

# Penn's Stewards

News from the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation



Spring 2015



Credit: Jennifer Ingram at  
Sinnemahoning State Park

2014  
Winner:  
First Place,  
Appreciation  
of Beauty,  
People's choice

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# Better Health for Everyone —

## *Do We Not See the Forests for the Trees?*

**Here it is: all organisms depend on their environments for energy and the materials needed to sustain life: clean air, potable water, nutritious food, and safe places to live.** For most of human history, increases in longevity were due to improved access to these necessities. Advances in agriculture, sanitation, water treatment, and hygiene have had a far greater impact on human health than medical technology.

With roughly half the temperate and tropical forests cut down, half the ice-free, desert-free terrestrial landscape converted to croplands or pasture, and more than 800,000 dams impeding the flow of water through more than 60% of the world's rivers, alterations to our planet's land use and land cover represent some of the most pervasive changes humanity has made to Earth's natural systems.

We need to understand how human impacts on natural environments affect public health. This understanding can change and inform decision-making in land-use planning, environmental conservation, and public health policy.<sup>1</sup>

How better to appreciate our land's vital role in public health than to examine it in context - historically and in our future goals. We think of our forests and natural areas as recreational, but without taking the long view - we may "not see the forest for the trees."

Pennsylvania's first conservationist, William Penn, set these conditions on those who would settle on his province: "in clearing the ground, care be taken to leave one acre of trees for every five acres cleared." Later, Philadelphia physician Benjamin Rush, (a signer of the Declaration of Independence) wrote the first case report on dengue fever and initiated public works associated with draining and rerouting Dock Creek, eliminating mosquito breeding grounds, which greatly decreased typhus, typhoid and cholera outbreaks. Improved public health through environmental advocacy is still relevant, 300+ years later. *continued on page 3*

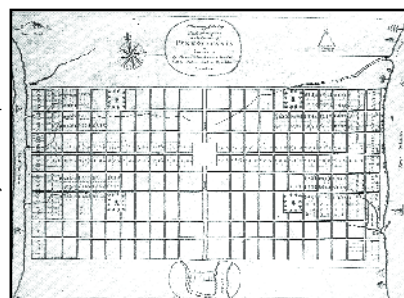
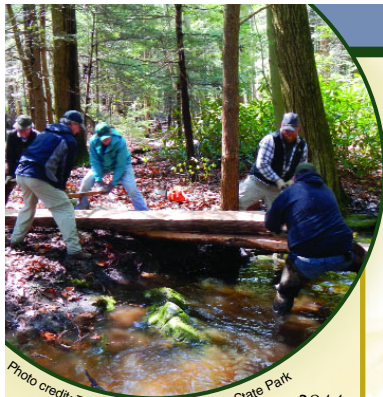


Photo credit: City of Philadelphia

Penn's first plans for Philadelphia, his "Greene Country Towne," called for individual houses to be separated from their neighbors by sizable areas of green. The lots marked off on the map were either one acre or half an acre in size, plenty large enough for all to plant their own gardens. Penn was so interested in parks and gardens in part because he realized some of the public health dangers (infectious disease and fire) inherent in the 17th century city.

<sup>1</sup> The Hastings Center (an independent, nonpartisan, and nonprofit bioethics research institute founded in 1969. The Center's mission is to address fundamental ethical issues in the areas of health, medicine, and the environment as they affect individuals, communities, and societies.)



2014  
First Place,  
Volunteers in Action

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# President's Message

Marci Mowery



Happy New Year! First thought for 2015: my sincere gratitude for your support in making so many projects a reality in 2014. As we were pulling together the articles for this newsletter, I wanted to squeeze "just one more photo in" so many times that the editor finally had to say, "Enough!"

We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you. I hope you enjoy reading about your many accomplishments.

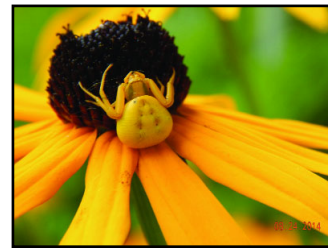
What is in store for 2015? Our theme this year is *Looking Back to Move Ahead*. Pennsylvania is rich in conservation history—in fact, we have even been called the Cradle of Conservation—with such notable PA-born leaders as Gifford Pinchot and Rachel Carson. This first issue focuses on the symbiotic relationship between conservation and health. We hope the article inspires you to take action—visit the conservation heritage website at [paconservationheritage.org](http://paconservationheritage.org), visit us as we travel the state, roll up your sleeves and get involved—and perhaps discover a new vantage point to view your role in conservation.

Photo credit: Lauren Fair at Lyman Run



2014 First Place, Young Photographers

You **ROCKED** us with photographs in 2014. Seriously, the images submitted to the photo contest blew our socks off. So many inspiring stories were illustrated by the images you shared. Choosing winners was difficult, as each individual photo spoke to us in different ways. We'll share the winners throughout 2015, and hope they will inspire you to participate in this year's contest.



2014 First Place,  
Critics Choice  
Young Photographer

Photo credit:  
Makayla Young  
at Moshannon State Forest

Have you visited the traveling gallery that showcases the photo contest winners? Check the calendar of events to see when we'll be near you. Stop by. Say hello. We'd love to meet you.

We'll be out and about Pennsylvania for the *Day in the Life* of a state park and state forest. Consider marking your calendar and participating. Keep an eye on our webpage to find out where we might be—we welcome you to join us!

In closing, thank you for the support, enthusiasm, and affinity for your state parks and forests. We couldn't do our work without you—we appreciate and need your financial support, but enthusiasm for your public lands... that **INSPIRES** us.

*Yours in the Outdoors,*

Marci

# Welcome to Your New Board Members

PPFF's November board meeting is often bittersweet, as members leave us and new ones come on board. In 2014, we said good-bye to Senator David Argall, Darla Cravotta, and Joanne Raphael. We are lucky, however, to be able to welcome Gus Frederick and Mary Soderberg to their first three-year terms!



Gus works as GIS/IT Support Technician for the Lehigh County Authority, but you may recall that he served as an intern for the Foundation during the spring of 2012 as he pursued his Masters of Science in Geoenvironmental Studies at Shippensburg University. He was a great help then, with a ready smile and willingness to pitch in — sometimes quite literally as he threw out the first pitch during our Night with the (Harrisburg) Senators that May. As Marci says, "We're looking for Gus to bring a much-needed 'Millennials' perspective to the board."



Mary currently serves as Vice President of the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace, so she'll join with current member Maxine Harrison in bringing the concerns of our chapter leaders to the ears of her fellow board members. Mary's specialty is budgeting and finance, having served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a budget and financial advisor since the late 1980s. Mary served as Secretary of the Budget and Budget Advisor to the Office of the Auditor General, so her insight into the dollars and cents of Foundation management are going to be invaluable.

# Better Health for Everyone *continued from front cover*

## Champions of the Conservation and Public Health Connection

The connection between public health and environmental advocacy got a foothold in the 1880s, when MIT graduate and chemist Ellen Swallow Richards focused her interests on issues of sanitation, particularly air and water quality. She performed a series of water tests of local waters, which, at the time, served as drinking water for their immediate populations.

Here in Pennsylvania, in the early 1900s, Mira Lloyd Dock became a true champion of public health through environmental advocacy. Witty and charming, Dock embarked on her "City Beautiful" activities in Harrisburg and through her writings and lectures she developed a large acquaintance among landscape architects, conservationists, and foresters, including Gifford Pinchot. She firmly believed that parks, recreational opportunities, clean streets, and clean inhabitants were compatible with a city's economic success.

Dock's closest ally in urban conservation was J. Horace McFarland (for more on McFarland, see PPFF Summer 2013 newsletter). Together, they contrived a plan to accomplish the formidable task of transforming Pennsylvania's state capital from a dingy, filthy railroad/industrial town into a model city. The steep bank of the Susquehanna River near downtown Harrisburg had saved it from use as a railroad bed or steel mill construction, but was instead fouled by raw sewage, garbage, and coal ashes. In April 1901, the Harrisburg Telegraph ran an article stressing her theme of beautification and recreation, which called for parks, pure water, paved streets, a city hall, a covered sewer interceptor and green space along the river. Within fifteen years all of these improvements, and more were in place. Park acreage increased from 46 in 1902 to 958 in 1915.

## A Wake-up Call – The Johnstown flood

Easily one of the most dramatic cause and effect scenarios in Pennsylvania between public health and conservation is the Johnstown flood. Johnstown was a booming steel center with a population of 30,000 by 1889. It was built on the floodplain at the confluence of the Little Conemaugh and Stonycreek rivers.

Increased runoff from the hills due to deforestation, appropriation of riverbanks to accommodate more building space, and poor dam maintenance completed the disaster trifecta. On May 30, 1889, heavy rains broke the dam, unleashing 20 million tons of water at the same velocity the Niagara River goes over the falls. Farmers below the dam said that the wave was "a turbulent wall of water, filling the entire valley."



*The Sisters of Charity home destroyed by the Johnstown Flood in 1889.*

In the aftermath, disease washed over Johnstown as hard as the water, with typhoid adding 40 more casualties to the initial death toll of 2,209 from the flood. The final tally of the damage came to \$17 million and the clean up took years to accomplish. Bodies were still being found months, in some cases years, after the flood.

In response to issues such as deforestation and land use, Governor Beaver (1887-91), promoted conservation measures for forests and waterways. In 1897, PA's first State Forest Reservation Commission was formed with one of its specific goals, "to protect sources of water supply on the headwaters of the Delaware, Susquehanna and Ohio rivers." Mira Dock was appointed to the Commission in 1901 (along with Joseph Rothrock, considered the "father" of PA forestry), the first woman to be appointed to a government post in the Commonwealth. In 1910, she introduced a resolution to instruct the foresters and forest rangers to see to it that all brooks and springs within the State Forest Reserves be kept free from garbage and refuse.

*continued on page 4*



*The Susquehanna riverfront before Mira Lloyd Dock's "City Beautiful" efforts.*

Photo credit: Commonwealth of PA



*Early champion of urban beautification—Mira Lloyd Dock*

Photo credit: Library of Congress

Photo credit: PA Capitol Preservation Committee

# Better Health for Everyone *continued from page 3*

## PA's Role in the Clean Air Act

In October 1948, Donora, Pennsylvania was enveloped in a lethal haze. Over five days, nearly half of the town's 14,000 residents experienced severe respiratory and cardiovascular problems. It was difficult to breathe. Twenty people were asphyxiated and over 7,000 were hospitalized. Disturbing photos show Donora's streets hidden under a thick blanket of gray smog. A warm air pocket had passed high above the town, trapping cooler air below and sealing in pollutants.

*Taken at noon on October 29, 1948, this photo shows the deadly smog blanketing Donora.*



Photo credit: NOAA Ocean Service Education

Steel and zinc smelters had long plagued the town with dirty air, but the air pocket left pollutants with no escape route. The situation in Donora was extreme, but it reflected a trend. Air pollution had become a harsh consequence of industrial growth across the country and world.

Crises like Donora's were widely publicized; people took notice and began to act.

Scientists started investigating the link between air pollution and health. States began passing legislation to reduce air pollution. In 1970, a milestone year, Congress passed the Clean Air Act Amendments which led to the establishment of the nation's air quality standards.

Presently, PA's Bureau of Air Quality is responsible for safeguarding the health of Pennsylvanians by achieving the goals of the federal Clean Air Act and the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. The bureau develops air quality regulations, conducts meteorological tracking and air quality modeling studies and reviews.

## Clean Water Act

For much of our country's past, our water resources were not protected, but were instead exploited. Environmental laws did not provide the level of protection needed and often allowed pollution and environmental damage to continue. For example, despite the widespread knowledge of the harm inflicted by coal mining operations, mining companies in Pennsylvania were often exempted from regulations intended to protect waterways. As a result, decades of under-regulated mining resulted in thousands of miles of Pennsylvania streams being degraded or dead from the affects of acid mine drainage.

As the state felt the impact of unregulated discharge into waterways, a series of legislative initiatives occurred—addressing not just coal, but other forms of discharge, in an attempt to reduce the effects of pollution. Notable Pennsylvania milestones include:

- 1897 – State Forest System created
- 1898 – First state forest lands were purchased to protect watersheds
- 1909 – A law is passed forbidding emptying any waste into any waters of the Commonwealth that could jeopardize fish populations.
- 1937 – Passage of Clean Stream Law, amended in 1945
- 1945 – Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act is passed and is considered to be the first comprehensive attempt to prevent pollution from surface coal mining

By the 1960's, the harm caused by exploitive uses of waterways began to be recognized across the country and brought about a shift in the way these resources would be regarded.

- 1972 – The Clean Water Act established a national water quality program.
- 1961-1970 Regulations of surface mining began as hundreds of miles of streams and thousands of acres of land had been disturbed or ruined. The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) adopted the most comprehensive water quality standards of any interstate river basin in the nation.
- 1970 – Clean Stream Law rewritten
- 1971 – Surface mining Conservation and Reclamation Act 147
- 1977 – Clean Water Act becomes law *continued on page 5*

## The Conservation Heritage Project

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has a remarkable history of conservation dating at least to the late 19th century when industrialization rapidly took hold and when environmental resources were impacted and, in many cases, depleted by economic growth.

Conservation efforts are also apparent in the efforts of people who worked to conserve and protect environmental resources. Remarkably, however, this rich history has never been comprehensively documented.

Enter the Pennsylvania's Conservation Heritage Project. Combining academic research, interviews and technology, we seek to create a comprehensive archive of this important story.

The work of Pennsylvania's Conservation Heritage is directed by an advisory board and several supporting and participating organizations.

*To learn more, visit [Paconservationheritage.org](http://Paconservationheritage.org).*

## Looking Forward

The evolving dialogue over use and preservation of resources reflects the links between economics and ecology that once troubled wildlife biologist Aldo Leopold. He conceived of ecology as a 'round river' whereby the movement of moisture from land to air and into water is a metaphor standing for how rivers, forests, wildlife, and humans all shared the same sources of well-being. The health of the ecosystem he believed was embedded in the beauty and functional integrity of places and must be restored and maintained.

His model reminds us that what ever we do to the surroundings we inhabit, we ultimately do to one another. When debating preservation and use of natural resources, the 'round river' image reminds us of a deeper reality. We all live on the same 'round river.'

**IMPROVED  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
t h r o u g h  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**  
is still relevant, 300+ years later.

## THE ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST!

### *Parks and Forests through Your Eyes*

There is something for everyone to enjoy in a Pennsylvania state park or forest. Show us what makes these public lands meaningful to you in pictures. Do you enjoy fishing in the spring? Hiking with your dog in the fall? Cross-country skiing in the winter? Volunteering with your family in the summer? Showcase your favorite state park and forest moments in our photo contest.



**All photos must be submitted by noon on September 12, 2015 and must have been taken in a Pennsylvania state park or state forest.**

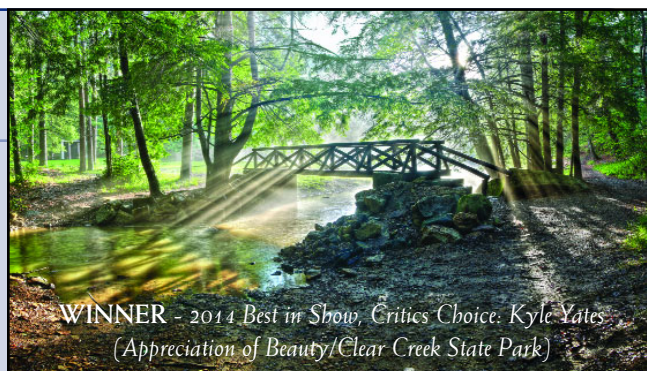
Send photos to PPFF at [ppffnewsletter@pa.net](mailto:ppffnewsletter@pa.net).

For a complete list of rules and submission details, go to [www.paparksandforests.org/photo\\_contests.html](http://www.paparksandforests.org/photo_contests.html)

### CATEGORIES INCLUDE:

- Black & White
- Capture the Seasons
- Friends & Family Fun
- Historical Gems
- Nature Up Close
- Young Photographers (photographers aged 10-21)

Three prizes will be awarded in each category as well as a **Best in Show, Critic's Choice, and People's Choice**. The winning photographs will be featured on the foundation's website, Facebook page, newsletter, and other electronic and print communications, as well as be taken on a photo gallery tour.



WINNER - 2014 Best in Show, Critics Choice: Kyle Yates  
(Appreciation of Beauty/Clear Creek State Park)



WINNER - 2014 Best in Show, People's Choice: Scott Hafer  
(Appreciation of Beauty/Kettle Creek State Park)

**Plan Ahead** Continue the legacy of conservation of our state parks and forests for future generations through a bequest or life income gift to PPFF. For more information visit our website at [www.PaParksAndForests.org/ways\\_to\\_give.html](http://www.PaParksAndForests.org/ways_to_give.html).

# A Day in the Life of Your State Parks and Forests

Everyone enjoyed the photos you sent for last year's Day in the Life of a State Park/State Forest...and we're doing it again this year! The idea is to document what you see in our parks and forests during these celebratory weekends. Let's capture the moments—from ordinary to extraordinary—during A Day in the Life of one of Pennsylvania's 120 state parks and 20 forests.

## April 11th and 12th (Forests)

Joseph T. Rothrock, the father of Pennsylvania forestry, was born 176 years ago this April 9th. He devoted his life to the conservation and management of a healthy forest ecosystem.

*Send photos by Tuesday, April 14th to [intern-ppff@pa.net](mailto:intern-ppff@pa.net)*

## May 23rd through 25th (Parks)

Visit a state park in honor of the establishment of the first Pennsylvania state park, Valley Forge, in 1893. You may have gifted the park to the nation in honor of the bicentennial but fortunately that first state park was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. *Send photos by Tuesday, May 27th to [intern-ppff@pa.net](mailto:intern-ppff@pa.net)*

**While you are out, be sure to pick up any litter that you see and leave your park and forest cleaner. Check the PPFF online calendar and Facebook page for opportunities to join PPFF staff on these special days.**

2014 Critic's Choice Winner for Appreciation of Beauty. Photographed by Timothy Gipe at Cowan's Gap.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 4** Photo Contest Showcase: Penn Brewery, Pennsylvania Brewing Company, 800 Vinial St, Pittsburgh
- March 8** Friends of Canoe Creek: Mountain Pie Madness, Canoe Creek State Park
- March 15** Friends of Mt. Pisgah: Sugar on Snow, Mt. Pisgah State Park near the Hilltop Pavilion and Nature Center
- March 19** Photo Contest Showcase: Columbia Kettle Works, Columbia Kettle Works, 40 North 3rd Street, Columbia
- March 29** Friends of Cowans Gap: The Cowans Gap 5k, Cowans Gap State Park, Fort Loudon

- April 4** Friends of Prince Gallitzin: Easter Egg Hunt, Prince Gallitzin State Park, Pickerel Pond, 966 Marina Road, Patton
- April 15** Photo Contest Showcase: PA Lumber Museum, Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, Galeton
- April 25** Friends of Ohiopyle: Wildflower Hike, Ohiopyle State Park

- May 2** Friends of Ohiopyle: Youth Fishing Day, Ohiopyle State Park
- May 8-10** Friends of Pine Grove Furnace, Woodsy Owl Weekend
- May 9** Friends of Black Moshannon: Women in the Wilds, Black Moshannon State Park, Philipsburg
- May 16** Friends of Lyman Run: Kids Fishing Derby, Lyman Run State Park
- May 17** Friends of Mount Pisgah: Chief Wetonah Challenge, Mt. Pisgah State Park, Troy
- May 23** Friends of Ohiopyle: Native Plant Sale, Ohiopyle State Park
- May 23** Friends of Prince Gallitzin State Park: Red White Blue Weekend, Prince Gallitzin State Park, Patton
- June 6** Friends of White Clay Creek: Dedication of the Tri-State Trail Marker
- June 7, 14, 21, 28** Friends of Keystone: Farmers Market, Keystone State Park
- June 20** Friends of Black Moshannon: PA Wilds Child, Black Moshannon State Park
- June 20** Friends of Mt. Pisgah: Square Dance, Mt. Pisgah State Park

- Check our website for updates on the many statewide Earth Day (4/25) and National Trails Day (6/6) events

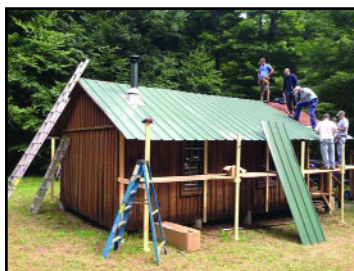
- Friends of Ridley Creek and Ohiopyle both have regularly scheduled volunteer days on the first Saturday of each month

# YOU Made it Happen

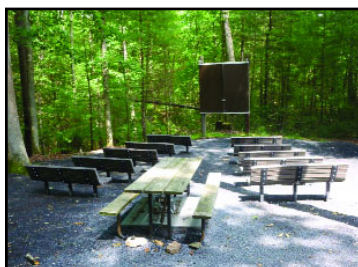
There are so many projects, events, and plans brought to completion by all of you, we could probably write an entire book, every year. For a bird's eye view, check out these recent ventures that YOU made happen:



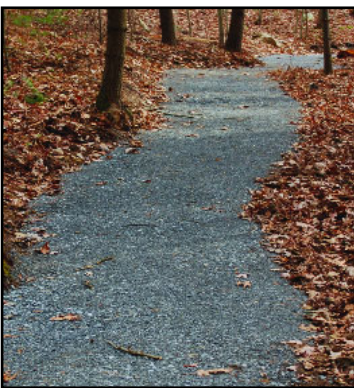
Cooking and heating at the Adirondack shelters at Route 271 on the Laurel Highlands biking trail just became safer with your support and a grant from REI and the Friends of Laurel Hills State Park that repointed chimneys and fireboxes.



Thanks to your support and a grant from REI, winter sports enthusiasts in the Forbes State Forest have a new and improved place to seek shelter.



Visitors to Caledonia State Park have easier access to the improved amphitheater thanks to your support and a grant from the Lincoln Highway Heritage Corridor.



This crushed limestone trail is more than just a path in the woods; it's a learning opportunity for children with mobility impairments, thanks to your support and a grant from the Kline Foundation.



Managers and naturalists at Lackawanna State Park have a better understanding of the natural world at this special place after a 24 hour 'bio-blitz', supported by your donations and the Overlook Estate Foundation. Donald Miller(l) and Len Janus (r) identify wetland plant species.



Proud of their work in improving a trail in Moshannon State Forest, participants in a two day trail workshop—funded through your support and a grant from the Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society—pose for a photo op. Two workshops were held for state park and forest staff and volunteers in 2014, with three planned for 2015.



Elk State Forest received new flags through the support of the local American Legion 194 and the local Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post 6221.



A shout out to all of the volunteers and organizations that made the Military and Family Appreciation Day a whopping success. You made a special day for everyone.



Everyone enjoyed a day of recreation at Gifford Pinchot State Park as part of the Military and Family Appreciation Day. Your support not only introduced new forms of recreation, it brought smiles to the faces of many, like this participant who learned about the beauty of hand crank bicycles.



Visitors to Keystone State Park will see improvements to Pavilion #2 including energy efficient lighting and an improved food preparation area. Students attending the annual conservation school will appreciate your support and that of the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation, which made the project a reality.



Students in Northeastern Pennsylvania engage with their local watersheds in a yearlong, hands-on education program funded through donor support and Pennsylvania American Water Company.

**ALSO:** The Department of Community and Economic Development supported the writing of seven new fact sheets for recreating in state parks and state forests. These fact sheets are available at events and through download at the PPFF website, and will help you learn new ways to enjoy our state parks and forests.

## CCC Reflections — By John Eastlake

There were three objectives for the CCC in Pennsylvania: reforestation, protection, and recreation. Some of the PA camps worked on all three, others just on recreation and protection with minimal time on tree planting. The protection camps spent their time building roads, fire trails, and fire lanes. The plan was to protect the natural reforestation that was occurring from the great fires by making the land accessible for fire control. Three billion trees were planted by the CCC nationwide.

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) boys work on tree planting in Tioga State Forest.



Photo credit: Bob Ward

A major development in the Tioga State Forest occurred in 1933 with the CCC camps at the Darling Run, Elk Run, Leetonia, and Dixie Run. Timber stand improvement practices also began at this time. This photo shows the 'string lines' that the CCC boys would follow in order to keep the tree lanes straight. This photo was provided by Bob Ward, a "CCC boy" at the S-91 Watrous Camp.



"CCC boys"  
George Pryslak (left)  
and Bob Ward (right)

## A SNAPSHOT IN TIME Rachel Carson and William Penn



### Rachel Carson (1907–1964)

Rachel Carson was born in Springdale, Pennsylvania, north of Pittsburgh. She grew up surrounded by 65 acres of rural countryside. She attended Pennsylvania College for Women, now Chatham College, in Pittsburgh, later studying at Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory in Massachusetts and Johns Hopkins University in Maryland where she earned her masters degree in zoology.

Carson was the second woman ever hired by the US Bureau of Fisheries (now the US Fish and Wildlife Service - FWS) as a professional biologist. She spent her free time writing about natural science for the public. The *Sea Around Us*, published in 1951, was the best seller that established her career as a full time writer and dedicated conservationist.

Rachel Carson's most well known book, *Silent Spring* (1962) educated the nation about the dangers of pesticides to both the environment and humans. Her book led to the formation of the President's Science Advisory Committee. Later, her courageous testimony in front of Congress instigated important legislative action.

Carson's work had a powerful impact on the environmental movement. *Silent Spring*, in particular, was a rallying point for the fledgling social movement in the 1960s. The Rachel Carson Homestead Association in Springdale, PA was formed after her death to preserve her birthplace for the public and to honor her work.

For more on Rachel Carson, go to <http://www.rachelcarson.org/>

### William Penn (1644–1718)

William Penn founded the Province of Pennsylvania, the British North American colony that became the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The democratic principles that he set forth served as an inspiration for the United States Constitution.

In 1682, Penn became one of our first conservationists when he made a move to conserve woodlands. Penn ruled that those who took titles to portions of the grant had to leave one acre wooded for every five they cleared. His visionary requirement is a genuine mark of conservation leadership in that it demonstrates the ability to think in the long term, to think strategically, and to impact people beyond his immediate influence.

Penn's conceptions of Philadelphia may be characterized as one of the earliest attempts at utopian city planning. His original vision of a "greene Country Towne" seeks to replicate this model of life in the New World. The first plan called for individual houses to be separated from their neighbors by sizable areas of green which should be situated "in the most Convenient place upon the river for health & Navigation." He also kept the concept of a greenbelt encircling the metropolis, itself a forerunner of the modern suburb.

Penn was interested in parks and gardens because he realized some of the dangers inherent in the 17th century city. He had lived through London's bubonic plague of 1665 and great fire of 1666. And so it is not surprising that he envisioned his 'greene town' as one "which will never be burnt, and always be wholesome."



## VACATION with your ENTIRE Family! New Pet Friendly Cabins

The Bureau of State Parks has announced an expanded listing of cabins that will permit pets in 2015. In addition to the existing cabins, new locations added to the roster include:

**Clear Creek** - Rustic Cabins 10 - 13

**Cowans Gap** - Rustic Cabins A and B

**Linn Run** - Rustic Cabins 9 and 10

**Moraine** - Modern Cabins 7 and 11

**Ohiopyle** - Camping Cottages 235 - 237

**Parker Dam** - Tyler Cabin

**Yellow Creek** - Camping Cottages 1 and 2

For the complete listing of pet friendly cabins...  
along with the pet policy for state parks, visit:  
<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/staythenight/cabins/index.htm>

## Dutch Country Riders

Members of the Dutch Country Riders All PA Ride earned the PPFF Silver Champion Tag from our state park and forest passport for visiting 10 or more Goddard parks during the months April to September. Five riders visited all 120 parks as part of the ride! Congratulations riders!

Rider Fritz (far right) commented, "People take what we have in Pennsylvania for granted – yet there is so much right here to see and do." We couldn't agree with you more, Fritz!



## We Invite You to Celebrate Your State Parks and Forests at the 9th Annual Awards Banquet Celebrating Leadership and Service



**Cliff Jones Keystone Legacy Award:** Linda McKenna Boxx

**Government Award:** Norm Lacasse

**President's Award:** Deloitte Consulting

**Park of the Year:** Point State Park

**Forest of the Year:** Buchanan State Forest

**Individual Volunteer of the Year:** Helen Maurella

**Improvement Award:** Warren Renninger

**Education Award:** Friends of Black Moshannon State Park

**Young Volunteer Award:** Kayce Bobnar

**Group Volunteer of the Year:** Friends of Nolde Environmental Education Center

**Date:** May 5th, 2015

**Place:** West Shore Country Club, Camp Hill

**Time:** 5:30 cash bar, 6:30 dinner

**Program:** Cocktail reception, dinner, awards program

**Emcee:** Gary K. Smith

**Cost:** \$50 (registration deadline April 25, 2015)

Support accessible recreation by donating an item to our silent auction, proceeds of which will be used to purchase adapted kayaking equipment for state park programming. Contact Marci Mowery at [mmowery-pbpf@pa.net](mailto:mmowery-pbpf@pa.net).



Thwaites monument on the MST in Rothrock State Forest.

**Remembering Tom Thwaites...** It was with heavy hearts that Pennsylvania's hiking community said good-bye to a true giant when Thomas Turville Thwaites, a name as grand as the man himself, died on Christmas Day at the age of 83. A biker's biker, Tom was the guiding light behind creation of the challenging Mid State Trail, 256K of rugged rock through central Pennsylvania from Maryland to New York. Tom knew that "creating" trails could not be the end of the story and turning "bikers" into "maintainers" was his highly successful means to ensuring the existence of safe and accessible paths through the woods for many years to come.

Both Marci and Pam had the pleasure of working with Tom over the years. In 1997, he guided the "Women's Expedition for the Environment" along the Mid State Trail portion of the cross-Pennsylvania trek that Marci organized while at Audubon PA. Pam had the pleasure of working with Tom while Administrator at Keystone Trails Association in the early 2000s.

The "50 Hikes" series he authored are not unlike a bible for hiking enthusiasts, drawing so many to the trails he loved. Denise Wagner of State College says, "I would have missed a lot of Pennsylvania's beauty if it hadn't been for Tom." She is most definitely not alone in that assessment.

**Memorial or Honorary Gifts** You can honor the memory of a special person or joyous occasion while supporting PPFF's work in conservation, recreation, education, and volunteerism in our state parks and forests. Send gifts to: PPFF, 1845 Market Street, Suite 202, Camp Hill, PA 17011 or download a form at [www.PaParksAndForests.org](http://www.PaParksAndForests.org)

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Friends of Laurel Hill

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Friends of Oil Creek

Friends of Parker Dam

Friends of Pinchot

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Friends of Prince Gallitzin

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Friends of Varden Conservation Area

Friends of Weiser

Friends of White Clay Creek

Friends of Yellow Creek

Laurel Mountain Volunteers

## Your Friends In Action: *Friends of the* *White Clay Creek Preserve*

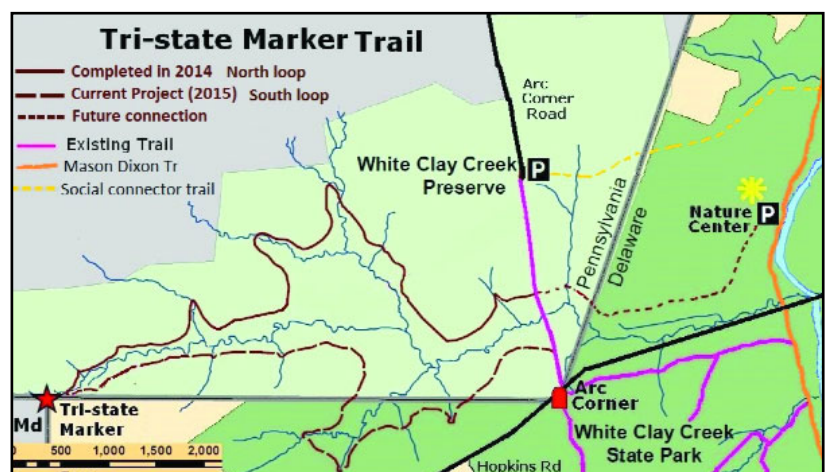
By Carla Lucas & Wendel Cassel

Almost 250 years ago, a team of surveyors from England – Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon – placed a marker at the precise point at which Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania intersect. (See sidebar for a history of the marker.) This historic Tri-State Marker remained on private land which made it difficult for the general public to visit. That is until now.

In December 2011, the State of Pennsylvania purchased the Pennsylvania land around the marker. The parcel connected to other public holdings in the White Clay Creek Preserve. Although in state ownership, access to the site was difficult with no safe public parking. Only unmarked existing social trails, some through boggy marshes with many stream crossings, were available.

Enter the Friends of the White Clay Creek Preserve (FWCCP), a chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation. The FWCCP partnered with the Wilmington Trail Club (WTC) to work with Delaware and Pennsylvania state parks to build a sustainable, ecologically-friendly trail to the Tri-State Marker. The overall trail concept was developed with David Bartoo, Trail Planner with the Delaware State Parks. Wendel Cassel, FWCCP and WTC member leads the effort on this project.

The trail design addressed needs of constituents, along with ecological and biodiversity concerns. The end product: the Tri-State Trail (see map below) an approximately 4-mile looping trail connecting the Preserve's Arc Corner parking lot and the trails in the White Clay Creek State Park in Delaware with the Tri-State Marker. The trail project is completely within the boundaries of the Pennsylvania White Clay Creek Preserve, and the White Clay Creek State Park. The single-lane pedestrian trail, with 16 bridges and boardwalks, takes visitors on a wonderful hike through beautiful mature woodlands, around farmlands, and over small tributaries of the White Clay Creek – a designated National Wild and Scenic River – to the Tri-State Marker.



The establishment of an official circuit trail access to the Tri-State Marker provides recreational and education opportunities, as well as access to a Mason-Dixon monument from the 193 mile Mason-Dixon Trail that passes through three states and connects the Appalachian Trail with the Brandywine Trail. The interested hiker will find the regional system has over 200 miles of trail accessible within five miles of the Tri-State Marker.



This volunteer lead project is being completed in phases, with phase one, the 1.7 mile northern segment of this trail, completed in November of 2014 (47 different volunteers working 1600 hours and 3 Eagle Scout Projects at a total cost of \$14,400.) Funding sources include the Dockstader Foundation, White Clay Watershed Association, Wilmington Trail Club, Kennett Square Mushroom Festival, Pennsylvania DCNR, Shone Lumber, Friends of the White Clay Creek State Park (Delaware), and individual donations and matching grants.

Delaware State Parks approved a six-tenths mile portion of the southern segment in August 2014 and work on this portion of the trail began in December 2014.

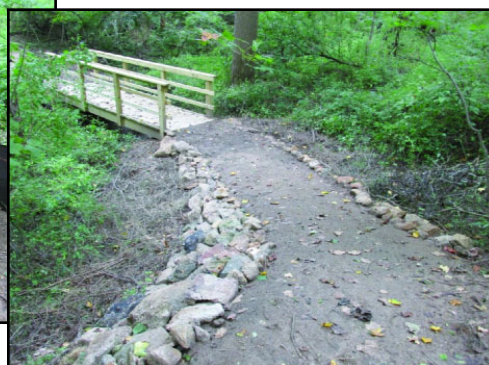
Work on the southern Pennsylvania portion will begin in June 2015 when funding is secured, with an expected completion date of December 2015.

June 6, 2015 marks the 250th anniversary of Mason and Dixon setting a wooden post at the spot where Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania currently meet. The Wilmington Trail Club, the Friends of the WCC Preserve, and other PA, MD, and DE state and private organizations will celebrate this anniversary and dedicate the trail that finally gives public access to the Marker on Nationals Trails Day June 6, 2015. A dedication ceremony takes place at 11 AM, but visitors attending the ceremony may want to plan to spend the day exploring the trails in the area.

*For more information on the Friends of White Clay Creek Preserve, visit their website at <http://friendsofpawccp-org.doodlekit.com/home>.*



*Before: Silt Fence used to prevent erosion during trail construction*



*After: Stone riprap to prevent ongoing erosion into creek bed*

## History of the Tri-State Marker By Mike Ott



From 1763-67 Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed and marked most of the boundaries between Maryland and Pennsylvania, including the Three Lower Counties that would later become Delaware. The survey was commissioned by the Penn and Calvert families to settle their long-running boundary dispute.

Most Mason-Dixon mile marker stones had P and M on opposite sides and at 5 miles intervals they had Calvert family and Penn family crests to replace the P and M. The northeast corner of the Maryland stone along with what later became SW corner of Delaware were the only two stones to have double crown stones.

*Adapted with permission from the Friends of White Clay Creek State Park Newsletter*

## More Friends In Action:



*What may look to us like simple play structures are really tools for engaging the imagination of children while developing their social, decision making and problem solving skills. Donor support allowed the Friends of Prince Gallitzin to add another playground to the park, one of several playgrounds erected by friends in 2014.*



*Your enjoyment of the trails at Ridley Creek State Park became worry free with new trail markers erected by the Friends of Ridley Creek State Park through support from donors such as you.*



*Safety is key to the Friends of Ryerson Station State Park. Your support enabled them to purchase a new lifeguard chair for the pool, a popular attraction at the park.*



*Visitors to the annual Little Buffalo State Park Fall Festival were greeted by the new Friends of Little Buffalo. Your support enabled the start-up of two new friends groups in the fall of 2014—the Friends of Cowans Gap State Park and the Friends of Little Buffalo State Park.*



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### THANK YOU!

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As Margaret Meade once said, *"Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

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