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NED SMITH CENTER DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION RECEIVES 2015 SANDY COCHRAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NATURAL HISTORY EDUCATION

MILLERSBURG, PA – The Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art is proud to announce that its Director of Education, Beth Sanders, was recently given the Pennsylvania Forestry Association’s Sandy Cochran Award for Excellence in Natural History Education. The award was presented to Sanders at the Pennsylvania Forestry Association’s annual meeting in Lancaster, PA on Saturday, October 17.

“This is very exciting not only for Beth, but for all of us at the Center,” says Ned Smith Center executive director Stephen Quigley. “Beth, along with a dedicated education committee, has built a truly special education program here at the Center, and has done a great job of engaging the community, as well as the teachers and administrators of many school districts, who have enlisted the Center for valuable, standards-focused programs to enhance their curriculums. Beth has truly taken the Center’s mission of connecting people with the natural world to heart when developing these programs, and we are proud that PFA has taken the opportunity to recognize her achievements.”

The Sandy Cochran Award for Excellence in Natural Resources Education honors those who have created innovative programs to educate individuals about the management and conservation of natural resources in Pennsylvania.

The award was established in memory of Roe S. “Sandy” Cochran (1925-1991), a beloved past director of PFA and a Penn State forest resources extension agent for 25 years. Through the years, the Sandy Cochran Award award has been presented to a variety of individuals: from Bureau of Forestry employees to conservation district people to extension agents, and from teachers to specialists to private foresters.

Beth Sanders has been leading the Ned Smith Center’s education department since February 2005, and has been involved in environmental and conservation education throughout her career. Before coming to the Center, Beth worked at Wildwood Lake Nature Center and Audubon Pennsylvania. Beth holds degrees in Wildlife Management and Parks & Recreation from Penn State University.

To learn more about the Center’s unique and diverse education programming, visit nedsmithcenter.org.

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