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Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2006 8:42 PM

Subject: PABIODIV: Natural history field-based summer programs

Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education, Space is limited, APPLY EARLY TO SECURE A SPACE! Scholarships Available (go to <http://www.PICEweb.org> for more information)

Birding: Birds and Their Habitats (Beginner Level), June 26-27, 2006 (Mon & Tue)

Raystown Field Station - Raystown Lake (Huntingdon County), Chuck Yohn, Ph.D.

Birding has become one of the most exciting adventures that nature has to offer in the woods, fields, and riverine habitats. Dr. Chuck Yohn will lead beginning birders in becoming familiar with flight patterns, feeding habits and plumages of Pennsylvania birds. After informative classroom sessions on the basics of birding and natural history of birds, you'll spend time out-of-doors identifying birds by field marks, songs, behaviors and habitats. Educators will take back to the classroom activities for their students as well as fellow teachers. Tuition: \$275; includes meals, shared accommodations, instruction, and Act 48 credit hours (a minimum of 12 hours). In partnership with Cedar Crest College, this class is being offered to formal educators for graduate level credit (1 credit). An additional fee (per credit) through Cedar Crest College will apply. DEADLINE EXTENDED: JUNE 2, 2006.

Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes, July 31 - August 1, 2006 (Mon & Tue)

State College Area, Sarah Miller

Designed with consultants, natural resource professionals and students in mind, this two-day program is geared for those interested in learning how to identify grasses, sedges, and rushes. From an experienced botanist, you will learn skills necessary to accurately identify these challenging plant species using diagnostic characters and botanical keys. Each day will consist of both classroom sessions and fieldwork. Classroom activities will highlight basic morphology, the characteristics of common genera, and identification of plant specimens using both simple and complex keys. Slides, overheads, handouts, herbarium and freshly collected field specimens will be used to illustrate plant characters, especially those that may prove an obstacle to keying. In the field, participants will have the opportunity to visit different wetland types in the area to practice their plant identification skills. Tuition: \$285; includes meals, shared accommodations, instruction, and ACT 48 credits (a minimum of 12 hours). DEADLINE: June 19, 2006.

Pennsylvania Bat Ecology, August 2 - 4, 2006 (Wed - Fri)

Green Hills Lodge & Canoe Creek State Park, Heidi Boyle and Cal Butchkoski

Join Canoe Creek State Park and the Pennsylvania Game Commission for a look at the ecology of bats.

This workshop will explore bat habitat, bat identification, and the impact of bats on their environment.

Participants will make their own bat box to take home and will have a chance to explore the bat hibernation site at the park. Evening activities will include mist-netting and watching 20,000+

bats emerge from a summer maternity site. Tuition: \$525; includes meals, shared accommodations, instruction, and ACT48 (a minimum of 18 hours). (\*Academic credit may be available. An additional fee would apply). DEADLINE: June 28, 2006

Mushrooms and Their Allies, August 19-20, 2006 (Sat - Sun) - NEW DATE!

Lacawac Sanctuary (Pike County), Jim Brett

This program will feature identification of easily recognized forest mushrooms at the time of year when they are most prolific. Learning how to discern between edible and non-edible species will be featured including a cooking class on day one utilizing mushrooms collected during the day or dried earlier. Day two will concentrate on a wider scope of collection and identification. An overarching theme of this course, as in all others, will be the interweaving of the general natural history of eastern woodlands. Tuition: \$275; includes meals, shared accommodations, instruction, and ACT 48 (a minimum of 12 hours). DEADLINE: July 14, 2006

You can download a catalog with MORE 2006 class listings and registration/scholarship information at <http://www.PICEweb.org>. For more information or a hard copy of the PICE Program Catalog contact:

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