

Cedar Bog Review

Cedar Bog Nature Preserve, 980 Woodburn Rd. Urbana, OH 43078
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Summer 2019

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Cedar Bog Association

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A word from our CBA President:

The summer sun has finally committed to joining us for the year and Cedar Bog has been a busy place.

I continue to hear positive feedback from participants in our many events and programs, we have made further progress in habitat restoration, and in general Cedar Bog is rolling right along! That said, there are a couple of favors I would like to ask. First, when does your membership expire? If it is soon, please take this opportunity to renew. Are we all Ohio History Connection members as well?

A strong OHC benefits Cedar Bog in every way imaginable. Also, I know Mike is always on the lookout for volunteer help, especially at the center. If you are reading this, my guess is that you are already involved in one project or another, but do you have a friend? We could use a few more of YOU!

Thanks for everything everyone is doing as we turn the midway point for another "Fentastic" season!

Randy Rogers

President, CBA

Calendar of Events

Full Moon Walk

Friday, Apr 19, Dusk
Free Admission

Earth Day/Guided Spring Flower Walks CBA Naturalists

Saturday, Apr 27, 10 am to 4 pm
Free

"Trees and How They Work – The Ecology of the Forest" **Jean Gayley**

Saturday, May 11, 10 am
\$10 per person, OHC & CBA members free

Guided Orchid Walks CBA Naturalists

Sunday, June 2, 2 pm and
Saturday, June 8, 10 am
\$5 per person, OHC & CBA members free

Moth Night

Saturday, June 15, Dusk
Free Admission

"The Ice Ages in Ohio" **Dale Gnidovec**

Saturday, July 13, 10 am
\$10 per person, \$5 OHC & CBA members

Moth Night

Saturday, June 15, Dusk
Free Admission

"Rare Plants" **Jim McCormac**

Saturday, Aug 10, 10 am
\$10 per person, \$5 OHC & CBA members

"There's a Bug in the Bog" **Jim Lemon**

Saturday, Sept 14, 10 am
\$10 per person, OHC & CBA members free

Mellow Yellow Walk CBA Naturalists

Sunday, Sept 15, 2 pm
\$5 per person, OHC & CBA members free

Boo in the Bog

Friday and Saturday, Oct 11 & 12,
7 pm to 9 pm
\$6 Adults, \$5 students 6 and over,
under 6 free,
OHC & CBA members \$1 discount
Reservations recommended

**Fentastic Evening at the
Urbana Country Club**
November 2, 2019

BOO IN THE BOG



Image by Mike Crackel

Boo in the Bog is fast approaching! Join us for this fun filled, family friendly event. We will have several nature themed learning stations around our jack-o-lantern lit boardwalk. Guides will help lead visitors around the boardwalk. There will be plenty of other fun activities for all ages including story telling by the bonfire, face painting and children's crafts. We'll also have plenty of food, snacks and beverages available for purchase.

This year's Boo will be Friday and Saturday, October 11 and 12. The hours are from 7:00pm till 9:00pm. Admission is \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students age 6 and older. Children under 6 years old are free. Ohio History Connection and Cedar Bog Association members receive a \$1.00 discount. Reservations are recommended.

Watch our Facebook page for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Cedar Bog Association is an all volunteer, not-for-profit organization. We need our volunteers for a number of activities to help preserve Cedar Bog. If you have ever thought about giving back and helping at this wonderful place, we would love to hear from you. We have a number of volunteer opportunities available. Please call us at 937-484-3744 so you too can help!

"There's A Bug in the Bog"



Image by Cheryl Erwin

Please join Cedar Bog Association Naturalist Jim Lemon as he discusses the many different types of insects that can found in Cedar Bog.

The presentation is on Saturday, September 14 at 10:00am, at the Cedar Bog Nature Center. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Cedar Bog Association and Ohio History Connection members are free.

Cedar Bog is located at 980 Woodburn Rd., Urbana, Ohio. Please call 937-484-3744 or email cedarbog@ctcn.net for more information.

Please check our website at www.cedarbognp.org or our Facebook page for a complete listing of future events.

How do trees access the internet?

They log on.



eDNA Workshop and Cedar Bog's Spotted Turtles

by Bob Glotzhober

On May 17, 18 and 19, 2019, Cedar Bog hosted a workshop on “eDNA” or sampling the environment to find traces of DNA for critters living in that environment. This is new technology, with the first reports on the process being published in 2008. If you have kept up with stories about the various species of Asian carp that have invaded the Mississippi River, and threaten the Great Lakes – you may know that most of the early studies with eDNA centered on finding minute traces of DNA of these fish where adults had not yet been noted. Sampling for actual fish when they are in very low concentrations can be almost useless, basically a search for a needle in a haystack. But even one fish sloughs off cells from its body both internally and externally – and concentrating the water they are in can find proof of their presence even when no actual fish are found.

The workshop was led by Dr. Stephen Spear, the Director of Wildlife Ecology for The Wilds in eastern Ohio. He has used the technique on projects involving Hellbenders, as well as other species that are aquatic or semi-aquatic. Fifteen people attended the three-day class, which included representatives from Cedar Bog: Erin Cashion (OHC), Mike Crackel, Bob Glotzhober, and Andy Schenkel. Other attendees included Prof. Richard Phillips from Wittenberg, two of his students, a biologist from the Ohio Division of Wildlife, a researcher from OSU, a researcher from the Midwest Biological Diversity Institute (Columbus), a researcher from the University of Illinois, and a local high school student.

For the various researchers, this was training class on the science behind eDNA and the techniques on how to do it. For many of the rest of us, some of the details were above our heads, but we did learn how to take proper aquatic samples, how to filter and concentrate the potential DNA residue in the samples, and then watch them be run through a portable devise using genetic primers to search for DNA for targeted species. The folks from Cedar Bog were especially interested in finding Spotted Turtle DNA. We also tested for American Brook Lamprey and (from soil samples – an even newer technique) for Massasagua Rattlesnakes.

All field results proved negative, while controls from confirmed sources proved the techniques and primers etc. were effective. It appears that we have no Spotted Turtles left at Cedar Bog. The lack of evidence for the American Brook Lamprey probably results from the fact that ammocoetes (juveniles) drift downstream after hatching and the adults die off after spawning in late March or April. Dr. Spear and the researcher from Illinois were hoping to develop a method for sampling eDNA from soils, but apparently that needs more work yet.

What next? While it is disappointing to find no evidence for Spotted Turtles at Cedar Bog, that does mean that we could launch an effort to reintroduce these turtles to the preserve. Ecologists always worry about dumping introduced individuals into an area when they might introduce pathogens that swamp out any remaining turtles that might not be resistant to those pathogens. Since we have strong evidence of no Spotted Turtles left (none have been seen for 10 years either), this is no longer a concern. However, many challenges still exist, such as finding a sustainable source of turtles to introduce, figuring out at what stage of life to introduce them, and how to introduce them in a manner that they don't just all swim away, and how to protect them from raccoons and other turtle predators. Staff and volunteers can now begin to seek out direction and support of turtle experts to help answer these questions, and ultimately restore these fascinating and iconic turtles to Cedar Bog.

Bob Glotzhober, Curator Emeritus of Natural History, OHC and CBA Volunteer



stock photo - Google images

Ways To Give

Donate a Picnic Table or Bench

Picnic tables and benches are built by Johnny's Wood Shop in Troy and can be donated at Cedar Bog or from Johnny's Wood Shop directly.

Benches are made of western red cedar. The cost is \$63.00 for a 3 ft. bench and \$84.00 for a 4 foot bench. A plaque for \$20 can be installed to commemorate the event of a loved one.

Please stop by the Nature Center or call Cedar Bog at 937-484-3744 for information about ordering your bench!



Our Fantastic Evening Fundraiser is fast approaching. It will be held on November 2, 2019 at the Urbana Country Club. This is our largest fundraising event of the year. Please watch your mail for your official invitation. If you cannot attend, please consider making a donation to show your support for this one of a kind place called Cedar Bog.

Habitat Restoration



Image by Bob Glotzhofer

The prairie restoration continues. Cedar Bog Association volunteer Bob Glotzhofer and myself spent several long days at the end of June and the beginning of July planting the 57 acres we are trying to restore to native prairie. I don't think we could have picked hotter days to be out "stirring up dirt." With all the wet weather we had up to that point, it was just not possible to get into the fields any sooner to plant.

We planted over six hundred pounds of native prairie grasses and about one hundred pounds of native wildflowers. All of the seed was donated by The Columbus Metro Parks System. The native grasses include Indian Grass, Big Bluestem, Canada Rye Grass and Little Bluestem.

We are seeing growth in some areas. A little more rain is needed to really get it growing. We do have another two hundred pounds of seed to put down this winter in areas that do not fill in or were missed because it was simply too wet to plant.

We have to give a big THANK YOU to Steve Banks from the Urbana Game Farm and Division of Wildlife for helping with the project. We used their tractor and seed drill planter to accomplish the planting.

Mike Crackel

Volunteer Spotlight



Image by Mike Crackel

Connie Flanly is one of our incredible Nature Center volunteers. Along with greeting our guests, she co-manages our gift shop, keeping it clean, updated and stocked with many wonderful items. Her background in merchandising has really helped to increase sales to support the Cedar Bog Association. She says she really enjoys organizing and maintaining the gift shop.

Connie has lived in the Urbana area for almost 50 years. During that time, she raised her three sons just "three cornfields" from the Bog. She is active with the local Daughters of the American Revolution and has an interest in local history.

"Cedar Bog is a very special place to be associated with," says Connie. She enjoys greeting visitors and telling them about all the special things that are Cedar Bog.

Connie has been a great help by taking on the role as gift shop co-manager. Everything is always so clean and organized. We really appreciate everything she does!

Mike Crackel

Gift Shop Spotlight



Come check out our selection of field guides and nature themed books. We have books on everything from birds and insects to native wildflowers and prairie plants. We also have a few new books on astronomy and the night sky. There is also a selection of folding pocket guides on a variety of subjects. The selection changes with the seasons. Keep us in mind when you are looking for a gift for your favorite book lover.

Memberships:

Remember that your membership gives you free admission or discounts to events, free admission to Cedar Bog throughout most of the year during regular business hours and an opportunity to help preserve and protect a rare treasure. If you can, add a little extra in your membership envelope. Cedar Bog survives because of your donations and memberships. Thank you!!! Please let us know if your address or email has changed. If you have any questions about your membership, contact us at:
cedarbog@ctcn.net.

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Newsletter of the
Cedar Bog Association
Questions, comments,
additions or corrections
should be sent to:
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