



Chesnet is here

The Eastern Shore water quality monitoring program, Chesnet, began four years ago in Dorchester County. It now encompasses nine counties in Maryland. Secondary students monitor water quality of a nearby river every two weeks during the school year, and send the results by modem to Annapolis as part of the METNET program.

Cecil County's seventh graders in all six middle schools will monitor all nine of our watersheds. They will perform physical, chemical and biological tests to evaluate stream health.

We are testing only the main streams of the North East, Principio, Octoraro, Big Elk, Little Elk, Bohemia, C & D Canal and Sassafra. Data will be collected at the Center and sent by modem to Annapolis at one time. The Chesapeake Bay Trust has provided the grant for the test kits and the computer.



Covered bridge spans the Big Elk Creek adjacent to the Fair Hill Nature & Environmental Center. Drawing by Geraldine McKeown.

We need adult volunteers to back up the students as stream monitors during the summer months and/or to take water samples to some of the schools every 2 weeks. There will be a volunteer training program at the Center on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 9 A.M.

Let the sun shine in! Into the woods

Solarium with a view

The wasps are gone. The swallows don't fly in the door any more; and the slate patio behind the Nature Center is now covered by a new greenhouse porch.

Dale Nowland of Nowland Associates, in Newark, Delaware, has generously donated both the materials from his warehouse and the crew to build the new porch. This new indoor/outdoor classroom should be completed before the first school children arrive at the Nature Center on September 5.

Mr Nowland is a resident of nearby Pennsylvania. He has a special fondness for the Fair Hill site because his ancestors were among the first to live in that area.

The new porch is 13 feet by 38 feet, built on a slate covered foundation where an earlier greenhouse once stood. The entire south wall is covered by windows with a special energy efficient glass. Ceiling fans move warm air in the Spring and Fall, and the walls and

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Curriculum plans final

The elementary science curriculum committee met in Fair Hill at the Center for a week in June to write the Nature Center curriculum for grades K-5. Each elementary school teacher will receive a copy of the curriculum before school begins.

Dr. Arlene Graziano and her team of teachers planned these themes for each grade:

K— Scales and Tails - rehab.

for injured animals;

1— How the Wild Things Grow -

see Curriculum page 3

Board members are approved

The first Board of Directors meeting was held on June 25th at 7:00 p.m. Bylaws and the logo were the main topics of discussion.

The second Board meeting was held on August 6th at 7:00 p.m. Eleven bylaws were approved and are available for anyone to see in the Center. Michael Scibinico has guided the bylaws committee through this difficult task.

Fair Hill Environmental Foundation, board members include:

Ralph Young, president, foundation founder and member of the Chesapeake Bay Clean-up Campaign; **Dan Brower**, manager of the Fair Hill Natural Resources

Management Area for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources; **Linda Bystrak**, director of the Fair Hill Nature and Environmental Center and Foundation secretary; **Jerry L. Kunkle**, superintendent of Cecil County public schools; **John McCarley**, current Cecil County administrator; **Robert Noll**, vice president of Peoples Bank and Foundation treasurer; **Michael Scibinico**, lawyer with experience in environmental law; **F. Grove Miller**, retired farmer; **Bill Lucas**, environmental officer for Thiokol and Pennsylvania resident; **Reid Cameron**, retired independent businessman; **Peter Wood**, developer and owner of Peninsula In-

dustrial Park, Inc.; **Robert Jones**, environmental consultant and vice president of Fred Ward Associates Environmental Sciences; **Arlene Graziano**, co-chairwoman of Cecilpeake and supervisor of elementary education for Cecil County public schools; **Edward Plumstead**, educational advisor and owner of Plumpton Park Zoo; **Betty Salmon-Wilk**, graphic designer, membership and newsletter coordinator; **Linda Kleiner**, events and fund raising coordinator and volunteer with the Cecil County Business and Education Advisory Council; **Virginia Fleming**, teaching aides and trails coordinator, and Newark, Delaware science teacher.

Sunshine

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metal roof are well insulated for cold weather protection. Extra electrical outlets have been installed to provide for efficient lighting and the use of 15 microscopes. Our thanks to Reid Cameron for directing this project.

Dedication celebration

A dedication ceremony for the new porch and to honor Mr. Nowland's contribution will be held on September 16 (rain date: September 23) from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. A brief membership meeting will precede the dedication ceremony. Guided nature hikes on the trails and a video tape about the Center are also planned.

All members and their families are invited to attend and are asked to bring a friend or another family who might like to join us in the Foundation. Refreshments will be served.

Everyone is reminded to park in the field before and to the left of the red covered bridge.

If you plan to attend the dedication and would like to bring a dozen or so cookies, please phone and let us know: 398-4909 until 5 p.m. or 398-9146 in the evening.

NEW PORCH

Fair Hill Nature & Environmental Center

Designed, constructed, furnished building materials

NOWLAND ASSOCIATES, INC.
Newark, Delaware

Electrical Work

GALLOWAY ELECTRIC CO., INC.
Newark, Delaware

Exhaust fan

MERIT MECHANICAL CO., INC.
Newark, Delaware

Roofing material

STAR MANUFACTURING CO.
H.H. ROBERTSON STAR CO.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Painting

BELL PAINTING
Elkton, Maryland

SLOW DOWN!

All members are reminded to drive **15 M.P.H.** while in Fair Hill. There are **THREE NEW SPEED BUMPS** to keep us from forgetting this!

Fair Hill Nature & Environmental Center habitats

Editor, Designer
Betty Salmon-Wilk

Associate Editor
Linda Bystrak

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tion under Internal Revenue Service law.

Reservations are required.

(301) 398-4909



Foxy logo

Helene Kedziora of Chesapeake City has won our logo contest. Ms. Kedziora is a teacher at Cecilton



Elementary School.

Her prizes are a \$50 savings bond and a one year membership to the Fair Hill Environmental Foundation. She has accepted the gift membership, and is donating the savings bond to the Foundation. Thanks so much for your creativity and donation!

Curriculum

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basic needs

2— **Critters, Critters, Critters**

3— **How to Have a Habitat** - food chain

4— **Secret Inhabitants of the Watershed** - aquatic studies

5— **Lean on Me** - ecosystems.

PATRONS

Fair Hill Environmental Foundation, Inc.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to all of those who have made large contributions to the Foundation since Earth Day, 1990. Without your generous support we would not be here.

INDIVIDUALS: Peter Wood • Reid and Ruth Cameron • Patricia duPont • Anthony Graziano • James Crothers • Ross and Cathy Cameron • Caroline duPont • Allaire duPont • Ralph Young • Henry Davis • Harlan Williams • James Julian • Grove Miller

BUSINESSES: Nowland Associates • Westinghouse • ICI Americas • Chesapeake Lumber Co. • Builders Choice • Merit Mechanical • Galloway Electrical • Star Manufacturing • Deer Creek Fencing • Bell Painting

ORGANIZATIONS: Maryland Department of Natural Resources •

Wet & wild: marsh demo project

According to Maryland law, any marsh which is destroyed by road construction or by development must be replaced by creating a new wetland within the same county.

Cliff Bienko, district conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service, along with assistance from the Department of Natural Resources, has designed a demonstration wetland to be built in the horse pasture adjacent to the Nature Center.

The building of the 0.7 acre marsh will be documented on a *How To* video which will be shown to anyone who needs the information. This will be the *first man-made state of the art artificial*

marsh built in Maryland as a result of this law.

The marshland habitat is designed to be 2 1/2 feet deep at the deepest part with a nesting island in the middle. On one side of the marsh, millet will be planted. A wet woodland is on another side, and a butterfly garden on a third.

The marsh grasses will be taken from a marsh scheduled for destruction. The water level will be controlled by pipes connected to the Big Elk Creek nearby. Clay will come from a local clay pit.

Necessary state applications have been approved. Construction will begin in the Fall or Winter 1990-91.

New Employees

Julie Klapproth, Erlene Mischner, Holly Hannum and Janet Hokuf have been fingerprinted and checked out by the FBI! All public school teachers in Maryland must undergo a security check before they can teach, and that includes teachers for the Center.

They will begin work August 29th. The first of their 7,500 students will arrive on September 5th. They will each teach ten to fifteen students at a time. Students will visit for a half day, which includes time for a picnic.

Other employees include Betty Salmon-Wilk as our part time administrative assistant and computer specialist.

New spans

Eagle scouts build bridges

James Lynn of Boy Scout Troop 30 and Bob Elam of Troop 443 have

designed their footbridges and have received all the approvals for their projects. Our thanks to the boys, and to Builders Choice for donating all the wood for the bridge.

Pointing the way

The signs are finally up! On August 14th and 16th the signs went up on Route 273 advertising our location. The sign for the race track was replaced with our sign until the next race on September 29th when it will come down for a week. Then it will go up again until our new entrance road is built. It will then be moved to its permanent location.

Compute this!

It wasn't on the truck. The printer, scanner and modem have been gathering dust since June waiting for a computer. The computer, a Macintosh SE/30, finally arrived in August, over a month late!

Anyone wishing to donate Mac software or hardware to the Center should phone Betty Salmon-Wilk at 398-4909. or 398-0139 evenings.

Cecil County Commissioners
• Chesapeake Bay Trust • Upper Chesapeake Watershed Association
• Soil Conservation Service



habitat NetWork

Summer Visitors ---

- 4-H Natural Resources Club
- Boy Scout Troop 443
- Boy Scout Troop 30
- Cecil County Elementary Science Curriculum Committee
- Cecilpeake
- American Entomological Society
- Cecil County Senior Citizens
- Cecil County Arts Council
- Maryland Senate Budget Committee

Wish List -----

- 100 large trash bags
- Household tools
- Real stuffed animals - taxidermist
- 4 tape measures
- Natural history books
- Display cases
- A carpenter to make an observation bee hive
- Scissors for children
- Mailbox or basket for door
- 2 men and a truck to pick up and deliver our refrigerator
- Desk lamp

Help Wanted -----

Volunteers needed to help teach the **seventh grade water quality program** during the last two weeks of September. Training and liability insurance will be provided. Choice of half days or full days. Training session is scheduled for Sept. 11th. Phone 398-4909 A.S.A.P. for more information.

Water Quality

Anyone interested in water quality monitoring in Pennsylvania, phone us at (301) 398-4909.

Donations -----

Our thanks to:

- **Barbara O'Neill** for the books

--- CALENDAR ---

- Our next **membership meeting and dedication of the new porch** is scheduled for September 16 (September 23, raindate), 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Trail hikes and Nature Center tours are planned. Refreshments. Bring a friend!
- A **bird landing demonstration** will take place at Fair Hill. Danny Bystrak will be demonstrating how to catch birds in mist nets and tag them with aluminum leg bands. Be there any time between 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. on September 29th and 30th if you'd like to see how it is done.

and teaching aids she donated.

- **Mark Collins** for the long eared owl.
- **Kathy Lamb** for mowing the field behind the center.
- **Ken Carlson** for the aluminum can crusher.
- **Bill Parks** for the beautiful sign in front of the Center, some posters for our walls, and ten bird houses.
- **Millie Ludwig** for the posters.
- **Jerry Newman** for bird houses and other volunteer work.
- **Skip Stone** for replacing our sink and helping us with other plumbing problems.
- **Virginia Fleming** and her teaching aids committee have been very busy. **Sherri Brook** and **Janet Fallon** helped with posters. **Mike and Karen Leser** made terrariums. **Karl Bystrak** set up a fish tank.

Refreshments -----

Anyone willing to bake cookies,

Summer Events --

- The **American Entomological Society** sponsored an **Insect Field Day** on June 23rd. Our thanks to them for the 2 boxes of insects they left us.
- On August 9th the **Forestry Board** sponsored a talk by DNR naturalist Daniel Boone on "**Old Growth Forests**". Our thanks to the Forestry Board for hosting it at the Center and inviting everyone to attend.
- The **Save Our Streams** group from the western shore sponsored a workshop on August 18th from 10-2 at the Center. Thanks, S.O.S. for providing instructors, materials and moral support.

etc for special events at the Center should give us a call at 398-4909 to join the Refreshments committee.

Trail Volunteers: Thank You -----

Judy Klapproth • Jack Lynn • James Lynn • Paul Bystrak • Bill Parks • Betty Salmon-Wilk • Cavan Wilk • Bob & Janet Fallon & sons • John Kievit

Unidentified -----

If you have not yet received your membership card, call the center at 398-4909 and let us know.

SPONSORS NEEDED

The Center is looking for sponsors for two of its programs.

The third grade curriculum needs \$900 worth of materials. The fourth grade program needs \$5,000 for the microscopes and other materials necessary to meet the curriculum objectives.

Both of these programs begin in April.