

The Natural Observer

 *Looking Back on 10 YEARS* 
Governor Dick Park
AUTUMN, 2016

*Thank you for sharing in our
success!*



...mostly empty...

Enjoy these pictures from our past!



...planting shrubs



...to very full for our bluegrass music jam!



Governor Dick Environmental Center



... bike path now Interpretive Trail



Tom Powers with a friend



2014 Bouldering Competition (M. Kempinski photo)



...creating the Interpretive Trail
Look! No meadow yet!



...PA Conservation Corps building the pavilion



...teddy bear hikers

Governor Dick Environmental Center



...a school visit

GROWING!

From quiet days with nary a person in sight to a filled-to-capacity parking lot on pleasant days, we have experienced a lot of growth in ten years. Not only have more people discovered the beauty of the park, but we continue to offer more programs with a variety of themes. Our monthly 2nd Saturday Work Day brings out our faithful volunteers and helps us to keep on top of the work that needs to be done to maintain the park. We wouldn't make it without volunteers. Thank you!

Over these ten years many folks, too many to name here, have contributed their time and skills to improve the park grounds and share their knowledge with the public doing programs for us. Eagle Scout candidates, high school and college volunteers, the Susquehanna Area Mountain Bike Association (SAMBA), corporations, local naturalists and botanists, the rock climbing enthusiasts, musicians, artists, historians, yoga instructors – the list goes on. Again, thank you to all of you who in one way or another have contributed to the park's success!



...to Jordan Homer of Remoh Services Pressure Washing in Palmyra. Jordan volunteered his time and equipment to clean a boulder near the tower that had been marred by graffiti. *Thanks, Jordan, for caring about the park!*

10 Activities for Governor Dick's 10th Anniversary

1. Relax on a boulder on a cool day.
2. Examine goldenrod flowers to find insects.
3. Catch a falling leaf.
4. Hike in the crunchy leaves.
5. Climb the Tower to feel the breeze at the top.
6. Observe migrating hawks from the top of the Tower.
7. Learn to identify trees.
8. Take up bouldering (rock climbing).
9. Bring your family to an autumn program.
10. Find (but don't collect) bird nests.



Eyeglasses. Binoculars. Keys. Water bottles. Gloves (usually just one). Hats. Horse gear. Shirts. We accumulate a variety of items over the year that often doesn't get claimed. Check with us if you're missing something. In December the stuff goes to Goodwill if the owner doesn't come for it.

Governor Dick Environmental Center



Thank you to our very own Diana Sprucebank!!

She has been with us at the Environmental Center for **10 years** and is crucial to the operations here! Congratulate her next time you see her for a job very well done.



We have received donations of bird seed, sugar, copy paper, and bulletin board paper. Thank you to Harry Brown and an unnamed donor for those items!



"I am alarmed when it happens that I have walked a mile into the woods bodily, without getting there in spirit. It sometimes happens that I cannot easily shake off the village. The thought of some work will run in my head and I am not where my body is – I am out of my senses. In my walks I would fain return to my senses."

HENRY DAVID THOREAU

Come to Governor Dick Park and "shake off the village"!



October 8, 2016 **Our 10th Anniversary Celebration!**

ALL DAY – Raffle tickets for sale. Chuck Book wildlife artwork is the prize. \$5 per ticket. Help us raise funds for the park.

10 a.m. – Scavenger Hunt using a compass.

Noon – Pumpkin Roundup. Find a pumpkin in our pumpkin forest and then paint it.

2 p.m. – "10 Hike" – 10 Miles in Governor Dick Park.

2 p.m. – Whaddya Know? Scavenger Hunt to find answers about the park.

4 p.m. – Lighting of the Fire. *NOTE – Fire is prohibited in the park. We have the township's permission and the Quentin Fire Company will be with us to make sure the fire stays where it belongs.

4 p.m. – Food and refreshments for sale. If you have volunteered with us this year, you eat for free!

6 p.m. – Celebrating the Volunteer Spirit. Raffle Give-away.

7 p.m. – Extinguish the fire.

Governor Dick Environmental Center

Things to Do

All programs are free unless stated otherwise.
Meet at the Environmental Center on Pinch Rd.

Registration is required: call 964-3808 or e-mail
governordick@hotmail.com.

Sept. 24, 1 p.m. – Junior Naturalists: Weather Watchers. \$5 for children ages 4 to 10.

Sept. 25, 1:30 p.m. – Senior Walkabout. 2 to 4 miles for hikers over the age of 50.

Oct. 2, 9 a.m. – Fitness Hike.

Oct. 2, 1 to 4 p.m. – Music on the Porch.

Oct. 8, All Day – 10th Anniversary Celebration with wildlife art raffle.

Oct. 9, 1 to 3 p.m. – Autumn Mushrooms with Bill Russell. \$5 per person.

Oct. 13, 7:15 p.m. – Monthly Board Meeting.

Oct. 14, 10 a.m. – Toddlers in Tow: Go on a Bear Hunt! For children ages 2 to 5.

Oct. 14, 6:30 p.m. – Full Moon Hike.

Oct. 15, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Webelos Scouts “Into the Woods” Workshop. \$5 per Scout. Pack lunch.

Oct. 16, 1 to 5 p.m. – Graffiti Cleanup Day.

Oct. 22, 1 p.m. – Junior Naturalists: Terrific Trees! \$5 for children ages 4 to 10.

Oct. 23, 1:30 p.m. – Senior Walkabout. 2 to 4 miles for hikers over the age of 50.

Nov. 5, 6 p.m. – Seeing Stars. Beginning star gazing walk.

Nov. 6, 1 to 4 p.m. – Music on the Porch.

Nov. 11, 10 a.m. – Toddlers in Tow: Animal Homes. For children ages 2 to 5.

Nov. 12, 2 p.m. – SEEing Nature. Observing nature’s wonders at a snail’s pace.

Nov. 17, 7:15 p.m. – Monthly Board Meeting.

Nov. 19, 8 a.m. – 6th Annual Boulderling Competition. RAIN DATE Nov. 20.

Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m. – Junior Naturalists: Time for Turkey! Learn about the wild turkey and bird anatomy. \$5 for children ages 4 to 10.

Nov. 27, 1:30 p.m. – Senior Walkabout.

Dec. 4, 1 to 4 p.m. – Christmas Music by the Fireplace.

Dec. 10, 1:30 p.m. – Christmas Scavenger Hike. \$2 per person.

Calendar subject to change. Check our website for up-to-the-minute information.



To contact us:

*Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Gov. Dick
P.O. Box 161, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

*3283 Pinch Rd., Lebanon, PA (diagonally across from the State Game Lands parking lot)

*Phone: (717) 964-3808

*Email: governordick@hotmail.com

*Web: www.parkatgovernordick.org