

Who We Are

The PEC Advisory Council is a non-profit, 501 C, tax exempt organization founded in 1978.

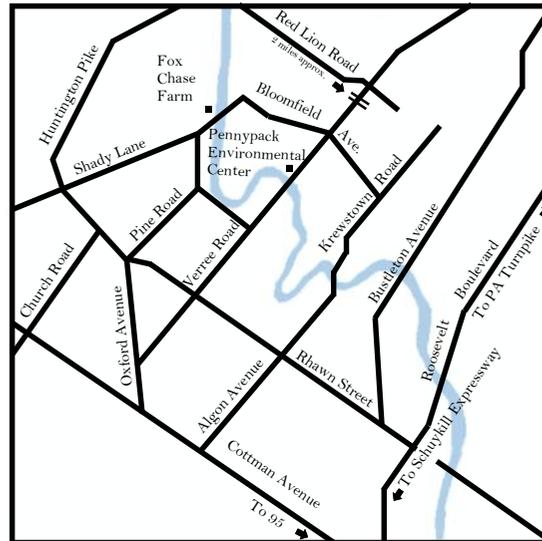
Our mission,

to further the operation and development of the Pennypack Environmental Center, which serves the residents of Philadelphia and surrounding areas.



The Pennypack Environmental Center, 2002.

General Information



Pennypack Environmental Center is located at 8600 A Verree Rd. in Northeast Philadelphia.

It is approximately 1 mile north of Rhawn Street and 1.5 miles south of Red Lion Rd.

Via SEPTA take route 67 going towards Franklin Mills Mall.

The center is handicapped-accessible.

Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

The center is open weekdays from 9-4 except on holidays. Weekend hours vary.

For more information call (215) 685-0470

Pennypack Environmental Center



Advisory Council

Pennypack Environmental Center

The Pennypack Environmental Center is administered by the City of Philadelphia's Fairmount Park Commission, and provides environmental education and recreational programming to over 15,000 people per year.



The nature sanctuary was originally designated in 1958. The

environmental center was constructed in 1969 and expanded in 2001. The center is located in Northeast Philadelphia at the western end of 1600 acre Pennypack Park. Some of the amenities available to the public include, trails for hiking, biking and horse riding, interpretive displays, an outdoor amphitheater, and a new reference library . PEC staff also present public programming at nearby Fox Chase Farm, a city owned 112 acre working livestock farm..



Scarecrow making at the farm as part of the summer tours.

History

The grounds of the Center offer glimpses of its past uses. Stone quarries, mill races and foundation walls attest to prior activities. As early as 1690, Pennypack Creek was harnessed to provide energy for a grist mill. Later mills were built by the Verree family and by the mid-19th century this area was known as Verreeville. The Verree and Klein house are remnants of this small industrial center that produced flour, lumber, edge tools and textiles. Arrow heads and stone tools are still found attesting to Native American presence long before the settlers.



Verree House in 1910.

PEC Advisory Council with commissioned art work .

Our Work Includes

1. Advocating for the Fairmount Park System citywide, and ensuring that the Pennypack Environmental Center is given adequate staffing levels.
2. Ensuring that the programming offered is accessible to all people.
3. Raising money to supplement funding from the Fairmount Park Commission. Our funding has provided commissioned artwork, fees for speakers , books for the library, teaching supplies, equipment, furnishings, and other needs.
4. Assisting scouts, other groups and individuals with service learning projects.
5. Helping to plan and present special events and fundraisers.
6. Promoting membership in the Friends of Pennypack Environmental Center.

