



Brown Family Environmental Center

FIELD NOTES



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Turtles of Ohio

BY ZELLA LEZAK '24, BFEC STUDENT MANAGER
AND NOELLE JORDAN, BFEC MANAGER

We love turtles. From the carapace (upper, or dorsal, shell) to the plastron (lower, or ventral, shell) and everything in between, we think turtles are ... well, cool. They are reptiles, and so they have dry, scaly skin (the carapace is covered with scutes). They lay eggs that have leathery shells. And, they are cold blooded (ectothermic). The carapace is constructed of many bones that have fused together: ribs, pelvic bones, scapula and all vertebrae. Turtles are believed to have existed 200 million years ago.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources lists 11 turtle species endemic to Ohio, most of them aquatic. Below, we offer a brief overview of each species.

The largest turtle found in Ohio is the snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). Snappers, as most of us know, can grow quite large, but identifying marks include their long tail and their head that looks disproportionately large. The second half of their scientific name, serpentina, refers to their long and highly mobile neck. Snapping turtles, most commonly found in or near lakes, ponds, rivers and other freshwater habitats, are bold and aggressive when out of the water but secretive when in the water. Although numerous, they are not frequently seen because they don't usually leave the water

Continued inside

Common but rarely seen

Ohio's largest turtle, the snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), is bold and aggressive when out of the water but secretive when in the water.

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Turtles of Ohio

The northern map turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), top, so named for its distinctive shell, lives in large bodies of deep water. The eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*), bottom, suffering from both habitat loss and road collisions, is a species of concern in Ohio.

after the Ouachita River (pronounced WAH-shi-tah) in southwestern Arkansas and eastern Louisiana. It is unknown if this turtle is native to Ohio. Map turtles are often caught and sold as pets, although the state of Ohio has specific laws and guidelines regarding this matter. The Ouachita may be turtles that have been unwanted and released.

Perhaps one of the most numerous turtles in Ohio, the eastern spiny softshell turtle (*Apalone spinifer spinifer*) is a strange-looking critter. Its long snout, long neck and flat body allow this turtle to bury itself in the substrate of a river and wait for unsuspecting fish to swim by. It quickly stretches its long neck to catch and eat the fish while remaining hidden. Preferring shallow water, when they need oxygen, they simply use their long necks and snouts to reach up and take a breath while remaining under the sand or mud. True to its name, the carapace is not made of bony plates but is rubbery instead. These turtles are usually only seen in the spring when the females leave the water to lay eggs.

The midland smooth softshell (*Apalone mutica mutica*) is similar to the spiny softshell in appearance and behavior. It is found only in the southern counties of Ohio in large tributaries of the Ohio River.

The eastern musk turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*) is the only musk turtle found in the northern states. This dark brown-to-black turtle has two yellow strips on its head and neck. When these turtles are frightened, they emit an odor, earning its informal name, stinkpot. Musk turtles prefer deep, still water in lakes, ponds and sluggish streams. They are rarely observed out of the water, except to lay eggs.

The spotted turtle (*Clemis guttata*), identifiable by the yellow spots on its carapace, is a small, semi-aquatic turtle that is listed as threatened in Ohio. Spotted turtle populations have steeply declined throughout the state mostly because of habitat destruction (they prefer wetlands like wet meadows, fens, bogs and marshes), but also because they have been illegally collected and sold as pets. Further complicating their survival is the fact that the sex of these turtles is determined by temperature during embryonic development. Some scientists are concerned that climate change may have a profound impact on these turtle populations. Spotted turtles are very intelligent as turtles go; studies suggest that they have the brain capacity of a mouse. They are also great hunters, chasing down crustaceans, tadpoles, salamanders and small fish.

The eastern box turtle (*Terrapene carolina*) is a species of concern in Ohio. Their numbers are low because of habitat loss, but they also get run over by cars as they slowly lumber across roads. They're called box turtles because the plastron is hinged, which allows it to be drawn up tightly against the carapace, boxing in all of the soft bits for protection. Males usually have orange or reddish eyes and a long tail, while females have brown eyes and a shorter tail. They prefer woodlands, making them Ohio's most terrestrial turtle. They are typically active during early morning and evening hours.

Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), a threatened species in Ohio, is found only in counties that border Lake Erie. They prefer wet, marshy areas, and their bright yellow throat and chin are their most distinctive feature.

except to find a new habitat or to lay eggs. While we don't have much data about lifespan in the wild, a study from Canada suggests that snapping turtles can live to be 100 years old.

The midland painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta marginata*) is easily identifiable by the yellow and red stripes on its neck and the margins of its shell. They are most commonly found in calm bodies of water like ponds and smaller lakes, especially ones with lush greenery because their primary food source is aquatic plants. These turtles like to bask and can frequently be found piled together on logs through the summer.

Similar in appearance and behavior to the painted turtle, the red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) can be mistaken for a painted turtle at first glance. Be sure to look for the distinctive red mark behind each eye — that's the give-away for these turtles. They are very common in the southern U.S., but Ohio has a few isolated populations. Most scientists think these populations are the result of released captives, as they are very popular in the pet trade.

Found in large bodies of deep water, the northern map turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), can be identified by the A-frame-shaped carapace that is marked with lines when it is young. The name of this turtle is derived from these lines, which resemble contour lines on a geographic map. The lines on the carapace fade as the turtle ages, but the pale green stripes on the head and neck remain visible. Their powerful jaws allow them to eat snails, clams and crayfish.

A relative of the northern map turtle, the Ouachita map turtle (*Graptemys ouachitensis*) looks very similar. Originally only found in the southern reaches of the Scioto River, recent surveys have found other populations. This turtle is named

Celebrating Succession (Ecological and Otherwise)

BY EMMA COFFMAN '22, BFEC POST-BACCALAUREATE FELLOW

This past spring, my life changed drastically in some ways. In the span of one week, I turned in (what I hope will be) my very last homework assignment ever, I completed my very last exam, and I graduated from Kenyon. Suddenly, it was time to make the terrifying leap from full-time student to full-time employee.

Luckily for me, my new job at the BFEC feels like a natural progression. After spending my four undergraduate years volunteering and working as a student manager at the BFEC, moving into the original farmhouse on the BFEC property (barely a ten-minute walk from my previous dorm) feels just right. Surrounded by my favorite trails and familiar trees, I already feel right at home, even as I get settled into my new role as the BFEC post-baccalaureate fellow.

One thing I've noticed as I've trekked through the 600+ acre property that I now call my backyard is that I'm certainly not alone in going through a big transition. All around me the environment is changing, too.

It's almost unbelievable to me that the prairie that we control-burned just over a month ago is already teeming with signs of new life. I can see from my window that tall grasses are already dominating the hillside. It won't be long before it becomes a vibrant summer prairie brimming with wildflowers, buzzing insects and wildlife galore.

I was told that we burn the prairie in order to preserve it — to keep it, as best as we can, a stable and healthy ecosystem. To me, that seemed counterintuitive. How can fire, something that destroys, be used to preserve?

To answer that question, we have to first explore what else might change ecosystems in the first place. Naturally, ecosystems change over time. Just as we move through different stages of life (from college student to graduate, for a relevant example). This natural progression is a process called ecological succession.

There are two types of succession: primary and secondary. Primary succession hasn't taken place at the BFEC for a very long time — primary succession is how an ecosystem first establishes itself. When exposed rock or barren land is left behind as the result of a natural disturbance (such as a glacier retreating or lava flowing), primary succession begins when pioneer species move in: mosses, lichens and other brave species that can thrive without soil.

Over time, this primary succession can lead to land rich with nutrients as the pioneer species decompose

into dirt. This process takes a long time, but it sets the stage for the next step: secondary succession.

Secondary succession is similar in that it begins with some kind of disturbance. However, it takes place where soil and nutrients are already established. When the ecosystem is reset by disturbances — storms or forest fires, for example — the process begins anew. Instead of mosses and lichens, the pioneer species of secondary succession include plants with deep roots that create an ecosystem of intermediate species like grasses and shrubs.

If left undisturbed, the ecosystem will proceed to the next and final step: the formation of what some ecologists call a climax community. These ecologists assert that this is the point where ecosystems balance out and remain relatively stable over time. As grasses and shrubs give way to larger, woody plants, grassy areas will slowly become forests, dominated by older, larger trees like oaks and hickories (in Ohio) that can become established in shady areas.

With this in mind, let's revisit our prairie. What would happen if we left it alone, letting nature take its course? The grasses and shrubs would give way over time, slowly, to woody plants. Trees like those around the property would begin to take root, spreading their branches out over the wildflowers until there is too much shade for the flowers to grow. Our beautiful prairie — a habitat and home to many native animals — would become a forest.

Instead, when we burn the prairie, we create a disturbance. We reset the cycle. Burning the grass helps dying plants from the previous year break down, filling the role that grazing bison once did on prairies across the country. Through the process of clearing away the older grasses (and any trees that may have tried to move in), we leave the perfect environment for secondary succession to begin again.

Next year, as I watch the annual prairie burn, I will be figuring out what my next step will be. The new post-baccalaureate fellow will be stepping into my shoes, and then it will be their turn to watch the prairie burn. In a way, we've formed our own cycle of succession — each new post-bacc bringing new ideas and life to the role.

As I look forward to the year ahead, I am mindful of how much change one year can bring — ecologically and otherwise. What better reason do you need to live in the moment? In a place like central Ohio and on a preserve like the BFEC, I don't want to miss a single second.

Woolly Alder Aphids: The Fairy Flies of Midsummer

BY LUCY WHITE '22, BFEC STUDENT MANAGER

Last summer in mid-July, my fellow coworkers and I were pulling crown vetch from the prairie when we noticed a flurry of white cotton-winged specks floating around us. Seeing them lit up in the glow of the sun, I could've sworn they were fairies. This did not seem far-fetched, given that we were standing in what might as well have been a fairy land, surrounded by a garden of heliotrope, sea holly and zinnias, and a prairie of beebalm and goldenrod. The pine grove stood behind us and a river full of snails, silver darter fish and green seashells flowed not too far away. So as my coworker cupped the fairy-bug in her hands, we all swarmed around to inspect the strange creature.

"Woolly aphid!" someone yelled upon identification. The mystical gave way to the organized world of scientific reality, in which every being has a name, physiological structure, and ecological function.

The ordinary world of scientific inquiry, however, is anything but dull. Scientific classification — while far from a perfect system — makes the complex ecological world legible. The shifty blariness of imagination narrowed into a sharp and more brilliantly detailed reality. The woolly alder aphid (*Prociphilus tessellatus*) may not be supernatural, but the creature is no less fascinating.

Before woolly aphids grow their wings, they live in dense colonies on their primary host plant, silver maple trees, concealed under a mass of wool-like white wax. They feed on the tree sap through their straw-like mouth parts, which they insert into the plant tissue. As they feed, the woolly aphids excrete honeydew, a sweet sugary liquid that is precious food for other insects. Ants are even known to farm woolly aphids for their honeydew. In exchange for protecting the woolly aphids from predators, the ants herd them and milk the honeydew out of the aphids by stroking their abdomens with their antennae.

Honeydew can also cause the growth of sooty mold, which, though the black fungus is unpleasant to look at, is not harmful to the plant. However, large aphid colonies can cause minor damage to the plant as they feed on the leaves, branches, bark, and roots, occasionally resulting in curled or yellowed leaves and limited plant growth. Fortunately, woolly alder aphids rarely cause severe damage to the plant, as their populations tend to be kept in check by natural predators like ladybugs, wasps, hoverflies and lacewings. Therefore, pesticide use is not required.

By midsummer, the colonies of aphids produce winged individuals that fly to their secondary host plant, alder trees. It was these migrating aphids that my co-workers and I spotted on that hot summer day in July. These flying individuals are responsible for some of their other common names: fairy flies, fluff bugs and angel bugs. As it turns out, the angelic white fluff coating the aphid is not fairy wings or cotton, but is instead a wax produced by the insect's abdominal glands that acts as defense mechanism against predators. The wax filaments are thought to help keep the aphids afloat and disguise them as a dandelion plant seed, as they glide through the air on the way to their next tree feast. As the days shorten, winged woolly aphids search out a silver maple tree once again where they lay their eggs in the bark that wait through the winter to hatch and begin the cycle again.



Image: Judy Gallagher. From Wikimedia Commons. Used under Creative Commons 2.0.

Farming aphids

As they feed on tree sap, woolly aphids excrete honeydew — a substance that attracts ants. Ants, in turn, herd these aphids and protect them from predators.

Coyotes: Wily and Thriving

BY SHANE MCGUIRE, BFEC LAND MANAGER NATURALIST

Although commonplace, coyotes (*Canis latrans*) are not native to Ohio. Before European settlement, they were found only in the southwest region of the United States. Today, however, coyotes are found throughout North America, from Alaska to Mexico and from California to Nova Scotia.

What contributed to this successful migration? There are several theories, but arguably there are two main reasons. The first is that coyotes are known for their adaptability — they are intelligent and versatile. They are primarily omnivores, and although they favor small mammals, they also eat plants, eggs, insects, lizards and fish. In a pinch, they will scavenge and eat carcasses. Because their diet is so varied, they are capable of finding food in hot, dry regions as well as colder areas, and they adapted to city life and urban expansion.

In addition, we systematically eliminated their predators — bears, wolves and mountain lions. Long ago, Ohio was home to all of these predators. Their presence prevented the coyote from expanding their range, until early settlers became fearful for their livestock. In the 1700s, these farmers started hunting and trapping wolves and mountain lions, with no restrictions or laws. By the mid-1800s, wolves and mountain lions had been extirpated from Ohio. With other states following suit and doing the same thing to these predators, coyotes started pushing their range further and further east.

The first official coyote sighting in Ohio was documented in 1919. Because we had also over-hunted other predator species, like bobcats and fishers, our small mammal and game bird populations were high. The rabbits, pheasants and squirrels

were perfect for the coyote diet. Today, all 88 counties of Ohio have coyotes. While many consider coyotes to be a nuisance (they, too, prey on livestock), they serve an important ecological role by keeping small mammal populations in check.

Coyotes are normally wary of humans. According to a 2021 article published in Live Science, there have been only two fatal coyote attacks in North America — one in 1981 and one in 2009. However, in the past 45 years, some coyotes have become more aggressive as

they lose their fear of humans. There were 367 coyote attacks on humans between 1977 and 2015 in the U.S. and Canada, according to research published in 2017 in the journal *Human-Wildlife Interactions*. In some cases, coyotes have come to associate humans with food, as they feast on pet food and garbage left outside. To put these statistics into perspective (less than 10 coyote attacks per year during a 38-year time span), we are more likely to die from a bee sting (about 70 deaths per year during a 17-year time span) than a coyote attack.



Image: V.Anderson. From Wikimedia Commons. Used under Creative Commons 4.0.

A helpful introduction

While not native to Ohio, coyotes play an important role in keeping small mammal populations in check.

BFEC VOLUNTEERS

SPRING 2022

We are indebted to the following individuals for recent donations of time and materials. If you would like to volunteer for a project, please call the BFEC at 740-427-5052.

VOLUNTEERS

Garden Crew
Drew Kerkhoff
Kate Moore
Terri Hieronimus

BRINGER OF TREES

Jason Bennett

BLUEBIRD MONITORS

Miriam Dean-Otting
Brian Miller
Bev Morse
Sarah Goslee Reed

LAND CREW

Anna Emmelhainz
(Career center
job-shadow and
hard worker)
Ella Hankinson,
high school student
and trail monitor
Bethany Hankinson,
trail monitor
Eric and Susan Schott,
trail monitors
Sierrah Glass, trail
monitor
Dick Hall, ecosystem
manager
extraordinaire
Kenyon Football Team,
invasive species
wranglers

FIELD TRIP VOLUNTEERS

We were able to dip our toe in the water this spring and invite a few elementary classes back to the BFEC. The following Kenyon students made it happen:

Darya Aminia
Kate Ford
Ella Samson
Nina Beardsley
Theresa Carr
Maeve Kennedy-Lange
Darien Byrum
Alexia Tiches
Emma Coffman

PROGRAM LEADERS

Miriam Dean-Otting
Ray Heithaus

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS

For the first time since 2019, we were able to hold our Earth Day Festival. These Kenyon students staffed the event:

Abby Navin
Adam Samet
Alejandro Gonzalez
Andy Kelleher
Anna Emmelhainz
Ariella Kissen
Ben Bratzler
Ben Hoffer
Ben Nutter
Ben Wooster
Bonnie Nygard
Casey Capsambelis
Chiara Rothenberg
Chloe Cameron
Claire Hanke
Ella Samson

Ella Simpson
Emma Coffman
Erin Lynn
Haley Sorkin
Hank Thomas
Hannah Fedorov
Jack Cheston
Jess Dannery
Katy Spilsbury
Lucy White
Lynne Bush
Madi Hamilton
Mwi Epalle
Nina Beardsley
Olivia Hynes
Rosie O'Byrne
Shaunna Walsh
Shea Wilt
Sofia Shroyka
Stefanie Durcan
Tommy Hillmer
Vincent Vispo
Zack Baker
Zella Lezak
Zoe Kleeman

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Yoga in the Garden

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY,
12:10–12:55 P.M.

Use your lunch break to de-stress with an outdoor yoga class. Bring your kids, grandkids, friends and others. Open to all ages. Bring your mat or use ours. Free. *Meet in the BFEC garden (behind the white house).*

Paint Outside

EVERY TUESDAY, 4–7:30 P.M.

Plein-air painters are invited to the BFEC to paint outdoors every Tuesday this summer. These are informal gatherings with no instruction. Bring your own supplies, and meet other like-minded painters. Restrooms available in the Resource Center. These opportunities will be canceled in the event of inclement weather. *Meet at the picnic shelter.*

Family Nature Quest: The Kokosing Up-Close

JULY 9, 10:30 A.M.

How well do you know the Kokosing? Whether this scenic river is new to you or an old friend, you are welcome to join us for this special water program. We'll be getting up-close and personal with the Kokosing River — with the help of our snorkels — to learn its history, health and inhabitants firsthand. We will be in and out of the water, so dress to get wet. *Meet in the canoe access parking lot on the corner of Laymon Road and 229.*

How old is that tree?

JULY 9, 2 P.M.

Ever wonder the age of a tree? Join us for a hands-on experience to learn how scientists take core samples to age trees. We will talk about tree rings, growth rates and which trees grow quickly. And we will discuss how scientists use information from core samples to learn about environmental events such as floods and droughts. *Meet at the picnic shelter.*

Family Nature Quest: Pollinators and Plants — A Match Made in Prairies

JULY 16, 10:30 A.M.

Plants need pollinators, and so do we. In this outdoor program, we will explore our prairie to learn how pollination takes place between plants and pollinators. Grab a net, and find some pollinators that call this unique habitat home. *Meet at the picnic shelter.*

Basics of Plein Air Painting: Working with Watercolors

JULY 16, 1 – 3:30 P.M.

Spend the afternoon learning how to paint outside. Longtime painter Jim Leitz will teach the basics of composition and working with watercolors. All equipment and supplies will be provided. Space is limited. To reserve your seat, email jordan2@kenyon.edu or call 740-427-5052.

Himalayan Bowls and Chanting

JULY 19, 6:30 P.M.

Allan Bazzoli M.D. will offer the sounds of 18 Himalayan singing bowls combined with harmonic chants from different cultures to immerse you in a relaxing, transcendent experience of vibration and sound. Chants include a blend of Native American sounds, the Om chant (the universal chant), the Dragon chant and the Snow Mountain chant. Space is limited. To reserve your spot call 740-427-5052 or email jordan2@kenyon.edu.

Guided Hike: Hall Homestead Trail

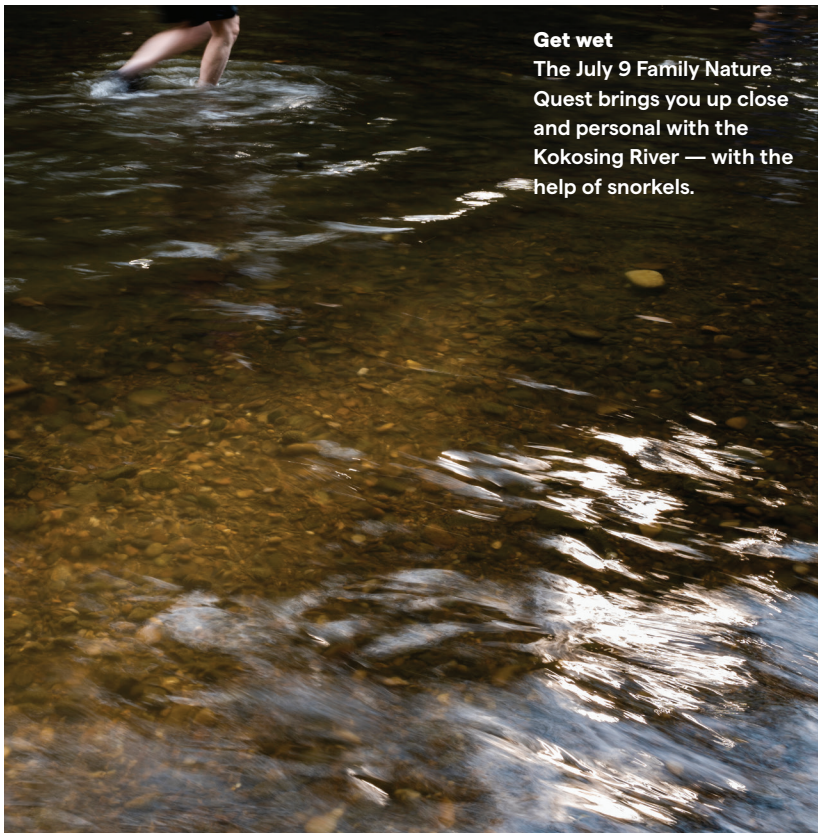
JULY 22, 7 P.M.

Join us at the height of summer for a special hike along one of our newest trails. We will be walking through tall grasses, and the terrain varies from easy to moderately difficult. Gorgeous views. *Meet in the gravel parking area at 18371 New Gambier Road, Mount Vernon.*

Family Nature Quest: Go Play Outside— Embracing Nature Play

JULY 23, 10:30 A.M.

From splashing in a puddle to climbing a tree, there are so many ways to play outside. For this program, we will learn the benefits of nature play, explore the unique experiences nature has to offer, and get comfortable with both structured and risky play — beginning with the BFEC's Nature Play Trail. *Meet in the Kokosing Gap Trail parking lot on Laymon Road.*



Get wet
The July 9 Family Nature Quest brings you up close and personal with the Kokosing River — with the help of snorkels.

DONORS TO THE BFEC

SPRING 2022

In addition to support from Kenyon, the generosity of donors makes the center grow. If you would like to make a gift, please see the form on the back cover of this newsletter.

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Ian and Charlotte Watson
Kathy Weise

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Caroline Detmer and
Stanley Holmes
Noelle Jordan
Beverly Morse and Brian Miller

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Chris Bickford and
Karen Bagne
John Hammond
Lisa Paul
Stephen Schneider
Lisa and Stuart Schott

INDIVIDUAL

Elizabeth Atkinson

DONOR

Richard Marinos and
Cari Ficken
Tristan Neviska

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Patty Hagopian Shipley, owner of Leaves for Wildlife, a native plant nursery in Sunbury, Ohio, has donated many native tree seedlings this past year.

Clyde Kahrl donated many birds books, field guides and other great resources for birders.

ARTISTS SUPPORTING THE BFEC

In our April edition, we listed some regional plein-air artists who donated to the BFEC, but we inadvertently left Debbie Lutz off of the list. Debbie sold a painting that was on display at the BFEC and donated 100% of the proceeds to us. Thank you, Debbie!

Family Nature Quest: Keeping Tracks (with Molds and Casts)

JULY 30, 10:30 A.M.

Who was here? How can we tell? Animal tracks can give us a clue. Come learn some of the marks made by Ohio critters on the move. We'll make some prints and casts of our own along the way. *Meet at the picnic pavilion.*

Intro to Plein Air for Beginners

AUGUST 2, 5-7 P.M.

Participants will learn the basics of drawing, perspective, composition and easy setup. Enjoy the inspiration of the gardens at BFEC with Wendy Feters and Tim McGlothlin. Teens to adults welcome. Reservations required. Call 740-427-5052 or email jordan2@kenyon.edu to reserve your seat.

A Night With Moths

AUGUST 6, 9:30 P.M.

Who's that flying around those bright lights at night? Moths, of course! Join us for a night of moth baiting. We will take advantage of moths' attraction to bright lights and sweet treats to get a close-up view of some of these beautiful critters. During this program, everyone will prepare some sugary moth bait to take home. *Meet at the picnic pavilion.*

Guided Hike: Fern Trail

AUGUST 13, 10 A.M.

This month's guided hike features a trail on our southern trail system. After walking through the open Prairie Trail, the Fern Trail will be forested, cool(ish) and inviting, in spite of some steep hills. *Meet in the main parking lot at the Resource Center.*

Guided Hike: Walker's Pond and New Gambier Loop

SEPTEMBER 22, 6:30 P.M.

Join us for a nature hike on a portion of our northern trail system. The Corridor Trail will offer some great views before we enter the young pine forest that surrounds Walker's Pond. We'll amble through a mixed deciduous forest along the New Gambier Trail before we loop back around to the parking lot. The terrain through these trails ranges from easy to moderate. *Meet in the parking lot at the Franklin Miller Observatory.*

History of Ohio Animals

SEPTEMBER 29, 6:30 P.M.

Bison and elk in Ohio? Yes! And also pheasants, quail, river otters, bears and so much more. Spend an evening learning about animals that used to call Ohio home, along with many that still do. This is an indoor program. *Meet at the Resource Center.*

Brown Family
Environmental Center
Kenyon

bfec.kenyon.edu | 740-427-5050



BROWN FAMILY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER | 9781 LAYMON ROAD | GAMBIER, OH 43022-9623

OUR MISSION

The Brown Family Environmental Center exists to support the academic goals of Kenyon College, to provide opportunities for education and research, to engage Central Ohioans of all ages with nature, and to conserve the natural diversity of the Kokosing River valley.

OUR STAFF

Emma Coffman '22, *Post-Baccalaureate Fellow*
Jill Kerkhoff, *Facilities Coordinator and Office Administrator*
Shane McGuire, *Land Manager Naturalist*
Noelle Jordan, *Manager*

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TO MAKE A GIFT, PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW, DETACH THE SHEET AND SEE MAILING INSTRUCTIONS.

There are many reasons to give, including the satisfaction of knowing you're a part of critical environmental education and conservation programs. Receive preferred access to workshops, a hard copy of our newsletters, and a discount on bird seed. **Use the form below to send your contribution today.**

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Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law. The Brown Family Environmental Center at Kenyon College is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Membership level:

- ☐ Student \$20 ☐ Individual \$35 ☐ Family \$50
☐ Friend \$100 ☐ Patron \$250 ☐ Benefactor \$1000+

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☐ Please bill my ____ Visa or ____ Mastercard
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Mail to: BFEC, P.O. Box 508, Gambier, Ohio 43022