95 members / \$135 nonmembers**

ANIMAL MAMMALS

July 14 - July 18 (AM 9:00-11:30)

July 28 - August 1 (AM 9:00-11:30)

What's a mammal? Here's a clue: You are one! Find out more about which animals are mammals and learn what they need to survive. You'll even get to try searching for some mammal friends and signs of where they live and what they need to survive outdoors.

\$95 members / \$135 nonmembers



PUDDLE JUMPERS

July 21 - July 25 (AM 9:00-11:30)

August 4 - August 8 (AM 9:00-11:30)

Do you like to jump in puddles after a rainstorm? You'll find all kinds of water spots at the Myrick Center and search for plants and animals nearby. Discover what lives in the pond, stream and wetland. And, of course, you'll get wet, too! **\$95 members / \$135 nonmembers**

EARTH'S QUILT

July 7 - July 11 (PM 12:30-3:00)

Why are grasshoppers green? Do all leaves have the same shape? Are they the same size? Take a closer look at nature's patterns, colors and shapes. Explore the Myrick Center in search of fun shapes and create patterns of your own using natural objects. **\$95 members / \$135 nonmembers**



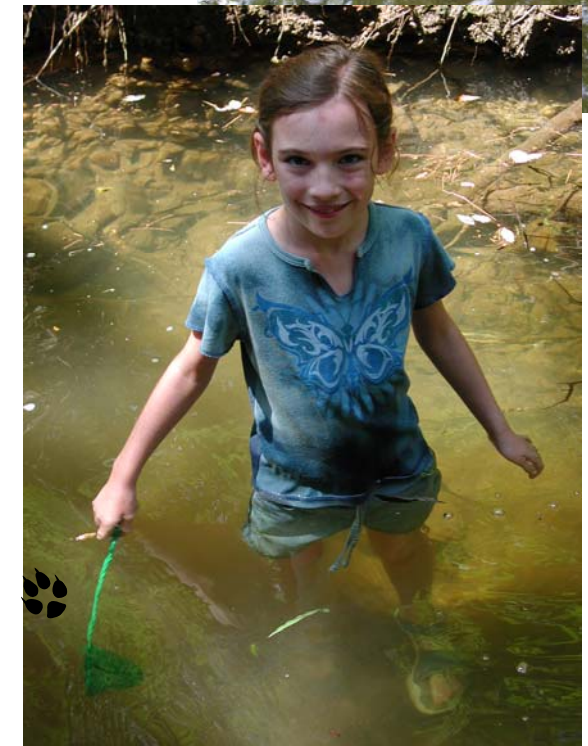
Kids Love Us Parents Adore Us...



"My son was so happy when I picked him up each day. He couldn't speak fast enough to tell me all the things he had done!" - Parent



"What a well organized camp! [The kids had] a full and interesting day. Counselors were fun, happy, safe, confident and sure of their work and responsibilities." - Parent



"We love this camp! It is our children's favorite camp every summer. Looking forward to next summer!" - Parent



Ages 11-15



PADDLE & PEN

August 4 - August 8



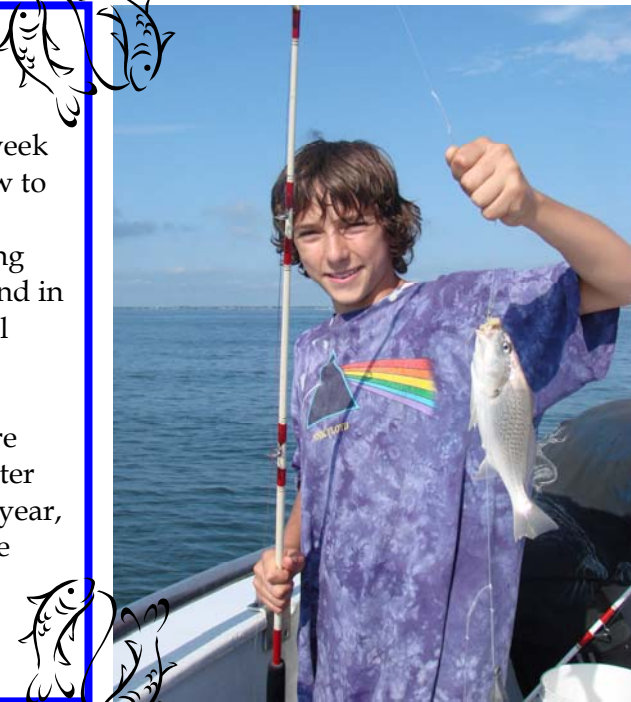
For the first time ever, we're bringing to you a chance to explore nature at the Myrick Conservation Center, and our other, very special location - the wild Saalbach Farm - through quiet time canoeing on the creek, bird watching, building a leaf press, and creating your very own nature journal. Practice capturing your thoughts and your wildlife encounters with a pen or colored pencil, and by painting with watercolors!

\$210 members / \$250 nonmembers

SOMETHING FISHY

July 21 - July 25

If you like to fish, or want to learn how to fish, this is the week for you! Learn about different types of equipment and how to use it while exploring some great freshwater and saltwater fishing spots. You will learn the art and science of fly casting and how to tie your own flies. You'll fish at a local pond and in the Brandywine Creek. On Thursday you'll head to coastal Delaware for an overnight camping and saltwater fishing expedition. You'll fish off a pier, in the surf and aboard a chartered fishing boat in the Delaware Bay for some inshore fishing. Along the way, learn about saltwater and freshwater ecosystems and fish biology. Even if you participated last year, there's ALWAYS more to learn! Your guide for this unique journey will be an avid outdoorsman and naturalist, BVA/RCVA's own Managing Director, Jim Jordan. *Pick up is at 5:00 PM on Friday.* **\$450 members only**



Ages 14-16

ECO LEADERS

July 7 - July 11

Are you interested in being a summer camp counselor? Learn if you're cut out for the job by working with the 8 & 9 year old "Eco Heroes" for a week. Assist them on field trips and be a mentor for the week. You will help organize a project in the Myrick Center's organic garden, maintain a leadership role when they visit a local barn to take care of the animals and lead the way down the Brandywine in a canoe as you help collect trash along the Creek. You can be a leader AND a hero. Participants who complete this program will be given priority for Junior Counselor positions in the future.

\$275 members / \$315 nonmembers



Now, that looks fun! Too bad kayaks don't come in my size.



Ages 6 & 7

CREEPY CRAWLIES

July 7 - July 11

Caterpillars, spiders, beetles, and slugs! How much do you know about these fascinating creatures? Get to know them up close while searching the Myrick Center for their hiding places. Sneak up on them to find out what they are eating and look through a magnifier to count their many legs. Soon, you'll start to see these animals everywhere and discover that they're not so creepy after all!

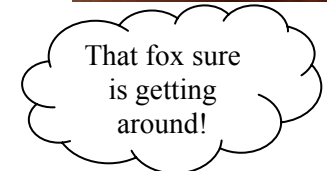
\$160 members / \$200 nonmembers



GROWING UP

June 23 - June 27

July 21 - July 25



What do plants and animals need to grow? Spend time in our organic vegetable garden helping the plants grow tall and strong. Taste some delicious and healthy snacks from the garden. You'll even take a hayride to The Barn at Spring Brook Farm to meet some animals and learn what they need to grow! **\$175 members / \$215 nonmembers**



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

July 14 - July 18

August 4 - August 8



Just how much water is on Earth? Find some here at the Myrick Center and explore it to see how much fun you can have! You'll have a chance to get wet everyday when you go exploring at the pond or in the creek and running through the sprinkler! **\$155 members / \$195 nonmembers**



NATURE'S CHILDREN

July 14 - July 18

July 28 - August 1

Expand your mind and your senses as you explore the many natural areas of the Myrick Center, searching for animal signs, tasting yummy snacks in the garden, and playing games that Native American children may have played many years ago. You'll have great fun following animal tracks, identifying different trees and practicing your awareness skills during this camp!

\$165 members / \$205 nonmembers

Do you know a child in need who would benefit from an active week outdoors?

Summer Camp Scholarships are available!

Visit our website for an application.

Ages 8 & 9



ECO HEROES

July 7 - July 11

Do you ever wish you could save the world? The Earth needs your help now more than ever. During this camp, you'll learn about the many ways that you can do something good for the animals and plants around you and you'll even get a chance to help clean up the Creek while tubing! Plus, you can try your hand at planting and harvesting foods in the garden, learning about wild edible foods and helping to care for the animals at The Barn at Spring Brook Farm! You'll be paired up with the Eco Leaders (14-16 year olds) later in the week which will be especially fun for your field trips! **\$175 members / \$215 nonmembers**

WATER EXPLORERS

June 23 - June 27
July 28 - August 1



Check out creatures in the pond and stream, visit a wetland, see the water cycle in action and have bucket-loads of fun during this water-filled week. You'll explore Marsh Creek State Park by paddleboat and tube down the Brandywine Creek! **\$225 members / \$265 nonmembers**

BUGS, BATS, & BIRDS

June 23 - June 27
July 21 - July 25

Did you ever wonder about these animals? Do you think about where they live or what they eat? Find out more about what may be happening right behind, above, or below you when you discover what bugs, bats, and birds are doing all summer long. You'll go bird watching, meet a raptor up close, build blue bird boxes for the Myrick Center, release lady bugs in the garden, and even listen for sounds of bats in the barn! **\$175 members / \$215 nonmembers**

WILD ADVENTURES

July 14 - July 18
August 4 - August 8

How does rock climbing at Vertical Extremes sound to you? What about tubing on the Brandywine Creek? Or hiking through the woods without a trail? Or hiking on a trail, but blindfolded? Sound adventurous? It is! Sign up for this camp only if you dare. **\$260 members / \$300 nonmembers**

Aftercare Is Available

Aftercare, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM, costs an additional \$75/week per child.
Please include this fee at the bottom of the second page of the registration form.
Available only for the week of: July 21 - July 25
There is a minimum of three campers necessary to run aftercare.

Ages 10-12



LENAPE DRILLS & SKILLS

June 23 - June 27
July 28 - August 1

Primitive, prehistoric, ancient, primal, original, 100% Natural, with nothing added. Learn what this is all about when you spend time in the wild finding food, building shelter, and learning to make fire, the Lenape way. The Lenape are the indigenous people of this area. Would they have adopted you into their tribe? Practice these ancient skills through canoeing the Brandywine, archery, tracking at Saalbach Farm and camping overnight at the Myrick Center on Thursday night. *Pick up will be at 11:00 AM on Friday.* **\$265 members / \$305 nonmembers**



EXTREME CREEK WEEK

July 14 - July 18
August 4 - August 8

Thinking of that hot summer weather and wishing you could go swimming? Now you can, along with kayaking AND tubing! Spend your week splashing your way around the watershed by visiting the pool at French Creek State Park and tubing and kayaking on the Brandywine Creek. Extreme Creek Week is not for the meek! **\$270 members / \$310 nonmembers**

NATURALIST EXPEDITIONS

July 7 - July 11

Ready for an adventure? Hone your naturalist skills by observing plants and animals in the Brandywine watershed and then take a trip to explore a special place in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. You'll note huge differences between these two ecosystems. Top off your expeditions with a canoe trip on the Brandywine ending at a creek side campsite. Close the week by spending Thursday night under the stars and making dinner over a fire. *Pick up will be at 12:00 PM on Friday.* **\$265 members / \$305 nonmembers**

VERTICAL ADVENTURES

July 21 - July 25

Discover what lies below the ground when you climb through, over, around, and further into a deep, dark cave. Push yourself to new limits as you participate in a local ropes course earlier in the week. Learn to get past your fears of the dark by visiting Indian Echo Caverns on Wednesday. Leave for a wild caving trip, led by an experienced spelunker, on Thursday morning. Camp overnight, and return Friday evening. *Pick up will be at 4:00 PM on Wednesday and Friday.*

\$355 members / \$395 nonmembers

Check out more caving pictures from last summer!

http://www.geocities.com/trailsitter/bva_7-19-07/bva_7-19-07.html

