



# Rockfish Valley Foundation

Enhancing the Quality of Life and Celebrating the People, Land, and History of the Rockfish Valley. [www.rockfishvalley.org](http://www.rockfishvalley.org) // [contact@rockfishvalley.org](mailto:contact@rockfishvalley.org)



## 2023 SPRING NEWSLETTER

### NATURAL HISTORY CENTER OPENING AND NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS

Natural History Center, ROCKFISH VALLEY FOUNDATION located at 1368 Rockfish Valley Highway (RT 151) opens Saturday, April 1, 2023 with hours from 12-4 pm. It opens each Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 pm only. IN ADDITION, the museum is only open if the flags are flying. To open more, RVF needs your help until we hire a curator. We need volunteers. If you want to volunteer to host and greet our visitors, the center can open **MORE**. **If you do not, it can't**. Are you a person who likes to meet families and loves to share your knowledge or learn more about water, rocks, plants and animals and our local culture and history? Send an email to [volunteer@rockfishvalley.org](mailto:volunteer@rockfishvalley.org).

### CULTURE & HISTORY PROGRAM RESOURCES & LINK

The February 26 program was delivered to a full house at Tuckahoe Clubhouse and to more than 70 Zoom participants. Discover all the resources. Watch the presentations and slideshows on Nelson County. Thanks to our 12 speakers and to Alexander DeMontbel who edited the video.

Click this link for the [Culture & History Program](#). You can also find it on the website at:

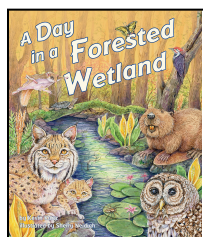
<https://www.rockfishvalley.org/nelson-county-history-and-culture-resources-video-and-slideshow>.

The link to the searchable index and instructions on how to find all of the stories published in Nelson County Life and Blue Ridge Life will be placed on the web site in the next several weeks and publicized. ENJOY!

### EnLit - ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS IS:

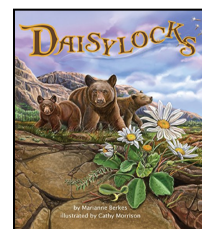


- Activated: Wireless network along the Spruce Creek Park trails and Rockfish Valley Trail downstream of Camille Trailhead.
- Completed: Content modules ready to test in Spruce Creek Park.
- Installed: Signs with EnLit Project logo.
- Installed: QR codes along both trail systems to connect to cell phones and devices.
- Completed: RVF website section to host ENLIT modules and content management.
- Underway: Content outreach to state agencies, educators and non-profits including VA Master Naturalists, VA DOF, Blue Ridge Prism and VA DWR.



### NEW SPRING STORYWALKS ARE INSTALLED

Our new StoryWalks, *A Day in a Forested Wetland*, by author Kevin Kurtz, installed at Rockfish Valley Trail and *Daisylocks*, by author Marianne Berkes, installed at Spruce Creek Park, Children's Nature Trail will delight you and your children as you walk and read at the station boxes. To read more about the books click link: [Day in a Forested Wetland](#) and [DAISYLOCKS](#).



### BLUE RIDGE PRISM SPRING WORKSHOPS SIGN UP:

- April 10 & April 12 learning sessions will be offered via Zoom.
- Session 1: Introduction to Invasive Plants and Identification, **April 10, 2023, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, registration fee \$10.**
- Session 2: Control of Invasive Plants, **April 12, 2023, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, registration fee \$10.**
- Click here for more information and to register: <https://blueridgeprism.org/workshops/>.



## TRAILS AND PARK FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY



- Glenthorne gravel cover for parking expansion.
- Spruce Creek Park Glenthorne entrance - major grading and gravel addition.
- COLEMAN/HARRIS MILL SITE clearing and study.
- ROCKFISH TRAILS native plantings and invasive removal - VA DOF and Prism.
- Upstream Rockfish trail low area repair.

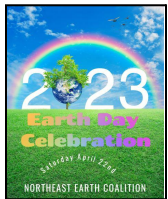


## DID YOU KNOW WE CELEBRATE NATURE ON THREE APRIL WEEKENDS?

RVF TAGLINE is **NATURE IS OUR GAME 1**

### APRIL FOOLS' DAY is SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

Natural History center opens. There's speculation that April Fools' Day was tied to the vernal equinox, or first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, when Mother Nature fooled people with changing, unpredictable weather. Do you think you know the weather?



### EARTH DAY is SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd

The goals of Earth Day 2023 are twofold: to raise awareness about the pressing environmental issues facing our planet and to inspire individuals, communities, and governments to take concrete steps to address these challenges, <https://www.earthday.org>.

### ARBOR DAY is FRIDAY, APRIL 28th

RVF will host a tree planting on that date. It is dedicated to planting trees. The Arbor Day Foundation has more than one million members and has planted more than 350 million trees in neighborhoods, communities, cities and forests throughout the world. To learn more go to [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

## ROCKFISH VALLEY NIGHT SKY SHOWS THREE FULL MOONS THIS QUARTER

**April 6, 2023 - Pink Moon; May 5, 2023 - Flower Moon ; June 3, 2023 - Strawberry Moon.**

## WINTERGREEN COLEMAN/HARRIS ARCHEOLOGY SITE UPDATE

The Coleman/Harris Mill archeology site is being cleared and studied.



**WE ARE THE NATURE GUYS AND OUR FACILITIES ARE YOUR FACILITIES**

**THANKS FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT! THE 2023 FUND DRIVE CONTINUES**

Your fund drive support is much needed as we are behind ALMOST 20% in donors.

**[PLEASE DONATE HERE](#)**