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11-22-2019

The Fierce Green Fire: Vol. 10 Issue 11

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

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Recommended Citation

Wofford College Environmental Studies Program, "The Fierce Green Fire: Vol. 10 Issue 11" (2019). *The Fierce Green Fire*. 230.

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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

*Happy
Thanksgiving!*

*Pumpkin growing in
the Goodall garden.*



Volume 10, Issue 11

Thanksgiving Musings by Dr. Peter Brewitt

In a week, America will be conscientiously digesting, wondering whether putting green beans in a turkey sandwich is genius or too much, and talking to family members about whether to head into Black Friday. Thanksgiving is the most American of holidays, maybe even more than the Fourth of July – lots of countries have independence days.

It is also, of course, an environmental day. Leaving aside the enormous carbon emissions from all those people going home for the holidays (family seems like a good justification for this though), let us consider the meal those people will all be eating. Our diet most days is built around the foods Europeans brought across the Atlantic Ocean – beef, pork, chicken, wheat. But

Thanksgiving dinner is a New World meal. Turkeys were domesticated in Mexico and the Southwest, but initially for cultural purposes – more like pets than meals. Potatoes, sweet and ordinary, are from the Andes. Corn was grown in much of Native America. The pumpkins in your pie grew amongst native corn fields. The natives of New England were using cranberries when the pilgrims arrived. And the green beans that you should probably leave out of your sandwich? They're American too.

Writing this has made me hungry, and I am going to head to lunch. But I wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving! Rest up, enjoy the meal, give thanks for the good things in your life.

Tips for a Green Thanksgiving



Fall colors at Glendale Shoals



We had a wonderful turnout on Saturday for the dedication of the painting commissioned by the Ruffin Family in memory of ENVS major MacGregor Ruffin.

If you are on campus, please visit this amazing painting by artist Roger Nelson, located in the Great Oaks Hall of Milliken Science.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**These count toward your two required extracurricular events for the semester.*

November 25th
2:00pm
Milliken Science, Room 122

ENVS Reading and Presentation*: Join us for a reading and presentation by Dr. Sigma Colón titled “*Watershed Colonialism and Popular Geographies of North American Rivers.*”

November 27th – 29th

HAPPY
Thanksgiving

December 3rd
8:30am
Milliken Science, Room 128

ENVS Reading and Presentation*: Join us for a reading and presentation by Dr. Anna Lena Phillips Bell titled “*Sustained Attention: Writing, Printing, and Place-based Creative Practice.*”

December 9th
Application Deadline

Job Opportunity with Clemson Extension: Seeking applicants for an extension agent for their Florence County Extension Office. This person will join the Water Resource Extension team and coordinate the Carolina Clear program in Florence and Darlington Counties. [Job details and application.](#)

Ongoing

Job Opportunities in Conservation and Restoration: [The Great Basin Institute](#) is a nonprofit organization that specializes in conservation and restoration all throughout the West. They are currently hiring for over 60 paid positions ranging from ecological monitoring, wildlife monitoring, trail maintenance, range land management, and fuels reduction.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Bard College – Bard Center for Environmental Policy

Bard College, a private liberal arts college, is located on the shore of the Hudson River, which is just north of New York City. The Bard Center for Environmental Policy (Bard CEP) was founded in 1999 and the graduate program was launched in 2001. Today, Bard CEP offers a MS in Environmental Policy and a MS in Climate Science and Policy.

The Peace Corps Master’s International Program also provides the opportunity to incorporate the Peace Corps service with a master’s degree.

A joint program with Pace Law School, one of the

nation’s top five environmental law programs, provides a MS degree, in environmental policy or climate science and policy, and a JD with a certificate in environmental law. Two other dual degrees are offered. The MS/MAT is for students seeking advanced knowledge in environmental policy and certification in secondary education and the MS/MBA is for students developing careers that combine the skills needed in both policy and business.

[Bard College – Center for Environmental Policy](#)