

NEWS RELEASE

From the Brodhead Watershed Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, November 03, 2020

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Stony Run's "bedrock waterslide" is a low-slide waterfall when the creek runs higher. (Carol Hillestad photo)

Getting to know Stony Run

Stony Run rushes about 12 miles in Price Township in northeastern Pennsylvania, tumbling over boulders into Brodhead Creek. Yet most people haven't seen or noticed it. Brodhead Watershed Association's Get Outdoors Poconos program offers a peek at this small but mighty run far from human haunts.

A recently acquired part of the Delaware State Forest, the 300 forested acres surrounding Stony Run are an unblazed maze of trails. The route seems rambling, but the heading is consistently down a ridge, toward the south. Along the way, hikers will see two huge hunks of rock, identical wedges for all the world like slabs of pie. And then the creek is there.

There can't be any question where this creek gets its name — Stony Run's banks are littered with rocks of all sizes, from ankle-busting rubble to flat, tilted boulders that seem to be sliding into the water in glacially slow motion. Upstream, a surprise — a natural waterslide formed in the bedrock.

A wide, well-maintained wooden bridge lets hikers continue across Stony Run to investigate a stone wall — taller than head height and 30 feet long, neatly and painstakingly built, without even a trace of what its purpose might have been.

Other signs of the past can be found around Stony Run: Painted trees still retain marks that show hunters the way home after a day exploring the outdoors.

IF YOU GO

- Directions: From Route 447 in Price Township, take Snow Hill Road for eight-tenths of a mile. The gravel parking area ringed with boulders is on your right. No signage. GPS 41.150676, -75.218824
- The Bureau of Forestry is preparing a trail map. For information, visit dcnr.pa.gov/StateForests/.
- Trails vary from wide, grassy and flat to steep and rocky. Trails are not blazed. Respect private property owners whose land abuts the public areas.
- Hunting is allowed in state forests. Hunters are especially active in November and December, but something is always in season. Always wear orange.
- Go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos for information on this as well as 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.

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.

