



## President's Message

Mary Bennett, President PCPA

Summer will be here very soon, and the Pine Creek Valley is already getting busy. For many it is a time of hiking, kayaking, and fishing, but nothing seems to get more activity than the Pine Creek Rail Trail. The Pine Creek Rail Trail has been named the rail-trail of the year which will most certainly bring even more visitors than usual to our scenic valley. While we are pleased that 'our' trail has been given this honor, we are also concerned that this designation will attract increased trail traffic; specifically, e-bike traffic.

Recently there has been an uptick in complaints from locals regarding rude and inconsiderate behavior, as well as dangerous speeding of those on e-bikes. This is troubling news for a valley that is used to and favors a more peaceful pace. My wish is that everyone who uses the trail, whether biking or walking, will always be polite and respectful to others by practicing trail etiquette.

PCPA looks forward to another season of summer activities including planning our annual membership picnic. This year's picnic will again be held at the Barn at Pine Creek on August 1st. We will enjoy a delicious meal, find out who will be named this year's 'Environmentalist of the Year', receive important updates, and have great fun with the astounding number of door prizes to be given out. We hope to see you all there!



## Upcoming Events

### 2026 Meeting Dates

June 15 ... DCNR Building @ 7 PM

July 20...DCNR Building @ 7 PM

August 1... Picnic – Barn on Rte 44 @ 12 Noon

Sept. 21... DCNR Building @ 7 PM

Oct. 19 ... Election of Officers @ 7 PM

### Meeting Location

Scheduled meetings are usually held either at the DCNR Facility just north of Waterville or at the Watson Township Building. Specific meetings are noted above.

**An online link for Zoom can be provided if a connection is possible. Simply send an email to [lgasperine@verizon.net](mailto:lgasperine@verizon.net) for the link.**

All members, residents, property owners and interested parties are welcome.

### Officers

*President:* Mary Bennett

*Vice-President:* Jeff Campbell

*Secretary:* Lou Anne Gasperine

*Treasurer:* Amy Gagliardi

## PCPA Stickers

The PCPA has older stickers that are available for members. **For all Life Members**, there is a Life Member Sticker that you may request by mailing a note to PCPA, PO Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776 or emailing the secretary at [lgasperine@verizon.net](mailto:lgasperine@verizon.net).

## PCPA Website and Email

More information concerning PCPA and our activities may be found on our website at [pinecreekpcpa.org](http://pinecreekpcpa.org).

If you would like to be included on our Email News for Members, include your email address on your Membership Application or send an email to the secretary at [lgasperine@verizon.net](mailto:lgasperine@verizon.net).



**Picture courtesy of George Durrwachter**

## PCPA Annual Donations to Local Organizations

Black Forest Fire Company  
Brown Twp Volunteer Fire Company  
Haneyville Volunteer Fire Company  
Waterville Volunteer Fire Company  
Pennsylvania Lumber Museum  
Pine Creek Headwaters Protection Group  
PA Environmental Defense Foundation  
Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club  
Jersey Shore Middle School Outdoor Club  
Jersey Shore Ambulance Service

## PCPA Memberships/Affiliations

Clinton County Clean Scapes  
Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy  
PA Environmental Defense Fund  
Pine Creek Council of Governments  
Pine Creek Watershed Council  
Pine Creek Rail Trail Advisory Committee



**Picture courtesy of George Durrwachter**



## Special Memberships

### 2026 Memorial Members

*Thank you to the families of those below.*

**Hank Knaus    Robert & Dottie Webber**  
**Roy Grace    Homer Sedam & Crissa Metzgar**  
**George & Amy Dixon**

### 2026 New Life Members

**Lana & Michael Washburn**  
**Amy & Chris Gagliardi**  
**Bernard & Jant Zibicki**  
**Mark & Tonya Kauffman**

We now display the PCPA Life Members and PCPA Memorial Member plaques on the webpage. All Life Member and Memorial Member names and information are listed on the appropriate plaque. As listed on the membership form, Life memberships are a donation of \$500 and a Memorial Membership starts at \$250. This is a great way to memorialize our loved ones for a cause they valued. The funds from these two membership categories go to a special account used for legal defense of our beautiful Pine Creek Valley.

## 2026 Friends of Pine Creek

*A big Thank You to the following generous members that gave above the standard membership. This level of giving allows the PCPA to support other non-profit organizations in our valley and also our newest relationship with the Jersey Shore Area Schools outdoor clubs.*

Eric & Kare Artz  
 Davis & Bonnie Bentz  
 Barb Bierly Family  
 James & Beata Bonnell  
 Cindy Bower  
 Andrea & Keith Bowers  
 Susan Brantley & Andrew Nyblade  
 Geoffrey & Patti Carpenter  
 Kurt & Ruth Davis  
 Dawn to Dusk  
 Kevin Eisenhuth & Stacia Strunk  
 Jane Falck Family  
 Craig & Christy Fishel  
 Jeffrey & Diane Gable  
 Jeff & Cheryl Hartman  
 Kyle Gallegher & Amanda Lange  
 John & Lou Anne Gasperine  
 Tina Gasperine & Kyle Mutchler  
 Mark & Denise Hagan  
 Jeff & Cheryl Hartman  
 Michael & Julie Haussener  
 Russell and Dianna Helt  
 Jan & Norm Heming



Ralph & Denise Hershberger  
 Rachel Kagan & Michael Galey  
 Sharon & Mike Koch  
 Carol & Jim LaRegina  
 Marjorie Larson  
 Lisa & Ed Lieb  
 Damian & Robyn Mariano  
 McConnell's Country Store  
 Dorian Myers  
 Robert Nestlerode  
 Chris & Cathy Nolen  
 Lori & Joe Padua  
 Lorraine Peterson & John Urie  
 Petticote Junction Campground  
 Tom Phillips  
 Bruce & Catherine Platusich  
 Ronald & Christine Rohrer  
 Matthew & Michele Rugh  
 Jim & Sheila Russo  
 Rick & Suzanne Ruth  
 Sam Shaheen & Jean Smithbauer  
 Drew & Allison Sigman  
 Slate Run Sportsmen  
 Waterville Hotel  
 Charles Woltz



## Activities Related to the Pine Creek Valley

### Outdoor Club Outreach and Luncheon

The Jersey Shore Outdoor Club continues to work within the Pine Creek Valley by participating in Trail Cleanups in the area and stocking fish whenever possible. The club is an active organization that consists of high school students who are very environmentally active and spend a lot of time outdoors themselves. This year they have scheduled projects for trail cleanups, bridge building on Gamble Run and fish stocking on local creeks.



PCPA continues to have a supportive relationship with the JS High School Outdoor Club. Unfortunately, their schedule is such we could not find a time slot to connect and provide a luncheon for these students. The kids are doing a trail build, but it is a remote trail and they will eat a bagged lunch on the trail. Their fish stocking time starts at 11 am and it is not conducive for us to provide lunch. Members met these young environmentalists and expressed gratitude for their efforts. Students and advisors were grateful for the luncheons and expressed a desire to continue to work together for the benefit of the Pine Creek Valley and community.

### Pennsylvania Department of Health

The DCNR resource Newsletter for May 2025 includes information concerning PA State Parks and Forests and ways the department is working with experts across the state to develop the next Statewide Recreation plan. The newsletter mentions many improvements found within state parks and calls for feedback from outdoor businesses to determine additional needs within the state natural areas. Want to know about upcoming learning days in the state parks, check out this newsletter!

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx?ms=ytorg>

### DCNR Survey

DCNR is collecting data for the 2025-2029 DCNR Recreation Plans. Scroll down to the link below and click. It is a chance to comment on your feelings on both E-bikes on DCNR trails and ATV use in the mountains.

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Recreation/PAOutdoorRecPlan/Pages/default.aspx>

### Mission/Vision Statement

Preserving the natural and rural character of Pine Creek Valley by facilitating various preservation measures through direct intercession or interaction with planning, regulating or governing agencies and other conservation organizations.

### Typical Projects and Activities

Promote and support:

- \*Anti-littering Campaigns
- \*Litter and Dump-site Cleanup projects
- \*Oversight-Regulation of Natural Gas Industry Activities
- \*Implementation of **Pine Creek Valley Management Plan, Pine Creek Watershed Rivers Conservation Plan**, Pine Creek COG's **PA Wilds Initiative**
- \*Recycling Activities
- \*Acid Mine Drainage Remediation projects
- \*Work with DCNR on ATV use and E-bike use on both the Rail Trail and in our State Forests

## North Central Grassroots Conservation Event

On March 7, Jeff Campbell and Lou Anne Gasperine attended the North Central Grassroots Conservation event in Wellsboro, PA. This was a gathering of environmental groups concerned with the health and protection of the natural assets throughout North Central Pennsylvania area.

Some of the groups attending were Pine Creek Headwaters, Mill Cove Environmental Group, Babbs Creek, DCNR and PA Game Commission and Pine Creek Preservation Association. All total, there were 76 groups throughout north central Pennsylvania represented. The program had 6 environmental speakers ranging from the Reparation of Babbs Creek watershed to Women in Fly Fishing.

PCPA signed up 3 new members, and we interacted with many concerned individuals from many of the groups represented in the event.

**Guest speaker for June 15 meeting of the PCPA** will be Dr. Shawn Rummel, a Senior Manager/ Science Advisor for Trout Unlimited. The topic of the presentation will be Brook Trout conservation and restoration planning for the Pine Creek Watershed. The meeting will be held at the DCNR Forestry Building at 7 pm. All are invited to attend.



Picture courtesy of George Durrwachter

### PCPA Scholarships

PCPA is again sponsoring scholarships for students from Jersey Shore Area High School who have decided to enroll in a college or university that offers environmental majors. Many students applied for the scholarship funds, but three student applications stood out among the group.

Since the awards will not be made until the awards ceremony on June 1, we will not reveal the names as of yet. All the individuals are invited to the picnic on August 1 to be introduced at that time. One student is planning on majoring in environmental protection, one is planning on being a park ranger and the third expressed an interest in conservation. They are all outstanding students and in the top 10% of their class.

### Contact information for the PCPA:

Website : <https://pinecreekpcpa.org/>

Email: [lgasperine@verizon.net](mailto:lgasperine@verizon.net)

Address: PO Box 11 , Waterville, PA 17776

Phone: Lou Anne Gasperine – 570-337-1073





## It's Summer Picnic Time!

Saturday, August 1, 2026 @ 12:00 noon  
The Barn on Pine Creek

It's soon PICNIC TIME!! The PCPA Annual Picnic is **August 1, 2026 at 12:00 noon**. This year we will be having everyone's favorite fried chicken, smoked brisket, cole slaw, baked beans, potato and broccoli salad, plus homemade cupcakes made by our members. The very popular door prize drawings for items that are donated by many local retail establishments and handcrafted by our members. The PCPA hats, shirts and hoodies may be ordered at that time.

A big "thank you" to **Tim and Cami Mahaffey** for providing their venue. The **Barn @ Pine Creek** located at 4635 North Route 44 Hwy, Jersey Shore, PA has a large capacity, easy parking and nice facilities.



The guest **speaker** for this year's picnic will be our local **Rep. Joe Hamm**, from the PA House and his assistant, Eric Houser attending our picnic. The PCPA VP will update our guests on recent PCPA activities. Last year we recognized **Mark and Tonya Kaufman**, owners of the Hotel Manor in Slate Run as our **Environmentalists of the Year** for their environmentally friendly use of compostables in the Hotel Manor. Don't miss the 4th Annual selection of the 2026 Environmental Award.

The picnic is for active members only. If you haven't already sent in your 2026 membership, please fill out the membership form attached to the Picnic Reservation form below. The picnic reservations will be limited to 144 people, **"NO walk-ins" please** and reservations due by **July 19**.

*The picnic door prizes are provided by Pine Creek Valley establishments and others that support our PCPA mission.*

**Thank you** for making our picnic delicious and enjoyable!

*Picnic Co-chairs: Jeff Campbell, Donna Pearson, Jackie Cline and Julie Haussener*

**Please complete and return your paid reservation by July 19, 2026**

### PICNIC RESERVATION FORM

**MEMBER NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**No. of Adults** \_\_\_\_ **@ \$10.00**      **No. of Children (7 – 12)** \_\_\_\_ **@ \$7.00**      **(under 7)** \_\_\_\_ **@ free**

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (SHORT) FORM

\$5 Individual   \$10 Family   \$20 Camp/Organization   \$100 Friends of Pine Creek   \$250 Memorial   \$500 Life

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

Send my newsletter through email \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Checks payable to PCPA   Mail to: PCPA, PO Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776**

**PCPA now accepts PayPal payments thru our website: [pinecreekpcpa.org](http://pinecreekpcpa.org)**

**Save a tree! Friends of Pine Creek members – Send sticker only**

