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Subject: PABIODIV: MOTH & BUTTERFLY BIOBLITZ hosted by the Ned Smith Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 11, 2006
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NED SMITH CENTER FOR NATURE AND ART

Hosting: MOTH & BUTTERFLY BIOBLITZ

Being held: NOON - FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2006 to NOON - SATURDAY AUGUST 12, 2006

North American habitats support more than 750 kinds of butterflies and 12,000 species of moths. Moth species outnumber butterfly species 16 to 1.

WHAT? A bioblitz combines science, education and fun; and it supports conservation. This bioblitz is limited to finding and tallying as many different kinds of moths (the night shift) and butterflies (the day shift) as possible in 24 hours. In addition to collecting and identifying moths and butterflies, there will be demonstrations and hands-on activities for both participants and observers.

WHO? Scientists, teachers, students, naturalists and volunteers are at the heart of every bioblitz. Everyone is invited to enjoy the fun, marvel at the surprising finds --- and peek into the hidden lives of field scientists. Individual observers, volunteers, youth groups and community groups are encouraged to participate, but need to register in advance by calling the Ned Smith Center at (717) 692-3699. Please dress appropriately for the weather conditions and exposure to poison ivy, wear closed-toed shoes, and bring a flashlight if participating in the nighttime moth collecting. (Note: no food concessions will be available).

WHERE? Hosted by the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art, the bioblitz will be in northern Dauphin County two miles east of Millersburg. To find the base camp (the Ned Smith Center), take Route 209 North from Millersburg and drive 1.8 miles. Turn right onto Water Company Road and go 300 yards. The Center is on your right. The primary survey site will be on over 500 acres of lands and waters under the stewardship of the Ned Smith Center.

WHEN? The bioblitz gets under way at noon on Friday, August 11 and ends 24 hours later at noon on Saturday, August 12. The identification of specimens continues Saturday afternoon until 2:30 p.m.. This is followed by a bioblitz results summary.

NEED MORE INFORMATION? Observers including the general public, groups, teachers, students and the media should contact the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art via e-mail at nedsmith@epix.net or by phone at (717) 692-3699.

The Pennsylvania Biodiversity Listserve is intended to promote discussion of biodiversity issues in the state. It is moderated by the Pennsylvania Biodiversity Partnership (PBP) following guidelines posted at <http://www.pabiodiversity.org/listserve.html>. The opinions expressed in messages are those of the authors and NOT the PBP. To unsubscribe, send the message UNSUBSCRIBE PABIODIV to majordomo@webmail.upb.pitt.edu.
