Emily Traynom, Director

Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge

89667 Mill Creek Road

Hastings, PA 19092

July 23, 2016

RE: Summer Day Camp Program at Swan Creek

As an educator in our community, you are sure to be interested in an opportunity for your students to learn at Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge this summer. I hope you will encourage your students who are rising 5th through 8th graders to join us for a few days this summer. The day camp program, which is described on the following page, is an effort to instill an appreciation for our environment, all in an engaging and fun atmosphere. Funded through a grant from the Nature Federation, the program is free to campers; however, space is limited, so please encourage early registration.

I, or a member of my staff, will be happy to visit your classroom to promote the refuge and to answer questions or accept registration for the summer day camp program. Feel free to copy and distribute the article on the following page. We hope to hear from you soon and look forward to working with your students this summer!

**Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge**

What: Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge Day Camp

When: Week-Long Day Camps from July 5-August 21, 2016

Where: Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge (at the headquarters)

Open To: 5th through 8th Grade Students

When was the last time you spent an afternoon absorbed in nature, experiencing sights and sounds you could never enjoy in the city? Did you know there are 38 different types of birds native to our area, all of which you can find at Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge? The refuge backwaters are home to beavers, mallard ducks, geese, largemouth bass, and slider turtles, among many other inhabitants. What better way spend a few days this summer than with us at the refuge, experiencing nature at its finest?

Swan Creek National Wildlife Refuge is offering a series of week-long day camps this summer, designed for children who are rising fifth through eighth graders. The series of wildlife camps will begin on June 15, with the last camp ending on August 6. Children will participate in informative seminars and nature observations led by wildlife rangers. On nature hikes through the refuge, camp participants will explore a native forest comprised of trees and forestry indigenous to the area. Other activities include hiking along the raised boardwalk through the sunken forest, identifying wildlife from the refuge observation center, and participating in nature photography classes. The first 50 campers to register will receive a Striker™ backpack, compliments of Swan Creek!

Explore nature

Learn to identify native plants and wildlife

Take digital photos

Participate in nature seminars

Enjoy relaxing days at the refuge

For further information, or to register, please contact:

Melinda Gifford, Events Coordinator

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