WINTER 2026
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Brown Family Environmental Center

FIELD NOTES

Cardinals stick around Ohio all winter long and are frequest visitors to the BFEC's bird feeders.

Photo: Luke Hester '20

Cardinals in Winter

BY QUINN HARNDEN '26, BFEC STUDENT MANAGER

Last fall was an exciting time at the Brown Family Environmental Center. The warm August weather spilled into many days in September and October. In these early months of the school year, the skies were overwhelmingly blue, fall flowers were blooming, and creatures of different shapes and sizes were crawling, running and flying around. The BFEC was lively.

As the weather patterns began to change in November and persist throughout December, the leaves fell rapidly. While the changing of the seasons altered the view of the BFEC landscape, it remained vibrant and full of life. And now that we are in the quiet months of winter, with long nights and less sunshine, I can say the same is still true. There is still lots of life happening in our natural areas.

During all my winter visits to the BFEC, I see a lot of birds at the feeders, and hear their myriad calls during my hikes. There are many non-migratory birds in Ohio — they stick around all winter. But perhaps one of the most obvious in our bleak winter

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In This Issue

landscape is the cardinal, Ohio's state bird. The large males are characterized by their bright orange-red color, thick short bills and long tails.

Unlike most North American birds, both male and female cardinals sing. In the spring, their cheery, clear-whistled repetitive call helps males to attract potential mates and allows females on the nest to signal that they need food. Cardinals have more than 28 different songs and calls. When cardinals sing, they typically perch on a high branch to ensure that their song is heard. When they are not singing, cardinals are usually found on lower branches foraging for food.

Most cardinals spend their entire life within a half mile of where they were born. Unlike other birds who migrate to avoid the harsh midwestern winters and the decidedly fewer food options, cardinals are adapted to withstand colder temperatures and are able to find food in these northern climes year-round. To survive the cold, they fluff the layer of downy feathers under their contour feathers, creating an insulated layer to keep them warm. Additionally, cardinals can drop their body temperature by about 3 to 6°F on colder nights to conserve energy.

At the onset of winter, cardinals form foraging groups increasing their odds of finding enough food. Without insects to munch on, cardinals rely on berries and seeds through the winter. During colder months, cardinals (and all birds) must feed more frequently to keep up with their increased energy demands. Birds have high metabolisms to begin with, and even greater energy needs to stay warm during the winter. Feeding is especially common at dusk and dawn to both prepare for long, cold nights and to regain energy used overnight.

During the winter months, cardinals seek shelter in dense evergreen foliage. Most commonly, they find fir, cedar, and pine trees for safe roosting. And cardinals are smart birds: they frequently find shelter in places close to well-stocked feeders, and this is no exception at the BFEC. Cardinals are frequent winter visitors at the BFEC feeders.

Cardinals, especially in the wintertime, are captivating. I tend to notice their beauty even more in the wintertime, with their contrasting bright red feathers against the white snow. Cardinals brighten my cold, winter days with their vibrant color and beautiful song.

New Professors, New Initiatives at the BFEC

BY MADELEINE CAMPBELL '26 AND OLIVIA GRIFFIN-ERICKSON '26, BFEC STUDENT MANAGERS

In the last few years, Kenyon has welcomed several new faculty members to the biology and environmental studies departments. In addition to diversifying course offerings and research opportunities on campus, their arrival has opened new doors at the BFEC. Eager to take advantage of the local environment while giving back to the community, two professors seek to study both the fauna and flora that characterize our beautiful nature preserve.

Lucas Moyer-Horner joined Kenyon in 2024 as a visiting assistant professor of biology. His work focuses on wildlife biology and resilience. Before coming to Kenyon, he studied the effects of climate change and anthropomorphic encroachment on pika populations in Glacier National Park. During the fall 2025 semester, he used his expertise to contribute to a national effort in mammal surveying. Snapshot USA is a collaborative citizen-science project using camera traps across all 50 states to compile a comprehensive database of mammal populations. Under the supervision of Moyer-Horner, the authors and student Cameron McCaleb '28 installed 10 cameras across the BFEC property in September. So far, the cameras have recorded woodchucks, two squirrel species, chipmunks, raccoons and, of course, white-tailed deer. This data has already provided insights into the abundance and diversity of mammals within the BFEC.

Caught on Camera
The BFEC's trail cameras have recorded a variety of visitors to the property — including, not surprisingly, white-tailed deer.

Assistant Professor of Biology Catherine Fahey dove into research at the BFEC, even though this is her first semester at Kenyon. Her knowledge in biological invasions, cultivated in part through her Ph.D. research on invasive plants in Florida, will prove a helpful resource to the BFEC. Fahey is currently working with the authors to study invasive species — namely Japanese barberry, privet and multiflora rose — across different ecosystems on the property. Our goal is to estimate their abundance and richness, and monitor their long-term effects on ecosystem health. She is working closely with BFEC staff so her results can inform future management strategies. During the spring 2026 semester, she will enlist the help of students in her upper-level special topics course, "Invasion Biology," and she will be looking for students who will work as Summer Science Scholars during summer 2026.

These two new projects are exciting not only for their contributions to science and conservation, but for their potential to involve more students at the BFEC. We are grateful for the fresh perspectives and look forward to seeing how these projects grow.

Where Research Takes Root

BY ANABELLE HICKS '26, BFEC STUDENT MANAGER

When I first came to Kenyon in 2022, the BFEC quickly became a refuge for me. Missing my upstate New York hometown, I turned to the BFEC trails as a source of familiarity. The miles of oak and maple trees were an antidote to homesickness, with nature serving as a link to my family, friends and community back home. Three years later, deep into the weeds of my senior year, it warms my heart to reflect on how intensely these trails have informed my academics.

In the spring of my junior year, I joined Ruth Heindel, the Dorothy and Thomas Jegla Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, in her lab. For the last five years, Heindel has collected dust samples from sites across Kenyon's campus. The purpose of these samples is to analyze atmospheric deposition in central Ohio, or, put more simply, the dust particles in the air that settle onto the Earth's surface. Analyzing this dust reveals far-reaching insights, from the contaminants in the air we breathe to the nutrients that reach the soil below us.

When I joined the lab, I had been investigating tree canopy distributions in nearby Columbus. Tree canopies are known to act as a filter for air pollution, capturing pollutants on their leaves, preventing inhalation by humans nearby. I wondered how we could tie the air pollution mitigation potential of tree canopies to Heindel's research, and she suggested that we expand our sample collection to the BFEC. Adding in two sites along the Fern Trail, our research into throughfall began.

Throughfall deposition is the settling of particles underneath a tree canopy. In general, throughfall deposition is greater than non-throughfall, or bulk, deposition because trees capture pollutants from the air so effectively. Once trapped on the leaves, the particles will ultimately settle directly below the tree, rather than the surrounding area. We wanted to investigate how this deposition changes between deciduous and evergreen forests, and the BFEC offered the perfect opportunity for this.

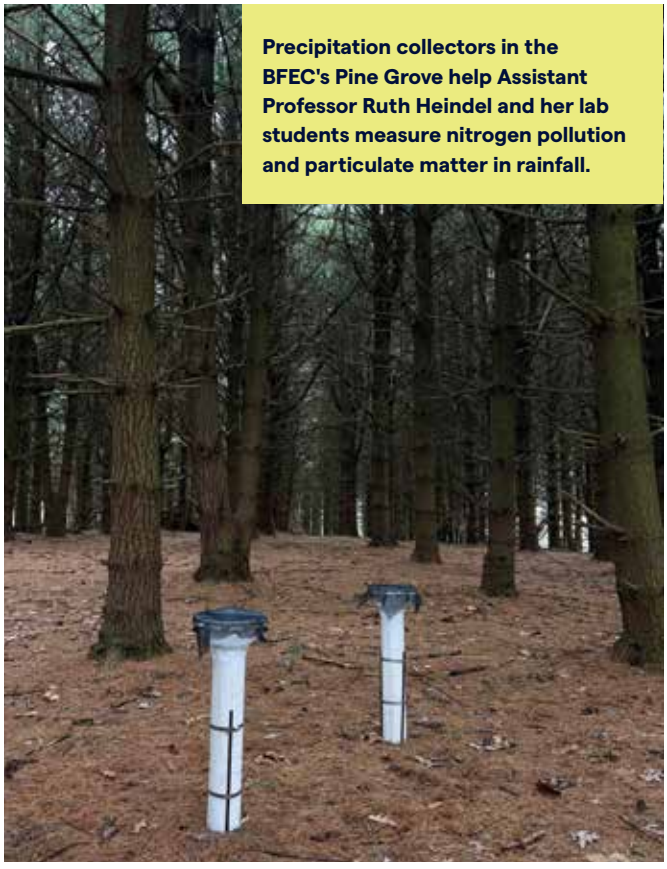
Directly off the Fern Trail, we placed dust collectors under a canopy of oak, maple and beech trees. About a quarter mile away is the Pine Grove. This iconic, man-made forest features approximately one thousand eastern white pines (*Pinus strobus*), evenly spaced in rows 10 or 15 feet apart. By analyzing the deposition data here, we can gain insight into how local deposition patterns change in response to the surrounding tree canopy. We found that, compared to our non-throughfall site at Kenyon's athletic fields (about one mile away as the crow flies), pollutant concentrations were elevated in both deciduous and evergreen forests, and even more so at the evergreen site. Although interesting in itself, this research served as a precursor to the full-time research I would later conduct at the BFEC.

Building on our spring research, Heindel and I spent the summer collecting dust samples from an expanded network of sites, creating a rough transect from Gambier to Columbus. Our goal was to determine how trees improve local air quality in urban and rural areas. Every week, returning from our sites in Columbus, we would trek up the familiar Fern Trail, collecting samples from the sites that started it all. Our results indicate that planting trees in urban areas may have a higher mitigation potential compared to rural areas where trees are more abundant, a finding with significant policy implications. With this kind of data, policy makers can better allocate limited resources to urban areas, where planting more trees could have a significant positive impact on human health.

This semester, we are continuing to collect samples at the BFEC, marking our first semester of gathering throughfall deposition data during autumn. I will also expand on our summer research findings during my senior capstone project, the magnum opus of my undergraduate career. For this project, I will use remote sensing to evaluate the tree canopy structure at our Columbus site.

This research, which has had such a meaningful impact on my time at Kenyon, was fostered by the BFEC's commitment to academic engagement. In 1991, Ray Heithaus '68, professor emeritus of environmental studies and biology, planted the Pine Grove as an area for ecological research. From the very beginning, the project was student-focused, with student volunteers planting the trees. Heithaus continued to use the Pine Grove as a research venue for his classes for years to come. Our atmospheric deposition research is continuing the remarkable legacy that he started.

Looking back to my freshman year, I can't help but notice how full circle my connection to the BFEC has been. Starting as a source of comfort, the BFEC has evidently touched all aspects of my Kenyon life, professionally, academically and personally. The BFEC's presence facilitated my path to research, a fact I will carry with me as I pursue environmental research post-graduation. I'm excited to see what the BFEC's research future holds and how students will continue to benefit from the unique space offered to them.



Precipitation collectors in the BFEC's Pine Grove help Assistant Professor Ruth Heindel and her lab students measure nitrogen pollution and particulate matter in rainfall.

Photo: Annabelle Hicks '26

Tree of Heaven

BY WILL PRITCHARD '25, BFEC POST-BACCALAUREATE FELLOW

Don't let the name fool you. Tree of heaven is often referred to as the "tree of hell" by gardeners and land managers. How can such a pretty tree be not ... well, heavenly?

Originating from China, tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) was brought over to the U.S. in the late 18th century. Desired for its aesthetic appeal, shade provision, rapid growth, and resistance to insects and disease, this tree was often used in urban planning. Its introduction also provided a food source for the silkworm, which was imported simultaneously. While the silkworm didn't take root in the U.S., tree of heaven certainly did with overwhelming success.

According to the Gotham Center for New York City History, it was tree of heaven that inspired Betty Smith's 1943 semi-autobiographical novel, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," which tells the story of a family's resilience and ability to overcome adversity. The tree of heaven that grew just outside their apartment building was used as a symbol of that resilience. In the book, no matter how many times the tree was cut down, it kept coming back. While providing a lovely metaphor in the context of this story, this tree's resilience has led to it becoming one of the worst invasive species in both urban and rural America.

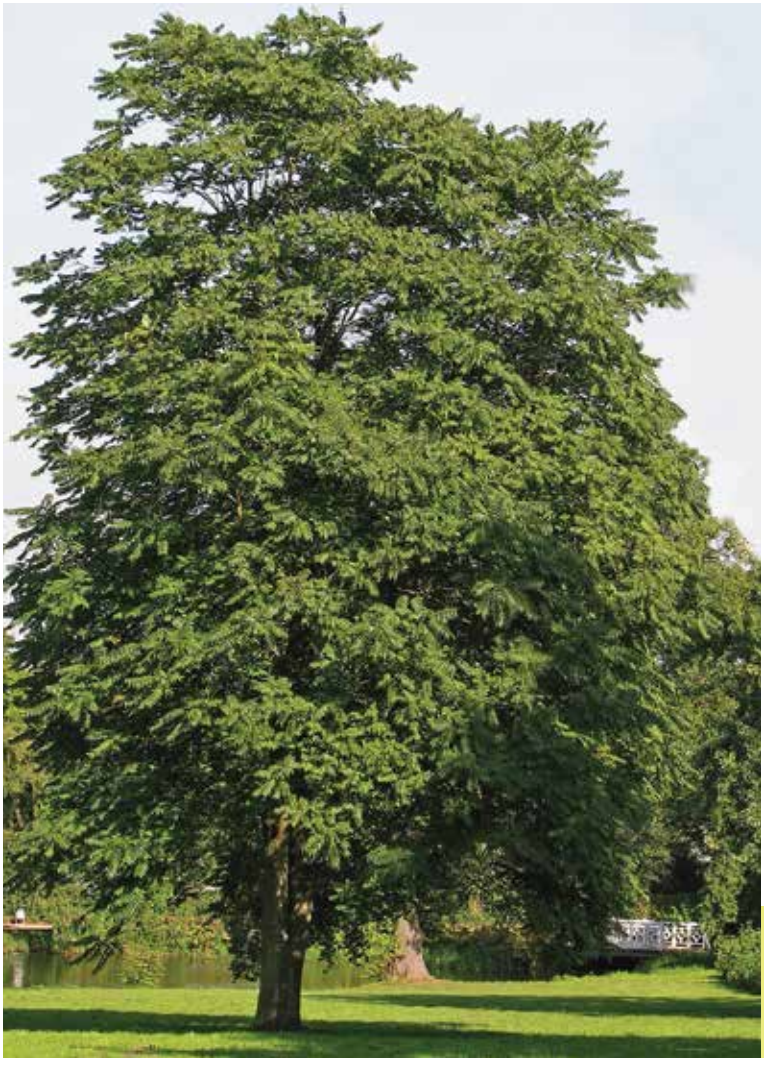


Photo: Wikimedia Commons

The tree of heaven can grow 80 feet tall and up to six feet in diameter.

HEAVENLY HEIGHT

Tree of heaven grows up to 80 feet tall and six feet in diameter and can grow to even greater heights in its native habitat in China. The tree's common name comes from its colossal height, a play on the idea that it is tall enough to reach the heavens. It has the largest pinnately compound leaves of any tree in Ohio, ranging from one to three feet in length. Its leaves initially emerge bronze-colored in the spring and swiftly develop into a vibrant, deep green. They can be mistaken for the leaves on black walnut trees, as they are both pinnately compound. However, tree of heaven leaflets have smooth edges, while black walnut leaflets have small serrations along the margins. The same is true for sumac and mockernut hickory, two other visually similar species. An easier marker is the interesting aroma that is secreted when the leaflets are crushed: they emit a smell frequently described as burned peanut butter or wet gym socks, while no native tree species in Ohio emits such an odor.

Both male and female trees produce green-white flowers, with male flowers producing an unpleasant odor and female ones emitting no smell. The flowers are very high pollen producers and can contribute to allergies in early summer. The female trees produce fruits, which are green, yellow, orange or red in the summer and turn beige in the fall through winter. They disperse their tiny seeds in early spring. Female trees produce a whopping 300,000 to 1,000,000 wind-dispersed seeds in a year, and the seeds can travel as far as 200 meters away. If they alight in a river or stream, they can go much farther.

One of the few limitations of tree of heaven is that it is largely unable to grow in shaded forests. However, seeds that don't initially germinate are viable in the seed bank for five or more years. If a large tree falls in the forest, opening the canopy, tree of heaven easily outgrows the surrounding native tree species and quickly creates a dense thicket that shades the ground, overcrowding anything else that might grow nearby. Additionally, it releases toxic chemicals into the ground, called allelopathic chemicals, that inhibit growth or kill other species that may compete for space and resources. Outside of the forest, tree of heaven thrives in full-sun areas, such as abandoned parking lots or steep hillsides where nothing else can typically grow.

CONTROL AND REMOVAL

One might hope that simply cutting down a tree of heaven would stop its spread, but it only makes the problem worse. The tree responds to its felling by sending up myriad root suckers and stump sprouts as far as 50 feet away from the parent tree. Young seedlings can be pulled by hand, but their entire root system must be removed, or the tree will persist and sprout again. Seedlings can be confused with root suck-

Urban Survivors
The tree of heaven's hardy, invasive nature allows them to grow in tough conditions, including this urban street in Pfaffenhofen, Germany.

ers, which are nearly impossible to pull by hand, as they are connected to the mature root system.

To control and remove an established Tree of Heaven, an herbicide must be applied to the foliage, bark or cuts in the stem. This should be done during the middle or end of summer when the tree is moving carbohydrates to the roots for the winter. This means the herbicide will be taken below ground, damaging the root system. If applied during a different time of year, only the above-ground growth is damaged, resulting in persistent regrowth in future seasons. Herbicide must be applied for multiple years to ensure all new growth is halted and the root system is dead, making management a long-term, tedious process. In urban areas, the roots can grow so rapidly and forcefully that they damage building foundations, sewers, and other integral infrastructure. Ideally, then, tree of heaven is removed at its very early stages of growth, when the taproot can be fully dug out by hand without the need for herbicides.

Beyond controlling existing populations of tree of heaven, legal action has been taken to contribute to efforts to minimize its spread. As of February 13, 2023, the Ohio Department of Agriculture made it illegal to sell, import or intentionally cause the spread of tree of heaven, along with over 60 other invasive species. A person is allowed to dispose of, control or use tree of heaven for educational purposes as long as it does not contribute to the spread of the species.

Additionally, efforts are being made to use tree of heaven as a way to combat the overtaking of the spotted lanternfly, as it is the invasive pest's preferred food source. First, professionals remove the seed-spreading female trees. Then, insecticide is applied to the leftover males in late summer, poisoning all the spotted lanternflies that eat it. The treated male trees are then removed before spring so they will not harm other insects. Additional methods are being tested by scientists to use tree of heaven to trap the spotted lanternfly, limiting the bug's spread and maintaining biodiversity. Another way this tree's power may be harnessed is by collecting the allelopathic chemicals it produces. They can be tactfully used as a natural weed killer or to prevent the growth of other invasive species, which would benefit all of us and our ecosystems' biodiversity.

While scientists in the U.S. have been able to find some positive uses for this tree, the tree does not live up to its lofty name. It grows and spreads rapidly, it inhibits the growth of other species, it's terribly difficult to properly remove, and it emits a vile smell. It's no wonder this tree is more aptly referred to as the tree of hell.

If you suspect a tree of heaven might be growing in your backyard — or anywhere, for that matter — contact a professional to remove it, or strap in for the long road ahead of removing it yourself. Just know we're right there with you here at the BFEC.

Close Resemblance
The leaves of the tree of heaven (left) are often confused with those of the black walnut (right). Note, however, the small serrations that distinguish the margins of black walnut leaflets.

Photos: Wikimedia Commons

Photos: Simone Martel '27

Fall Highlights at the BFEC

How quickly the seasons change! During fall 2025, the BFEC hosted a robust series of events, with community members and students exploring the grounds from the final days of summer through the first snow in December.

On September 13, attendees explored prairie wildflowers on a guided prairie hike led by poet Terry Hermsen. The annual Fall Harvest Festival on October 18, during the College's Family Weekend, featured live music, a petting zoo, apple bobbing, and more. And, on Decmber 6, runners braved the cold in the Reindeer Run, a 5K hosted by the BFEC and the Kenyon Run Club.

Photos: James DeCamp

Photo: Farol Seretean '27

Privet and Japanese Barberry: BFEC's Big Challenge

BY SHANE MCGUIRE, LAND MANAGER AND JOSH BERGMAN '25, ASSISTANT LAND MANAGER

It's no secret that the BFEC has its share of invasive plants, ranging from small shrubs to tall trees. If you walk the fern trail frequently, you may have noticed two invasive plants thriving in that area: Japanese barberry and privet. Both of these plants were brought to the U.S. in the late 1800s as ornamentals. Japanese barberry has striking orange-red berries in the fall, and privet has attractive and fragrant flowers in the spring. But both plants have become widespread invasives which have taken over forest understories throughout Ohio and eastern U.S. The BFEC faces a serious challenge trying to manage these plants.

Privet (*Ligustrum spp.*), like most invasive plants, uses multiple strategies to out-compete native understory plants. It grows, reproduces and uses resources like light and nutrients from the soil faster and more efficiently than most native species. Privet produces an abundance of seeds, many of which are eaten and then spread by birds, and some of which fall directly onto the forest floor. Eventually, it forms dense thickets that block the sunlight from reaching lower growing native plants. If cut or manually removed, suckers will quickly develop on the roots or stumps left in the ground. This also contributes to the creation of thickets.

Photos: Wikimedia Commons

The leaves of privet contain protective compounds that deter herbivory from insects and mammals. In addition, they are one of the first plants to leaf out in the spring and one of the last plants to drop their leaves in early winter. They also uptake water and nutrients very quickly. These are all added advantages that allow the plant to grow faster than many natives.

Finally, privet can grow in a variety of conditions — they are not as picky as some of our native plants. They thrive in full sun but also tolerate shade, and they survive in various soil conditions.

Like privet, Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) uses some of the same strategies to bully our native species. They, too, create large monoculture thickets. In the case of barberry, these thickets create an environment of high humidity that favors disease-carrying ticks.

The short, fine thorns that grow on the branches prevent deer browsing, forcing our too-large deer population to turn to native flora. Barberry drops its leaves in the late fall, and the leaf litter that is left behind alters the soil chemistry and creates an environment that is not tolerable to most native plants.

These invasive plants can also be harmful to wildlife. More and more research is being done to study how non-native berries impact birds. Birds rely on a wide variety of food sources, and many of their native food sources are crowded out by privet and barberry. Research out of New England has shown that birds prefer native berries to non-native berries, but when native food sources become scarce, birds turn to privet and barberry.

Making matters worse, non-native berries are not nearly as nutritionally desirable as native berries. Research shows that non-native berries are high in carbohydrates, whereas native berries are usually higher in protein and lipids (fats). When birds eat the non-native berries, they're basically eating junk food. This could negatively impact birds' health and fitness, particularly during fall migration.

The strategies used by privet and barberry allow these plants to easily out-compete our natives until eventually, the entire forest understory consists only of these plants (with some multiflora rose thrown into the mix). This greatly decreases our forest biodiversity, resulting in a vulnerable ecosystem that doesn't support much wildlife.

As you hike the BFEC trails, you may notice areas that look a bit bare in the understory. This is the result of our attempts to fight back against privet and barberry. Our goal is to reduce the number of invasives and reintroduce native flora to our forests. While enhancing biodiversity, we hope to reduce the number of ticks on the property, making our woodland trails safer for visitors and wildlife.

Deceptively Pretty
Despite their apparent beauty, Japanese barberry (top) and privet — long popular plants in cultivation — wreak havoc on local ecosystems due to their invasive nature.

BFEC Welcomes New Staff Member

BY NOELLE JORDAN, BFEC DIRECTOR

In spring 2025, the BFEC received a generous gift to fund a new position at the Brown Family Environmental Center. In October, after a competitive application and interview process, Brandon Good was offered the position of assistant director for academic and community programming.

Brandon originally hails from Pennsylvania but has lived in central Ohio for eight years. After 14 years of offering innovative informal education programming at The Wilds and then the Columbus Zoo, Brandon is excited to join the BFEC and Kenyon communities. "I'm thrilled to join this community, where experiential learning is central to our shared values. I'm inspired to help others connect with the natural world, reflect on their experiences, and use those insights to shape their paths and the world around them," he said.

With an M.A. in education and a B.S. in biology, Brandon brings the perfect mix of science and education knowledge to this position. As the title suggests, Brandon will be interacting with Kenyon classes and curating our suite of public programs. During his first month on the job, I was able to observe him working with elementary and middle school students. He is a masterful and intuitive educator who can quickly and easily build a rapport with his audience. As we consider upcoming programs, his first focus has been to solicit feedback from many of our constituents to ensure our program offerings match their expectations.

Brandon will be supervising and mentoring our student workers during the academic year, and our post-baccalaureate fellow (a recent Kenyon graduate) year-round. For these skills, he will pull from his extensive training in leadership and career development. After attending a meeting with him and our current student workers, I was thrilled with his student-focused approach. I am certain he will gracefully and adeptly support them to make the most of their experiences at the BFEC.

This spring, Brandon will dive into the academic support and will work closely with faculty to ensure their class visits at the BFEC are meaningful and engaging.

Next time you're in the area, stop in and introduce yourself to Brandon.

Upcoming Programs and Events

We are constantly updating our program listing. For details about upcoming programs (central Ohio fossils, native bees and more), check the BFEC website at bfec.kenyon.edu. Here is a smattering of future offerings.

Himalayan Bowls and Chanting

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 10:30 A.M. OR 1:30 P.M. (TWO SESSIONS AVAILABLE)

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 very relaxing, transcendent experience of vibration and sound. Dr. Bazzoli will chant a blend of Native American sounds, the OM chant (the universal chant), the dragon chant and the Snow Mountain chant. Cost: $20 adults. $10 students. Reserve your spot: schutte1@kenyon.edu.

Art Exhibit and Artist Reception

EXHIBIT OPEN JANUARY 31 THROUGH MAY 16
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2 – 4 P.M.

Enjoy an expansive display of wool rugs by multiple local artists. The exhibit, "From Fleece to Rug: An Exhibit of Hooked Wool Rugs from Local Artists," features rugs that capture compelling nature themes. All pieces are for sale. The exhibit can be viewed any time the Resource Center is open. On January 31, come out to meet the artists. They will be available to talk about their rugs and demonstrate the process used to create them. Meet in the Resource Center.

Family Nature Quest

SATURDAYS IN FEBRUARY, 10:30 A.M.

Our engaging Family Nature Quest programs will return in February. Each Saturday, families will explore different seasonal nature themes.

Photos: Dannie Lane '22

Donors and Volunteers

SUMMER AND FALL 2025

Kenyon provides financial support to the BFEC, but it is largely through the generosity of volunteers and donors that the center has been able to grow. We are indebted to the following individuals, groups, and businesses for recent donations of time, materials, and funding. If you would like to make a gift or volunteer for a project, please call the BFEC at 740-427-5053.

LIFETIME

Allan Bazzoli M.D.
Geoffrey and Lori Brown
Margo de Camp and David Marietta
John and Abbe Cheek
Avram Cooperman, in memory of Jeff Cooperman and in honor of David Cooperman
Peter Glassman
Cornelia and Robert Hallinan
Doug and Dianne Mack
Richard Mulligan
David and Kim Newell
Evelyn Newell
Margaret Newell via the Minigowin Fund
Martha Newell
Peter Newell
Leslie Sude and Paul Wang
Alex and Karen Valchuk

BENEFACTOR

James Hofferberth and Marita King
Joseph and Kimberlee Klesner

PATRON

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Robert and Michelle Kozel
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Neil and Christine Mortine
Dumont Jones and Joan Muellerleile
Miriam Dean-Otting and Charles Otting
Robert and Anna Duke Reach
Pamela Diane Rivers in honor of Lucille (Lucy) Richardson
Douglas Downey and Maureen Tobin
Jack Train
Dennis and Pat Tuttle
Ian and Charlotte Watson

FRIEND

Rikki Barton
Jay Dorsey and Beth Waller
Ree Metcalf and James Dunham
Karen Ann (Combs) Fields
James M. Garman
Shawna Gehres
Christopher and Kathy Gillen
David Greer
Stanley Holmes and Caroline Detmer
Steve Houck
Joan and William Heiser
Ray and Pat Heithaus
Noelle Jordan
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Alyssa and Jonathan Lawrence
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John Moffitt
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Susan Moore
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Stephen Schneider
Lisa and Stuart Schott
Jennifer Seely
Bryon Thomas and Rebecca Reimbold
Steve and Amy Vogt
Joseph Adler and Ruth Woehr

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Sarah DeCamp and Mitchell Buller
Tracey Dujakovich
Bob Gibson
Nina Hamilton
Barbara Croft Hane
Kristin Knopf
Chelsea Menke
Laura Paul
Susan Brent Smith
Halvor Henning Burn Suter
Michael Sweazey
Sandra Tefs
Zachary Weber
Laura Whalen
John Dixon Wiener
Emily Zeller

INDIVIDUAL

Madeleine C. Morgan
Richard Salmon
Orchid Tierney

STUDENT

Anna Bammerlin
Suzanne Crow
Myra Douglas
John Hammond
Annette Laing
Christine and Jay Laymon
Anna Lee and John Lillig
Anthony Magera
Cameron Ulrich Schwendener

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Libby Wright, Glen Hill Orchards: *Apples for the Fall Harvest Festival*

Stanley Holmes and Caroline Detmer: *Monocular for birding*

Photo: James DeCamp

VOLUNTEERS

Since July, our dedicated volunteers have removed invasive species, planted trees, cared for our gardens, helped clean up the Kokosing River, provided trail maintenance, monitored our bluebird trails, led elementary field trips, worked at our Fall Harvest Festival and so much more. Collectively, they volunteered over 490 hours. WOW! Thank you so much! (Unless otherwise indicated, our volunteers are Kenyon students):

Dasha Aminia
Jordan Anderson, MVHS student
Clemmie Anzalone
Micah Arenstein
Marina Bardon
Saige Beck
Violet Beck
Kate Bogan
Khloe Bradley, MVHS student
Katherine Brown, community member
Lily Campbell-Lehtinen
Emma Cashell
Sofia Chaves
Allison Christin, MVHS student
Naomi Damelin
Noah Dean
Yida Du
Miles Fawcett, MVHS student
Jim Featherstone, community member
Maya Ferguson
Cooper Ferguson, MVHS student
Julius Gabelberger
Grace Galligan
Yoni Garcia, MVHS student
Sadie Gilison
Sala Glandon, MVHS student
Grey Glandon, community member
PJ Glandon, community member
Nika Glorius, MVHS student
Lily Grace, MVHS student
Brooklyn Grohe, MVHS student
Grace Guiley
Mays Gunderson
Dick Hall, community member
Avery Hancock
Inna Hardnock, MVHS student
Julia Harrington
Paul Helser, community member
Charles Hickman
Brodie Hufnagel, MVHS student
Kris Hunter
Rob Hunter
Zhuocheng Jiang
Adrian Jordan
Elias Kradel
Abby Kyle
Payton Lamb, MVHS student
Iris Landers
June Landry, Granville HS student
Elizabeth Lebold, MVHS student
Adam Leider
Everett Lethem
Zady Lucas
Ellie Mack
Poppy Magee
Margot Manning
Anna Markwardt
Simone Martel
Emily Marton
Cameron McCaleb
Violet McFarlane
Sofia Montano
Bryce Moretti
Brianna Mortimer
Georgia Morton
Natalie Murphy
Felix Nash
Jon Oakes
Iman Odiah
Ella Olsen Richman
Abby Potter
Asher Prady
Isabel Proznitz
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Larry Reed, community member
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Milly Roman
Natalie Rosati
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Veronica Shaheen
Teddy Shaw
Lizzie Shull, MVHS student
Tuva Siegel
Billy Smith
Ona Stacovaz
Cynthia Stevens
Printis Stevens
Zaeda Stiles
Vivian Suh
Ellie Tan
Erin Teal
Kellan Thompson, Granville HS student
Laurie Thompson, community member
Lily Thomson
Audrey Tooley
Nic Unwala
Lia Wahl
Kimberly Walker, MVHS student
Lillie Waltz
Mark Wang
Lucie Weeber
Abraham Weiss
Mandy Welsh, community member
Blake Whitter, Granville HS student
Rebecca Whitter, community member
Chloie Wilson
Sara Yanelli
Daniel Ybarbo
Ivy Zink

Our volunteers and programs make our events, including our annual Fall Harvest Festival, possible.

Brown Family Environmental Center
Kenyon

kenyon.edu/bfec | 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

Josh Bergman '25, *Seasonal Assistant Land Manager*
Brandon Good, *Assistant Director for Programming*
Terri Hieronimus, *Seasonal Gardener*
Will Pritchard '25, *Post-Baccalaureate Fellow*
Bonnie Schutte, *Administrative Assistant*
Shane McGuire, *Land Manager Naturalist*
Noelle Jordan, *Director*

Celebrating 30 Years of Growth

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL HELP US KEEP GROWING OVER THE NEXT 30 YEARS AND BEYOND.

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.**

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST)

ADDRESS

CITY | STATE | ZIP/POSTAL CODE | COUNTRY

PHONE | EMAIL ADDRESS

Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law. Kenyon College is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Membership level:

- ☐ Student $20
- ☐ Individual $35
- ☐ Family $50
- ☐ Friend $100
- ☐ Patron $250
- ☐ Benefactor $1,000
- ☐ Lifetime $2,500+

☐ My check, payable to Kenyon College, is enclosed
Amount enclosed: _____
Mail to: BFEC, P.O. Box 508, Gambier, Ohio 43022

To pay by credit card, visit **gift.kenyon.edu**.