

“Kites & Critters” ACTIVITIES

Day at the Farm on Bells Lane, Moore Farm / April 17, 2016, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Kites: On knoll above barn. Bring your own kite or enjoy what the experts are flying.

Conservation Tours: Guided tours or visit stations at any time. Trout releases every hour on the half hour.

At the Barn: Lambs / Beekeeper / Farm Stand / Watershed Maps / Activities & Displays / Food Truck
Displays by VA Departments of Forestry and Game and Inland Fisheries, Augusta Bird Club, Headwaters SWCD, Master Naturalists, Lewis Creek Watershed Advisory Committee, Valley Conservation Council, and more.

CONSERVATION STATIONS and ACTIVITIES

Trees (1) – Trees reduce soil erosion, shelter birds, and improve water and air quality. Get free trees and learn more in a hands-on activity [*Virginia Department of Forestry*/[*Trees Give Aways](#)]

Riparian Buffer (2)– Hardwood trees and shrubs have been planted in riparian (streamside) areas where livestock have been fenced out. These vegetated buffers filter pollutants and provide wildlife habitat.

Native Grasses (3) – Warm Season grasses have been reestablished to offer nesting habitat for birds like quail and make a “pollinator corridor” providing food for diverse insects and other species.

Quail Habitat (4) – Northern Bobwhite Quail numbers have declined dramatically due to loss of habitat. Nesting sites, food, and safe cover are provided through plantings of native grasses and “quail doughnuts,” brushy thickets for fleeing predators and taking flight from a central clearing.

Buffer Care (5)– Learn what species to plant and how to address challenges such as invasive plants, deer browse, voles, and weeds. [*Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District and Conservation Services founder* / [*Planting and Maintenance](#)]

Stream Restoration (6) – Heavily eroded stream bank was stabilized once cattle were fenced out. Poague Run is gradually repairing itself, restoring the stream conditions necessary for trout. [*Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries* / [*Fish Touch Tank](#)]

Stream Critters (7) – Clean streams have many water insects living under the rocks. Examine some of these macro invertebrates up close. [*Friends of the Middle River* / [*Critter Tank](#)]

Trout Release (8) – Release a fingerling Eastern Brook Trout into Poague Run. [*Pure Water Forum, Trout Unlimited, and Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries* / [*Trout Tank in barn; Releases at 1:30, 2:30, 3:30 and 4:30](#)]

Livestock Watering Systems (9) – When farmers fence livestock out of streams, they must provide new water sources. This livestock watering system uses multiple troughs, including this one that pumps from the stream.

Water Testing (10) – **In Barn:** Use simple testing kits to check water quality at the farm; compare to samples taken from a creek downtown. [*Lewis Creek Watershed Advisory Committee*/[*Testing Table](#)]