

June 16: Snorkeling in McMichael Creek

Our beautiful Pocono creeks run with pure, clean, cold water. But life in a creek is a lot more than just water! Critters and plants abound, adapted to this special way of making a living.

From 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 16, educators from Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center will lead a snorkeling exploration of McMichael Creek near Snydersville.

Snorkeling a creek is one of the best possible ways to learn about — and learn to love — our local natural world. The program, part of the Water Wiser Kids series, gives children and their parents a chance to get to know the freshwater world, a bug's-eye and fish-eye view, by snorkeling local creeks.



“Children are natural-born scientists, curious about everything,” said Roger Spotts, environmental education coordinator for Kettle Creek. “They love learning about slippery, slithery creatures, and when they have fun at the same time, that’s all to the good.”

Children will be introduced to stream ecology, such as what bugs can tell us about how pure creek water is, what small fish need to survive, and how underwater plants contribute to stream health. For instance, did you know that at every stage of life, brook trout need water that is COLD? Big, shady hemlocks and shrubs along a creek are important to keep the temperature right.

The program is geared to children from kindergarten through seventh grade, but people of all ages are welcome, including parents and older and younger siblings. Snorkeling gear will be provided. Snorkelers should wear bathing suits and water shoes or old sneakers and bring towels and a change of clothing.

This event is part of the Water Wiser Kids Series sponsored by Brodhead Watershed Association, funded by a Dr. Claus Jordan Endowment Grant from Lehigh Valley Health Network Pocono Foundation.

IF YOU GO: McMichael Creek snorkeling

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 16

WHERE: McMichael Creek near Snydersville. Register for directions.

COST: Free, but registration is required and limited.

CONTACT: 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org. See brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.

Brodhead Watershed Association is a nonprofit environmental organization formed in 1989. BWA is dedicated to protecting and preserving water resources and the environment of the Brodhead watershed, and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise and Pocono creeks and their tributaries. BWA assists municipalities, residents, businesses and groups with protecting natural resources through education, workshops, seminars, public programs and stream monitoring. For information: info@brodheadwatershed.org or 570-839-1120.

