



Streamlines



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2018



The Stroudsburg pocket park a few days after planting.

Oasis opens in Stroudsburg

A new pocket park at the corner of Quaker Alley and Sixth Street, Stroudsburg, opened June 29 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

In a two-year effort, what was once a dusty site for dumpsters has been transformed into a pocket park complete with plants, shade trees, pathways and seating.

The “urban nature space” is a collaboration of Stroudsburg Borough, Monroe County commissioners, Brodhead Watershed Association, Pocono Alliance and Strauser Nature’s Helpers, with sponsors and donors contributing to the project.

See OASIS Page 2 *The empty lot prior to planting.*



INCH BY INCH For each inch of rain that hits Stroudsburg streets, the pocket park will save 561 gallons of water as it is reabsorbed into the Earth and used by the plants and recharge groundwater, rather than entering nearby storm drains.

Check out our Cherry Valley

Ramble

AT CHERRY VALLEY

Explore the environmental treasures of the Cherry Creek watershed during the annual Ramble, 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5.

The drive-yourself eco-tour, starting and ending at Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge, will focus on the agricultural legacy of Cherry Valley which has resulted in a strong land- and water-conservation ethic.

This event is sponsored by Brodhead Watershed Association and the Friends of Cherry Valley. The wildlife refuge is at 2138 Croasdale Road, Stroudsburg.

Families and hikers who arrive a little earlier will find even more fun: at noon, a guided hike through the refuge, and at 12:30, snorkeling in Cherry Creek for kids. Those two events are free and require

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RAMBLE

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preregistration; see brodheadwatershed.org for information. Afterward, join the Ramble!

Starting at 1 p.m., Ramble participants will tour natural highlights along a mapped driving route, each spot staffed by some of the area's finest naturalists eager to share their knowledge and love of the watershed. Stops will feature the Josie Porter Farm, Eagles Rest Cellars and its vineyard, and Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. At the national wildlife refuge, Ramblers will see the creek improvement projects made by Trout Unlimited's Brodhead Chapter, and how stream monitoring by East Stroudsburg University students provides real-time data on water quality.

Enjoy food and conversation

at the after-Ramble party, 4 to 5 p.m. at the refuge. Please bring your own refillable water bottle! In keeping with BWA's environmental standards, no bottled water will be available. Filling stations will be available at each Ramble stop.

Suggested donation for the Ramble is \$10 for FOCV and BWA members, \$15 for non-members, with a \$2 discount for pre-registration by Aug. 1. Children under 12 attend for free. The after-party is included in the cost. Tickets sales benefit FOCV and BWA.

To register, see brodheadwatershed.org/Ramble.html. For information, call 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org.

This year's Ramble is sponsored by Cherry Creek Hideaway, Stroudsmoor Country Inn, Bolock Funeral Home & Crematory and Mountain Creek Stable.



Brodhead Creek Heritage Center will include a large back porch.

Progress on the new place

Brodhead Creek Heritage Center is well under way at ForEvergreen Nature Preserve in Analomink. Robert K. Ace Construction has been working on it since spring, and expects to complete it by September.

A joint project of local nonprofits Brodhead Watershed Association and Pocono Heritage Land Trust, the center will provide space at the preserve for offices, pub-

lic events, nature displays and a fly fishing exhibit.

The 40-acre ForEvergreen Preserve is owned by Stroud Township. It is open to the public dawn to dusk and includes walking/running paths and access to Brodhead Creek for catch-and-release fly fishing.

For information or to donate, visit brodheadcreekheritage.org or call BWA at 570-839-1120 or PHLT at 570-424-1514.

OASIS

From Page 1

Stroudsburg Mayor Tarah Probst said, "I am overwhelmed with the support of our community and the donations that came in to help fund this beautification project. I want to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart. We did it."

Probst hopes the spot gives downtown workers, shoppers and residents a green getaway and is the first step in beautifying Quaker Alley. Possible plans include expansion of the park to include more of the empty lot surrounding it, as well as other green infrastructure elsewhere in downtown Stroudsburg.

In 2016, the BWA produced the Green Infrastructure study to identify how more green spaces and green infrastructure could improve water quality and thus quality of life in the greater Stroudsburg area.

Bob Heil, executive director of Brodhead Watershed Association, said, "Building new green spaces in Stroudsburg not

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

Robin Petras of Strauser Nature's Helpers, designer of the pocket park, says the project is "just the beginning of Stroudsburg's Green Infrastructure projects, and we are excited to get as many people and organizations throughout the community involved."

Donations can be used toward the pocket park or one of the upcoming projects. "We are also in need of commitments for the maintenance of the park," said Petras.

If you'd like to help, call Petras at 570-424-9434, extension 304.

only enhances the quality of life in the beautiful borough but is water-smart and exactly what BWA's Green Infrastructure Plan for the Lower Brodhead is all about."

Project coordinators made sure the pocket park is environmentally mindful. Pavers are water-permeable, and rain-water will soak in the ground to be used

by the native plants, rather than running down the street to storm drains.

Stroudsburg Borough workers and Strauser Nature's Helpers employees prepared the site, and Robin Petras of Strauser Nature's Helpers provided the landscape design. Volunteers from Pocono Mountains Association of Realtors and Vigon International helped put in the plants.

Sponsors who contributed monetarily are: Pocono Mountains Association of Realtors, Vigon International, the Church of St. Luke in Stroudsburg, Greater Pike Community Foundation, PNC Foundation, Sarah Street Grill and BWA.

Residents who donated to the project include Probst, Jessica DePete, Richard and Mary Ellen Cramer, Jill Price, Rick and Barb Hammond, Joanne Strauss, Stephen McTavish, Alanna McTavish, Robert Younger.

For information about the pocket park, see brodheadwatershed.org/StroudsburgPark.html.

For information about BWA's Green Infrastructure Plan, see brodheadwatershed.org/GreenInfrastructure.htm.

See what swims beneath the surface

In this edition of Streamlines, you will read many articles about all the great things that are happening in our watershed – the plant sale, the Ramble, Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, and all those great volunteers and supporters who make it happen.

Much like one of our exceptional Pocono streams, there is much more just below the ripples, so let's take a look at what is below the surface.

The Plan for Clean Water was a deep dive by many



FROM THE
DIRECTOR

Bob
Heil

conservation-minded folks to evaluate the connection between land uses, land conservation and preserving surface and groundwater. The final product is a worthy endeavor for planning purposes and ties in with our participation in the

#4states1 source Delaware River Watershed Initiative.

As part of the DRWI, BWA is working with local municipalities to address stormwater concerns – particularly MS4, which stands for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. It's a big issue for municipalities acclimating to a new regulation that requires certain municipalities to evaluate storm water in relation to surface waters.

BWA also meets with other organizations to determine how their resources are

beneficial in protecting the Pocono environment. BWA has been invited to participate in Brodhead Creek Regional Authority's Source Water Protection Committee, which is another collaboration of partners looking at threats and opportunities to protect the drinking water of more than 20,000 customers.

All of these collaborations and projects are not always visible to BWA members, but – like a favorite trout stream – there is a very busy and productive process just below the surface.

Plan for Clean Water debuts

Since Jacob Stroud and others brought European settlers to Monroe County our economy, tourism and environment have co-existed and flourished thanks to clean and abundant water. It's well that we are stewards of those resources, and the decisions that we make are what will allow this to continue in the future.



Space Institute, has developed the Plan for Clean Water.

The guidance document evaluates where groundwater (aquifers) are recharged, and where lands most important for surface water warrant protection. The product is a science-based approach to identifying lands which require protection for our water resources.

The Plan for Clean Water will be distributed to municipal leaders to assist them in forming land-preservation strategies. See PlanForCleanWater.org. –Bob Heil

To bring that thought process into consciousness, the BWA, in collaboration with Monroe County Planning Commission and many others, with a grant for Open

BWA helps successful sojourn

The Delaware River Sojourn is an eight-day paddling event, this year held June 15-23, in which participants may paddle as many or as few days as they choose on various sections of the Delaware River. Sojourners enjoy the river, observe wildlife such as bald eagles, meet new friends and learn about topics of local interest from guest speakers.

Now in its 24th year, the sojourn is organized through cooperation of many environmental organizations and state agencies throughout the Delaware River Watershed. This year, BWA, along with Delaware Highlands Conservancy, participated as "day planners," ensuring

that logistics such as meals, kayak livery service and media relations were in place for the two days that spanned from the Shawnee area to Lower Mount Bethel, Northampton County.

On each of these days, approximately 100 people attended.

BWA's Bob Heil addressed the crowd on the importance of nonprofit organizations and wise land use decisions in upstream communities impacting water quality throughout the river.

For information about the annual event, see riversojourn.com.

Welcome, new members!

Howard & Catherine Blair of Saylorburg; Sarah Cramb of Roseto; Bonnie Culver of Lake Harmony; Nanette DeBartolo of East Stroudsburg; Valerie DeMarco of Pocono Lake; Steve Doh of Warmister; Janis Dorfold of Blakeslee; Richard Evans of Hawley; Esme Felins of East Stroudsburg; Jennifer & Sean Fodness of Stroudsburg; Shannon Gardner of Stroudsburg; Julia Gonzalez of Stroudsburg; Jamie & Michelle Hadlock of Swiftwater; Amy Henasey of Swiftwater; Ted & Debby Higgins of Tobyhanna; Julie Hilliard of Bartonsville; Kate Jendral of Stroudsburg; Theresa & Robert Kleiner of Stroudsburg; Catherine Koch of Henryville; Stacey Koeck of Stroudsburg; Lorena Koszarek of Pocono Lake; Laura Lammers of Cresco; Dan Lee of Stroudsburg; Kenneth LeSure of East Stroudsburg; Jesse Lewis of Cresco; Virgil Marti of Philadelphia; Constance Moyer of East Stroudsburg; Dean & Sue Neely of Pocono Pines; Julia Niering of Cresco; Barbara O'Connell of Redding, Ct.; Jan Olsommer of Canadensis; Mary Oskowski of Macungie; Francis Pisko of Mount Pocono; Andrew Price of Sinking Spring; Barbara & Tom Quarantello of Stroudsburg; David & Kathy Reder of Stroudsburg; Tom Rupp of Blakeslee; Helen Rusk of Kunkletown; Linda, Hal & Daniel Sadler of Saylorburg; Pat Scully of Henryville; Susan Scully of Cresco; William Seigart of East Stroudsburg; James Smith of Stroudsburg; John Staub of Stroudsburg; Jeff & Kriste Stewart of Scotrun; Catherine Sweeney of East Stroudsburg; James & Melissa Taylor of East Stroudsburg; Dottie Telesky of Cresco; Rich & Dawn Troscianecki of Gouldsboro; Leslie Underhill of East Stroudsburg; Maria Walker of Cresco; Margo Warner of Effort; Linda Welch of East Stroudsburg; Ellen Williams of Montclair, N.J.; Sheila Wilson of Pilesgrove, N.J.; Jennifer Wilson of Stroudsburg; Jacky Young of Mount Pocono

CALENDAR

RAMBLE AT CHERRY VALLEY

1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5

An eco-tour of Cherry Valley.
See details on page 1.



HIKE AT CHERRY VALLEY WILDLIFE REFUGE

(a free Get Outdoors Poconos event)

Noon Sunday, Aug. 5

A guided hike prior to the Ramble. To register, call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or see brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos.

CHERRY CREEK SNORKEL (a free Water Wiser Kids event)

12:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5

Kids can explore Cherry Creek from the inside out. To register, call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or see brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.

INSECT SAFARI (a free Water Wiser Kids event)

7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17

Join Darryl and Jackie Speicher as they seek out insects. To register, call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or see brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.

SAVE THE DATE

THE MEMBERS

& FRIENDS

CELEBRATION, an annual and always-enjoyable event, will be held Friday, Sept. 28, at Camelback Resort's Aquatopia, Tannersville. The evening will focus on climate change, particularly promoting what you can do. Watch for invitation and ticket information as the event draws closer.

Sponsors are needed!

If your business would like to become a celebration sponsor and benefit from free advertising and admission, please call the BWA office at 570-839-1120 or email info@brodheadwatershed.org.

Plant sale success

The success of BWA's annual Native Plant Sale in June can be put into numbers:

1,100+ perennials and nearly 150 trees and shrubs sold

24 volunteers helped throughout the two-day sale

27 new members joined BWA (a record for one event!)

8 business sponsors: Pocono Lawn & Landscape, Strauser Nature's Helpers, Lansdowne Insurance Agency, Cook's Corner, Desaki Restaurant, Vincent's Deli & Catering, Frogtown Chophouse, Resort Beverage

\$2,750 in profits (approximately)

Thanks again, everyone, for another great plant sale! Specials thanks to the Monroe County Master Gardeners, who educated customers about the importance of pollinators to local gardens.

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.

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