

# NEWS RELEASE

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From the Brodhead Watershed Association

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, June 23, 2016

(Please do not print after July 16, 2016)

### **Free hike event: Two ways to Stairway Lake**

High atop a ridge in Delaware State Forest, Pa., is Stairway Lake. Along with the lake are panoramic views of the Delaware River, memorable cliffside camping sites and abundant flora and fauna.

On Saturday, July 23, as part of the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, two guided hikes will be led to Stairway Lake – one challenging, one a bit easier – at 1,100 feet in elevation.

The hiking distance doesn't differ much between the two, but the steeper one is a little rougher, a little rockier, and a lot wetter. Whichever route they choose, hikers will be glad they made the effort.

Participants are encouraged to bring a lunch or snack to enjoy beside the lake, where blue-flag iris blooms beside beaver constructions. The ridgetop view takes in a long meander of the Delaware River and across the steep valley below, laying out the world at a hiker's feet.

#### **IF YOU GO**

**What:** Stairway Ridge offers two hiking alternatives: Carol Hillestad will lead a moderately challenging hike of about 3.5 miles; naturalist Patti O'Keefe will head a more moderate hike of about 3.25 miles.

**When:** 10 a.m. Saturday, July 23, 2016

**Where:** Meet at trailheads on Bluestone Boulevard in Westfall Township. From Milford center, take Route 6 east for 2.7 miles to Cummins Hill Road (unmarked, on the left). Take Cummins Hill Road under Route 84 – 4 miles to Bluestone Boulevard (also unmarked). Go right on Bluestone six-tenths of a mile for the more challenging hike to parking on the left; or go 1.1 miles for the easier hike, also on the left.

**Cost:** Free, but registration is required.

**Information:** Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email [info@brodheadwatershed.org](mailto:info@brodheadwatershed.org). For information about this and other hikes in the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, go to [brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos](http://brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos).

Brodhead Watershed Association is a nonprofit 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. BWA assists municipalities, residents, businesses and groups with protecting natural resources through education, workshops, seminars, public programs and stream monitoring. For information: [info@brodheadwatershed.org](mailto:info@brodheadwatershed.org) or 570-839-1120.