



**61st ANNUAL
YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL DAY
Saturday, May 18, 2024
North Bend State Park**

Dear Youth Environmental Program Participants:

You are invited to be our guest on this special occasion! Youth groups from throughout the state will gather to participate in the planned events and receive much deserved awards for their community service environmental projects.

- **TO RESERVE CAMP SITES FOR YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL WEEKEND.** call North Bend State Park at 304-643-2931 and ask for “camping reservations for Youth Environmental Weekend, May 17 and 18.” All campsites, electric and non-electric, will be reserved directly through North Bend State Park on a first-come first-served basis.
- **FRIDAY NIGHT ACTIVITY – WATCH AN OUTDOOR MOVIE WITH US!** Beginning at 7 p.m. at Shelter 3, we will have our YEP Movie Night. Please note on the attached reservation form if you will be participating.
- **YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL CLUBS ON PARADE HAT CONTEST!** This will be the last year so make it your best! We’ve had requests to change this contest. Let us know what ideas you have to replace the parade hat contest. We are asking youth groups to make parade hats out of recycled materials to wear when walking the parade route to Shelter 3 during Saturday morning opening ceremonies. Please mark the space provided on the attached form if your club will be participating.
 - The parade will line up at the Information Booth at 10 a.m. Saturday and proceed to the shelter at 10:30.
 - The group selected as having the best parade hats will receive a \$150 award, made available by Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Buffalo and Chemours, Wood County, and will be presented at the end of the day.
- **OPENING CEREMONIES SATURDAY MORNING TAKE PLACE AT SHELTER 3** and will begin immediately following the parade. The Pledge of Allegiance will be led by the Parade Color Guard.
 - Presentation of the Rick Vecellio Memorial Conservation Scholarship will be featured.
 - A few individual poster and essay awards will be presented before lunch.
- **A FREE HOT LUNCH WILL BE SERVED SATURDAY!** Lunch, provided by Windmill Catering of Mineral Wells, will consist of hot dogs, barbeque sandwiches, coleslaw, chips, cookies, water and iced tea. Make your lunch reservations on the attached form. **Please be accurate in your count for lunches.**
- **SCHEDULED EXHIBITS** include DEP REAP, Homeland Security/Emergency Response Unit, Air Quality, Division of Forestry, National Park Service, Natural Resources Police, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and others.
 - **Exhibit Scavenger Hunt** forms will be available at the Information Booth. Drop your completed form in the box also located at the Information Booth to be eligible for **prize drawings.**
- **AWARDS PRESENTATIONS WILL CONTINUE** Saturday afternoon starting around 1 p.m. at Shelter 3.

- **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**, following the awards presentations, include a hike on the North Bend Rail Trail, fishing at the pond (with prizes being awarded), a volleyball game and a recycling craft. Sign-up sheets for these activities will be at the Information Booth.
 - Bike rentals are available at the North Bend Campground attendant's building.
 - Boat rentals are available at the North Bend Marina. Call 304-299-1768 for details and reservations.
- **SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE STARTING AT 8 P.M. AT SHELTER 3!!** Dance chaperones can easily be identified by fluorescent **Youth Day Staff** badges, should any assistance be needed.
- **INSURANCE IS A REQUIREMENT!** All Youth Environmental Day participants that do not have camping insurance should take advantage of the medical expense excess plan made available through Nationwide. Please indicate your insurance needs on the attached form. **Please do not send cash!**
 - **25¢ per person per day**, no deductible. Benefits include \$25,000 overall maximum medical expense, \$10,000 maximum accidental death, and \$20,000 maximum per specific loss.
 - Youth group leaders please forward a check or money order for the total amount of insurance needed. **Please make your check payable to WV DEP.**
- **FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY AND CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS**, skates, skateboards, hoverboards and bicycles are not allowed under the shelter. **Also, all pets must be kept on a leash.**

Please call 304-926-0499, extension 49759 or email Annette.L.Hoskins@wv.gov if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Annette Hoskins, Director
Youth Environmental Program