



**Closer  
to Nature**

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Say Hello to summer recess on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the newly refurbished ČSOP trail Vesec Valley**

**Liberec, June 17, 2015:** On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the Czech Union for Nature Conservation (ČSOP) will present the general public with the all-new Vesec Valley educational trail near Liberec, which it has completely refurbished within the context of the NET4GAS Closer to Nature program. A new boardwalk and several footbridges mean that the trail is again safe for everyone. In addition, the trail now prides itself on having new information panels fitted with QR codes. As a part of the opening ceremony of the trail, the public can look forward to a varied program of activities for children and adults alike.

The educational trail leads past seven stations on a 2.3 km route. It takes visitors into the beautiful Vesec Valley and to the pond of the same name, and familiarizes them with the local floodplain, bog meadows, peat bog, and part of the "Luční potok", a brook of Community importance. Researchers have recorded over 400 plant species, 250 insect species, and almost 100 vertebrate species. Attentive visitors thus have a fair chance of spotting along the way, e.g. the Kingfisher or various newts in their natural environment.

Over the past couple of years, this popular spot for walks and excursions had become extremely inaccessible, as the boardwalks were already beyond their useful life in those parts where they had come into contact with water. This prompted the local "Armillaria" chapter of the ČSOP to get involved with the NET4GAS Closer to Nature program, and to embark on a comprehensive refurbishment of the trail. "Work began last autumn, and since then we've installed 60 meters of larch planking, including two footbridges, and seven new info panels. We also owe a big thanks to the City of Liberec for its support, as most of the land is in municipal ownership," said Květa Morávková of the local chapter of the ČSOP.

"The Vesec Valley is the fifth site that we've made accessible in the Liberec Region alongside the ČSOP, and the sixty-ninth of its kind across the entire country as part of the NET4GAS Closer to Nature program. Within the context of this program, we have been supporting and promoting similarly valuable projects in the area of nature conservation since 2007 already," added Zuzana Kučerová of NET4GAS.

The opening ceremony will take the form of a contest for children, who will have the chance to win valuable prizes, such as binoculars, t-shirts or books. The festivities begin at 2 p.m. on June 30<sup>th</sup> on the banks of the Vesec fishpond. Other highlights on the event's list of activities include sitting round the campfire, grilling sausages, scything lessons, and a presentation of the events and activities planned by local NGOs for the summer holiday period. Depending on the level of participation, the event is planned to last throughout the afternoon.

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The **Czech Union for Nature Conservation** is a group of people who love nature and share an active interest in nature conservation. It currently has close to 7,000 members, some of whom hail from the ranks of professional naturalists, but others are enthusiastic volunteers, while some are adults and others are children. Everyone can help. Do you love nature? Then join us! For more information, visit [www.csop.cz](http://www.csop.cz).

**NET4GAS** is the Czech Republic's reliable and safe gas transmission system operator, pursuing the responsible policy of protecting nature and the environment for current and future generations. The commercial operations of NET4GAS are very closely connected with the issue of nature conservation, and it is this fact that underlies the firm's long-term strategy of corporate philanthropy that has been implemented within the context of the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme. Since 2007, NET4GAS has been the general partner of the Czech Union of Nature Conservation, while the firm also supports various other projects for which the slogan "Closer to Nature" is at the heart of sustainable development. For detailed information on the sites that have been opened to the general public, and for lots of additional interesting information related to nature, please visit [www.blizpriode.cz](http://www.blizpriode.cz).



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### **Overview of the 69 sites opened to the public by Czech Union for Nature Conservation under the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme**

#### **2007**

NT Klíč Valley, Svor / Česká Lípa  
NT Hloučela Biocorridor, Prostějov  
Opičák, Liberec  
Jelenice, Pozořice / Brno-venkov  
Myslík Quarry, Myslík / Frýdek-Místek  
NT Milovice Observation Post, Milovice / Nymburk

#### **2008**

NT Footpaths in the Beskid Foothills, Kunčice pod Ondřejníkem / Frýdek-Místek  
NT A Forest Full of Senses, Krásná Lípa / Děčín  
NT Bludov Hillside, Bludov / Šumperk  
NT VINOŘ Park – Satalice Pheasantry, Praha-VINOŘ  
Golden Hill, Bečov nad Teplou / Karlovy Vary  
Kamenec, Kamenec u Radnic / Rokycany  
NT Zvole Hummock, Zvole u Prahy  
NT Fryšták, Fryšták / Zlín  
Salamander Spring, Myslík / Frýdek-Místek  
NT Velký Košíř, Litomyšl / Svitavy  
NT Mnichov Serpentine, Prameny / Cheb  
NT Hasina Valley, Lipno / Louny  
Chlum Quarry, Srbsko / Beroun  
Mokroš Biocentre, Mořice / Prostějov  
NT Zahrady, Český Brod / Kolín  
Blahutovice Observation Post, Blahutovice / Nový Jičín  
NT Votočnice, Sázava / Benešov

#### **2009**

Rezavka, Ostrava  
Štěpán Nature Reserve, Děhylov / Ostrava  
NT Medník, Hradištko / Praha-západ  
Vladař Mountain, Vladořice / Karlovy Vary  
NT Podkovák, Lesná / Tachov  
Kudlačena, Horní Bečva / Vsetín  
Podlešák's Elm, Vimperk-Boubská / Prachatice  
Above the River, Bečov nad Teplou / Karlovy Vary

#### **2010**

Choryn Wetland Nature Reserve, Lešná / Valašské Meziříčí  
NT Water World, Lesná / Domažlice

Poustka, Pozořice / Brno-venkov  
Skalka Nature Reserve, Kunčice pod Ondřejníkem / Frýdek-Místek  
NT Sudslavice Circuit, Vimperk / Prachatice  
Žák's Hill National Nature Reserve, Cikháj / Žďár nad Sázavou  
Moses Spring - Emperor's Stone, Vesec / Liberec  
Semanín Trail, Semanín / Ústí nad Orlicí

### **2011**

NT Na cvičišti - At the Training Ground, Valašské Meziříčí / Vsetín  
Střelenská Meadow, Střelná / Teplice  
Capartice Meadows, Capartice / Domažlice  
Chlum Mountain Nature Reserve, Chlum / Karlovy Vary  
Manor Rock Natural Monument, Habrovany / Vyškov  
NT Around Vřesina, Vřesina / Opava  
NT Saint Vitus Guild, Trstěnice / Cheb

### **2012**

Litovice Pond Bird-Watching Spot, Litovice / Praha-západ  
Kolo Wetland, Slavkov / Uherské Hradiště  
NT Vidžín - Telecí potok, Vidžín / Plzeň-sever  
NT Housle, Praha-Lysolaje  
Pančava, Pozořice / Slavkov  
NT Mýto, Nedvězí / Prague  
Bohumilice Avenue, Bohumilice / Prachatice  
Ořešník, Hejnice / Liberec  
NT Heřmanice Pond, Heřmanice / Ostrava

### **2013**

Lačnov Crocuses, Lačnov / Vsetín  
NT Umíř, Plachtín / Plzeň-sever  
NT Pňov Mead, Pňov-Předhradí / Kolín  
NT St. John's Rapids, Štěchovice / Praha-západ  
Třemešské rybníky Bird-Watching Spot, Dolní Studénky / Šumperk  
Path to Sulphurous Springs, Zádveřice / Zlín

### **2014**

NT Libušín Fortification, Libušín / Kladno  
Lušová Valley, Lušová / Vsetín  
NT Zásmuky Pheasantry, Zásmuky / Kolín  
Canopy Road Beneath Hořínkova Forester's Lodge, Buchlovice / Uherské Hradiště  
NT Chlum, Nepřevázka, Mladá Boleslav  
NT Through landscape of floods, Jeseník nad Odrou / Nový Jičín  
NT Hády Quarries and Surroundings, Brno

### **2015**

NT Vesec Valley, Liberec

NT = nature trail

**Find more information at [www.blizpriode.cz](http://www.blizpriode.cz)**

