



FRIENDS OF WOLF CREEK NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY NEWSLETTER

October-December 2023

Newsletter Content

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Here are some quick facts & photos about our recent

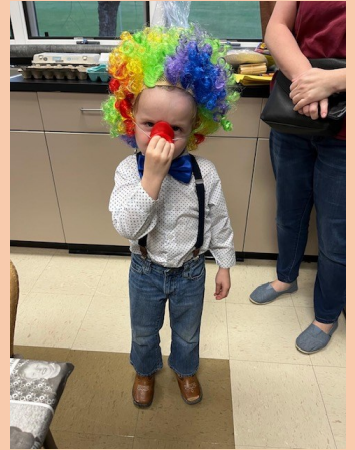
Workshops

Creepy Crawlies Workshop was held on October 27, 2023 at the Hatchery. About 35 people of all ages learned about insects, arachnids, and snakes. A hike on the Nature Trail at night to search for “Creepy Crawlies” was enjoyed by all.

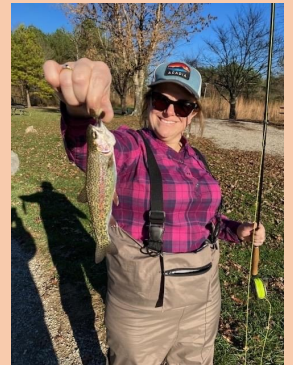
Fly Fishing 101 Workshop was held on November 18, 2023 at the Hatchery. This workshop was directed by Bill Carman, Kentucky Wild Outdoors. Eleven participants learned the basics of Fly Fishing. They were taught details about streams and the macroinvertebrates in them. How to read a stream and the gear needed were explained. Later Hatchery Creek was utilized to practice all that they had learned.

Holiday Open House/Nature Ornament Workshop was held on December 9, 2023 at the hatchery. Santa came for a visit, as well as Scout the Trout. There were lots of smiles and beautiful ornaments made. Lots of cookies, hot cider and hot chocolate were served. We had a gift basket give away, along with 10% off in the gift shop that day.

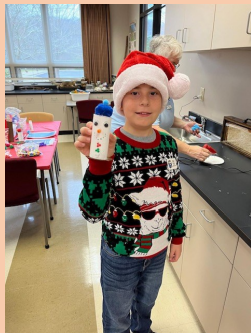
October 27th Creepy Crawlies Workshop



November 18th Fly Fishing 101 Workshop



December 9th Holiday Open House/Nature Ornament Workshop



Outdoor Adventure Day

On October 18, 2023 from 8:30-1:30 pm CST, the Russell County 4th Grade came to Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery to enjoy a day of learning and fun. There were 10 different stations across hatchery grounds. Stations had subjects of archery, casting, fabric made from a spinning wheel, Kentucky mammals, the life cycle of a fish, water safety, composting, bees, waste management, and birds of prey. Many thanks to everyone that made this event a fantastic one Including: Kentucky Division of Water, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lake Cumberland Wildlife Refuge, Gunnar's Bees, Three Springs Fiber Farm, UK Russell County Extension Office, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection.



BEES are still Buzzing



Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery is a great place to learn about bees. Gunnar Coe, of Gunnar's Bees, is a local 5th grade student and bee expert. He is taking care of the bees and their hive at the Visitor Center. This is a wonderful sight to see!!

Interesting Hatchery Information

Mollusks:

July-September: The staff has spent many days and hours taking care of racks, cages, and the boathouse. They currently have several thousand 2021 & 2022 year class Cumberland Elktoe and Cumberlandian Combshell, Purple Cats Paw, Cumberland Bean, Fluted Kidneyshell, Round Hickorynut, Pink Mucket, Snuffbox, Tan Riffleshell, Purple Lilliput, Kentucky Creekshell, Pheasantshell, Black Sandshell and several other species in the floating culture at the boathouse. Several projects at the mussel boathouse have been worked on this quarter. Juvenile mussels were added to the culture systems, mussels were tagged for release and the boathouse was also adjusted.



Barrens Topminnow Recovery:

July-September: The Barrens Topminnow is a very rare fish that was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act on November 20, 2019. The Barrens topminnow, as of today, is still one of the most endangered species in the world. Wolf Creek continues to hold @200 Pond Springs/Elk population (2020-year class), topminnows and 125 (2021-year class) this quarter. They will be released in a proper habitat at a later date after being grown out.

On December 19, 379 juvenile (2023-year class) Barrens topminnows were brought here and released into their new home from Conservation Fisheries, Inc.



Raceway Rehab:

On May 1, 2023 Wolf Creek NFH began the raceway rehab and bird barrier replacement project with Wright Brothers Construction and sub-contractor Buckeye Construction. This project will be continued in 2024.

Fishy Facts about the Hatchery:

October

2,500 Rainbow Trout stocked in Hatchery Creek for the disabled, elderly, and children.
116,500 Fish weighing (42,389 lbs.) stocked
Total Volunteer Hours: 758
Total Number of Visitors: 5,004



November

2,025 Rainbow Trout stocked in Hatchery Creek for the disabled, elderly, and children.
78,900 Fish weighing (34,287 lbs.) stocked
Total Volunteer Hours: 685
Total Number of Visitors: 2,290

December

2,025 Rainbow Trout stocked in Hatchery Creek for the disabled, elderly, and children.
10,350 Fish weighing (2,971 lbs.) stocked
Total Volunteer Hours: 681
Total Number of Visitors: 1,320



Eggs Received in 2023:

October: None

November: 200,000 Arlee (ARD), & 150,000 triploid Arlee strain Rainbow Trout Eggs

December: 400,000 Arlee (ARD) strain, 159,120 Hot Creek (HCD) strain, 250 Albino Arlee strain, Rainbow Trout Eggs.
86,000 Sandwich (SWD) strain, 286,810 Plymouth Rock (PRD) Brown Trout Eggs



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/ INFORMATION

The Friends of Wolf Creek NFH had the privilege and honor to participate in these special programs:

- Assisted with various items needed for workshops.
- Provided supplies for the Russell County Fishing & Tackle Program
- Donated two gift bags for the Russell County Jaycees Auction for Toys for Tots
- Participated in the Russell Springs Christmas Parade on Main Street.



Russell Springs Christmas Parade November 25, 2023

Upcoming events for 2024: January-March

*(Dates and Times TBA)

February 13: Friends of Wolf Creek NFH monthly board meeting 1pm CST.

February 17: Fly Fishing 101 Pre-registration required, \$75.00, 8am-5pm CST.

March 16: Mushroom Grow Bag Workshop 9-11am CST. \$20.00 fee and
Pre-registration required.

For more information call: Makenzie or Marsha 270-343-3797

NOTE: The 2nd Tuesday of every month Friends of Wolf Creek NFH hold their monthly board meeting at 1pm CST in the hatchery classroom. All are welcome!

Ways you can help support The Friends of Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery:

- ◆ Visit Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery and feed the fish, shop the gift shop, and have fun!
- ◆ Add us as the recipient for Kroger rewards (you will still receive your fuel points): <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>
- ◆ Visit our website: www.friendsofwolfcreeknfh.com. You can make donations here and find out more ways you can help!
- ◆ Volunteer
- ◆ Attend our monthly board meeting-2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm CST in the hatchery classroom.
- ◆ Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fowcnfh>



Thank you to all who volunteer, donate, and sponsor us!! We appreciate all of you!! It is because of you that these special events and programs are able to bring joy to so many!!