



Streamlines



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION **30 years** SUMMER 2019



Buck Hill Falls, which is not usually open to the public, will be open for tours during the Ramble on Aug. 4.

Ramble — IN BARRETT —

Annual Ramble to tour unique sites on two of county's purest creeks

This year's Ramble – an annual event hosted by Brodhead Watershed Association – offers an insider's glimpse at Barrett Township sites rarely open to the public.

From 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019, the Ramble will take participants to one

of the highest waterfalls in the Poconos, a private deer enclosure, old-growth forest, and an innovative park on the site of a once-iconic, historic inn.

The self-driving tour includes visits at Buck Hill Creek and Rattlesnake Creek.

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Buck Hill Conservation Foundation created a park on the footprint of the historic Buck Hill Inn.

FREE PRE-RAMBLE HIKE! An out-and-back hike to Rattlesnake Creek falls, led by Carol Hillestad, will leave State Gamelands 221 at noon Sunday, Aug. 4, before the Ramble begins. Free; advance registration required. This hike is part of the Get Outdoors Poconos series. Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727. Details will be posted on brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos and in BWA's E-news later in July.

RAMBLE

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Buck Hill Conservation Foundation will host guided tours of Buck Hill Falls surrounded by Jenkins Wood, one of the largest stands of old-growth forest in eastern Pennsylvania and an example of what forested land looks like when it's not overbrowsed by white-tail deer.

Visit nearby Rattlesnake Creek and trace its course to Mill Creek, once the industrial heart of historic Mountainhome. Learn about public trails in state gamelands and how to get to Rattlesnake Creek falls.

Register between 1 and 2 p.m. at The Friendly Community Center, 6638 Route 191 (across from Mountainhome United Methodist Church) and receive your map of the tour.

Guides will take groups at 1:30 and 3 p.m. to sites at Buck Hill Falls. Visit Rattlesnake Creek with Ryan Gildea, gamelands land manager, and Carol Hillestad between 1:30 and 4 p.m.

From 4 to 5 p.m., enjoy light refreshments at the former site of the Buck Hill Inn and learn about the conservation work of Buck Hill Conservation Foundation. In case of rain, the after-Ramble refreshments will be at The Friendly Community Center.

Tickets are \$15 for members of BWA or Buck Hill Conservation Foundation, \$20 for non-members. Pre-register by July 31 for a \$2 discount! For information and to register online, see brodheadwatershed.org/Ramble.html. Call BWA at 570-839-1120.



Better together

Leaders of the Monroe County Latino community came to Brodhead Creek Heritage Center on May 15 to learn more about the work of BWA and see the new center.

Bob Heil, executive director of BWA, enjoyed showcasing the organization's work to a new, diverse audience. The Latino leaders sought to hear about what water and environmental issues are important to attendees, and why the work of the BWA is of interest to them and their families, communities and businesses.

"It was wonderful to see the excitement from local Latino leaders about BWA's work and discuss ideas for their involvement," said Dr. Damary Bonilla-Rodriguez, a BWA board member and Poconos commissioner for the Governor's Commission on Latino Affairs (GACLA).

Mount Pocono spray field almost ready for launch

Several members of the BWA Advocacy Committee recently toured the Mount Pocono Municipal Authority sewage treatment plant and spray irrigation field for its treated effluent.

The spray field is near the highest point on the property adjacent to the plant, which the authority bought for this purpose. The 130-acre spray field – with more than 13 miles of piping and 760 spray heads – is complete and ready to use, but additional upgrades are still under way at the plant.



The spray irrigation project, designed to remove degrading discharge to Forest Hills Run, is the result of litigation brought by BWA and PennFuture. More history can be found here: www.brodheadwatershed.org/BWAPennFutureMtPoconoMunicipalAuthorityReachAgreement.html

The spray field can be seen in Google maps by searching for Mount Pocono Municipal Authority and looking at the "satellite" view.

Welcome, new BWA members!

Susan Ballek of Tannersville, Ashley Barrasso of Saylorsburg, Midge Barron of Henryville, Karen Chase of Buck Hill Falls, Elvi & Michael DeLotto of Delaware Water Gap, Katherine Emgushov of Stroudsburg, Patricia Erhard of Washington Crossing, Lisa Fernandez of East Stroudsburg, Stina Forsell of Tannersville, Linda Gerkenmeyer of Tannersville, Cathy Gravel of Canadensis, Joan Griffin of Canadensis, Barbara Hammond of Stroudsburg, Robert Hare of Stroudsburg, Amanda Jones of Bethlehem, Clark Jones of Blakeslee, Jane King of Swiftwater, Kelly Kresge of Stroudsburg, Landon Kuehner of Saylorsburg, Shannon Ladrigon of Stroudsburg, Maureen Madden of Tobyhanna, Linda Mader of Cresco, Jacqueline Magann of Mountainhome, Chris Maldarelli of Stroudsburg, Elda McCoy of Stroudsburg, Michaelynn Myers of Cresco, Ann Nicholas of Shawnee-on-Delaware, John O'Brien of Bartonsville, Elaine Owens of Stroudsburg, Susan & James Penny of East Stroudsburg, Jacob Pride of East Stroudsburg, Diane Richardson of Stroudsburg, Rotary Club of the Pocono Mountains, Deirdre Russell of Sciota, Keith Rutter of East Stroudsburg, Jennifer Shull of Henryville, Tonni Soler of East Stroudsburg, Sarah Thompson of Long Pond, Vickie Tinsley of Bangor, Sarah Toot of New York City, Jacob Van Pelt of Tannersville, Alda Villafana of Henryville, Garyl Violi of East Stroudsburg, Frank Whalen of Tobyhanna, John & Fran Whipple of Pocono Pines, Paula Williston of East Stroudsburg

FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

Bill Nye the Science Guy offers proactive ideas

In a recent video that he made in collaboration with the Climate Reality Project titled "Climate 101," Bill Nye (aka "The Science Guy") shares that "humans currently produce around 35 billion tons of carbon dioxide every year; about 55 percent of that is absorbed by the ocean, land, and vegetation while the rest remains in the atmosphere."

In the video, Nye, who has also penned a book, "Unstoppable: Harnessing Science to Change the World," on how climate change threatens our future, goes on to explain that if we continue producing carbon emissions at this rate, "by the time our children reach middle age, the levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide will reach TWICE that of our planet's longtime natural levels."



But we can all help prevent this gloom-and-doom scenario, says Nye, left.

Here are the beloved scientist's top three ways that we can all change the world for the better:

1. VOTE.

Nye says one of the most impactful things we can do as citizens is work to elect officials who understand the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and implement more renewable energy sources and who will propose, sponsor, and vote for bills designed to enact change.

2. BE A CRITICAL THINKER.

We are all exposed to a barrage of information on a daily – if not hourly – basis, making it all the more important to train ourselves and future generations to be critical thinkers. This means not taking all information at face value, seeking out second opinions, questioning implicit biases, and understanding the context within which information is presented.

3. REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

In a keynote address to the Cleveland Foundation, Nye described how "every choice we make affects everyone in the world." Things like walking or biking when you don't need to drive, carpooling to work, and eating less meat are individual choices we can all make that, when taken together, will have a big impact on reducing atmospheric carbon.

July 13 discussion: How we can help wildlife withstand climate change

Climate change is reshaping our world and our watershed, affecting humans, plants, and animals alike. What is the science behind climate change? How is it affecting our wildlife and fisheries? What steps are necessary to mitigate its effects and minimize our carbon footprint?

Brodhead Watershed Association is honored to bring Ed Perry, Pennsylvania outreach coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation, to the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center as the third speaker in the 2019 Climate Change Speaker Series.

The presentation "discusses all the impacts we are already seeing and what the future holds if we continue on our current path," Perry says. "The last half discusses actions we can take individually and collectively."

IF YOU GO

WHAT: "How the Climate Crisis is Impacting Wildlife and What We Can Do About it"

WHEN: 7 p.m. Saturday July 13, 2019

WHERE: Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 1539 Cherry Lane Road, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

COST: Event is free, but registration is required. Seating is limited so register early.

INFORMATION: Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or 570-839-1120; see brodheadwatershed.org/ClimateChange.htm

It's encouraging to hear one of our childhood heroes describe how we can all chip in to create a cleaner, better future.

For information on this and other news from BWA's Climate Change Committee see brodheadwatershed.org/ClimateChange.htm.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Bob Heil

Get out and enjoy it all now

Although it is always good to get away and see how others are living in other places, summer is also a great time for "stay-cations" – especially when you live in or around the Brodhead watershed.

When the kids (or grandkids) claim to be "bored," think of all these amazing outdoor experiences one can do within minutes of our homes. State parks – Big Pocono, Tobyhanna, Gouldsboro, Hickory Run, Jacobsburg – are all in our vicinity. Delaware Water Gap National Park's McDade Trail is nearly flat for walking or bike riding. And the Fourth of July is a "Fish For Free" day in Pennsylvania: You can do so at publicly owned parks or publicly owned lands along the clean, cool water of Brodhead Creek in Stroud, Paradise and Price townships.

Or take a hike in the woods from any of the many choices on brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos.

Grab a pair of binoculars and discover what birds might be in our local state forests ... and if you sit beside a stump to take nap and never see a bird, no one will ever know!

The choices are limitless, and many conservation organizations work hard to protect these beautiful natural resources, so make sure you get out and enjoy them.

CALENDAR

"HOW THE CLIMATE CRISIS IS IMPACTING WILDLIFE AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT"

(Part of the speaker series on climate change)
7 p.m. Saturday, July 13, at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

With Ed Perry of the National Wildlife Federation. See details in this edition. Free; registration is required. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org or call 570-839-1120. For information: brodheadwatershed.org/ClimateChange.

SNORKELING IN CHERRY CREEK

(Part of the free Water Wiser Kids series)
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, July 14, at Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Explore the underwater world of Cherry Creek. For children and their families. Free, but registration is required. Email info@brodheadwatershed.org, call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; see requirements at brodheadwatershed.org/WaterWiser.html.

A TOUR OF TURTLE HABITAT IN CHERRY VALLEY

(A free Get Outdoors Poconos event)
10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 20, in Cherry Valley

By permission, Carol Hillestad will lead a moderate walk of about one mile around a restricted property where rare turtles colonize. The hike is free; registration is required. Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org; see brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos.

RAMBLE IN BARRETT

1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, in Barrett Township

See details in this edition. For information or to register, see brodheadwatershed.org/Ramble.html.



Get ready to celebrate!

The annual Members & Friends Celebration will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 13, 2019, at Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort.

Maya K. van Rossum, longtime leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, will be keynote speaker. BWA has invited van Rossum to highlight today's most critical environmental challenges.

State Rep. Maureen Madden, D-Monroe, will be given with the John Riley Friend of the Watershed Award. BWA honors Madden for her environmental work, which includes protection of clean drinking water.

Sponsorship opportunities are available! If you or your business would like to sponsor this event, contact BWA Development Associate Michelle Riley at 570-839-1120 or info@brodheadwatershed.org.

The celebration will also include the Silent Auction fundraiser. If your business would like to donate an item or service to auction, please contact Michelle.

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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