

# Pine Creek Preservation Association

PO BOX 11      WATERVILLE, PA 17776



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 2022-2023

*President:* Mary Bennett

*Vice-president:* Jeff Campbell

*Secretary:* Lou Anne Gasperine

*Treasurer:* Donna Pearson

## 2023 MEETING DATES

April 17 - Watson Twp building - 7 pm - Tom Casillio - DCNR

May 15 - meeting - 7 pm - Jim Smith / Eric Hess - JS Outdoor Club

June 19 - meeting - 7 pm - John Pastorek - Brown Trout Club

July 17 - meeting - 7 pm - Tom Butzler - Penn State Extension

Aug 5 - picnic - Barn on Rte 44 - noon

September 18 - meeting - 7 pm - Erika Morgan - Up the Crick

October - 16 - meeting - 7 pm - Election of officers

December 19 - optional meeting - 7 pm

If connections are available, we will have a Zoom component also. All are welcome to attend.



## PINE CREEK VALLEY SPRING NEWSLETTER 2023

Property owners and concerned citizens dedicated to preserving the natural and rural character of Pine Creek Valley

## President's Message

Even as we turn our eyes toward spring, we can hardly complain about our winter so far. Warm temperatures have provided extended opportunities for hiking, biking, and bird watching long beyond the usual season.

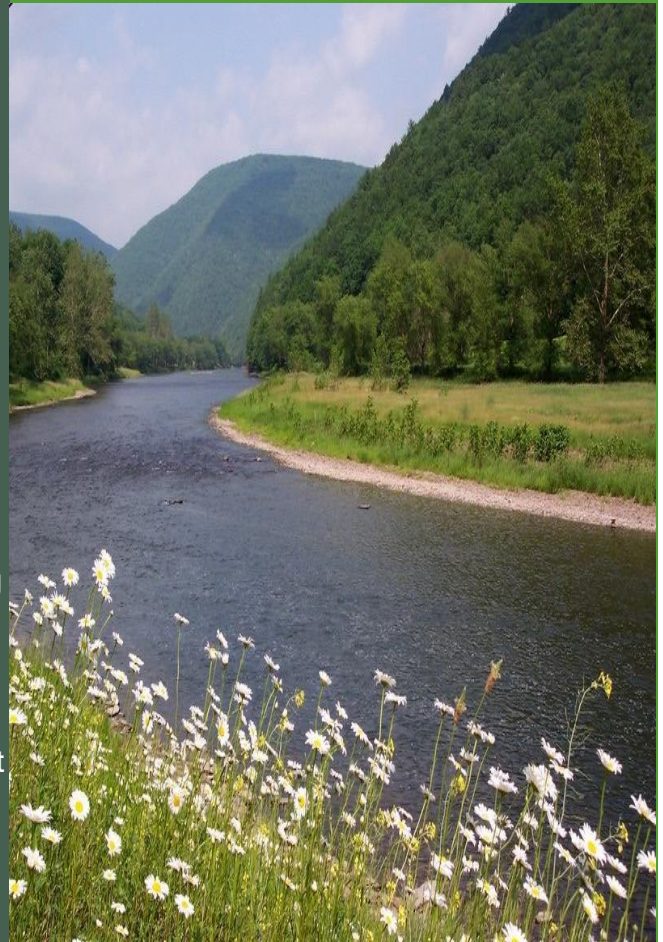
The year 2022 was productive for PCPA with several projects, including the installation of a bike repair station at the Bonnell Flats rest station, and the successful setup of PayPal to make renewing memberships easier. We provided a hearty lunch for the Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club after their annual cleanup and trout stocking at Little Pine State Park. We continue our support for the PEDF while maintaining communication with John Childe, lead attorney for the organization, to monitor the ATV trail expansion program.

This year's activities include utilizing a survey regarding what activities, projects, and guest speakers you would be interested in seeing and participating in; it will be included with the membership form, as well as being available online. We will again host a lunch for the Outdoor Club in April and are lining up an array of guest speakers to enhance our monthly meeting. We continue to partner with PEDF (Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Fund), the Pine Creek Council of Governments, and the Pine Creek Watershed Council.

I am delighted to invite all of you to join us on May 7<sup>th</sup> for the first annual Bob Webber Memorial Hike. We will hike to the Webber homestead and visit several vistas along the way. Jim Hyland, the District Forester for Tioga State Forest, and Jack Deurer, lifelong friend of Bob and Dottie, will be leading the hike and will discuss the history of the homestead, as well as Bob and Dottie Webber's life on the mountain. This easy hike will be 5 - 6 miles long, and snacks and water will be provided by PCPA. Registration will be required and is open and free to the public.

I hope to see you at the meetings and encourage you to participate in the Webber hike!

## Pine Creek Gorge in the Spring



### First Annual Hike on the Bob Webber Trail

PCPA will be hosting the first annual Bob Webber Memorial Hike on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The hike will go to the Webber homestead and visit several vistas along the way. Jim Hyland, the District Forester for Tioga State Forest, and Jack Deurer, lifelong friend of Bob and Dottie, will be leading the hike and will discuss the history of the homestead. Additional discussion will include Bob and Dottie Webber's life on the mountain. Please email questions to Mary Bennett at [mvuccola@gmail.com](mailto:mvuccola@gmail.com).

Registration will be at the parking area prior to the hike. The easy hike will be 5 - 6 miles long with snacks, water and Gatorade will be provided by PCPA.

Meet at the Pump Station parking area on Saturday, May 7, 2023 at 10:00 am. Directions to the parking: Follow Rt. 44 North from Rt. 220 for 33 miles; parking is on the right; there will be a sign to turn off Rt 44, approximately 2 miles before the Black Forest Inn.

### Supporting the Jersey Shore High School Outdoor Club.

The Outdoor Club at Jersey Shore High School includes students in grades 9 – 12. Students participate in many activities from trail work with DCNR in October, float trips on Pine Creek, assisting with trout stocking in April / May and educating the young adults in outdoor etiquette and conservation. The club also helps Little Pine State Park employees with park clean-up in April getting ready for the summer season. The advisors have recently obtained a PA Fish and Boat Commission grant to purchase additional equipment to teach students how to fly fish, tie flies and participate in safe boating on the waterways of Pennsylvania. The young men and women members also teach middle school students how to tie simple flies and how to cast a fly rod at the Seventh Grade Environmental Field Trip to Little Pine State Park. The Outdoor Club has been recognized by DCNR for its outdoor activities with DCNR and Trout Unlimited clubs.

### Bike Repair Station on the Rails to Trails.

In partnership with Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy, the PCPA has purchased and DCNR has installed a bike repair station at Bonnell Flats on the trail.

This bike repair station  
*was made possible through  
a partnership between the*

**Pine Creek Preservation Association  
and the  
Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy**





**PayPal.** PCPA now accepts PayPal for online payments of Membership Dues, Donations, Memorial donations, and Life memberships. See the membership application.

**Membership Plaques.** All membership plaques noting the Memorials and Life Members are now on display and may be viewed at the Cammal Community Building in Cammal, PA.



## LINKS FOR ORGANIZATIONS IN THE VALLEY

PCPA is a one of local non-profits keeping an eye on the Pine Creek Valley. The following are additional local organizations interested in recreational and conservation measures in the valley.

[\*Slate Run Brown Trout Club\*](#)

[\*Slate Run Sportsmen\*](#)

[\*Pine Creek Preservation Association Website\*](#)

[\*Middle Susquehanna River Keeper\*](#)

Trout Unlimited Chapters

[\*Tiadaghton Chapter\*](#)

[\*Susquehanna Chapter\*](#)

**Brown Township** - <https://pinecreekvalley.com/local-government/brown-township/>

**McHenry Township** - <https://pinecreekvalley.com/local-government/mchenry-township/>

**Watson Township Recycling Center** is operated by Lycoming County and the site is located at the Watson Township Building. The Township Officers would like to thank all who use the facility for keeping it clean and clear from litter. Further information may be found at their website - <https://watson township-pa.com/> .



**PCPA Picnic! Save the Date !!**  
**PCPA 2023 Picnic - Saturday, August 5 -**  
**Noon at the Barn on Rte 44!**

Please patronize the following businesses or say thank you to those organizations & individuals who generously donated food and door prizes for our 2022 picnic.

Avis Building Supply

Cedar Run Inn

The Hotel Manor

Jersey Shore State Bank

Muncy Bank & Trust

The Sparrows Nest

Freas Farm Winery (Up the Crick)

McConnell's General Store

Santino's Pine Creek Inn

Venture Inn

Waterville Tavern

Jersey Shore BPO Elks

Beverage Barn, Wmspt

Grand Central Beer Distributor, Avis

Mike Engle

Bonner Sports & RV

Oak Grove Tavern

Wolfe General Store

Durdach Bros Beer Distributor

Jiffy Market, Jersey Shore

Woodlands Bank

Jiffy Market & Deli, JS

Jen and Jeff Campbell

Up the Crick Winery

Wise Foods

Weis Markets, JS

Weis Markets via Gift Card

Wegmans via Gift Card

**2022 PCPA INCOME**

**TOTAL INCOME: \$ 21,250**

Individual Memberships - 41

Family Memberships - 141

Camp/Organization Memberships - 64

Friends of Pine Creek - 65

Memorial Memberships - 7

New Life Memberships - 11

**2022 PCPA Financial Support**

**Given To:**

Black Forest Volunteer Fire Co.

Brown Township Volunteer Fire Co.

Haneyville Volunteer Fire Co.

Waterville Volunteer Fire Co.

Pine Creek Council of Governments

PA Lumbermans Museum

Northcentral Pa Conservancy

Clinton County CleanScapes

Pennsylvania Environmental Defense

Foundation

**2022 Total \$ 11,750**

## Memorials

PCPA has a designated category for Memorials for those who would honor the memories of loved ones. These funds support our contributions to the PA Legal Defense Foundation which follows any infractions that are detrimental to the health and environmental issues pertaining to the Pine Creek Valley. The legal work is performed through the volunteer efforts of John Childs. If you have any questions concerning the use of these funds, please direct your request to the officers of the PCPA through [lgasperine@verizon.net](mailto:lgasperine@verizon.net).

PCPA website - <https://pinecreekpcpa.org/>

*We received memorial memberships in loving memory of:*

**Paul and Liz Hoffmaster and  
Woody Snyder  
Dr. Robert Porter  
Nolan Souder  
Don Bailey  
Edward B. Carvell  
Eila Campbell  
Dr. Robert Porter  
Jameson Rothenberger**

Marion Alexander and Barbara Mantarro  
Joe and Helen Arduini Family Trust  
Richard and Linda Bater  
Kathy Baylor and Domenica Giorgio  
Ron and Barb Bierly  
James Bonnell  
Cindy and Jim Bower  
Don and Chris Brennan  
Kelly and Tom Butzler  
Robert and Diane Cox  
Cummings Township  
George and Linda Druck and Ben and Linda Druck  
Chuck and Mary Dundon  
Steve and Deb Eck  
Walt and Doreen Eisenhauer  
Bebe Evansky  
Jane Falck  
Jane Fennelly  
Dave Fennelly  
Jeffrey and Diane Gable  
Christian and Amy Gagliardi  
John and Lou Anne Gasperine  
Mark and Denise Hagan  
Michael and Julie Haussener  
Wayne Robert Harnly  
Jeffrey and Cheryl Hartman  
Phil and Mary Jane Hawkins  
Russell and Dianna Helt  
Jan Heming  
Ralph and Denise Hershberger  
Carol Hershey



Clinton and Debora Ivins  
Cam and Jen Kephart  
Tom and Kim Kozlowski  
Dallas and Di Krapf  
Steven Liddic  
Vince and Sherri Lotito  
Jonathan and Kathryn McClure  
Bill and Judy McConnell  
McConnell's Country Store  
John and Cynthia Metzger  
Dorian Myers  
Chris and Cathy Nolen  
Tom and Laura Oberhouse  
John and Diane Pastorek  
Donna Pearson  
Pettecote Junction Campground  
Cmdr. Thomas Phillips  
Pitney – Manning Families  
Bruce and Catherine Platusich  
Beverly, Chris and Abbey Porter  
Jim and Kathy Rankin and Family  
Dave and Peggy Reeder  
Lois Rothenberger  
Matt and Michelle Rugh  
Jim and Sheila Russo  
Rick and Suzanne Ruth  
Bill and Deb Shanberger  
Lloyd and Sondra Simmers  
Taryn Sprague  
Wayd Wolgemuth  
Bernard and Janet Zbicki



## Legal Updates from Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Fund (PEDF)

### Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation

February 5, 2023

*Jeff Campbell reached out to Attorney John Childs of the PEDF for a summary of the latest information concerning the legal activities concerning the Pine Creek Valley and surrounding areas. PCPA supports the PEDF each year. In response to increased donations received, this year the PCPA voted to donate \$10,000 to support their legal defense of our state forests and lands. For more detailed information concerning the ongoing environmental legal issues, check out the PEDF website at <http://www.PEDF.org>.*

#### John Childs response to our request for updates on recent PEDF activities

The ATV case:

We have filed an appeal with the Supreme Court and are waiting for a briefing schedule.

The Commonwealth Court granted the General Assembly's Preliminary Objections and dismissed our Petition on ATVs, holding that the legislation we challenged, the two Fiscal Code Amendments mandating expanded ATV trails, and the Vehicle Code amendments requiring DCNR to develop ATV trails in our State Forest, are constitutional because the legislation is "reasonable on its face".

This reasonableness test is something the Commonwealth Court has been applying to recent Section 27 challenges to legislation. In doing so the Court is ignoring the Supreme Court standard established in our case in the opinion from 2017, *PEDF II*, that the test for compliance with Section 27 is whether the purpose of the Amendment, to conserve and maintain the public natural resources and the preservation of the rights of the people to the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the forest, is or would be violated.

The Commonwealth Court also held that there is a constitutional right to recreation in the State Forest, thus allowing any recreational use.

I believe the Commonwealth Court granted the POs and dismissed our Petition to test their new "reasonableness" argument. After all, the Supreme Court backed off their finding in the 2017 Opinion that the Appropriations Acts of 2017-2018 appropriating trust fund revenue for DCNR operations costs was unconstitutional on their face! What it would mean if they are successful is that the legislature would once again have control over the meaning of Section 27.

This is what we have appealed.

The constitutional challenge to the 2017-2018 Appropriations Acts:

The Commonwealth Court and the Supreme Court held that the Acts are not unconstitutional on their face, that we must prove that the Acts are unconstitutional as they were applied. That is, that they actually spent the money from the Oil and Gas, which the courts have determined to be part of the corpus of the Article I Section 27 trust and can only be spent to conserve and maintain the trust.

The Commonwealth Court and the Supreme Court also denied the arguments of the Governor and DCNR and the Attorney General, that everything DCNR does conserves the state forest.

So, we are amending our Petition to challenge the Appropriations Acts by showing that the money from the trust corpus was not spent on conserving the forest. Part of our argument is that much of what DCNR does not conserve the forest. That includes administering the oil and gas lease program, the ATV trail program, and the cabin lease program. It includes paying the entire executive staff of DCNR, the Secretary, the Deputy secretaries, The Chief Counsel and staff, the policy director, and others. Their duty is to make sure DCNR complies with the Governor's purposes.

Another part of our argument is that the duty to conserve the forest includes the duty to preserve the forest as an ecosystem. The first sentence of Article I Section 27 states that the people have the right to the ..."preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment", the forest in this case. These values are established in the forest as an ecosystem.

We are also including in the Amended Petition a challenge that DCNR and the Governor and the Commonwealth are violating their duties as trustees by failing to remedy the existing and continuing degradation to the forest. That includes the historic degradation from coal extraction, oil extraction, clear cut timber sales, etc., as well as the existing Marcellus oil and gas works, and the legal and illegal ATV trails.

We are also arguing that there is continuing and future degradation from the existing oil and gas leases, and perhaps more importantly, from Climate Change. We are arguing the Commonwealth must set aside money from the existing leases into a trust fund to be able to pay for the future degradation.

This is just a quick summary. We will forward the Amended Petition to PCPA when it is filed. That will be by the 13th of this month.



## PCPA Wearables

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 following 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. My address is: 1208 Sylvania Cir., Folsom, PA 19033.

Any questions, feel free to call or email me at 610-513-2633, [jcc1208@aol.com](mailto:jcc1208@aol.com).

Show your pride for our great organization, and our love of the valley. ----- Jeff Campbell - Vice President\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

List below what items you would like to order. List item, color, and size, and total dollar amount. Paid by cash\_\_, check\_\_, Venmo \_\_. Total dollar amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ Long sleeve tees, add \$5.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**PINE CREEK  
PRESERVATION  
ASSOCIATION**



4.5-ounce, 100% ring spun cotton  
90/10 ring spun cotton/poly

**\$15 each**  
Long sleeve add \$5

Shirt Colors  
Black  
Charcoal  
Heather Grey  
Kelly Green  
Navy  
Red  
Royal Blue



5.3-ounce, 100% cotton  
90/10 cotton/poly  
Mitered 1/2" v-neck collar  
Cap sleeves

**\$15 each**  
Long sleeve Add \$5

Shirt Colors  
Black  
Charcoal  
Navy  
Red  
Royal  
Sport Grey

**Shirts are Screen Printed**



**EMBRODERED Pine Creek WEARABLES**  
**ORDER TODAY**



**Polo Shirt - \$30 ea**  
Colors:  
Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red  
Mens or Ladies



**Sweatshirt - \$30 ea**  
Colors:  
Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red  
Dark Heather Gray



**Truck Cap - \$15 ea**  
Camo Cotton/Poly Front  
Black Mesh Poly Back



**Truck Cap - \$15 ea**  
Pink Camo Cotton/Poly Front  
Tan Mesh Poly Back



**Truck Cap - \$15 ea**  
Cotton/Poly Front  
Mesh Poly Back  
Colors:  
Camo Green, Camo Pink  
Green/ White, White/ White



**Hooded Zippered  
Sweatshirt - \$35 ea**  
Colors:  
Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red  
Dark Heather Gray



**Hooded Pullover  
Sweatshirt - \$35 ea**  
Colors:  
Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red  
Dark Heather Gray



**Hunter Cap - \$15 ea**  
Orange Cotton/Poly Front & Back  
Realtree Camo - Bill

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2023

MEMBER INFO:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Camp/Cottage:

Camp Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address or \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location \_\_\_\_\_

Camp/Organization – please indicate number of members  
 over 18 years of age (voters) --- (     )

Make checks payable to PCPA

Mail to: PCPA Secretary

P.O. Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776

**Note:** Unless the Friends of PC box is checked, we assume that any additional donation of \$100 or more is meant to be anonymous.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (check one)

Individual Membership - \$5

Family Membership - \$10

Camp/Organ. Membership - \$20

Friends of Pine Creek - \$100

Memorial Membership - \$250

In Memory or Honor of (below):

\_\_\_\_\_

Donated By (below):

\_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledgement To (below):

Life Membership - \$500

Other Donation - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Survey

We are always looking to offer more voice to our members and try to increase member participation at our monthly meetings. The meetings are the third Monday of each month. So we have decided to ask you a few simple questions, attached to your membership form, so you may mail your input. Please send the entire page back with your input.

1. Would you be more likely to attend a meeting or meetings if they were held on Saturdays while you were visiting the valley or your camp? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. In what new activities would you be willing to participate?  
 Stream clean up  Trail clean up   
 Rain Barrel building workshop  Education activity day   
 Suggestions  \_\_\_\_\_

We now accept PayPal for membership and memorial payments. Please see the link on the webpage [www.pinecreekpcpa.com](http://www.pinecreekpcpa.com).