

Special Programs

Envirothon: The Envirothon is an environmental competition which tests students' knowledge on soils, wildlife, forestry, aquatics, and a current environmental issue. Currently there are three Envirothon Divisions: Elementary - Grades 4 & 5; Middle School - Grades 6-8; and High School - Grades 9-12. Identification of PA animals, animal tracks, fish, aquatic insects, bird calls, and more provide a hands-on learning experience for all ages. Students are also challenged to find solutions to environmental problems and evaluate habitats and the creatures that live there. To register your team, contact LCCD at 272-3908, extension 4.

Teacher Workshops: Helping you meet Act 48, professional development, and the Environment & Ecology Standards

- **Curriculum Earth** (a.k.a. **REEP**) - A K-12 environmental curriculum consisting of one manual per grade level. Each unit focuses on one ecological concept and contains sequentially organized lessons that lead students to personal action. Inservice training and manuals are available through LCCD. If you're looking for a good EE curriculum to help meet the new standards, this is certainly one to consider.
- **Ag-Citing Food, Land & People** - A 3-credit graduate level course(37.5 hrs) from Millersville University is held annually at Milton Hershey. The 5-day course is geared for teachers K-8 and is packed with hands-on, ag-related lessons, activities and field trips. An off-shoot of **Ag In The Classroom**, this course focuses more on ready-to-use lessons for the classroom. In addition to the **Food, Land & People** manual, you will also receive **Project Learning Tree**.
- **Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, Project Food, Land & People** - LCCD is a facilitator for all of these programs. A 6-8 hour workshop will provide participants with hands-on activities related to wildlife, forestry, or agriculture. There is no cost for the manual and workshops can be held as an inservice, evenings or weekends.

Other District Programs:

- The Conservation District is involved in numerous other educational programs in an effort to inform the public about **Farmland Preservation, Gypsy Moth Spraying, Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control, Biosolids, Dirt & Gravel Roads, Nutrient Management and Act 6, as well as Groundwater Protection and Cost-Share Programs** to install Best Management Practices (e.g. streambank fencing, riparian buffers, manure storages, grassed waterways, terraces, etc.). For more information about these programs and speakers, call 272-3908, ext. 4.

A nominal fee will be charged to all groups ranging from \$25-\$50, depending on group size, location and length of program. Please call for a fee schedule. 07/04

Lebanon County Conservation District Environment & Ecology Program Brochure



Serving Your Environmental Needs

Aquatic Study: Explore the many wonders of water as we search for critters and identify who they are and the role they play in the aquatic ecosystem. From general exploration to water chemical testing, this outdoor program can be conducted for any age group at any nearby pond or stream. Outdoors (Materials Fee) (1-1.5 hrs)

Animals of Pennsylvania: Get personal with Pennsylvania's Black bear, White-tailed deer, Gray fox, and other animals as you learn about each animal's habitat, what they eat, how they protect themselves, and unique characteristics that help them to survive. Indoors - Grades 2-5 (45-60 min)



Animal Adaptations: With some simple household tools and a few mounted animals, we'll explore differences and unique traits and characteristics which help these animals survive. Learn how color, shape, mobility, and habitat all play a role in survival and an animal's population. Indoors - Grades 4-7. (1 hr.)

WILD Activities: Humans have a direct impact on the environment and the animals that live near us. Join us as we illustrate the effects of pesticides in food chains, basic habitat needs, and predator/prey relationships. A large, open area is required. Activities from Project WILD. Outdoors Grades 3-8. (1 - 1.5 hrs.)

Sensory Walk: Learning about and developing an appreciation for nature is best accomplished through hands-on discovery and observation. Join us outdoors for "a Penny Hike", "Rainbow Hike" and/or a "Tea Party". A variety of fun "hikes" allows for exploration and helps build sensory awareness. Targeted for Ages 4-8, but good for all ages to help us "tune in" to our surroundings. (45 min - 1.5 hrs.)

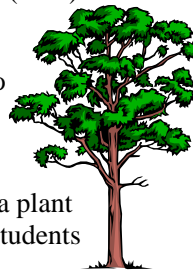
Trees Are Terrific: A few trees is all you need as students "adopt a tree" and investigate the relationships between their tree and other living things. Create a small portfolio of your tree, learn the six plant parts, and list the many benefits of trees. Indoor/Outdoor - Grades 1-4. (1-1.5 hrs.)

Reading the Rings: By acting out the parts of a tree, students will be able to describe the general structure of a tree how it works. Later, we will look at the cross-section of a tree and investigate patterns, growth rates, environmental factors and more. Indoors - Grades 4- 9. (45-60 min.)

Tree Identification: Students will learn to identify trees using a simple key, identify the different parts of a tree, and the many benefits trees provide. This program may be expanded to tree measurements of height, diameter and board feet. Indoors & Outdoors- Grades 2-adult. (1 hr.)

"Leaf" it to Plants: Tour the inside of a leaf and learn the process of photosynthesis. Using ping-pong balls to simulate molecules, students learn the necessary ingredients to make the plant's food, what the plant's by-product is, and various benefits of plants. Food chains are also introduced. Indoors - Grades 4-5. (45-60 min.)

Six Plant Parts: Dressed as a big leaf, the naturalist teaches students the six parts of a plant and the function of each part. A catchy tune with motions helps students remember. Students also sample six edible plant parts. Indoors - Grades 1-3. (40 - 60 min.)



On-Site Farm Tour: Agriculture is the number one industry in Lebanon County and we depend on the agricultural community for our food and clothing. Tour a local farm and learn about different agricultural operations (i.e. dairy, hog, poultry, food, etc.), what it takes to plant, grow and harvest crops, and how we use these agricultural products in our daily lives. Grades 3-12. (2-3 hrs.)



On-Site Christmas Tree Tour: Tour Strack's Tree Farm outside of Myerstown. Learn about the different types of evergreens through investigation of needle length, color, tree shape, and touch. Tag a Christmas tree for your school, if you wish. All trees \$25. Grades K-3. Seasonal (Nov/Dec). (1 hr.)

What Makes A Bird A Bird?: With the aid of a few mounted birds, learn the key characteristics in what makes a bird a bird and not a mammal or reptile. We'll observe their unique features and discuss its function. A relay game is used to test the students' knowledge and understanding of bird features. Indoors - Grades 2-5. (40-60 min.)

Getting To Know Your Soil Survey: Soil surveys reveal many aspects about the land; what soils are best for crops, septic tanks, landfills, housing developments, trees, and more. Learn how to read your county soil survey and how different types of soils effect land use. Indoors - Grades 9-adult. (1 hr.)

Don't Drink the Water: Students simulate the actions of a typical community using the "EnviroScape" model in order to see how our actions impact ground- and surface water. We'll discuss and implement ways to reduce point and non-point source pollution on the EnviroScape model. (40 - 75 min.)

Mapping Mania: With original USGS Topographic maps of Lebanon County, students will identify various map features, learn how to read contour lines to understand elevation, use basic math skills to measure distances and define watersheds, and describe basic land uses. Indoors - Grades 4-9. (45 min.)

Outdoor Camping Tips: What do you need to pack to have a fun, safe, successful camping trip? Some helpful hints, tips, and equipment are used to provide students with an overview of outdoor camping. Indoors/Outdoors - Grades 3-adult (1-1.5 hrs.)

Lost In The Woods: Students are introduced to some basic compass and mapping skills. A course is then designed for your students to utilize a compass & the skills they've learned. Grades 8-12 and adult.

Library Resources: LCCD has a wide variety of videos, curriculum and activity books, resource material, soil kits, identification books, environmental songs (on tape & CD), and skits your students can model. All are available on a one-week loan basis. **Videos** include: *TOAST, People-A Solution To Pollution, YaketyYak-Take It Back, It's Happening Today On The Chesapeake Bay, Water Follies, What About Tomorrow, On the Trail of PA's Black Bear, 12 Green Works for PA* with individual topics of Watersheds, Pollution Prevention, Recycling, Energy Efficiency, Air Quality, and more), *Sinkholes, Stormwater Mgt., Crop Residue Mgt., Managing Manure Storage Ponds, Manure Application Rate & Timing,* and *Storm Sewers Don't Go To The Sewer Plant.*

