A ‘hike’ for all ages: An indoor stroll through museum’s great outdoors

In the span of an hour at the Schisler Museum at East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, visitors can tour the Frozen North, a Boreal Forest, Canyon Country, the Verdant East, and the African Bush.

On Sunday, Jan. 19, 2019, Brodhead Watershed Association will sponsor naturalist-guided “hikes” through the museum – one geared toward kids, one for adults – to offer everyone an insider’s knowledge.

There is a lot to learn here, even without a guide. An amazing number of the world’s creatures are represented in a very small space, in realistic dioramas. No thick glass separates viewers from the displays. To protect the exhibits, no touching is allowed.

The Verdant East displays and describes the eastern forests we call home. Critters you see outside your kitchen window and along every roadway are put in context.

Even if you’ve lived in the Poconos forever, there’s plenty to learn at the Schisler Museum about the everyday creatures in our woods — from the special “fur” of the porcupine (aka quills), to why possums drool when threatened, to the silent feathers of a screech owl.

Admission includes a visit to the McMunn Planetarium to see one of its five films.

INDOOR HIKE EVENT

Join naturalists Darry and Jackie Speicher for an indoor guided “hike” at the Schisler Museum.

WHEN: Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019. The tour geared toward children will start at 1 p.m. The tour for adults will start at 3 p.m.

WHERE: The Schisler Museum of Wildlife and Natural History is inside East Stroudsburg University’s Hoeffner Sci-Tech Center, Normal Street and Ransberry Avenue, East Stroudsburg.

NOTE: The Schisler Museum and McMunn Planetarium are open to the public. Fees apply. For this event, sponsored by Brodhead Watershed Association, entrance fees will be paid for participants who register in advance. This is made possible through grants from the William Penn Foundation and the Dr. Claus Jordan Endowment from Lehigh Valley Health Network Pocono Foundation.

COST: Free, but registration is required.

INFORMATION: Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org. For information about this and other hikes in the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos. For information about the Water Wiser Kids series, see brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.