Summer Newsletter 2024

President's Message

Summertime is a wonderful time to be in Pine Creek Valley! There is an air of excitement with the onset of all things summer such as biking, hiking, fishing, and camping. Our restaurants are already filled with visitors and locals alike hoping for a beverage and a great meal to end a day of fun. It is also the time to remind everyone that with this increase in summer population, we need to remain diligent in keeping our beautiful valley clean, welcoming, and enjoyable for all. So far PCPA has had a busy spring. We participated in the 2nd annual Pine Creek Valley litter pick up in partnership with 'Up the Crick'; we provided lunch for both the Jersey Shore Junior and Senior High School Outdoor Clubs at Little Pine State Park after a day of park cleanup for the younger ones and trout stocking for the seniors; we held our 2nd annual Bob Webber Memorial Hike to the Webber Homestead with Jim Hyland and Jack Deurer providing an oral history along the way; and we sponsored a booth at the Sawdust Festival where we signed on new members, renewed old memberships, and talked with many interesting people. We will be hosting a rain barrel assembly to be held on July 27th at the Cummings Township Building. All materials will be supplied for a \$20 registration fee. The annual picnic will be held on August 3rd at noon at the Barn at Pine Creek. As always, we are grateful to Tim and Cami Mahaffey for generously allowing us to use this lovely venue free of charge. Between all these activities, we continue to partner with Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Fund (PEDF) in the ongoing legal battle to protect our state forests; we participate in the Pine Creek Watershed Council which is comprised of representatives from various government agencies and environmental groups, such as DCNR, county conservation, and Trout Unlimited; and are members of the Pine Creek Council of Governments, including Brown, McHenry, Cummings, and Watson Township. PCPA's membership is impressive, and as we get more and more involved in our community, please consider joining us in some of these fun and interesting activities. We welcome all to our monthly meetings as well, and of course, I hope to see you all at the picnic!

Mary Vuccola



PCPA

PINE CREEK ASSOCIATION

Upcoming Events 2024 Meeting Dates June 17... DCNR Building @ 7 PM July 15 ... DCNR Building @ 7 PM

August 3... Picnic – Barn on Rte 44 @ 12 Noon

Sept. 16 ... DCNR Building @ 7 PM

Oct. 21 ... Election of Officers @ 7 PM

Dec. 16 ... Optional Meeting @ 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. Meetings during COVID are online with Zoom by invitation. Simply send an email to lgasperine@verizon.net for the link.

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

The Pine Creek Preservation Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The official registration and financial information for the PCPA may be obtained from the PA Dept of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Officers

President: Mary Vuccola *Vice-President:* Jeff Campbell Secretary: Lou Anne Gasperine Treasurer: Donna Pearson

PCPA

PCPA Stickers

The PCPA have older stickers that are available for members. **For all Life Members**, there is a new Life Member Sticker. You may request a Life Member sticker or stickers from previous years by mailing a note to PCPA, PO Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776 or emailing the secretary at <u>Igasperine@verizon.net</u>.

PCPA Website and Email

More information concerning PCPA and our activities may be found on our website at **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 <u>lgasperine@verizon.net</u>.



Picture courtesy of John Greene



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 Lumberman's Museum

Pine Creek Headwaters Protection Group

PA Environmental Defense Foundation

Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club

Jersey Shore Middle School Outdoor Club

PCPA Memberships/Affliliations

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

Special Memberships

2024 Memorial Members

Thank you to the families of those below.

Cicely Knight Bob Cammerer

Donation: Eleanor and George Krapf 2024 Life Members Thank you to these members. Valerie Nedeau Lundy (Williamson / Lundy Cabin) Amy and Dennis Weaver Willliam and Jane McMinn Barbara Mantarro and Marion Alexander

PCPA

PINE CREEK PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

We now display the PCPA Life Members and PCPA Memorial Member plaques at the Library in Cammal, PA. All Life Member and Memorial Member names and information are listed on the appropriate plaque. Life memberships are a donation of \$500 as listed on the membership form. A Memorial Membership starts at \$250 as noted on the form. 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.

2024 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 and Katie Artz **Barbara Bierly Family** James and Beata Bonnell **Cindy Bower** Tina Breining and Kyle Mutchler Dan and Chris Brennan Kelly and Tom Butzler Geoffrey and Patti Carpenter **Cummings Township** George and Linda Druck Deb and Steve Eck Bebe Evansky Jane Falck Jeffrey and Diane Gable Kyle Gallagher and Amanda Lange Doug and Jill Garman John and Lou Anne Gasperine **Rick and Anna Geissler** Mark Givler and Julie Evers Mark and Denise Hagan Keith and Marilee Handwerk Michael and Julie Haussener **Russell and Dianna Helt** Paul and Barbara Hoffmaster





Michael and Sharon Koch Lisa and Ed Lieb McConnell's Country Store **Dorian Myers Robert Nestlerode** Chris and Cathy Nolen **Donna Pearson Thomas Phillips Bruce and Catherine Platusich Pitney-Manning Families Beverly Porter Family** James and Kathy Rankin Ronald and Christine Rohrer Lois Rothenberger Matthew and Michele Rugh Samuel Shaheen Lloyd and Sondra Simmers Bruce and Carol Squibb Wade and LuAnn Wolgemuth Watson Township Bernard and Janet Zbicki

Activities Related to the Pine Creek Valley

Bike Repair Stations on the Trail

PCPA has sponsored two bike repair stations on the Rail Trail. They are to be located at Tomb Flats and at the Cammal comfort station. We do not know if they have been installed on this date.

Route 44 Clean-up

PCPA joined CleanScapes and Up the Crick store to participate in a trash collection along Rte 44 from the Up



the Crick store south to the Comfort Station on Rte 44. PCPA also provided water and boxed lunches provided by McConnells (special thanks to McConnells) for participants after the pick-up. Altogether, the 29 volunteers picked-up 125 bags of litter, 7 tires and 1 toilet.

PINE CREEK

PCPA

Bob Webber Hike

About 15 hikers joined PCPA President Mary Bennett, Jim Hyland and Jack Deuer on April 27th for the 2nd Bob Webber Memorial Hike. The group hiked to the Webber homestead and visited several vistas along the way. Jim Hyland, the District Forester for Tioga State Forest, and Jack Deuer, lifelong friend of Bob and Dottie, led the hike and discussed the history of the homestead, as well as Bob and Dottie Webber's life on the mountain. The hike was about 7 miles and for the most part was an easy hike but coming back down the hills proved to be a bit more challenging. Snacks and water were provided by PCPA. The day was rainy and chilly. The picture above is from last year's hike. Although it was a miserable day, the hikers did enjoy being outdoors. There will be a **second hike** scheduled in the fall with Jim Hyland and Mary Bennett. This will be a more difficult hike and not for those with mobility problems. Date and time to be announced. Contact Mary Bennett at <u>mvuccola@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Sawdust Festival

On May 4-5, the Waterville Volunteer Fire Department sponsored their annual Sawdust Festival which included wood carvers from many areas. The talents of the wood carvers demonstrated the best of the best. PCPA had an informational tent to spread the word of our association and how we are included in the preservation and conservation of the area. New and renewal memberships were collected, and newsletters and informational brochures were distributed. The incredible Smokey the Bear appeared and posed for a photo op with Jeff Campbell and Donna Pearson of the PCPA.





Outdoor Club Outreach and Luncheon

The Outdoor Clubs of Jersey Shore School District consists of students in grades 9 - 12 (HS) and grades 6 - 8 (MS) from all backgrounds and academic pursuits, but they have one thing in common...they love to be outdoors. These clubs are advised by teachers who seek to instill in these young people the values of preserving the environment and working to keep the resources available for all to enjoy.

The Middle School Outdoor Club went to Little Pine State Park April 16 to assist park personnel in getting the park ready for the season. Various groups in the middle school picked litter, did a 5-mile hike and had a "fabulous" lunch with PCPA personnel.

On April 24, the HS club traveled to Little Pine State Park to help the Fish Commission stock the streams and lake for the summer season. Prior to this trip (knowing they would be helping to stock trout), members of the club constructed "floats for trout" to disperse the trout into the stream. The Outdoor Club has won awards for their activities from DCNR in Harrisburg.

Middle School Outdoor Club

Pennsylvania Department of Health

The DCNR resource Newsletter for May 2024 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





High School Outdoor Club



After work, the group reassembled at 1 pm for lunch hosted by PCPA who provided hot dogs with the fixins', clementine oranges and apples, cookies and other treats baked by PCPA members, and bottled water. Members met these young environmentalists and expressed gratitude for their efforts. Students and advisors were grateful for the luncheon and expressed a desire to continue to work together for the benefit of the Pine Creek Valley and community.

РСРА



Low Flying Training Missions Over the Pine Creek Valley

PCPA received the following information from DCNR about some low flying training missions from the Air Force and National Guard. Sen. Casey's office called to confirm that the U.S. Air Force and National Guard Bureau will not be pursuing its proposal to establish the Duke Low MOA. Since Baltimore will not include a fighter mission, NGB/A3/10 and NGB/A4 are no longer supporting the airspace action for the Duke Low MOA.

Huge thanks to all of you for your resiliency and commitment to protecting PA Wilds! I do believe if we had not bombarded the National Guard with the comments we did and hadn't secured the bipartisan political support that we had, they could have pushed this through, and other aircraft could be training in this airspace.

See the press release from Sen Casey and Fetterman below! Thanks to Senator Casey and Fetterman and Rep. Thompson and Meuser and their amazing staff as well as our local and state officials for speaking out!

 $\underline{https://www.casey.senate.gov/news/releases/at-casey-and-fettermans-urging-defense-officials-abandon-plan-to-endanger-pa-wilds}$

Rain Barrel Workshop – PCPA will be hosting a Rain Barrel Workshop on July 27 at Cummings Township parking lot to assist participants in making their own rain barrel which may be installed at their camp or home. For the past two years, the month of June has been very dry in the Pine Creek Valley. Homeowners can reduce stormwater runoff on their property by installing rain barrels under downspouts. The captured water can be used in various ways around the landscape.



PCPA will supply the materials to assemble 10 rain barrels for a minimal cost of \$20 for each participant. Instructors will supply the tools needed to construct a finished rain barrel. Information will be distributed about the effective use of the rain barrels. We will need 5 individuals for the class to be held.

To register, please email Dr. Lou Anne Gasperine (<u>lgasperine@verizon.net</u>). To finish your registration, send a check for \$20 to PCPA, PO Box 11, Waterville,

PA 17776 and you will receive additional information. Hope to see you there!

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 *Recycling Activities *Litter and Dump-site Cleanup projects *Acid Mine Drainage Remediation projects *Oversight-Regulation of Natural Gas Industry Activities



PINE CREEK



It's Summer Picnic Time!

Saturday, August 3, 2024 @ 12:00 noon The Barn on Pine Creek

It's soon PICNIC TIME!! The PCPA picnic committee is planning to serve two meats this year with many more side dishes – some traditional and some new. The annual picnic will be on Saturday, August 3, 2024 at 12:00 noon. Tim and Cami Mahaffey welcomed us to The Barn @ Pine Creek located at 4635 North Route 44 Hwy, Jersey Shore, PA. Their venue has a large capacity, easy parking and nice facilities. Thank you again, Tim and Cami!



We will update our guests on a couple issues that PCPA was successful in achieving. Then off to the door prizes!!! So wonderfully donated by our area businesses and members.

Last year we recognized George Durrwachter for going above and beyond in his dedication to preserving our pristine Pine Creek Valley. George was the first on what we plan to be an annual award. Don't miss the 2nd Annual announcement of the 2024 Environmental Award.

The picnic is for active members

<u>only.</u> If you haven't already sent in your 2024 membership, please fill out the membership form attached to the Picnic Reservation form below. The picnic reservations will be limited to 144 people, "<u>NO walk-ins</u>" and reservations due by **July 19**.

The picnic food and 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 and Julie Haussener



Please complete and return your paid reservation by July 19, 2024

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

PCPA

Show your PCPA pride by ordering one of our many wearable items. We had a good turnout for wearable purchases at both our April event and our picnic. We've updated our available items with better sizing, and quality, of men's and women's tee shirts. Also we have added ladies polo shirts. We have changed to a local supplier, with shorter wait times for the finished product, although with recent supply chain issues, some may be longer.

The items can be ordered using the simple order form below and can be paid for by check made out to **Jeff Campbell**, or now using Venmo directly to me at **@Jeff-Campbell-106**. Fill out the order form below and either snail mail or email to me, so I know who you are and what you ordered. I will then contact you and we'll arrange for delivery to you.

Any questions, feel free to call or email me at 610-513-2633, jcc1208@aol.com. Show your pride for our great organization, and our love of the valley.

---- Jeff Campbell, Vice President

Pine Creek Wearables





Wearables Order Form

Name	Phone #	Email		
List below what items you would like to order. List item, color, and size, and total dollar amount.				
Paid by: cash check Venmo	Long sleeve tees,	, add \$5.		
Total dollar amount \$				
1	\$_			
2	\$_			
3	\$			
4	\$			
5	\$			



Pine Creek Gorge in the Spring