



Closer
to Nature

PRESS RELEASE

Magic nature spot instead of a waste dump – visit the Pančava children's nature reserve

Pozořice near Brno (26 September 2012) –The Czech Union for Nature Conservation presented, in co-operation with its general partner, NET4GAS, already the 51st locality within the mutual Closer to Nature programme to the public. The locality is the Pančava children's nature reserve, a magic place for a walk or a destination trip not only for children.

The story of the Pančava children's nature reserve is a fairy tale a bit. Pozořice near Brno was an important homestead of the house of Lichtenstein in the past. A large garden was adjacent to the manor where there was a pond, shooting range and an orchard. As time went by, the pond vanished, and the local people started filling the march of no use with various wastes.

The local organisation of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation proposed to re-arrange the place in such a way that the green remains preserved and the lower water-soaked part of the garden is revitalised. The proposal was adopted by the municipality, and the key mover of the project, Mgr. Aleš Tinka, could, in collaboration with Young Conservationists and the children of the local basic school, start liquidating the dump and, subsequently, planting bushes and trees. Alongside this, two pools were deepened. And so, we can see wild ducks, common moorhens and Eurasian green toads here.

A curiosity of this locality is a group of huge crack willows resembling tropical forest trees with their twisted trunks. Not many people know nowadays that aspirin was prepared from the acid contained in crack willow bark in 1899. Not only this information is newly provided on the new information board installed in the garden.

“The mission of the whole Closer to Nature programme can very well be seen in the Pančava project. The programme's vision is to show and explain to people in an entertaining and enlightening way what is so precious in the nature so that it deserves our attention and protection,” said Milan Řepka, spokesperson for NET4GAS.

Field natural science programmes designated for the pupils of the local basic school take place in the garden, and the Pozořice organisation of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation organises contests for parents with children and younger schoolchildren and the Earth Day celebrations. “We attempt to show people that there are reasons why to set out in the local nature. The fact that we manage to convince them can be seen in the localities that were made accessible already before within the Closer to Nature programme,” said Zdeněk Kohout of the Pozořice organisation of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation. In the vicinity of Pozořice, there are other three locations that were presented to the public within the Closer to Nature programme (Jelenice, 2007; Poustka, 2010; Panská skála 2011). If you visit the place, there will be right four interesting destination tips for you to choose from.

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The Czech Union for Nature Conservation is a civic association of people who share an active interest in nature conservation and the environment. ČSOP's mission is to protect and restore nature, the landscape and the environment, to promote environmental education and support sustainable living. The Union currently has 9,000 members coming from the ranks of professional naturalists, experienced volunteers as well as pure enthusiasts who simply love nature. For more information please go to www.csop.cz.

NET4GAS is aware of its social responsibility and therefore develops and constantly deepens its concept of corporate philanthropy and sponsorship. The company acts as a reliable and safe gas transmission system operator and develops a responsible environmental policy that takes into account the interests of future generations. The NET4GAS long-term strategy - which is put into practice through the NET4GAS Closer to Nature programme - springs from the close relation between the core business pursued by NET4GAS on the one hand, and nature-conservation and environmental issues on the other. NET4GAS is the general partner of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation since 2007 and supports other projects for which the motto "Closer to Nature" represents an integral part of sustainable development. For detailed information on the localities newly opened to the public and on other nature spots of interest, as well as for destination tips, please visit www.closertonature.cz.