

Penn's Stewards

News from the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation

Fall 2021 Newsletter



The mission of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation is to inspire stewardship of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests.

Vision: To be the trusted voice and advocate to sustain and enhance Pennsylvania's state parks and forests.

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Paths, like People, Persist

By: Angie Jaillet-Wentling and Ashley Barry, DCNR Bureau of State Parks

Introduction

Of the many experiences to be had in Pennsylvania's parks and forests, the sense of moving in and out of history is my favorite. Find a trail to follow and there is, without a doubt, a story to tell. Stories diverge and intersect as frequently as paths do. On a late summer day, sprinkled with showers and sporadic sunshine, we sought out an intersection of a modern hiking trail and an historically-known Native path. We found one along the Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail (LHHT), near mile marker 33, where the North Woods Trail loops around it in the Forbes State Forest, just north of the Roaring Run Natural Area, as well as Kooser and Laurel Ridge State Parks.



The Native Glades Path ran from Catfish (modern-day Washington, PA) to Raystown (modern-day Bedford, PA) and was most favored by later settlers during the summer, dry season when the mountains were easiest to ascend (Wallace 2018). Taking refuge from a short summer rainfall under a hemlock's drooping branch along the LHHT affords a view of why past peoples preferred this travel corridor. The places that the path led to and from combined with the wealth of natural resources it passes by is a good starting point to understand why we see its continued use into the present. Shared histories, like those found along paths, can be covered in native wildflowers, moss, lichens, hundreds of thousands of years of still developing soils.

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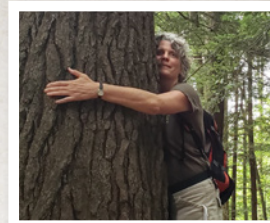
Jen Dunlap, Public Engagement Coordinator

Margarita Caicedo, Ambassador

President's Message

Marci Mowery

As I write this, I am volunteering as a campground host at Hyner Run State Park. The cloud cover that threatened the day has given way to beautiful blue skies—a precious gift while I contemplate my words.



Campground hosts provide an invaluable service for state parks—greeting and making millions of visitors each year feel welcomed. In the spring of 2021, PPFF worked with campground host Joe Frassetto (also known as Marci's husband) to survey park managers and hosts to learn more about the host program and how to empower the host program for the next generation of visitors. One group we didn't poll was you, the user. What is important to you in a campground host? Feel free to take our five-question survey on page 6 or on line at: <https://ppff.online/camp-host-survey>.

This fall we began our legislative tours of state parks and forests. These tours are designed to inform members of the general assembly (as well as the media) of the needs in our parks and forests. Since we released our report, "The Legacy of Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests: The Future is in Our Hands," the needs in our parks and forests rose from \$1 billion to over \$1.4 billion. We cannot continue to 'kick the can down the road' on these necessary infrastructure costs, as doing so will only cost us more.

An opportunity exists to address some of the needs through Senator Gordner's SB 525, which sets aside some of the American Rescue Plan funds for investments in parks, forests and open space, as well as agricultural preservation, and clean water. We are working diligently to build support for this bill which you can view at <https://ppff.online/sb525>. Don't see your Senator's name on it? Reach out to him or her and let them know how much you value your public lands.

It has been an active year, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Rights Amendment. As we begin to wrap up the celebration, we plan to compile all of the entries into our monthly contests into a downloadable book. Keep an eye on our website for more information.

Also soon to be released will be our videos on the health benefits of spending time in the outdoors.

This summer, we were pleased to add Jen Dunlap to the PPFF team as Public Engagement Coordinator, and to add Margarita Caicedo as PPFF Ambassador. Learn more about each of them on page 10.

And for our beer loving friends—we are super excited to work with two Pennsylvania breweries to celebrate our parks and forests. New Trail Brewing Company has launched their state park series of beers, kicking it off with Keystone State Park. A portion of the proceeds for each beer will support the featured park. Each beer will also feature a passport-sized stamp so you can track the ones you have tried in your state park and forests passport!

In Western PA, we are working with Stick City Brewing and the new Public Lands store to create a Public Lands beer, which will support the work of PPFF to conserve and steward our public lands.

Partnerships are critical to the success of our mission and the stewardship of our public lands. We are excited to build these relationships and we thank you, our donors, members and volunteers, for your support.

Yours in the Outdoors, Marci

Continued from page 1...

Or they are right in front of our nose like all the other things we thought we lost. We just need to dig deeper within ourselves and our surroundings to better understand our collective past.

Pennsylvania's parks and forests are brimming with cultural and historic resources that help tell the stories of past people. But not all stories are told.

With archaeologists identifying at least 20,000 years of human occupation in Pennsylvania, we have yet to scratch the surface of the stories to tell. Colonization of the continent, and this region in particular, began approximately 400 years ago. Most of the history we tell is from that short timeframe, 400 of the past 20,000 years. We account for a mere two percent of time – not a terribly representative view. But, oh the possibilities!

Prior to, during, and after European contact, Native peoples lived here. Native Americans are our neighbors and friends, continuing to contribute to communities across the Commonwealth. Of the many peoples that were known to have lived here, many more preceded them. Federally-recognized Tribes and Nations that have ancestral ties to Pennsylvania include, but are not limited to, the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Cayuga Nation, the Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma, the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Oneida Indian Nation, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, the Onondaga Indian Nation, the Pamunkey Indian Tribe, the Seneca Nation of Indians, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community of Mohican Indians of Wisconsin, the Tonawanda Seneca Nation, and the Tuscarora Nation. Broken treaties, policies of forced removal, and warfare treated Indigenous People as refugees in their own land, but Native Americans persist, as do their paths and places.



Indigenous Habitation in Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests

Of the many things that archaeologists tackle, modern misconceptions about the past far outrank the booby-trapped temples of the movies. In January 2021, *The Smithsonian Magazine's* article entitled "The Lost History of Yellowstone: Debunking the myth that the great national park was a wilderness untouched by humans." Of the many nuances to understanding Pre-Contact presence the article discusses, this passage rings true for how archaeologists and Indigenous peoples often understand past settlement in Pennsylvania.

"Today, as sedentary people, we equate "living" in a place with long-term or even permanent settlement. But for hunter-gatherers who follow animal migrations, avoid climate extremes and harvest different plants as they ripen in different areas, the word has a different meaning. They live in a place for part of the year, then leave and come back, generation after generation" (Grant 2021).

The biological and geological diversity of the lands seen today attracted habitation and settlement of what are now considered state parks and forests long before we came to view them as such, even as hunter-gatherers became more sedentary with longer term occupation of sites, like the villages or hamlets that were encountered by later Europeans as they pushed west.

Native Paths and Places in Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests

Knowing that Native peoples were living on the lands on what is now the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, leads you to the next questions. If past Native people (who) were living (what) on our lands for nearly 20,000 years (when), then where can we still see vestiges and why? In short, anywhere you look in our state parks and forests, you are bound to find paths and place names that help speak to where Native peoples lived. Place names can often be telling as to why. Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources maintains and manages 121 state parks and over 2.2 million acres of state forest. Below is a table compiled of Native names and paths identified in parks and forests. By no means is it exhaustive but, it is a start.

Continued on page 4...

Park or Forest Name	Native Paths	Native Place Names
<i>Allegheny Islands State Park</i>	None	Allegheny (Stream of the Alligewi/Allegheny Indians including the Delaware, Shawnee, Iroquois, and other Tribes/Nations)
<i>Bald Eagle State Forest</i>	Great Shamokin Path; Kishacoquillas Path; Logan Path	Bald Eagle (Munsee Chief Woapalanne)
<i>Bald Eagle State Park</i>	Pohopocco Path	Bald Eagle (Munsee Chief Woapalanne)
<i>Beltzville State Park</i>	None	Pohopocco (Rock beside Rock; Two Mountains Bearing Down on Each Other)
<i>Big Spring State Forest Picnic Area</i>	None	Conococheague Mountain (Indeed a long way)
<i>Black Moshannon State Park</i>	Bald Eagle's Path	Moshannon (Elk stream)
<i>Buchanan State Forest</i>	Raystown Path; Tuscarora Path	None
<i>Bucktail State Park Natural Area</i>	Sinnemahoning Path	Sinnemahoning (West Branch of Susquehanna River); Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Canoe Creek State Park</i>	Frankstown Path; Penns Creek Path; Warriors Mark Path;	Canoe Place (points to which canoe navigation was possible; canoes stored or portaged nearby); Raystown (Native Village)
<i>Clear Creek State Forest</i>	Catawba Path	Kittanning (Delaware Village)
<i>Clear Creek State Park</i>	Catawba Path	None
<i>Codorus State Park</i>	None	Codorus Creek (Rapid Water)
<i>Colton Point State Park</i>	Pine Creek Path	Pine Creek (Cuwenhanne [pine stream] or Tiadachton)
<i>Cook Forest State Park</i>	Goshgoschink Path; Loyalhanna-Goshgoschink Path	Seneca Point (Landmark; Tribe/ Nation)
<i>Cornplanter State Forest</i>	None	Cornplanter (Seneca Chief)
<i>Cowans Gap State Park</i>	None	Little Aughwick Creek (Aughwick; overgrown with brush)
<i>Delaware Canal State Park</i>	Falls Path; Lenni Lenape Path; Point Pleasant Path	Delaware River (Tribe/Nation)
<i>Delaware State Forest</i>	None	Delaware (Tribe/Nation)
<i>Erie Bluffs State Park</i>	Lake Shore Path	Lake Erie (Place of the Panther; Tribe/Nation)
<i>Evansburg State Park</i>	Perkiomen Path	Skippack (Skippack Creek; pool of stagnant/offensive water; wet land)
<i>Forbes State Forest</i>	Fort Hill Path; Turkeyfoot Path; Nemacolin's Path; Glades Path	None
<i>Fort Washington State Park</i>	Minsi Path	None
<i>Gallitzin State Forest</i>	Conemaugh Path	None
<i>Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center</i>	Minsi Path	None
<i>Joseph E. Ibberson Conservation Area</i>	Paxtang Path	None
<i>Kinzua Bridge State Park</i>	None	Kinzua (Kinzua Creek and Native village; Wild Turkey)

Park or Forest Name	Native Paths	Native Place Names
<i>Kooser State Park</i>	Glades Path	None
<i>Lackawanna State Park</i>	None	Lackawanna (River; Forks of a Stream)
<i>Laurel Ridge State Park</i>	Glades Path; Raystown Path	None
<i>Lehigh Gorge State Park</i>	Lehigh Path	Lehigh (Lehigh River; At the Forks)
<i>Leonard Harrison State Park</i>	Pine Creek Path	Pine Creek (Cuwenhanne [pine stream] or Tiadachton)
<i>Little Pine State Park</i>	Pine Creek Path	Pine Creek (Cuwenhanne [pine stream] or Tiadachton)
<i>Loyalsock State Forest</i>	Loyalsock Path; Sheshequin Path; Towanda Path	Loyalsock (Loyalsock Creek; Middle Creek)
<i>Marsh Creek State Park</i>	Allegheny Path	None
<i>McConnells Mill State Park</i>	Kuskusky-Kittanning Path; Kuskusky-Venango Path	None
<i>Milton State Park</i>	None	Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Moraine State Park</i>	Venango Path; Logstown Path; Kuskusky-Kittanning Path; Kuskusky-Venango Path	None
<i>Moshannon State Forest</i>	Bald Eagle's Path	Moshannon (Elk stream)
<i>Nescopeck State Park</i>	Lehigh Path	Nescopeck (Nescopeck; Creek, mountain, valley)
<i>Neshaminy State Park</i>	None	Neshaminy (Neshaminy Creek; double stream)
<i>Nockamixon State Park</i>	Minsi Path	Nockamixon (Where there are three houses)
<i>Ohiopyle State Park</i>	None	Ohiopyle (Water whitened by froth); Youghiogheny (Stream flowing in a contrary direction)
<i>Penn-Roosevelt State Park</i>	None	Standing Stone Creek (Standing Stone [Landmark])
<i>Pinchot State Forest</i>	Pechoquealin Path; Wechquetank Path	Lackawanna (River; Forks of a Stream)
<i>Point State Park</i>	Catfish Path; Great Path	Forks of the Ohio; Ohio (Great River); Allegheny (Stream of the Alligewi/Allegheny Indians including the Delaware, Shawnee, Iroquois, and other Tribes/Nations); Monongahela (Falling in banks)
<i>Pymatuning State Park</i>	Cussewago Path	Pymatuning (Creek and Native Village); Shenango (River and Native Village)
<i>Raccoon Creek State Park</i>	None	Raccoon Creek (Raccoon stream)
<i>Ralph Stover State Park</i>	None	Tohickon Creek (Driftwood stream)
<i>Ridley Creek State Park</i>	None	None
<i>Rothrock State Forest</i>	Kishacoquillas Path; Logan Path; Penns Creek Path; Standing Stone Path	Standing Stone (Landmark)

Continued on page 5...

Park or Forest Name	Native Paths	Native Place Names
<i>Ryerson Station State Park</i>	None	Wheeling Creek (Place of head)
<i>Shawnee State Park</i>	Raystown Path	Shawnee (Places; Native Tribe/ Nation)
<i>Shikellamy State Park</i>	Bottom Path; Great Island Path; Great Shamokin Path; Penns Creek Path; Susquehanna Path	Shikellamy (Residence of Shikellamy; Oneida Chief); Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Sinnemahoning State Park</i>	None	Sinnemahoning (West Branch of Susquehanna River)
<i>Sproul State Forest</i>	Sinnemahoning Path	None
<i>Susquehanna State Park</i>	None	Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Susquehannock State Forest</i>	Pine Creek Path	Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Susquehannock State Park</i>	None	Susquehanna (River; Villages; Long reach river)
<i>Swatara State Park</i>	None	Swatara Creek (Creek and Native Village)
<i>Tiadaghton State Forest</i>	Pine Creek Path	Tiadaghton (Tyadaghton; modern Pine Creek)
<i>Tioga State Forest</i>	Penns Creek Path; Tioga Path	Tioga (Path, River, and Village; At the Forks)
<i>Tobyhanna State Park</i>	None	Tobyhanna (Alder Stream)
<i>Trough Creek State Park</i>	None	Raystown (Native Village)
<i>Tuscarora State Forest</i>	New Path; Frankstown Path; Tuscarora Path	Tuscarora (after the Tribe)
<i>Tuscarora State Park</i>	None	Tuscarora (after the Tribe)
<i>Tyler State Park</i>	None	Neshaminy (Neshaminy Creek; double stream)
<i>Warriors Path State Park</i>	Warriors Path	Warriors Path (Native Trail); Raystown (Native Village)
<i>Weiser State Forest</i>	Tulpehocken Path	None
<i>White Clay Creek Preserve</i>	None	Minguannan (Native Village)
<i>Worlds End State Park</i>	None	Loyalsock (Loyalsock Creek; Middle Creek)

Of the 141 total state parks (121) and state forests (20), 71, or 50 percent, include Native place names or paths. Just over 20 percent (29) reference both Native place names and paths. If one in two parks or forests retain Native place names or paths and you have spent time in more than one of Pennsylvania's state parks or forests, then you have spent time in the ancestral lands of indigenous peoples. As noted above, the table is far from complete and its basis is just the tip of the cultural iceberg.

The table was built on an exploration of only two resources dedicated to Indian paths and place names in Pennsylvania. Dr. Paul A. W. Wallace's *Indian Paths of Pennsylvania* was first published in 1965 and was most recently reprinted

in 2018. Dr. George P. Donehoo's *Indian Villages and Place Names in Pennsylvania with Numerous Historical Notes and References* was first published in 1928 and was most recently reprinted in 2014. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's State Historic Preservation Office mapped the paths described in Wallace (2018) into their newest Geographic Information System, PA-SHARE, for reference and public access.

While both Wallace and Donehoo's works provide an accounting of in-depth research into the paths and places of Pre-Contact populations in Pennsylvania, both rely most heavily on the records and documents left by missionaries, explorers, traders, soldiers, and other Europeans as opposed to oral histories and historical documents of ancestral Tribes and Nations. Only a minuscule portion of Native peoples' culture is observed on the landscape and, too often, those observations rely heavily on biased viewpoints. Exploring these paths can connect us with a deeper understanding of the depth of human history, especially with those cultures not well-represented in the historic record. Similarly, the understanding of Indigenous linguistics has evolved, as have efforts to better understand and incorporate Native perspectives and knowledge. This compilation of place and path names in our parks and forests is just one small part of our storytelling efforts highlighting underrepresented communities.

Conclusion

Dispelling the myth of lands as "untouched wilderness" or "just hunting grounds" is easier to do when you see how peoples and places were connected by paths. Much like today's modern highways and roads (some of which were built on Native paths), Native paths functioned as routes transporting people from different tribes, nations, or communities. Paths or trails provided a means to transport goods or resources procured and manufactured at various points and by various means. Inevitably, ideas too traveled by trail across and along mountains, rivers, woodlands, meadows and more. The modern use of paths for recreation, or even health in pandemic times, is just the most recent manifestation of what people can do with a trail.

Joy Harjo, the US Poet Laureate and member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation writes that "[a] story matrix connects all of us. There are rules, processes, and circles of responsibility in this world." As stewards of the public heritage, we have the responsibility to preserve it to the best of our abilities and to tell the stories left untold in history's discourses. We need to see the forest not only for its trees, but also for its many peoples – past, present, and future.

Legislative Update

Co-sponsorship of Senate Bill 525, introduced by Senators Gordner and Mensch has grown to twenty-four senators, giving it momentum in the state Senate. This bill would invest American Rescue Plan money into much needed maintenance and infrastructure repairs in our parks and forests. To learn more about the bill, or to include your voice, visit our action center at PAParksAndForests.org/Our-Work/Stewardship/Be-A-Voice

This summer, PPFF worked with partners to have a bill to reduce volunteer liability introduced in the state house. HB 1696. PPFF strongly supports this bill. You can lend your voice at: PAParksAndForests.org/Our-Work/Stewardship/Be-A-Voice

Another bill instead that we are supporting is Senator Casey's bill to create a 21st century Civilian Conservation Corps. This bill would create jobs while expanding job skills and addressing infrastructure needs.

How familiar are you with the campground host program?

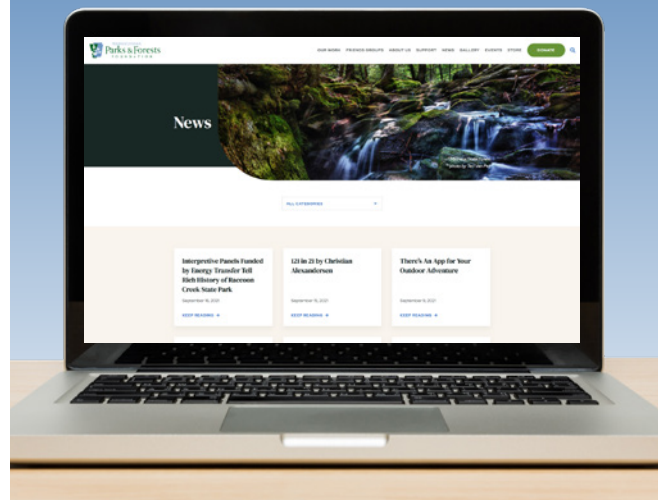
- ☒ Never heard of it ☒ Have interacted with the host ☒ I am a host!

What do you expect of a host when you are camping?
Are your expectations generally met?
Share a positive experience that you have had with a host.
I would be interested in learning more about how to become a host. <https://ppff.online/camp-host-survey>

Guest Blogger Series

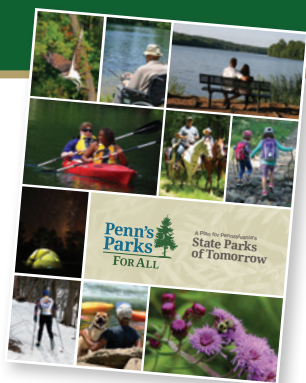
Ever wonder what daily life as a Park Ranger is like? Would you like recommendations on where to view wildlife from an actual Wildlife Biologist? Do you know what the word 'dendrochronology' means?

You can find the answers to all of these questions in PPFF's guest blogger series which can be found on the news page of our website (PAParksAndForests.org/news). Be sure to sign up for PPFF's weekly *Take Five* e-news blasts for notifications about blog posts in addition to upcoming events at parks and forests around the state.



Penn's Parks for All

In July, Governor Wolf unveiled *Penn's Parks for All*, the 25-year strategic plan outlined for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of State Parks.



With the goal of our state parks being safe and welcoming environments for all, strategies for services and facilities emphasize access and the visitor experience. This includes improving visitor information and communications to attract and include diverse audiences, increased outreach, improved transportation options, and improved accessibility for trail systems as well as water-based recreation.

The plan addresses climate change with the goal of utilizing our state parks as models for innovative solutions.

Penn's Parks for All is available on the PA DCNR website at <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/PennsParksforAll/Pages/default.aspx>.

Pennsylvania Forest Action Plan

Sylvania, Latin for "woods", makes forests our state's literal namesake. Though it may be hard to believe, Pennsylvania's land cover is over 60% forest. In late August, Governor Wolf announced the Pennsylvania Forest Action Plan to set goals for the long-term sustainability of our state's forests.

With stakeholder input, this plan is an assessment of current forest conditions. For example, the majority of our state's forestland is privately owned. Among this ownership, the size of forest per owner is less than 100 acres. Oak/hickory forests dominate in Pennsylvania. This kind of information about the current state of PA's forests is helpful in evaluating threats, such as development pressure and pest species, as well as opportunities for sustainable forest management and incentives for conservation and land protection.

The plan's overarching priorities are to conserve and manage working forest landscapes for multiple values and uses, to protect forests from threats, and to enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

The Pennsylvania Forest Action Plan can be found on the PA DCNR website.

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/ForestsAndTrees/StateForestManagement/ForestActionPlan/Pages/default.aspx>

Skill Builder: Apps

Obviously, using your phone to chat or text while you're hiking or riding your bike is behavior we would discourage under all but the most emergency situations. However, your smartphone or tablet can be a valuable planning and tracking tool before and after your excursion and be a learning tool to boot.

A good app can connect a user to an understanding of the natural world—think bird or plant identification guides—or help someone become a citizen scientist through recording observations while enjoying a favorite park or forest. Your fitness may be improved through the use of an app that keeps track of your miles traveled and help other, similarly-inclined enthusiasts find and enjoy a favorite place.

Thanks to summer intern Angelica Brill and financial support from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Community Conservation Partnerships Program, a comprehensive list of 180 different iPhone and Android apps, categorized by intended use and including user ratings and cost is now available from the Foundation.

Find the Fact Sheet on the Publications page of the website under "Skill Builders" at <https://PAParksAndForests.org/about-us/publications>.



“
More than a gift. Your
purchases support the
places you love.”

ppff.gives/onlinestore

Support PPFF Now or in the Future Through Planned Giving

By Jessica Aiello

What is Planned Giving?

Planned giving, also sometimes referred to as legacy giving and deferred giving, is often viewed as an option for philanthropists looking for tax benefits. Planned giving enables individuals to make donations to charitable organizations over time. Sometimes made under the guidance of a financial advisor or attorney, planned gifts can come from a person's equity, life insurance, retirement plan, real estate holdings, personal property (such as a boat, car, RV, artwork, etc.), or cash. Planned gifts can provide lifetime income to the donor (if a charitable gift annuity) and can minimize impacts to a donor's estate at the time of their passing (through a bequest or beneficiary designation in a life insurance policy or retirement account).

Planned giving provides the opportunity for you to create a lasting legacy for an organization that is near and dear to your heart.

Conservation Legacy Society Members

PPFF founded its Conservation Legacy Society in 2017 as a way to honor valued friends who have had a positive impact on the future of the organization, its friends groups, and Pennsylvania parks and forests, through their planned giving. The foresight and generosity of society members is essential as PPFF continues to inspire stewardship through public engagement in volunteerism, education, and recreation. We highlight a couple society members here:

Will has fond memories of the days spent ice fishing with his father at Prompton State Park in Wayne County. "We went every weekend," he said. "It's just a great park, and very well-maintained." Even though he lives many states away now, Will returns to Prompton for a week or two each year to relive those ice fishing memories. Recently, he became curious to know how he could financially

support the park after his passing, so he gave PPFF a call. It was then that he learned he could list the park as a beneficiary in his will. He encourages anyone with a love for a PA state park or forest to do the same if they are fortunate enough to have the means to do so.

Carl is another Legacy Society member, supporting the Friends of Ridley Creek [Delaware County] through a planned gift from his investment account. When asked why he chose this way to give, he said, "Not to be overly sentimental, but I am beyond grateful to have Ridley Creek State Park only a short distance from my house. I am indebted to those that worked so hard for many years to finally create the park in 1972. Now, I want to give as much as others have given to me and help to maintain this jewel for the generations that will come after me."

How Your Gift Benefits PPFF

Your planned gift can be designated to a specific park/forest or friends group that has special meaning to you, as Will and Carl did in the examples above, or it can go directly to PPFF, where you can specify which type(s) of projects you would like the funds to go to, or you can leave it undesignated to support the general operations of the organization.

To learn more about the benefits of legacy giving to you and to PPFF, please visit <https://PAParksAndForests.org/support/planned-giving/build-the-future-leave-a-legacy>. Once you are ready to investigate a planned gift to PPFF, please fill out the form at <https://PAParksAndForests.org/support/planned-giving/conservation-legacy-society>, or contact Marci Mowery, our President, by telephone at 717.236.7644 or via email at mmowery-ppff@pa.net. If you have already remembered PPFF in your plan or will, please let us know so we can recognize your vision and generosity. Thanks!

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.

Download a form at
www.PAParksAndForests.org/support/ways-to-give



OUR PARKS AND FORESTS DESERVE BETTER

Pennsylvania's state parks and forests need more than \$1.4 billion in repairs and upgrades. Years of underfunding has reduced staffing and created maintenance shortfalls. We call on the Governor and General Assembly to work together to protect the legacy that is our outdoors, while investing in human health and local economies.

THE COMBINED ACREAGE OF PENNSYLVANIA'S PARKS AND FORESTS ARE **TWICE THE SIZE** OF THE ENTIRE STATE OF DELAWARE.



OUTDOOR RECREATION SPENDING*

In Pennsylvania, outdoor recreation generates annually:

\$29.1 billion in consumer spending

251,000 direct jobs

\$8.6 billion in wages and salaries

\$1.9 billion in state and local tax revenue

**Outdoor Industry Association*

FEWER STAFF AND HIGHER PUBLIC DEMANDS

creates challenges for maintaining, restoring, and replacing infrastructure.



Average life span of a bridge:

50 YEARS

Average age of a bridge in Pa state parks and forests:

64 YEARS

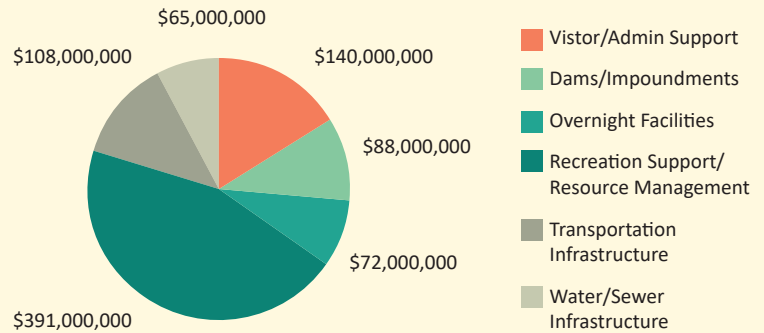
Total bridges 864;
total structurally deficient bridges: 144 or 17%

DCNR MANAGES **4,876 BUILDINGS**
1,933 OF THESE ARE FIFTY YEARS OR OLDER.

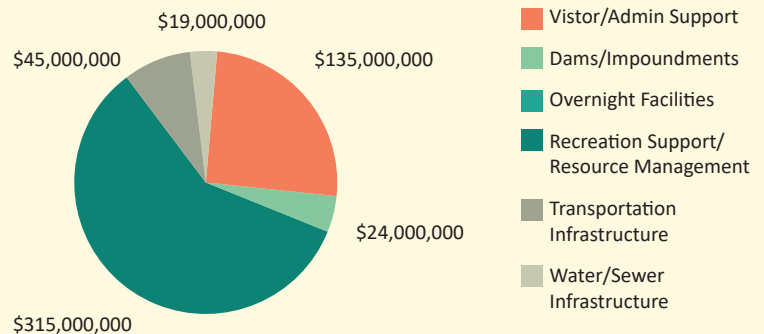
75%

of Pennsylvanian's surveyed in the **2020 Fall Lion Poll** agreed that funding outdoor recreation facilities such as parks, trails and open spaces, should be considered a top priority by state and local governments.

PARK INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS



FORESTRY INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS



DCNR manages

70 SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS
172 WATER TREATMENT



TOTAL DAMS: 141
TOTAL HIGH HAZARD DAMS 47

A dam is high hazard if its failure could result in the loss of life or significant property damage.

PENNSYLVANIA
Parks & Forests
FOUNDATION

Staff Updates

This summer, the Foundation welcomed three new faces. Angelica Brill, who you read about in the Summer issue, recently completed her internship with us and is now settled back at Penn State for her Senior year. Throughout the summer, Angelica helped recruit guest writers for our blog, reached out to outfitters across the state, and did the research to create the "Smartphone Apps for Your Outdoor Adventures" guide which you can now find on our website.



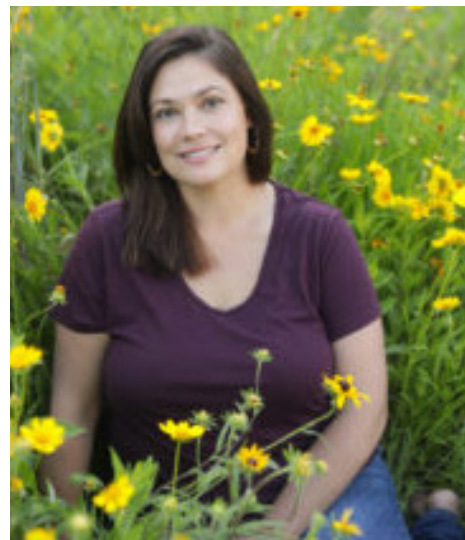
Margarita speaks to the crowd at Pine Grove Furnace State Park. Source: DCNR

the state's easternmost parks and to promote Leave No Trace principles. She assisted us with celebrating Latino Conservation Week and is now putting plans in place for Hispanic Heritage Month which occurs annually September 15th through October 15th.

Margarita spoke on Berks County TV's A Su Salud - To Your Health segment and represented PPFF as a guest speaker at Governor Wolf's unveiling of *Penn's Parks for All*, the strategic plan which set goals for Pennsylvania's state parks for the next 25 years, this past July at Pine Grove Furnace State Park. (*Read more about Penn's Parks for All on page 7*) We are grateful to have her as a representative of PPFF.

PPFF's first bilingual Ambassador, Margarita Caicedo, began with us in May. Margarita, an English as a Second Language educator and program coordinator at Reading Area Community College, has been working to welcome the Hispanic community to

In June, Jen Dunlap joined the staff, fulfilling the role of Public Engagement Coordinator. You may have met her while out and about this summer as she assisted with presenting our COVID-19 Champion honorees with their awards. Jen is currently working to help bring attention to state park and forest infrastructure needs, spread the word about upcoming events hosted by Friends groups, and wrap-up our monthly writing incentives and special song contest that were organized in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Rights Amendment.



Jen Dunlap



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.

Did You Know? PPFF is able to accept your TAX DEDUCTIBLE donations of stock to support our work and/or projects in state parks and forests.

For more information visit www.PAParksAndForests.org

Partnerships

121 Beers on the Wall

New Trail Brewing, out of Williamsport, has launched their State Park beer series. Donations from each beer will support work at the featured park. Now that is something to toast!



1% for the Planet

Business members of 1% for the planet support non-profit members through donations to support the mission of the organization. We would like to thank our 1% for the Planet donors—Stick City Brewing, Purple Lizard Maps and True Liberty Bags. Please consider showing your support for these businesses.



West Shore Chamber of Commerce

Thank you to the West Shore Chamber of Commerce for choosing PPFF as the beneficiary from their Annual Golf Outing in May.



Croquet Tournament

Stahl Sheaffer Engineering sponsored a team in the Selinsgrove Rotary Clubs' 'Mallet Madness' croquet tournament on 6/12/21. They designated the PA Parks and Forests Foundation as the non-profit for whom they were playing. The team of Jeremy Newcomb and Joe Moore made it all the way to the finals, but came up short in a tight match.



Friends in Action

Friends of Lyman Run: August brought a proud day indeed for the Friends of Lyman Run with the official ribbon-cutting for their new playground. It was a long time coming. I don't think we always understand how much hard work goes into creating a place for the youngsters to have fun!



Photo by Ben Stone

Friends of Oil Creek: The Summer Biathlon made its return in August. This popular run/shoot event had a year off because of the pandemic, of course, but 100 registrants were only too happy to see its return. Overall winner? Ethan Quesada in the ages 15-19 category. First place female entry was Isabelle Ongley, also in the ages 15-19 category.



Friends of Laurel Hill: Speaking of returns, the Laurel Hill Bluegrass Festival made its triumphant return to the top of the hill in August, along with the Mountain Laurel 5k.



Friends of Prince Gallitzin: July 4th saw the return of the bike parade at Crooked Run Campground. These two were obviously too cool to decorate their rides. No such difficulty for the scooter rider!



Friends of Beltzville: Gigantic (nationwide) congrats came to Beltzville State Park and the Friends of Beltzville from the National Association of State Park Directors at their annual conference held in the Laurel Highlands. Recognized for their work in helping to ease the effects of pandemic overcrowding, the Friends and park staff continue to spread the word of Leave No Trace, kindness, civility, and respect. So deserved!

We Will Miss

Lisa Bainey

It is with MUCH sadness that we acknowledge the passing way too soon of Lisa Bainey, formerly the park manager at Sinnemahoning State Park. Lisa was a great friend to Pennsylvania's outdoors and intended to become a member of the PPFF board of directors upon her retirement. Tragically she was diagnosed with a brain tumor not long after that retirement. Our loss is small compared to that of her family - and that includes you. Says Marci, "When you go to the wildlife center at Sinnemahoning, THAT is where you will see Lisa's influence." Do go there. It is wonderful, as was Lisa (seen in this photo by photographer Curt Weinhold) front and center, cutting the ribbon on the center in 2011).



Jim Finley

In early October, Penn's Woods lost a true champion in Jim Finley whose time (both personal and professional) was dedicated to our forests. As a mentor and educator, Jim (among many roles) led the Center for Private Forests at Penn State, served as Chair of the Foundation for Sustainable Forests, on the board of the PA Forestry Association and, in short, worked tirelessly on connecting people to the woods he loved. It is impossible to list all that he accomplished - all the boards, committees, organizations, and initiatives he served – all of which were part of his core mission to encourage a lasting understanding of the importance of forests to human existence. His warmth and good humor combined with intelligence and an honest interest in dialogue and learning made him a good friend, an able advocate, and a force to be reckoned with.



A Map of Friends Groups



You Made it Happen

Investments Needed

Legislative tours have returned as we educate decision makers and the media on the need to invest in our state parks and forests. Check our events calendar for a tour near you—all stakeholders welcome!



Photo by Marci Mowery

Just for the Health of It

Spending time in the outdoors is good for your physical, mental and emotional health. Late summer found PPFF advancing our goal of documenting these benefits in short videos. Watch our website for release of these videos! Here Dr. Michael Suk shares his expert knowledge of the science behind health and the outdoors.



Photo by Marci Mowery

Graffiti Be Gone!

Stick City Brewing—one of our 1% for the Planet partners—and members of the Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps joined PPFF and staff at McConnells Mill State Park to remove unwanted graffiti—restoring the area to its natural beauty.



Photo by Marci Mowery

Out and About

It was a lovely day at the Gettysburg Farmers Market, where Angelica and Jenna enjoyed talking to the customers about Leave No Trace and enjoying our state parks and forests!



education

The Legacy of Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests

Explore this StoryMap collection to see the importance of investing in our state parks and forests. Based on a 2018 report by the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation.

[Get started](#)

1 The History of Pennsylvania State Parks and Forests

2 The Value of Pennsylvania State Parks and Forests

3 Infrastructure Improvements and Needs

4 Key Funding Mechanisms for Operation and Maintenance

5 Committing to Green Infrastructure

6 Moving Forward

It Was a Dark and Stormy Night

There is a new story in town, but with your support, hopefully it won't read like a scary novel. Center for Land Use and Sustainability student Jake created a new story map explaining the needs of our state parks and forests. Visit our website to view the interactive storymap, then share with a friend. Inspired to write your legislator? Check out the President's message to use our simple letter generator to make your voice heard.

You Made it Happen

Leave No Trace

In person and online trainings occurred for staff, volunteers and campground hosts on the Leave No Trace principles. These principles describe a set of guidelines to reduce human impacts and to increase safety in the outdoors. Here Margarita, Jen and Angelica celebrate their training with instructor Ian Kindle.



Photo by DCNR

We Can All Breathe Easier

Thank you to Mid Penn Bank for supporting, through a donation and volunteerism, tree planting at Boyd Big Tree Preserve. Twenty-one Mid Penn employees planted seventeen native trees, beautified the parking area and cemetery and removed tagging on a memorial bench during a volunteer day. More trees—cleaner air and reduced stress. Who can argue with that?

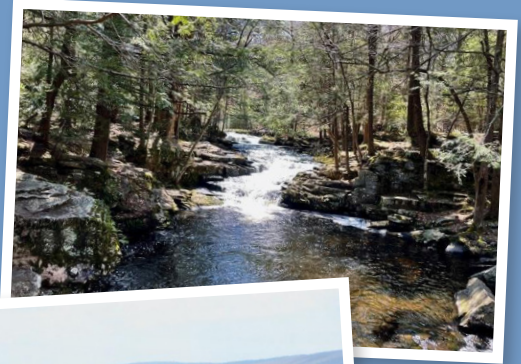


ERA Celebration Continues

As we continue our celebration of the Environmental Rights Amendment, here is a sneak peak of some of the entries to the monthly contests.

May: What does "preservation of the scenic value" mean to you visually?

Terry Harrison's photo taken at Promised Land State park:



Gloria Benfer:

July writing prompt: An acrostic of what preservation of the esthetic value means to you:

Epic beauty
Sights unseen
Truly breathtaking
Hear sighs
Each more beautiful
Truly
Inspiring
Cherish
- Irene Spisak

August writing prompt: 6 word essay on What does common property of all the people mean to you?

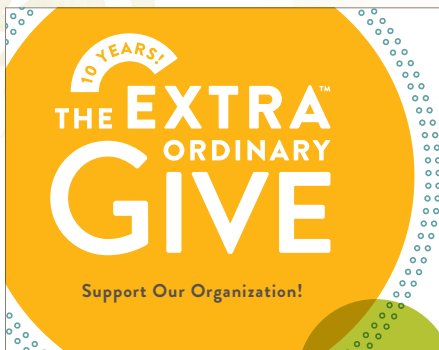
Many people. Many kinds. Enjoying nature.
- John Jakoby



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Become a Member Today!

If your current membership has expired, visit our website today to renew or use our form below. New members, complete the form and become a supporter of your parks and forests!

☐ \$25 Single Membership

☐ \$35 Family Membership

☐ I'd like to donate extra money to support the work of PPFF!

\$ _____

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Phone: _____

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To become a member, fill out the information below and mail this form with your check (made payable to PPFF) in an envelope to:

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