

BLUE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE

I N C O R P O R A T E D

Spring 2023

www.bluemountainwildlife.com

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SLOW AND STEADY PROGRESS

EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP 2023

The spring of 2023, as springs go, was fairly unremarkable. The Kerny bloomed, with the wetlands showing renewed vigor. Blue Mountain Wildlife's big spring event, the annual Earth Day Clean-Up, came and went. Volunteers emptied the trash and did some maintenance tasks, but the Kerny moved to her own rhythms.

The dedicated BMW maintenance team, led by Jim Turner, is keeping the area looking good. Recent addition to the team Mike Kahl has been spending a good deal of time at the Kerny, keeping things trimmed and pruned and attacking the invasive species that have colonized many parts of the area. We hope that

Mike's efforts will pay off in the long run and the mugwort, purple loosestrife and Japanese knotweed (among others) will be minimized or removed entirely from the Kerny.

A local scout, Callen Rodriguez, has approached Blue Mountain Wildlife with plans to improve the area, including the Outdoor Classroom at the north end of the Basin overlooking the Cabela's Wetlands. His plans are impressive in scope and BMW appreciates his energy and industry. We are eagerly looking forward to what he can do for the Kerny over the next few years.

Slow but steady progress. Visit the Kerny and see it in action.

OUR MISSION

**THE PRESERVATION
AND CONSERVATION OF
THE WILDLIFE AND
WETLANDS ALONG THE
SCENIC SCHUYLKILL
RIVER IN NORTHERN
BERKS AND SOUTHERN
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY**



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS—WINTER 2024

Thursday January 18, 2024...BMW Monthly Business Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm Hamburg Library
Friday January 26, 2024...BMW Annual Banquet and Membership Meeting 6:00 to 9:00 pm CJ Hummel's Restaurant
Thursday February 15, 2024...BMW Monthly Business Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm Hamburg Library
Thursday March 21, 2024...BMW Monthly Business Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm Hamburg Library
Thursday April 18, 2024...BMW Monthly Business Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm Hamburg Library
Saturday April 20, 2024...Earth Day Clean-Up 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Kernsville Dam Recreation Area

2023 EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP

GREGG ADAMS

The 2023 Earth Day Clean-Up, held on Saturday April 22nd, was a quiet affair. The BMW stand arrived at 7:30 a.m. to prepare for the volunteers who would help keep the Kerny clean. Since the weather was forecast to be fair, the overhead cover was dispensed with and our volunteers enjoyed the light overcast skies most of the day. Before 8 a.m., the coffee and donuts, bags, vest and gloves were arrayed on their tables, ready for use.

Alas, the volunteer traffic was very light that day. Only four volunteers showed up to give the Kerny a cleaning. Those four volunteers found scant little trash to collect. It is a good sign that almost no trash was collected along the trails and in the area of the Monument Parking Lot.

While those volunteers were out scouring the

area, two other volunteers were hard at work doing a little maintenance. Jim Turner was out removing some graffiti from the rock on which our sculpture is affixed. Joel Burkholder was out with his chainsaw, cutting up dead trees along the Kernsville Dam Road between the Monument Parking Lot and Industrial Drive.

Another casualty of the very light turn-out was the Spring History Hike, scheduled for the early afternoon. With the decent weather, it appears that other area activities drew our audience away and no one showed up.

On a related note, Callen Rodriguez started work on his Outdoor Classroom Improvement Project at the north end of the Basin in early May, doing some raking and pruning to prepare the site for future improvements.







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