

Schoharie River Center END OF THE YEAR NEWSLETTER

Instilling a love for learning and promoting the values of stewardship for our environment

We are the Schoharie River Center. Our mission is to instill a love for learning, arts and science, promote the values of stewardship for our local environment, and encourage the positive and responsible involvement of all individuals in their communities. We run programs for youth and adults in Schoharie, Montgomery, and Schenectady Counties. A major focus of ours is ecology, and working with teens on understanding their watershed and the environment where they live. Engaging them within their schools and communities, our Middleburgh Advantage Program, and our Environmental Study Team's youth development programs get youth outdoors, and learning about the environment, and their community through recreational activities, community based water and air quality monitoring and stewardship activities, and cultural documentation.

We also run programming focusing on traditional crafts like Timber Framing, Blacksmithing, Maple syrup making and Fiber Arts. We teach filmmaking and media arts to emphasize the importance of sharing and communicating what you learn and the stories you have to tell.

We collaborate with other organizations to put together community events that bring people together, feeling very strongly that there is power in sharing knowledge and skills.

2023 HAS BEEN A VERY BUSY AND GROWTH FILLED YEAR FOR THE SCHOHARIE RIVER CENTER



We continued our after school program in Middleburgh NY, which expanded to serve 80 elementary school students. The program now employs 10 dedicated staff members, with 5 more leading focused programming in the arts and sciences.

Our Environmental Study team met twice a month and explored more parks and places around the Capital Region than ever before. We hired two new environmental educators who help plan and lead our EST Program in multiple locations.



We expanded our partnering with more organizations in Schenectady to strengthen our Urban Ecology Program. Offering a unique, hands-on, experiential learning platform to enrich the lives of Schenectady teens.

Through a timber framing workshop series, we built an addition to our Cultural Hall in Esperance. This will allow us to expand the programming of that building with an added bathroom and an eventual heating/cooling system. We are working towards making the building solar powered.

We continue to seek donations to support this project through our Sponsor-a-Timber campaign, and our Building Project Campaign. More details here:

www.schoharierivercenter.org/building-project





2023 also saw the premiere of our Mayfly Film Festival. A short film festival featuring short films from all over the world focused on a wide range of issues that impact our whole planet. This film program screened in 8 different cities and towns across the capital region. Produced exclusively by the SRC, we are currently planning our 2nd annual program for 2024.

Our summer was filled with Field Schools focused on Lake Ecology on Otsego Lake, Watershed Ecology in Esperance, and Filmmaking in Schenectady.



We launched a brand new after school partnership with Schenectady School District bringing us into two schools to start, Schenectady High School, and Central park Middle School. The Schenectady Advantage Program (SAP) is in both schools offering activities in Ecology/ Environmental Science, Media/Filmmaking, and Art/Design.

This year also brought the announcement of the Schenectady Environmental Education Center, with the SRC as lead agency. We are partnering with the Upper Union Neighborhood Association, Community Fathers Inc., ECOS, and the City of Schenectady to re-purpose the old "casino" building in Central Park into a zero-carbon environmental education center. We have huge plans, and much more to come with this project. We see this as pivotal move for an environmental focus in Schenectady, and will serve as a hub for environmental programming and organizing in the city.

CENTRAL PARK ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER



The Schoharie River Center would like to thank all of our supporters for helping us continue our work. As we grow and expand, your help is needed more than ever. We ask you to join us to further complete our mission to instill a love of learning and to inspire stewardship for our local ecosystem, as well as creating more sustainable and successful communities in the coming years.

We are forever grateful and honored to get to do the work that we do, and for the impact that we have on the communities that we serve. We hope you can join us in this endeavor.

Donate, become an SRC member, or simply support us by showing up to events and workshops



Donations by check made payable to:
Schoharie River Center
2025 Burtonville Rd. Esperance, NY 12006

Donations accepted through QR codes or address below:

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