

NEWS RELEASE

From the Brodhead Watershed Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

(Please do not print after Oct. 15, 2016)

Photos can be downloaded here: <https://1drv.ms/f/s!AlusXBZdArEwg2rJGWZmCacAa9iN>

Credit Nancy J. Hopping

Hike event Oct. 15: A getaway at Lake Wallenpaupack

Lake Wallenpaupack is a popular and populated place – but hikers can still find ways to get away from it all.

On Saturday, Oct. 15, Brodhead Watershed Association will host a guided hike exploring Shuman Point Natural Area, on Lake Wallenpaupack near Hawley, Pa., in Pike County. The 3-mile jaunt begins at 10 a.m. at the Shuman Point parking area.

The moderately difficult hike includes a steep start, with a stretch of rocky footing leading through stands of chestnut oak and low-bush blueberries to a small open flatland at the top.

From here, the blue-blazed trail drops steeply downhill, passing massive, lichen-covered boulders left behind by the most recent glacier, 12,000 years ago. At the lower elevation, it is wetter and cooler, and neon-hued fungus glowed among the leaf litter. The trail becomes squishy in places, with seeps and moss, and an abundance of hay-scented, ostrich, and interrupted ferns.

Glimpses of the lake gleam through the trees, and side spurs lead to its rocky shore. You might see mallards, a great blue heron, and evidence of humans, too — tall, elaborate rock totems clustered like people at a party.

The 300 acres of the preserve form one of the last undeveloped areas on the lake, and the trail is well used — but more than enough nature to heal, soothe, and cheer the human spirit.

HIKE EVENT

WHAT: Naturalist Carol Hillestad will lead a moderate hike of 3 miles.

WHEN: 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15

WHERE: Meet at Shuman Point Natural Area parking lot. Take Route 6 to Route 590 West. Follow Route 590 West for about 2.5 miles. The parking lot for Shuman Point Natural Area is on your left, about 100 yards past Crazy Fingers Restaurant.

COST: Free, but registration is required.

INFORMATION: Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org. For information about this and other hikes in the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos. The hike series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.