



August 06, 2023

New Youth Fly Fishing Educational Training Program for 2024

A partnership of the Wildlife Leadership Academy and Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Association

Boiling Springs, PA— August 06, 2023 — Today at the Cumberland Valley Fly Fishing and Outdoor Festival at the Allenberry Resort, the Wildlife Leadership Academy (WLA) and the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Association (PFFA) announced the creation of the Youth Fly Fishing Educational Training Program for 2024. “WLA is pleased to join with the PFFA in presenting to our alumni and new students this weekend opportunity to experience the world of fly fishing including technique, stream awareness, and habitat conservation” said Joseph Reibman, Board President of (WLA) and the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Association (PFFA). “The PFFA is excited to see the partnership with WLA come to fruition. Advancing fly fishing amongst high school youth by education is consistent with our mission, and represents a step forward for our member-based organization” said Tom Hoffmaster, Executive Director of PFFA.

The Partnership

The mission of the Wildlife Leadership Academy is to engage and empower high school age youth to become Conservation Ambassadors to ensure a sustained wildlife, fisheries and natural resource legacy for future generations.

The PFFA was organized to bring more individuals into fly fishing, targeting youth, families and beginners that feel they want to experience the pleasures of fly fishing.

WLA currently hosts summer field schools that focus on wildlife/fisheries biology and conservation as well as leadership skills development. The students continue their involvement with community outreach through education, service, media engagement, creative arts, and outdoor mentorship with the ultimate goal of becoming a certified Conservation Ambassador!

The Youth Fly Fishing Advanced Educational Program expands upon the knowledge learned about conservation, management and recreation in the current Brookie and Bass Field Schools.

The Experience

The Stepping Stones program is a 3-day school located at Camp Krisland in Centre County and will be open to 16 students ages 14 to 17. It will be staffed by 5 professional instructors, 4 youth mentors, 20 fishing volunteers and 9 WLA staff. The program will include topics such as the history of fly fishing, conservation and fishing ethics, benthic macroinvertebrate collection and identification, fly tying and casting, fly fishing techniques for various fish species and of course fly fishing in the central PA area.

Sponsorship

The success of the program will depend upon the contributions of everyone in the fly fishing community who may be interested in furthering the sport through youth education. Therefore, we are soliciting corporate sponsorships for financing to reduce tuition costs and also gear and equipment donations for the students to use in the school and for many years to come.

For More Information

Please contact Dr. Sara Mueller, Ph.D., WLA Executive Director at smueller@wildlifeleadershipacademy.org, 570/245-8518 or Steve Kralik, PFFA President at skralik4@gmail.com, 717/443-4255.

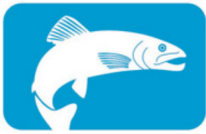
Websites

Wildlife Leadership Academy

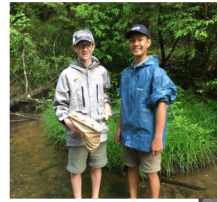
<https://wildlifeleadershipacademy.org/>

Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Association

<https://paflyfishingassoc.com/>



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Fly Fishing Advanced Educational Training

Overview

Advanced Educational Trainings (AETs) are a way for Academy Alumni to dig deeper into topics that are covered at one or more field schools but may also be of interest to a wide audience of Alumni. Continued engagement through AETs with the Academy allows students to continue to grow both their knowledge base and leadership skills through specialized learning opportunities. Specifically, the Fly Fishing AET expands on the fishing experience and conversations about the role of fishing in fisheries management at the Brookies Field School.

Budget

Classroom and Lodging	\$6,810
Food	\$2,700
Educational Materials & Printing	\$1,000
Fishing Supplies	\$6,000
Transportation	\$700
Registration Software	\$500
Full Time Staff	\$10,000
Weekend Staff	\$1,000
Tuition Scholarships	\$1,500
Camp Swag	\$1,620
Total	\$31,830

Participation

20 students
5 instructors
20 fishing volunteers
9 staff

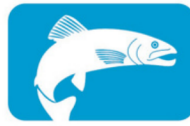


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The mission of the Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Association is to inform, educate and advocate fly fishing in Pennsylvania.

Schedule



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Friday 6:30 PM Arrive and Settle In

7:00 PM Stream Walk Through the Eyes of Scientists and Anglers

8:00 PM History of Fly Fishing

8:45 PM Fly Fishing and Conservation

9:30 PM Fishing Ethics

10:00 PM Evening Gathering



Saturday 7:00 AM Breakfast

7:30 AM Macroinvertebrates - A Classroom Primer

8:00 AM Flies as Imitations

8:45 AM Break

9:00 AM Macroinvertebrate Survey

10:30 AM Fly Tying

12:00 PM Lunch

12:45 PM Fish Behavior

1:30 PM Fly Fishing Techniques - A Classroom Primer

2:30 PM Going Beyond Trout

3:00 PM Travel to Spring Creek

3:45 PM Fly Fishing Techniques - Outdoor Practice

5:00 PM Dinner

5:45 PM Fly Fishing

8:15 PM Return to Krislund

9:00 PM Evening Gathering



Sunday 7:00 AM Breakfast

7:30 AM Final Project: Prepare Stream Walk Presentation

9:30 AM Fly Fishing at Krislund

10:30 AM Parents Arrive - Pack Up

11:00 AM Final Project: Students Give Stream Tour to Parents

12:00 PM Depart for Home