

NEWS RELEASE

From the Brodhead Watershed Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

(Please do not print after May 21, 2016)

HIKE EVENT: To the edge of Thunder Swamp

In the midst the 84,000-acre Delaware State Forest in Pike County, Pa., is a glacier-carved gem. Thunder Swamp shines with creeks, 45 miles of trails, and unusual flora and fauna.

As part of the free series Get Outdoors Poconos, hikers are invited to join a naturalist-led, 1.5-mile outing exploring part of this extensive preserve.

Hikers will follow a rocky path to see evidence of coyotes, big slices of slate rising from the ground, huge boulders covered with moss and ferns, sheep laurel, blueberries, witch hazel, and wintergreen. Great blue herons often survey the swamps partially maintained by beavers – a chain of three lodges lines the west side of the swamp.

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Carol Hillestad will lead a moderate hike of about 1.5 miles on Thunder Swamp Trail.

WHEN: 10 a.m. Saturday, May 21

WHERE: Meet at the trailhead off Flat Ridge Road, Dingmans Township, Pike County. Take Route 402 to Bushkill Road (the road sign is missing — it's the road between Porters Lake to the north and Burnt Mills ATV parking to the south). Take Bushkill Road 1.3 miles to Flat Ridge Road on your left. Two stone pillars mark the dirt road. Follow Flat Ridge 2.1 miles to parking area on the right, just past Bergof Road. Coordinates: 41° 14' 32" N 75° 1' 42 W

COST: Free, but registration is required.

INFORMATION: Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org. For information about this and other hikes in the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos. The hike series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.

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 or 570-839-1120.