STREAMWATCH

A team of more than 70 Streamwatchers continues to be the eyes and ears of our local watersheds. For over 30 years, this dedicated group of volunteers has collected data that is being utilized by partner organizations to make better informed management decisions. BWA and the Monroe County community are extremely thankful to this group of volunteers for their service. It is no small feat to be the watchdog for 563 miles of streams, but they do it with dedication and perseverance.

Cherry Creek

Dale Acker
Linda & Tim Breen
Elizabeth Cortright
Crank Family
Elvie & Michael
DeLotto
Ann Fetherman *
Lisa & Lourdes Gierlich
Green family
Liz & Gary Lewis
McCauley family
Deborah Olsen
Donna Reish
William Rothfus
Pete Steele

Lower Brodhead

Rick Croll
Karen Griffin
Tamre Joyce
Beth Klaus
Brian Kukla
Veronica Litras
Jennifer Rourke
Walt Schupp

Marshalls Creek

Melissa Benzinger McGlynn Pam Kemecsy Wendy Lichty * Walt Schupp Marynell Strunk Marianne Walsch

McMichael Creek

Emma Barrett
Diana Ceaser
Esther Ermlick
Cathy Folio*
Mark Folio
Denis Giffels
Donna Klein
Connor, Dean &
Melanie McCarthy
Dean McCarthy
Dave Rich
Scarlett Rehrig
Bob Wacker

Paradise Creek

John Briggs
Bruce Estell
Kathy & Rich Leies
Dean & Sue Nealy
Karen & Don Struckle
Emma Thompson
Steve & Kathy Watto

Pocono Creek

Candace Eaches
Ann Harmon
Dan Lee
Paul Nelson
Candace & Ray Roper
Jim Wallingford
Brenda Wilkins

Upper Brodhead/ Barrett

Betty Fetherman* Tanya Lutin David Mengle Chris Nelson

Conductivity & Chloride Team

Todd Burns

Rick Croll
Rich Cullin
Betty Fetherman
Ann Harmon
Dan Lee
Nathaniel Leies
Wendy & Mark Lichty
Tanya Lutin
David Mengle
Paul R. Nelson
Candace & Ray Roper

*Team leader

Jim Wallingford





REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

WA's unwavering dedication to promoting and protecting clean and abundant water continued through 2021 with over 20 public educational

interactive events including the annual Plant Sale, Delaware River Sojourn, our summer Ramble at the Skytop Lodge, and our annual dinner and celebration on the Delaware River at Shawnee. Our new Activities Map was launched and remains the best resource in Monroe County for outdoor activity. Be sure to visit



Minisink Park, near the PA Welcome Center to explore BWA's new nine-kiosk storymap.

BWA's program activities include our Get Outdoors Poconos, community engagement, municipal technical assistance, communications, and collaboration.

BWA's programs are designed to support our organization's mission to promote and protect clean and abundant water in the Brodhead and Cherry Creek Watersheds.

FOR CLEAN AND ABUNDANT WATER

BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2021

Advocate educate protect

GET OUTDOORS POCONOS

BWA's **Get Outdoors Poconos** monthly event series highlights the benefits of land



protection and wildlife habitat and is supported by the William Penn Foundation. BWA's **Watershed Activities Map** and **Hiking Booklets**Volumes 1 & 2 are the best resources in Monroe County for outdoor activity. Free to the public and available to all our members and friends,

our comprehensive map of trailheads, waterfalls, fishing, and boating highlights throughout the watershed is a must-have.

BWA's major event was our exclusive access

to Skytop Lodge's trails and waterfalls for the 2021 **Ramble**. With perfect highwater levels after tropical storm Henri, all participants have cherished memories of Indian Ladder Falls and Leavitt Falls. BWA's

Celebration on the

Delaware featured speaker

Dr. Jay Hunt from ESU on the topic
of "Water, water, everywhere: How upstream
decisions impact downstream environments."

We also partnered with Leigh Schuler from the MCPC to host the **Mystery Mushroom Tour**, and Chief Naturalist Rick Koval of Skytop Lodge for the Ramble hikes. Naturalists Carol Hillestad, Patti O'Keefe, and Darryl Speicher led events at Mt. Wismer, Nothstein Preserve, Josie Porter Farm, Thomas Darling Preserve, Rail Gap Preserve, and Ice Lake.



WATERSHED WATCHDOGS

Monroe County is now **ground zero** for large-scale industrial development in Pennsylvania.

Development needs to be sensitive to and fully consider the context of the landscape in which it is being placed.

The basic state permit requirements alone may not be sufficient to maintain the water quality and ecological integrity of the **Exceptional Value** (EV) and **High Quality** (HQ) major tributaries to the Brodhead. The bulk of the responsibility in water quality protection rests on the shoulders of our elected and appointed local municipal officials.

BWA encourages all of its members to continue to **motivate municipal officials**: No waivers of any resource protection ordinances, zone appropriately for water protection, and expand permanently protected wildlife habitat lands.

Do we want a future of industrial air and water pollution, truck traffic and warehouses? Or do we want **clean drinking water**, activity-driven tourism, fishing, wildlife habitat, and idyllic agricultural landscapes?

CLEAN AND ABUNDANT WATER

The Monroe County
Planning Commission's
Return on Environment
(ROE) research
demonstrates that forested
landscape and clean
water account for billions in combined
revenue and cost savings to taxpayers.

Over 98% of the residents in Monroe County rely on locally sourced drinking water.

Extensive forested landscape is the reason that our drinking water is clean and abundant.

Research has demonstrated that when just 10% of the forest is replaced with impervious surfaces, water quality is impaired.

It takes a community -wide effort to protect these resources – for good reason: All future generations' welfare and safety depends on preserving forested landscape, and the clean and abundant water that undisturbed forested landscapes produce.

MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

BWA participated in the Monroe County Planning Commission and Monroe County

Conservation District-led update to Act 167 - Brodhead-McMichael Stormwater Management Plan.

We partnered with Natural Lands,
PennFuture, DCNR, American
Rivers, Pennsylvania Environmental
Council, MCPC, and MCCD to lead
the **MS4 Municipal Roundtable** in January.

We partnered with the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center, ESU, DCNR, and Friends of Cherry

Valley at the Cherry Valley
National Wildlife Refuge for a
Pancake Breakfast to promote
resources available to expand
open space for municipal leaders.

BWA's executive director's seminar at the ESU Provost's Colloquium promoted BWA's Plan for Clean Water and Green Infrastructure Plan.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS

BWA is committed to hosting and facilitating public events that educate and encourage responsible use of our Pocono waterways, forest, and wetlands.

BWA participates in annual events including **StroudFest**, **COTA**, **Pocono Township Community Day**, MCCD's

Bug Fest, and Middle Smithfield Township community events. BWA also hosted the annual Rain Barrel Sale and Seminar at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, and the annual online Native Plant Sale.

We have continued partnerships with Our Pocono Waters,
Trout Unlimited, and Pocono
Heritage Land Trust for even more educational events, and engaged consituents with multimedia content like our Creek
Critters series on social media.

Monthly feature stories, such as **Invasive of the Month**, **Woods and Water**, **Nature at**

Risk, and **Clean Water Is Up to You** highlight conservation topics of interest to our local audience.

BWA's Carol Hillestad's written work earned **front-page** *Pocono Record* coverage for "How the Brodhead Watershed handled Tropical Storm Henri" and "Winter hike in the Poconos offers dose of conservation."

Executive Director Alex Jackson's **live news coverage** included "A small
reptile in the Poconos Needs your
help" and "Paddlers enjoy steamy
day on the Delaware River Sojourn."

Newly-installed nine-part **educational interactive storymap kiosks** at Minisink Park are now up and running.

The kiosks feature geological history, original peoples, invasive species, native plants and animals, and explore the vital role of floodplains and forests in maintaining water quality.

BWA & Smithfield
Township partnered
with resources
provided by
William Penn
Foundation, 1% For
Nature, and Stroudsburg's
Rotary Club to complete this project.



STREAM MONITORING

BWA has deployed five **MayFly Loggers** in the upper Brodhead Watershed to provide realtime data on conductivity, temperature, and water depth.

In March, BWA carried out our annual **Streamwatch Volunteer Training** online via the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

BWA has a **NFWF grant partnership** to protect
and restore Mill Creek from
Route 191 to below Route
390 in Mountainhome. See
the project map above for
details on knotweed control
projects and progress.

Through a **DEP Growing Greener Grant**, BWA is studying water samples in our headwater creeks. We want to know if human activity has increased the levels of dissolved ions in our surface waters. Study results will be released in 2022.





Your support sustains our science-based work.



= 2021 Conservation Partner. For information, go to https://brodheadwatershed.org/conservation-partnership/
= 2021 Conservation Partner. For information, go to https://brodheadwatershed.org/conservation-partnership/
= 2021 Conservation Partner.
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Watershed Stewards \$4.000 to \$5.000

- Mike & Patty Stein
- ∠ Edie Stevens

\$3,000

- Mark Chehi

- ✓ Sanofi
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River Stewards \$1,000 to \$1,999

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- Michael W. Johnson
- Middle Smithfield Township
- ✓ Smithfield Township

Stream Stewards \$500 to \$999

- Ann & Joseph Farda Foundation

- M Brodhead Creek Regional Auth.

- ∠ ESSA Bank & Trust

- Mark & Wendy Lichty
- Magnolia Streamside Resort
 ■
- ∴ Sheelagh Murphy
- // Parkside Angling Association
- ∠ Pocono Township
- ✓ John Prevoznik

- ✓ Doug Swift

- ∠UGI Utilities Inc.

Champions for Enduring Legacy of Pocono Waters \$250 to \$499

Sebastian Mannanice

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Pocono Cheesecake Factory

Bendobrook Trust

Barrett Township

Brodhead Hunting & Fishing Club

Paradise Falls Lutheran Association

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Protectors of Endangered Rivers and Wetlands \$100 to \$249

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Peter & Debbie Gonze/Mattie

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Thanks to all of you ...

... streams in the Brodhead and Cherry Creek watersheds of northeastern Pennsylvania are rated "high quality" and "exceptional value" coldwater streams.

We appreciate your support!

Thank you to all of our members and partners!

We are so grateful for the dedicated support that our members and Conservation Partners provide to BWA's clean water mission. The generous support of every one of our members helps to sustain the critical water quality work of the BWA, as we work to keep water safe to being with - a much cheaper, far more effective approach than costly cleanups following careless development. THANK YOU for your continued support of clean and abundant water!



Michelle Rilev Development Associate

Michelle

Find out more about how a **BWA Conservation Partnership** can sustain our clean water mission, protect high-quality and exceptional-value streams, and benefit your business! Call Michelle at (570) 839-1120 or email development@brodheadwatershed.org.

See: brodheadwatershed.org/conservation-partnership/

- 1% for Nature
- Clif Family Foundation
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- PA DEP (Growing Greener)
- Rotary of the Stroudsburgs

Memorial and special donations

- Daniel Flagler, \$250, in honor of Anne Fetherman's birthday
- Marjorie Bhavnani, \$250, in honor of the marriage of Greg Lewis & Gussie Reilly
- Raoul Bhavnani & Savitha Reddy, \$250, in honor of the marriage of Lewis & Reilly
- Barbara Keiser and Jeffrey Wright, \$100, in honor of Pat and Lou Powlette's 50th wedding anniversary

- Hughes Family Foundation

Natershed

- The William Penn Foundation

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