



New name for the Conservation and Research Center

To advance one of the Smithsonian's four main goals of its new strategic plan, understanding and sustaining a biodiverse planet, they have named the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) to be headquartered in Front Royal, VA. The SCBI facilitates and promotes research programs based at Front Royal, at the National Zoo in Washington, and at field-research and training sites around the world.

As the benefits of conserving biodiversity become more commonly understood, the SCBI will allow Smithsonian scientists to be recognized as leaders in developing ways to stem the loss of biodiversity and aid in the recovery of endangered species and habitats. SCBI conducts research to aid in the survival or recovery of species and their habitats, and to ensure the health and well-being of animals in captivity and in the wild.

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/conservationandscience/?hpout=zn&xtr=>

Teacher Boot Camp offered at SCBI this summer

June 27-July 2, 2010

This teacher training workshop will build upon the basic life science skills and techniques used by biologists and science educators, and place them in a wildlife conservation context. Case studies from the Zoo and its conservation and research around the world will be used as examples. Course participants will leave with a foundation in life science and conservation and a set of tools and resources they can use inside and outside the classroom

For more information follow this link to the National Zoo website:

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/TeacherBootCamp/default.cfm>

Wildlife Explorer Kits now available at SCBI

Wildlife Explorer Kits can now be rented from the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal!



Choose from
Coverings
Mammals
Invertebrates
Birds
Reptiles
School Yard Naturalists

Great teacher resource for in the classroom. Turn your young learners into wildlife explorers with the National Zoo's school loan kits. Hands-on activities, a variety of real animal objects, books, games, videos, and a teacher's guide are included in each kit.

To rent a kit follow this link to the National Zoo's website:

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/ClassroomResources/ExplorerKits/default.cfm>



**Have you ever milked an Elephant?
Lecture from Zoo Nutritionist
February 24th at 6:30pm
Samuels Public Library**

The National Zoo's Nutritionist will be talking at Samuels Public Library in Front Royal about what it takes to feed all the animals both at the Zoo and the SCBI. Great for ages 8 – 108!

<http://www.samuelslibrary.net/download/CRC22410>

Nature Camp this summer at SCBI



FONZ Nature Camp is award winning and accredited by the American Camp Association.

The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (SCBI) in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley spans 3,200 acres and is closed to the public. It is a preserve home for native wildlife, an international conservation training center, and a breeding facility for endangered species. Outfitted with backpacks, journals, and water bottles, campers delve into CRC's forests, fields, and streams. Dip nets, field guides, compasses, and binoculars are some of the equipment campers use to explore the great outdoors and conduct their own research.



During daily hikes, campers learn a variety of skills including:

Orienteering: Use a compass to navigate the woods.

Animal tracking: Identify the footprints of deer, raccoons, chipmunks, bears, and more.

Birding/animal identification: Learn to spot feathered friends as well as other native insects, amphibians, and mammals.

The scoop on poop: Discover what Zoo scientists learn from animal waste.

Tree identification: Go out on a limb and explore a new branch of nature.

Animal calls: Caw like a crow, gobble like a turkey, and chatter like a squirrel.



For more information or to register follow link:

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/Camps/NightCamp/default.cfm>

School Outreach Offered through SCBI

Inspire your students - Bring Smithsonian science into your classroom! Educators from the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute will come to your school with a selection of hands-on science programs designed to educate and inspire students about science, conservation, and environmental issues.

Founded on current Zoo research, programs allow students to “become the scientist” by applying the same scientific methods and procedures used by our own scientists.

Students will be guided through these programs by SCBI education specialists who are actively involved in Smithsonian conservation and research.

For details follow this link to the National Zoo’s Website:

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/ClassroomResources/CRCClassroomOutreach/default.cfm>



Spring Lecture Series coming soon

Great opportunity for teachers to learn more about conservation issues and how Smithsonian scientists are working to preserve the amazing biodiversity on earth. Dates and times to be announced soon and can be found at:

<http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ActivitiesAndEvents/Lectures/CRCfall09lectures.cfm>

I look forward to working with you all in the future. Any questions contact CRC Education Office at 540 635 6540 or crceducation@si.edu

Thanks,

Laura Linn – Education Specialist