

The Pinchot Eagle

JAN-MAR 2026, ISSUE 51

VOLUNTEER

GIVE NOW



1ST PLACE: GREG ROSS

2025 photo patch winners patches available soon!



2ND PLACE: DAVE MCCLLOUGH



3RD PLACE: ELIZABETH GILBERT

wildflowers, salamanders, and birds - oh my!



VERNAL POOL WALKS

Learn about the ecology of a vernal pool and explore the different types of critters that call these forest ponds home.

SCAN FOR A
DIGITAL COPY
OF THIS
NEWSLETTER



MEET AT
CAMPGROUND OFFICE

7PM
MARCH 27
APRIL 3
APRIL 10

WILDFLOWER WALKS

Learn about the many early bloomers that soak up the spring light at Pinchot State Park!

Meet at Conewago Day Use Area -
Sunnyside Pavilion for these 1.5-2hr
walks.

APRIL 2 @ 1PM

APRIL 11, 16, 21, 30 @ 10AM

MAY 10 @ 2PM



BIRD WALK

MEET AT CAMPGROUND PARKING LOT

8AM

MAY 1

RAINDATE MAY 8

SAVE the DATE



NATIVE PLANT SALE
SUNDAY, MAY 17; 11-2pm
Conewago Day Use Area -
Sunnyside Pavilion



friends don't let friends hike in the mud

2025 RECAP

In 2025 we have repaired over 1400ft of trail and added 24 structures to help manage water movement!

This has helped to:

- Reduce erosion and sedimentation
- Slow the flow where possible
- Eliminate trail expansion
- Protect native plants
- Make repairs that require a minimal level of effort to maintain.

This effort would not have been possible without the support of the park maintenance staff, corporate volunteer groups, Keystone Trail Association, Master Watershed Stewards, the PA Outdoor Corps and many Friends of Pinchot volunteers.

THANK YOU!



Our Sawyers responded to 37 reports of downed trees in 2025.



PLANS FOR 2026

From April through October, Friends of Pinchot will host evening Trail Care events on the second Tuesday of each month. Each event will last about two hours (±30 minutes).

new volunteer opportunity

- Our first gathering will take place on April 14, 2026. We will meet at 5:00 PM at the ADA Fishing Ramp, located at the northeast end of the Quaker Race Day Use Area.
- For the remaining spring events, we will meet at 5:00 PM at the Environmental Learning Center (ELC), located on Gravel Trail at the south end of the Conewago Day Use Area.
- Come when you can! If you arrive after 5:00 PM directions to the work location will be posted at the ADA Fishing Ramp (for the April 14th date), or at the ELC entrance for the remaining dates.
- Please wear sturdy shoes and bring your own gloves, insect repellent, and water. Limited supplies may be available if needed. In the event of steady rain, trail work will be cancelled.

Please consider joining us as we work toward our goal of "Getting the hikers out of the mud!"



meet alicia

"We are fortunate to have such a beautiful State Park right in our backyards. I look forward to serving on the board and helping grow awareness so together we can keep our park beautiful for generations to come!"



meet denny

"Growing up, my family spent many weekends at Pinchot, and now as I teach my sons to enjoy and appreciate creation, I'm looking forward to joining in the important work to care for the park as a precious resource for our community and future generations."



hello to new board members, thank you to outgoing board members

The Friends of Pinchot warmly welcome two new board members, Alicia Bracken as Social Media and Website Coordinator, and Denny Daughtery as Secretary. Thank you for stepping into these leadership roles and helping to steer our organization through the next year. Alicia will be serving on the Friends of Pinchot Funding and Outreach Committee, generating content for social media outreach, and managing our website. Look for her artistic touch on postings about events and volunteer opportunities in the park. Denny will be responsible for recording the minutes of board meetings and handling other administrative tasks.

The Secretary position is vital to keeping our board organized and on track on the goals we establish for our work this year in the park.

We would also like to express our gratitude to three board members who retired from the board at the end of 2025, Terry Christopher, Jim Grove, and Karen Tynes. Terry served on the board for 9 years, filling many roles including Chair, Volunteer Coordinator, Website Manager, and Social Media coordinator. Terry will continue working with other dedicated volunteers on the Trail Care Committee and helping spread the word about our organization at outreach events. Jim served on the board for sixteen years!

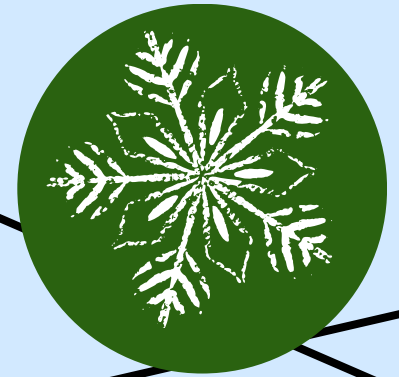
Jim has been instrumental in running the firewood sale program in the campground. This has been our largest fundraiser over the years and has helped to fund many improvements in the park. Jim will continue volunteering with the firewood program, so look for him in the campground helping stack wood (Tuesday mornings) through camping season. Karen served on the board for 5 years, filling the roles of Membership Coordinator and Secretary. Karen will continue her work with the Friends of Pinchot Sawyers, clearing trails of fallen trees, and helping keep our trails safe and accessible. Our deepest thanks to these three stellar volunteers, who have improved the recreational opportunities, environmental health, educational outreach, and more at Pinchot Park through their time, talent, and hard work.

GULLIVER'S RUN

FIGHTING
CANINE CANCER
NOV 2



The plunge supports vital programming for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our community.



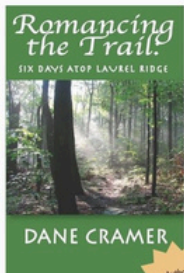
capital area
polar plunge
FEB 28

first
day
hike
JAN 1

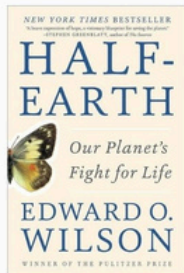


2026 PPF Virtual Book Club

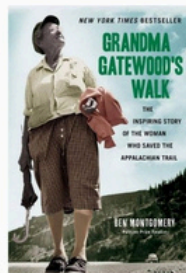
Join us at 12pm online to discuss some of our favorite books! Scan the QR code or get details at <https://ppffevents/book-club-2026>



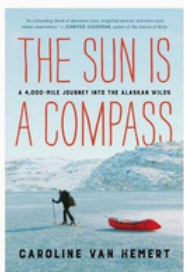
Feb 25, 2026



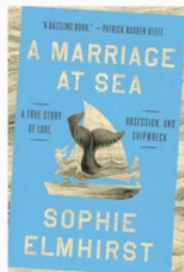
April 22, 2026



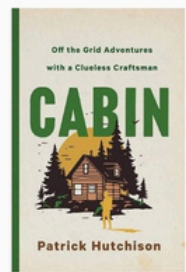
June 24, 2026



August 26, 2026



October 18, 2026



December 16, 2026

Merch Sale



Want to help support the park?

Stop by the campground or park office to get your official Pinchot gear!

All proceeds benefit Gifford Pinchot. Thank you!

- YOUTH & ADULT T-SHIRTS \$20
- LONG SLEEVE HOODIES \$30
- HOODED SWEATSHIRTS \$35
- TOTE BAGS, BALL CAPS, BEANIES \$15
- PA PASSPORT \$13
- SOUVENIR PATCH \$8
- STICKERS & MAGNETS \$4
- BANDANAS, DOG TAGS & HIKING MEDALLIONS \$5

****CASH OR CHECK ONLY****

Please make checks out to PFFF.

Friends of Pinchot members receive Adult and Youth T-shirts at a discounted rate of \$16.

be a friend

Not yet a friend of Pinchot?

Make a yearly gift of as little as \$15 per year and support the park and get this newsletter delivered to your inbox regularly! Find out more [here!](#)



advisory board

- Jim Hugar, Chair
- Betsy Leppo, Co-chair
- Tammy Klunk, Treasurer
- Denny Daugherty, Secretary
- Alicia Bracken, Social Media and Website Coordinator
- Joyce Gayman, Membership and Volunteer Coordinator
- Phyllis Crooks, Firewood Sales Coordinator

*Two board positions are currently vacant - please contact us for more information about these board opportunities.

Newsletter editor: Abby Leese

be in touch



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