

Planet TurkeyFoot's Outdoor Learning Opportunities Summer 2021

Planet TurkeyFoot is the Outdoor Studio of Cyerkyber Design Workshop in Confluence, PA. It occupies six lots in "Frog-town" of the small river-town just ten miles up-river of Ohio State Park. The property is centrally located on the "east-side" of Confluence just a few blocks from the Great Allegheny Passage crossing at Hwy 281, the Youghiogheny and Casselman Rivers and Yough Lake. Planet Turkeyfoot houses both artist studio and summer basecamp for day camps, workshops and overnight tent camping for outdoor immersion studies. The once all grass fields are being re-claimed as food-forest using the methods of permaculture.

If your interested in camping with us check-out our funky vintage camper on HipCAMP!
<https://www.hipcamp.com/pennsylvania/planet-turkeyfoot-miniwinabago/planet-turkeyfoot-miniwinabago>

Teacher Bio:

Ashley Kyber is an environmental sculptor, public artist and landscape designer. She is a teaching veteran having a former life as a university Professor of Landscape Architecture at both West Virginia University and Iowa State University. Ashley now teaches kids sustainable and outdoor-living skills including how to make art and grow veggies. She has lead university students in outdoor learning including the semester long traveling studios in the US and abroad and was a camp counselor herself for Civilian International's Leadership Academy. She is certified in permaculture design and a ceramicist that makes public artworks that collect and bio-remediate stormwater. Her academic career was spent helping communities design and build community spaces, community gardens and community-made art. Kyber holds degrees in Landscape Architecture and Horticulture from Clemson University and an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art.

Overnight Camps @ Planet Turkeyfoot: Ages 8-14 Maximum Enrollment 10

Cost: \$750/wk Early Enrollment until June 4th

\$1000 up-until day before camp starts

The kids learn to set-up their bright orange tents in the center of our beautiful sunflower field. We cook by campfire and camp stove and sleep under the stars in new 2-4 man all weather tents. You bring their backpack, water bottle and sleeping bag and we take care of the rest. The following immersion opportunities are available for summer 2021.

At Planet Turkeyfoot, we learn indigenous ways of fishing, play in pools and identify the creatures within, provide cooling off and lessons in river ecology. Lessons by hike include the basics of forest ecology, plant communities, plant identification, and landscape wilderness observation skills. Students are introduced to field-study techniques used in the environmental sciences combined with artistic expression of landscape drawings, fort-making and mud drawings all utilizing creativity to use found objects in nature. In the style of earthwork artist Andy Goldsworthy, we learn basics of indigenous earth-building techniques using found and recycled materials. Mud drawings, hand-dug clay making, paper-making, and natural pigment watercolor are all featured in a typical day in the sun or rain at Planet Turkeyfoot. Come get your outdoor groove on with us!

ClayCamp: Hand-building, wheel-throwing and pit-firing (June 13-18th and Aug 8-13th)

This camp utilizes outdoor studio and indoor studio space for introducing your child to the world of ceramics. We will use commercial clays and learn to dig-our-own-clay as well as try-out some air-dry clay so that they can make work at home! Kids will make cups and bowls by throwing on the wheel, bird-houses, chess sets and firehouses by hand-building and hand-pressed tiles for pit-firing. Although the most studio-intensive of the overnight camps, we have lots of opportunities to hike, swim and explore the area. Come get your hands dirty!

FarmCamp: Learn the Basics of Permaculture (June 27-Aug 2 and Aug 15-20th)

This camp utilizes the six-lot property of Planet Turkeyfoot to teach kids the basics of permaculture from starting seeds to rooting cuttings and harvesting supper. The property, purchased in 2020 was once all lawn and has been planted in fruit trees, berry brambles, blueberries and wildflowers. The back field is still lawn for badminton, ball sports and campfires. We will be planting a large veggie garden and herb spiral this summer and digging a pond for grey-water re-cycling. Have your kids learn sustainable living methods and have fun plain in the dirt learning to make worm bins, lasagna gardens, bee hotels and even build a cobb pizza oven.

Huck-Finn's Dream Raft: Make-it, Float-it, Burn-it Camp (July 11-16th)

This design-build camp has the Huck Finn and Tom Sawyer spirit! This camp teaches kids the basics of design by doing. Like the other overnight camp experiences, we offer lots of opportunities for hiking, swimming and exploring the area's wilderness. We start each day by drawing and ideation followed by material harvest, building our design and trying it out. We use bamboo and other invasive plant materials as building materials and learn the basics of knots-tying and lashing needed to build a raft-a-day. We float the rafts on the Casselman River which offers a shallow trial and error for kids making it sink and they swim an easy defeat! At the end of the day they break their designs down, re-cycle materials that can be re-used and burn the leavings in the evening's campfire.

Even adults want in, right?!

EcoArt Workshops for Adults

Weekend Workshops: *(Maximum Enrollment 10 persons)*

- *Half-Day Workshop: \$100 2-5pm We break for 20 min between activities. These sessions start at 4PM and run for three hours.*
- *Evening Workshops \$50 are scheduled in the evening 6:30-8:30pm during that sweet hour of after dinner and before beer. Come as a family or for a two-hour to get away from your family!!!*

Example Workshop Sessions: *Three hour workshops at \$250/ student*

“Zen Seeing Zen Drawing the Landscape” Landscape Field Drawing in Watercolor:

This is a how-to class in keeping a Nature Journal with an introduction to botanical drawing as a means identify plants in the great outdoors. This is an intensive three-hour workshop in landscape sketching techniques taken from the field of Landscape Architecture and mixed with some “Nature Zen.” No experience required. Landscape drawings are created in pencil and rendering in watercolor. Students are taught to quiet the mind, so that they may see and then draw the landscape in front of them. In learning about the ecology of places we inhabit, we learn to see the detail in nature that allows us to open up into drawing as a meditative practice. Nature has a beauty that comes in all scales and we will learn how to render a landscape by finding the inherent color pallet, natural patterns and become attuned to the landscape through meditative processes of drumming and deep listening techniques.

“Mindful Joy” Forest Bathing 101:

A quiet mind is a life journey in Becoming. Joy is found in the details of the everyday. Creating a space for us to tune into nature by learning to meditate by tuning into the forest around you. Forest Bathing- According to the World Health Organization, stress is a critical health epidemic of the 21st century and is responsible for many forms of chronic illness. In the 1980’s, Japan recognized the physiological and psychological dangers of stress and sought out a new way to combat it. This was the beginning of Shinrin Yoku, roughly translated as ‘forest bathing.’ Scientists discovered that trees give off phytoncides to protect themselves from pests and diseases. When humans “bathe” in these chemicals, they enjoy increased immune responses and lowered stress markers. Additionally, hundred of studies show the benefits of being out in any kind of nature! Forest Bathing is a way of “Being in the Natural World” that respects nature as a healing and restorative place where we can reconnect with the outdoors and ourselves in the process.

“Twig-Weaving, BottleGlass Trees and TinCan Borders” Up-cycling in the Garden:

Learn how up-cycling, composting and adaptive-reuse of your garden waste can make for genius green thumb solutions to your backyard garden woes. Part lecture and part hands-on this class introduces you to permaculture principles by making built works in the landscape using found and up-cycled materials to create phenomenal gardens. This class shows you how to up-cycle in your garden as the permaculture foundation for creating artful food-growing earthworks, herb medicine wheels and meditative labyrinth gardens. Learn the methods of binding and weaving living hedges to create a living fence, harvest hedge clippings and tree cuttings to make new biodynamic garden beds with Hugelculture with our clever garden hacks. Don’t throw those

cans and glass away! This can be the beginning of something big and beautiful in your backyard.

“Enchanting Your Sacred Space” FairyHouses and MossGardens:

\$150 Material fees include wet clay, ceramic kiln fee, potting soil, sphagnum moss, succulent plants and a handmade ceramic desk planters. Do you like Fairy Houses and Gnome Homes? How about Moss Gardens and Fern Wildlands? This class teaches you how to make your own ceramic Fairyhouse by pressing clay into tree bark to create texture. Fairy-made treebank texture are perfect for making a home for your neighborhood fairies, gnomes, butterfly princesses to gather in your backyard. Moss gardens are treated for the Zen within your home. Artisan-made ceramic platters are turned into moss gardens to grace your desk or tabletop. Lesson includes how to grow ferns, succulents and mosses and methods taught can be used to create larger moss gardens in a larger setting. Just scale it up!

“Mandala’s Drishteets and Labyrinths” MindfulArt Tools for a Meditative Life:

This workshop combines drawing, painting and creating an environmental artwork or earthwork as meditative walk. Mandalas are expressions of sacred geometry that morph in scale on the page. intertwined shapes and repeated forms allow the making and the looking-at the mandala a meditative process. In yoga, drishteets are used to create a focal-point for the eye so that the body can focus on balance. By drawing your own drishteet, you identify the archetypal shapes that inspire you - in-spirit you and create your own design that allows you to go deeper into the asana, breath and ultimately deepening your practice. Labyrinths are found worldwide in cultures as a physical and metaphysical meditative space. From prehistory celtic to indigenous american and Buddhist traditions, these forms were assimilated into early Christian Churches and in neo-pagan ritual. The act of making the labyrinth is a zen experience in itself. Learning the means for walking or dancing a labyrinth. You may take this practice and walk/dance labyrinths in your own backyard, local park or even in your mind. The set of three mindfulArt projects are meditative in their making and using. If you have a mind that needs settling and want to deepen or start your own meditative practice. Come, invest in your inner knowing and learn a new way of be-ing.

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