



**SUMMER
2010**

Welcome! New BWA Members

Judith Brown
Ashley McMichael
Scott Lamborn
Connor Barry
Sue Dreibelbis
Ken & Mary Predmore
Trish O'Brien
Lori Colgan
Stella B. Becker
Paul Fancher
Melissa Shafer
Jon Frace
Jeff Heberley
Don Slepian
John & Mary Louise
Parker
Svetlana Pesh
Deborah Pearsall
Nomi & Pete Pesch
Mary Ellen Higgins
Paula Marie Longo
Joan Skoranski
Ramcah Vahanvaty
Jim & Mary Gluck
Anne Nordstrom
Sheelagh Murphy
Jeffery Cook
Mary Vrazel
Don & Karen Struckle
Scott Magin
Angie Pruitt
Miles Magin
Laura Aramburu
Jenny Collins
Annette & Doug
Atkinson



Join Us for a Summer Afternoon Ramble with Naturalists along the McMichael Creek

Sunday, August 8 from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Natural history, historic buildings, a gorgeous setting and delicious food await you on this year's McMichael Ramble. The After Ramble party will be held at the historic Pohoqualine Fishing Association's beautiful creek side grounds.

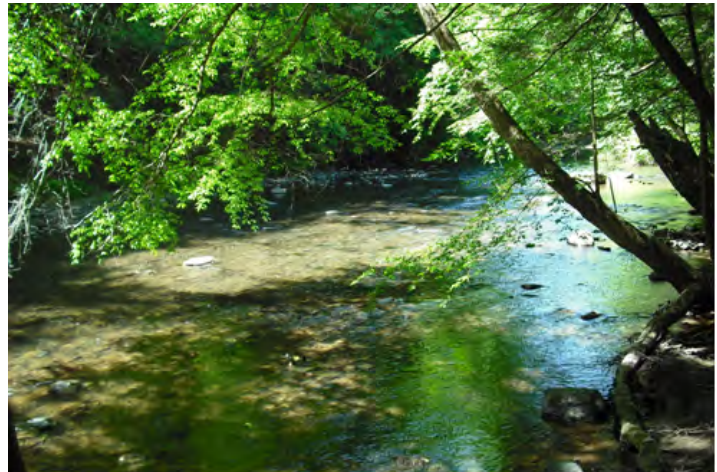
The Ramble's starting point is on the Lower McMichael in Stroud Township and will take you upstream toward the headwaters, with interesting stops along the way. Naturalists will be on hand at each stop to answer questions and interpret the location for you – the species of fish in the creek, the aquatic critters they feed on, the health of the stream, and more. Some stops are public land; for others, this is the only way to see these private jewels of nature. Naturalists will include Don Baylor, Lori Colgan, Jim Hartzler, Patti O'Keefe and Don Miller.

A donation to BWA of \$10 is suggested, and pre-registration will help us plan. Registration on Au-

gust 8 will be \$12.

Please contact The BWA at (570) 839-1120 or brodheadwatershed@verizon.net to preregister. Why not

round up a few friends and make an afternoon of it? You'll never have a better chance to get to know this lovely part of our world.



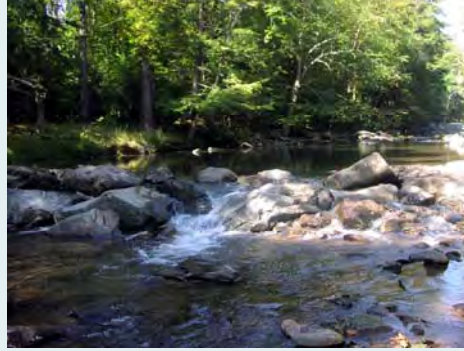
Above: the McMichael Creek; Why not round up a few friends and make an afternoon of it? You'll never have a better chance to get to know this lovely part of our world.

SAVE THE DATE:

July 19 – Rain Barrel Workshop in Stroudsburg

August 8 – McMichael Ramble

To preregister please call or email the BWA at **570-839-1120** or brodheadwatershed@verizon.net



Important Dates:

July 29 - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority,

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Trails Forum Workshop

Anthracite Heritage Museum, Bald Mtn. Road, Scranton

\$25 per Person, Includes Breakfast, Lunch, Refreshments, and Materials

Information: smilewski@LHVA.org or (570) 963-6730 x8203 www.LHVA.org

September 16,

"Natural Gas Experiences of Marcellus Residents: Preliminary Results from the Community Satisfaction Survey" Kathy Brasier, Penn State University. 1-2 PM Registration is Free. <https://breeze.psu.edu/pscems/> for Marcellus Shale webinars.

October 19,

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE

Learn how to manage landscapes in a healthier, more environmentally friendly way while saving money.

Marywood University, Swartz Conference Center, University Drive, Scranton, PA 18509

Registration information will become available in August.

For more information, call DCNR Office of Conservation Science at 717-787-3212 or

Ellen Ferretti at eferretti@pecpa.org for more details.

Let Us Promise You a Rain Garden Underway in Stroudsburg

Two Stroudsburg homes will soon be proud owners of rain gardens – installed free as part of BWA's Let Us Promise You a Rain Garden project.

The project, funded by an anonymous donor, will get underway on July 19 with a Rain Garden workshop for Stroudsburg residents at 7 PM at the Stroudsburg Municipal Building. Trish Attardo, Monroe County Conservation District Watershed Specialist, will present the workshop. Trish will explain what a rain garden is and why they are useful to slow down storm water runoff in a built-up area like Stroudsburg.

Invitations have gone out to all homeowners in the Borough, and those attending will be entered in a drawing for a free rain barrel.

All homeowners can apply for one of the two rain gardens, whether or not they attend the workshop. To be eligible, the property must be located

in the Borough of Stroudsburg, be the residence of the homeowner, and have an appropriate place for the garden – at least ten feet from the house and between the front of the house and the street, with a rain gutter draining to the front of the house. The homeowner must agree to maintain and assist in the planting of the garden, and to allow the garden to be included in a tour of the gardens at a future date.

Applications are due by Friday, July 30. Selection will be made by August 9, and the gardens will be installed in September.

Barb Quarentello, Stroudsburg Borough Manager, points out "The project is really valuable in Stroudsburg, where storm water runoff washes excess fertilizer, pesticides, oil, and grease from streets and parking lots into the Brodhead and McMichael Creeks."



Invasive Plants Attacked

Volunteers from the Buck Hill community and Brodhead Forest and Stream club removed invasive knotweed, barberry and multi-flora rose on their streamside properties and planted native shrubs and perennials under the guidance of Lori Colgan, BWA's invasive plant specialist. You can get Lori to help you determine the best way to control invasives on your property by calling BWA at 839-1120, or emailing brodheadwatershed@verizon.net



Water Facts: "H₂Ology"

Lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40% of total household water use during the summer.

A rain barrel collects water and stores it for when you need it most -- during periods of drought -- to water plants, wash your car, or to top a swimming pool. It provides an ample supply of free 'soft water' to homeowners, containing no chlorine, lime or calcium making it ideal for gardens, flower pots, and car and window washing.

A rain barrel will save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months.



Saving water not only helps protect the environment, it saves you money and energy (decreased demand for treated tap water). Diverting water from storm drains also decreases the impact of runoff to streams and the Watershed. Therefore, a rain barrel is an easy way for you to save the Brodhead Watershed and have a consistent supply of clean, fresh water for

outdoor use, FREE. Check: <http://www.mcconservation.org/default.asp?contentID=64> for directions on making your own, or search on line for directions and products.



Photo by Stefania Luciani Binnick, SLB Art Studio, www.lucianiart.com

Encourage a Friend to Join Today!!!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Preferred method of BWA receiving news & info:

Regular Mail Email Both

Circle One:

Family \$30 Individual \$15 Senior \$10

Student \$5 Contributor \$100

Adopt-A-Stream Site \$250

Return, with your check to:

Brodhead Watershed Association
Box 339, Henryville, PA 18332

The official registration and financial information of Brodhead Watershed Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania

Environmentalists convince Harrisburg commission to let forests grow along our best streams

For the last five years, Clean Water Action has been working hard to win forested stream buffers along all streams in Pennsylvania. It joined with its partners in the Pennsylvania Campaign for Clean Water to unify environmental groups around this important policy goal. On June 17 the Independent Regulatory Review Commission [IRRC] considered updates to Pennsylvania's environmental regulations that would require these buffers on Pennsylvania's most pristine waters.

Brady Russell, Eastern PA Director for Clean Water Action, issued this statement:

"We are very happy that today Pennsylvania took a big step forward in approving 150-foot wide forested buffers on the top 20% of the stream miles in our state. Forests beside streams do a great job of supporting aquatic life, filtering out pollution and slowing down floods. We look forward to working with the General Assembly to pass legislation requiring buffers on all of our streams.

With time, the buffers rule will improve water quality in our state. Congratulations to the Commission for taking this positive action."

The Independent Regulatory Review Commission is the next-to-last step in approving any new regulation in the state. The regulation will also undergo a review by the environmental committees for the PA House and Senate. After 14 days without action, the rule becomes official. Streamside buffers are strips of land alongside streams allowed to revert to their naturally forested state. The scientific community has come to a consensus that streamside buffers are one of the best ways to preserve water quality in streams [See: "Conservation Thresholds for Land Use Planners," Environmental Law Institute, <http://www.elistore.org/>]. Research done by Clean Water Action has found that buffers are already required in almost 200 municipalities in the state, with 63 requiring at least 100-foot buffers on some or all of their streams. The environmental community was able to convince 54 state legislators to communicate their support for the buffers rule to the IRRC. In addition, thousands of Pennsylvanians wrote individual letters or emails supporting the rules. Nearly a hundred different environmental groups also put their support for these rules on record with legislators and the IRRC in the final days of consideration.

Want to contact us?

Phone: 570-839-1120 **Email:** brodheadwatershed@verizon.net **Web:** www.brodheadwatershed.org



Brodhead Watershed Association

Box 339
Henryville, PA 18332

The Brodhead Watershed Association is a non-profit organization formed in 1989 to promote and preserve the environment of the Brodhead watershed and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise, and Pocono creeks and their tributaries.