

# NEWS RELEASE

From the Brodhead Watershed Association

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

***June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013***

***Henryville***

## **Ramble the Paradise Watershed**

**Sunday, August 11**

**1-5 pm**



***Skywood Park in Paradise Township***

### ***Go for a Ramble in Paradise...***

Get to know the watershed of the Paradise Creek on Sunday, August 11, from 1 - 4 p.m. Walks, talks, and presentations by experienced naturalists fill the day, with the After Ramble party held from 4 - 5 p.m at a historic old building, the home of the Swiftwater Preserve. Formed in 1896, the Swiftwater Preserve Fishing Club was the second such club to be established after the railroads opened the Poconos to tourism.

At beauty spots throughout the watershed, you'll learn about the area's regional parks, the history of Fieldstone Farm, the creation of the Brodhead Falls Preserve, the fish and wildlife habitat of the Nothstein Preserve. You can also visit the public Woodland Trail trailhead at Mt. Airy and get maps of other trails open to the public at the resort.

First stop for registration, map, and information is Skywood Park. Louise Troutman, a Paradise Supervisor, and board member of both Pocono Area Recreation Commission and Pocono Heritage Land Trust, will answer questions about regional parks. Naturalist Darryl Speicher will also be on hand.

At a recent Open Space acquisition known as Fieldstone Farm, Don Miller and Jim Conner will talk about the natural history -- and the human history -- of this beautiful old stone farmhouse and the important land surrounding it. This will include an easy 15-minute walk.

At the 777-acre Brodhead Falls Preserve, Dawn Gorham will highlight how Monroe County's Open Space program has helped preserve land that protects drinking water. You are welcome to take a 15-minute walk to a split glacial boulder at the Preserve with Sam Piel, who has been mapping trails on the property for BWA.

As part of the resort's development, Paradise Township required Mt. Airy to set aside about 500 acres of Open Space and to provide trails open to the public. The Woodland Trail is the first to be completed. Natural Ellen Davis and Mt. Airy representative and plant specialist Will Eldredge will be your guides.

Don Baylor and Jim Hartzler will demonstrate electro-fishing at the Nothstein Cranberry Preserve. With luck, you may see may see a "tiger trout," a naturally-occurring cross between a female brown trout and a male brook trout. The fish exhibits gorgeous markings found in neither parent. Tiger trout are rare in the wild, appearing only in areas where brook and brown trout share spawning grounds.

***The After Ramble*** is a great time to mingle with the presenters and naturalists, enjoy delicious food and wine and the immense rural beauty of the Swiftwater area. Admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members on the day of the event. (There is a \$2 discount for reservations made in advance!)For

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more information, call 570 839-1120 or email [brodheadwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:brodheadwatershed@gmail.com). The Ramble is held drizzle or shine -- see you there!

*The Brodhead Watershed Association is a non-profit environmental organization formed in 1989. BWA is dedicated to protecting and preserving water resources and the environment of the Brodhead watershed and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise and Pocono creeks and their tributaries. In addition, the BWA assists municipalities, residents, businesses and groups with protecting natural resources through education, workshops, seminars, public programs and stream monitoring.*

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