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## **Fall Fest and Make a Difference at the Dan at the Danville Science Center**

DANVILLE — Join in a Dan River cleanup. Create leaf rubbings. Meet a monarch butterfly expert. Discover how animals adapt to changing weather. Investigate why leaves change color. **Fall Fest** is at the Danville Science Center **Saturday, Oct. 24, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

“**Fall Fest** is filled with exciting seasonal activities,” says Danville Science Center Director Jeff Liverman. “You can improve our community and environment by joining a group to clean up the Dan and by learning about monarch butterfly conservation. At the same time, you are participating in the statewide initiative Stewardship Virginia and in Make a Difference Day. These are great activities for families, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.”

**Make a Difference at the Dan** starts at **11 a.m.** Meet between the Main Street Bridge and Dan Daniel Memorial Park. The Science Center partners with the outdoor recreation division of Danville’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism to clean the Dan River banks and feeder streams. To register call 434-791-5160 no later than **Oct. 22**. Participants can win certificates. Scouts can earn badges.

At **1 p.m.** naturalist Ina Warren presents an in-depth look at the importance of native milkweeds in the monarch butterfly’s lifecycle. She discusses programs that

focus on improving monarchs' summer breeding grounds and overwintering areas. Warren shares information on native perennial species useful in creating or restoring monarch habitat in special butterfly gardens called way-stations. Take home free seeds of locally native milkweed to attract monarchs to your yard.

While you are at the Science Center, visit **Engineer It**. Team up with friends to build a seven-foot arch. Design boats to sail in a water tank. Test buildings and bridges in an earthquake. Operate a jib crane. Learn about careers in engineering.

**Engineer It** is a creation of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland. The exhibit is made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation. Local support provided by the Kiwanis Club of Danville Foundation.

**Make a Difference at the Dan** is free, but you must pre-register. **Fall Fest** and **Engineer It** are included with Science Center admission. Tickets are \$5 for ages 4-12 and 60+, and \$6 for ages 13-59. The Science Center is open Tuesday- Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For Science Center information call 434-791-5160 or visit [www.dsc.smv.org](http://www.dsc.smv.org). The Science Center is located at 677 Craghead Street.

The Danville Science Center is a division of the Science Museum of Virginia.

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