

*Shaver's Creek Environmental Center  
Volunteer Opportunities  
Winter through Fall 2005*

Volunteers play an integral role in the daily operation and overall success of Shaver's Creek. Through their dedicated service we are able to expand the programs we offer and, consequently, the number of children and adults we reach with our message of promoting harmony between people and natural systems. Thank you for considering dedicating some of your time to this mission. Our goal is to match each volunteer with an appropriate task or program. Listed below are ongoing and special-event opportunities that rely on volunteers. Please phone or e-mail the contact person listed if you would like to volunteer or if you need more information about a specific opportunity.

*Ongoing Opportunities*

**Raptor Center**

Daily work involves feeding and watering our indoor and outdoor animals (birds of prey, reptiles, and amphibians) and enclosure cleaning. In addition, care is provided for the birds that visit our bird-feeding area. Special projects are a continuous part of the work in the Raptor Center: making new perches for the birds, developing new interpretive information, preparing for animal programs, handling the birds at programs, and providing the public with educational opportunities.

Contact: Jen Brackbill ([jab56@psu.edu](mailto:jab56@psu.edu)) or Doug Steigerwalt ([dxs135@psu.edu](mailto:dxs135@psu.edu))

**Facility**

**Garden/Landscape:** Involves soil preparation, planting, trimming, and weeding in our gardens and in the basic landscape of the center. Ideal for those who want to get their hands dirty.

**Trail Maintenance:** For a hardy person who enjoys hiking and physical work. Includes trimming vegetation, picking up trash, maintaining water bars, removing fallen branches and trees, and making minor repairs to trail structures. Special projects include monitoring and repairing bluebird boxes and ensuring the accuracy of our maps and interpretive trails.

**General Maintenance:** For the all-around handy person. In our high-use center there are always exhibits to mend and seasonal chores to do. From minor repairs to major overhauls, our maintenance volunteers get things done.

Contact: Dave Fox ([dx1000@outreach.psu.edu](mailto:dx1000@outreach.psu.edu)) or Doug Wentzel ([djw105@psu.edu](mailto:djw105@psu.edu))

### *Upcoming Programs and Special Events*

#### **Programs**

**Outdoor School** (spring season): Take a break from campus! Be an Outdoor School counselor for a fun and unforgettable week, and make a difference in the lives of elementary school children. Evening training sessions will be held at Shaver's Creek on Monday, March 21, and Tuesday, March 29, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The program dates are the weeks of April 11, 18, and 25, and May 2 and 9. Penn State credit and practicum hours are available for registered students.

Contact: Ellen Will ([eeb11@outreach.psu.edu](mailto:eeb11@outreach.psu.edu)) or Jen Bean ([jre146@psu.edu](mailto:jre146@psu.edu))

**School Visits:** Includes leading, or assisting with the leading, of school groups through our daily programs. Both spring and fall seasons include discovery walks and guided tours of the center. Training is provided.

Contact: Joan Turns ([jet8@psu.edu](mailto:jet8@psu.edu))

**Scouting Programs:** Gain leadership experience, learn outdoor skills, and earn Penn State credit. Lead badge activities for all ages of Boy Scouts (Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos, and Boy Scouts) and Girl Scouts (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadettes, and Seniors). Training is provided.

Contact: Brian Sedgwick ([bjs192@psu.edu](mailto:bjs192@psu.edu))

**Summer Camps:** Join us for a half day, a week, or the entire summer camp season. Opportunities include leading lessons, games, and creativity stations for ages 6 to 14. Training will be held in early June.

Contact: Ellen Will ([eeb11@outreach.psu.edu](mailto:eeb11@outreach.psu.edu)) or Doug Wentzel ([djw105@psu.edu](mailto:djw105@psu.edu))

## **Special Events**

**Project Feeder Watch** (winter and fall, every Monday and Tuesday): Contribute to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's program by observing and recording chickadees, nuthatches, goldfinches, and other birds at our feeding area.

Contact: Doug Wentzel ([djw105@psu.edu](mailto:djw105@psu.edu))

**Maple Harvest Festival** (March 19 and 20, 2005): Teach others about the joy of making maple syrup or help behind the scenes with setup and support. A training session for those interested in teaching will be held on February 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Contact: George Vahoviak ([grv1@psu.edu](mailto:grv1@psu.edu))

**Birding Cup** (May 6, 2005, 8:00 p.m. start for this 24-hour bird-watching marathon): Gather a team, solicit sponsors, and help with the planning beforehand or with the activities on the day of this unique birding event.

Contact: Mark McLaughlin ([mxm51@outreach.psu.edu](mailto:mxm51@outreach.psu.edu))

**Children's Halloween Trail** (October 29 and 30, 2005): This is a great weekend of nonscary Halloween fun! We need lots of help with crafts, entertainment, concessions, parking, decorations, and pumpkin carving. Join us for some pretrail fun and carve pumpkins to your heart's content on October 27, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Contact: George Vahoviak ([grv1@psu.edu](mailto:grv1@psu.edu))

**To contact our staff by phone, call 814-863-2000 or 814-667-3424.**

**To learn more about the center, visit <http://www.ShaversCreek.org>**

Paid Work Study positions are also available for qualified Penn State students.