

You are reading the first issue of The Bridge, the Friends of Promised Land's seasonal newsletter. Let's take a tour of our logo... The shovel is a nod to the R-5 shovel, symbolizing the work and tools used by the CCC to build our park and many others! The bridge at Conservation Island was built later, and today, you might find folks crossing the bridge to pick blueberries, bird watch, walk their pets, star gaze, or head out on a hike. The black bear is there to remind us of the wildlife who make their homes in and around the park.

Thanks for being a Friend of Promised Land!



THE BRIDGE

Volume 1, Number 1
May 2025

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Welcome to the very first Friends of Promised Land State Park newsletter! Thanks for joining us and supporting the exciting changes happening in the park.

Improvements? Loading! New hookups at Northwoods are in the works—Lower Lake camping, here we come! Work on the bridge project has begun, with vibration sensors monitoring to protect the dam.

In this issue:

Save the date for CCC Day and our inaugural duathlon on August 9th—history, running, paddling, and fun for all ages!

Learn how you can get involved as a Friend of Promised Land, from volunteering at events to trail building and donating to park projects.

We're also sharing 2025 DiscoverE Camp dates and links to amazing summer programs like Forest Bathing (shoutout to Educator Josh for the pine tip tea!).



Heads-up: Many cabins and facilities will close this fall to make way for new water and sewer lines.

And finally—a HUGE thank you to our Maintenance Crew for all their hard work this winter. Thanks to them, summer looks amazing at Promised Land!

Friends of Promised Land

Volunteer Board of Directors

Kara Derry, Chair
Matthew Perry, Vice Chair
Patricia Ollendyke, Treasurer
Christina Puntel, Secretary
Mark Badstubner
Timothy George
Amber Frey
Kate Harnish
Stephanie Cross
Robin Coolbaugh

Promised Land State Park Staff

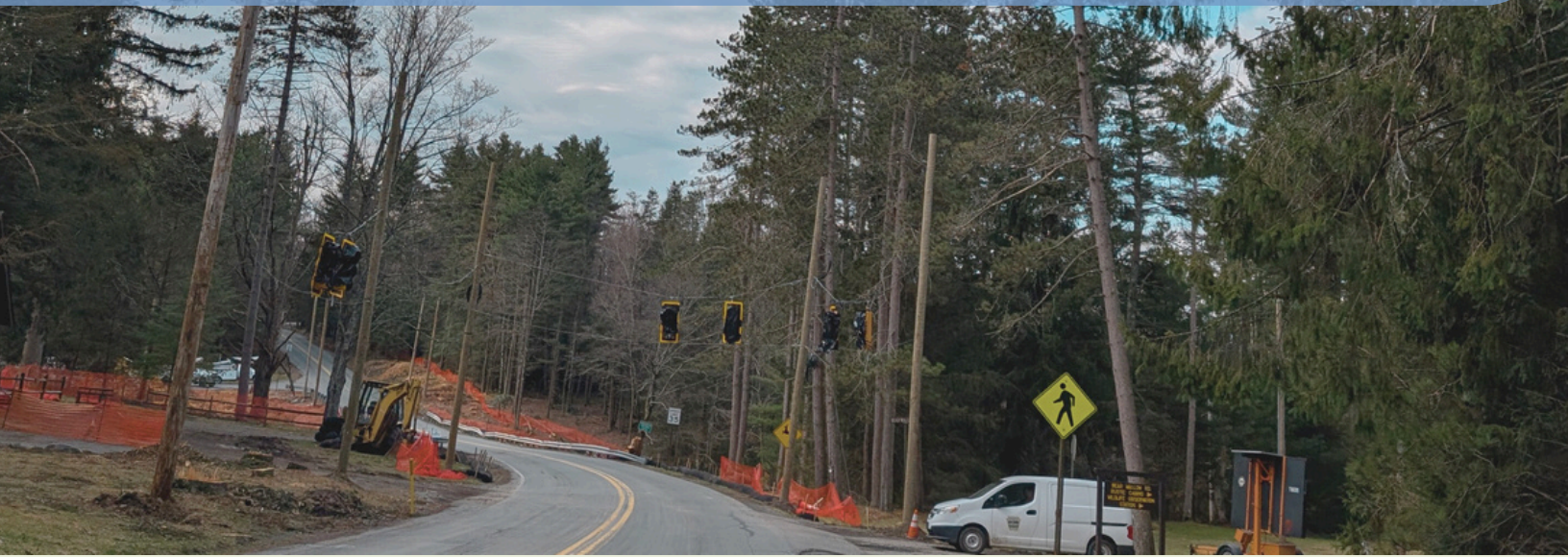
Tarah Bruegger, Park Operations Manager
Sara Jade Woodsmith, Assistant Park Manager
Josh Heath, Environmental Education Specialist

Our mission is to work in partnership with PLSP management to conserve, support, and advocate for Promised Land State Park's natural and cultural resources by promoting education, recreation, and stewardship.



Follow the Friends of
Promised Land State Park

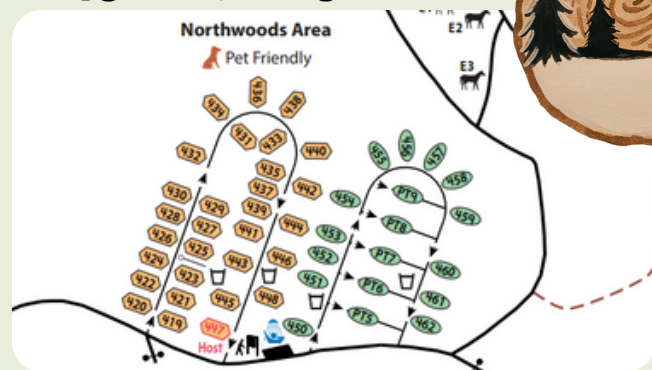




Improvements, loading!

North Woods

Coming soon! With full hook ups in the beautiful Lower Lake Campground, let's goooo!



PennDOT work commenced early Spring 2025 on the bridge on 390. This is a two year project, with special attention to the safety of our visitors and our dam during that timeline. If you are stopped at the light, take a minute to breathe in the cool, lake air and sweet smell of the pines. And give the PennDOT crew a wave!

9.22.25

September 22, 2025 marks the start of the sewer and water line replacements. No cabins this Fall, folks. Our park is VERY MUCH looking forward to this updated infrastructure. As with all construction projects, stay tuned for updates, twists, and turns, and be ready to celebrate once our pipes are in the ground!



Check
out...

Mama Bear's
Concessions



Promised Land Boat Rental
<https://promisedlandboat.com/>



Electric Motor Boat 3 MPH



Rowboat



Canoe



Summer Highlights

Discover-E Camps https://events.dcnr.pa.gov/promised_land_state_park

Conservation Leaders, 6/24-6/26
(Ages 13-17)

Hide N Seek Explorers, 7/8-7/10
(Ages 4&5)

Outdoor Explorers, 7/22-7/24
(Ages 6-8)

Penn's Adventurers, 8/5-8/7
(Ages 9-12)

\$35 per child/\$17.50 additional children.
Pre-registration and payment is required. Please, no walk ins! Click on the calendar link on this page to register.

Payment will need to be done in person or over the phone. Call the park office! 570.676.3428

Promised Land State Park

Art in the Park Program Summer 2025

All programs will run rain or shine, in the event of a thunderstorm, outside activities will be cancelled. For more information or to register for a program, go to our interactive calendar at events.dcnr.pa.gov

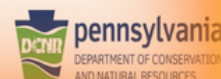
Art in the park programs will meet at the Falls Pavilion.
10AM-12PM

Wednesday June 25th	Shake your bushy Tail
Wednesday July 2nd	O' Say can you see
Wednesday July 9th	Caution slow moving bump ahead
Wednesday July 16th	For parseltongue speakers only
Wednesday July 23rd	Well red bird
Wednesday July 30th	They will steal your Pic-A-nic basket
Wednesday August 6th	Bee you later pollinator
Wednesday August 13th	If you give a deer a carrot
Wednesday August 20th	One... Two... Red... Blue...
Wednesday August 27th	Bioluminescent Beauties

These programs are run by conservation volunteers!
Sponsored by Promised Land State Park and Promised Land Protestant Community Church



www.dcnr.state.pa.us



CCC DAY! AUGUST 9, 2025



*Run 3.1
miles &
paddle 1
mile*

<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Greentown/CCCDayRunPaddleDuathlon>

Help us raise money by enjoying a run on a scenic rolling paved course, then through one of our campgrounds before transitioning to a paddle (kayak, SUP, or canoe) on beautiful Promised Land Lake. This is an adults only fun race that will be timed! Finisher medals and event shirts guaranteed for athletes registered by July 18 or until field capacity of 100 is reached. After spectating or competing, head to Pickerel Point for CCC Day Festivities!



Get ready for camp tours, nature, crafts, food, and history! Promised Land State Park hosts CCC day on Saturday, August 9, 2025. Promised Land State Park is one of 800 state parks built by the CCC. Camps averaged about 200 men who signed up for six-month stints. Celebrate the CCC's hard work with us – learn how they turned a damaged forest into our State Park!

Maintenance THANKS!



This winter was hard on the park! We want to extend a BIG THANKS to Promised Land's incredible maintenance crew. From the bathrooms to the beach and back to the trails, you make this park shine!

THANK
YOU!

How to be a Friend

To become a Friend of Promised Land State Park, complete the volunteer interest survey using this link: <https://forms.gle/AKVHqPH7TVUw4fARA> A Friends board member will respond to you within a couple of days.



We need volunteers to help with special events, trail maintenance, community outreach, and committee work. We also have two Board member positions that we would like filled. On August 9th, we need volunteers for the duathlon! You will receive a free event shirt to wear during the event. We also need volunteers to help with the Friends booth at CCC Day! YOU have a place with the Friends.

Thank you to our current Friends volunteers: Shelley L., Shirley B., Wendy F., Jessica K., Marianne B., Jim H., Kathy H., Alan K., Joseph S., Dan D., Debbie Y., Scott R., Jeffrey S., Dawson S., Lynne K., Laura R., and Jean D. (Did we miss you? Oh no! Email friendsofpromisedland@gmail.com. Thanks for your patience!)

To Become a Supporter

Monetary donations to the Friends of PLSP will be used on projects within the State Park to enhance visitors' experiences. Please use this link to donate to the Friends: <https://ppff.app.neoncrm.com/forms/promised-land-friends>



Businesses interested in sponsoring our inaugural run-paddle duathlon should contact Kara Derry at friendschairplsp@gmail.com

The Friends of Promised Land State Park is a Chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization—contributions to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. No goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution. The official registration of the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.