



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2015

Inaugural Lehigh Valley Greenways Festival Scheduled At Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center

Nazareth, PA – The inaugural Lehigh Valley Greenways Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, 400 Belfast Road, Nazareth.

The Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape partners organized the festival. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources initiated its Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape in 2004 to advance land conservation, outdoor recreation, trail connections, community revitalization and environmental education in the region. The Lehigh Valley Greenways is a partnership consisting of over 20 public and private conservation organizations working together on projects enhancing the quality of community life.

The Lehigh Valley Greenways Festival is designed to be a family-friendly event with hands-on exhibits, education programs, trail information, gardening projects and other day-long activities. Programs, ranging from hikes to volunteer and educational outreach, will include:

- Guided walks along center trails focusing on wildflowers, butterflies, birds and dragonflies;
- Stream explorations to learn about waterways and species living in local streams;
- Discussion by local college representatives about outdoor research, descriptions of environmental education opportunities from staff at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, Lehigh Gap Nature Center and Wildlands Conservancy;
- Information sessions introducing native plants that landscapes while aiding pollinators and other wildlife;
- Information about new trails planned and developed throughout the Lehigh Valley;
- Fishing introduction and equipment loans by Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center's fishing loaner programs.

The 1,168-acre Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center offers programs for pre-school children through college level. Center staff also provides community programs focusing on the natural and cultural history of the park, as well as outdoor recreation. Jacobsburg is a partner in the Lehigh Valley Greenway, which seeks to engage state and local governments and nonprofit conservation groups to promote land conservation and education.

For more information about Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center visit the DCNR website at www.dcnr.state.pa.us and choose "Find a Park."

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