

NEWS RELEASE

From the Brodhead Watershed Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, September 02, 2020

Download photos here:

Evidence of beaver activity at Camp William Penn. (Carol Hillestad photo)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DfD-b6rptGtcSWr7SDo7ibK2Len8ll54/view?usp=sharing>

Common yellowthroat (Nancy Tully photo)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UHLrjLjc4Nwu42oVn47lmw2Rgmyq0T4/view?usp=sharing>

VIRTUAL BIRDING at Camp William Penn

Darryl and Jackie Speicher of Pocono Avian Research Center think the quarantine is for the birds – a great time to try birding, that is.

The bird experts lead the way in Brodhead Watershed Association's new "virtual birding" video at Camp William Penn in northeastern Pennsylvania. View this armchair adventure (see below for links), and then, if you can, get out to hike the trail yourself, remembering to keep at least 6 feet away from other hikers.

Wide, grassy trails guide hikers toward birds sightings — the American robin, the cedar waxwing, the iridescent green mallard. The "oh wow" birds are regulars here, too — great blue herons, American bald eagles and osprey.

"Adding a new bird to your life-list is cool," Darryl says. "But for me, it's watching bird behavior that's fascinating."

On a nearby snag, a sapsucker swoops out and snags insects. "See, now that's interesting," Darryl says. "Sapsuckers are woodpeckers that drill holes in trees to snatch the insects that come to feed on the sap. But this one is hawking insects like a flycatcher."

VIRTUAL HIKE

- For the virtual birding, go to BWA's YouTube channel at youtu.be/628znKweFaw. Thanks to Barbara Case of Laughsalot Studios for the videography.
- Go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos for information on other hikes in the Get Outdoors Poconos series. The series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.

IF YOU GO

Camp William Penn is part of Delaware State Forest and open to the public, so you can go birding or walking there yourself. For trail maps and other information, visit dncr.pa.gov/StateForests/FindAForest/Delaware/Pages/default.aspx.

Directions: From Route 447 in Price Township, take Snow Hill Road for 5 miles. You will come to a crossroad. Go left (you are still on Snow Hill Road). Go about two-tenths of a mile, past a pull-off for an automated weather station. The parking area is on your right. *GPS coordinates:* 41.153986, -75.149820

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.

