

The Vista

- **Things to do this Summer at the Park**
- **Route 154 Update**
- **Learning Archery at Worlds End**
- **2023 Volunteer Education Award**



82 Cabin Bridge Road
P.O. Box 62
Forksville, PA 18616
570-924-3287
friendsofworldsendsp@gmail.com
www.friendsofworldsendsp.org

SUMMER 2023 AT WORLDS END!

Summer brings to **Worlds End** and the **Loyalsock State Forest** picnics, hiking, swimming, camping, and so much more! While long-time visitors may know where and how to enjoy all the things summer has to offer – it can be challenging for newer visitors – especially those who may only be staying for a day or so. With these folks especially in mind, in this issue of **The Vista** we list what we think are some of the top summertime attractions of the park and surrounding forest – see starting on page 12. Summer also means the return of the park's **Archery Program** – see starting on page 10.

We are pleased to announce that the Friends of Worlds End State Park is the recipient of the **Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation 2023 Volunteer Education Award!** See page 8 for more – including pictures from the awards banquet at Little Buffalo State Park.

Also in this issue, we are happy to report that the **route 154 construction project** was completed on May 17 – and the road thru the park is once again open – in time for summer at the park! See page 3.

Stay updated on news from the Friends of Worlds End State Park via our Facebook page and our website – www.friendsofworldsendsp.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Dave Engle – Chairman
Michael Scott - Vice-Chairman
Michelene Scott – Treasurer
Kyle Fawcett - Social Media Outreach
Dan Mumford - Secretary – Editor
Lisa Engle
Dave Kowalewski
Lisa Wilcox
Tom Yarnall
Ruth Rode – Honorary Director

Follow and Like us on social media:



facebook.com/friendsofworldsendsp
www.facebook.com/groups/worldsendsp



www.instagram.com/friendsofworldsends

Route 154 Construction Update



Good news – in the park, Route 154 re-opened on May 17! The highway was closed starting September 2022 for repairs (the highway had been sliding down the hill) – effectively cutting the park in half. Repairs are completed and the highway is open in both directions. Also re-opened is the Link Trail that connects the park office to the Double Run trail head. This had been closed because of the roadway construction on the slope above the trail.

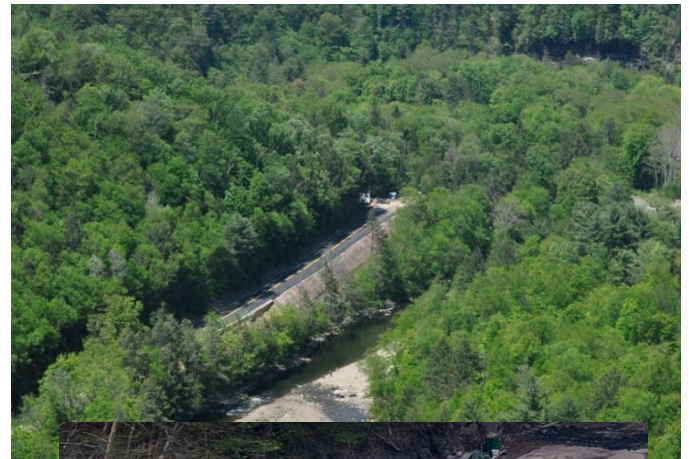
Top of Page: the newly rebuilt highway.

Above: new retaining wall to keep the highway in place.

Below: from along the creek looking up at the newly rebuilt highway. The Link Trail runs along the creek on the bank below the highway.

Right: the new highway from Loyalsock Canyon Vista.

Below Right: the highway under construction this past winter.



Planting Trees Along Cabin Bridge Road

In early May, the Friends of Worlds End State Park partnered with Jeremy Leaidicker, Master Watershed Steward Coordinator with the Penn State Extension and Master Watershed volunteer John Carroll, in obtaining and planting 57 seedling plants along Cabin Bridge Road near the park's maintenance building. The forest in this area was destroyed by the April 2019 tornado that tore through the park (see picture on the right). The new vegetation includes dogwood, redbud, spicebush, hawthorn, pussy willow, hazelnut, buttonbush, flowering plum, viburnum, and river birch. These native plants will help restore the forest in this area, controlling water run-off, creating a screen between the maintenance building and the road, and produce food for wildlife.



More Enhancements for Park Amphitheater

Over the winter, park staff were busy on upgrades to the park's new amphitheater. This includes more benches (crafted from a cherry tree that had fallen in the park – with the wood being kiln-dried for free by Dwight Lewis Lumber Co.) and new directional signage (see below). The Friends have also purchased a new movie/video screen for the facility. Our thanks to the Dwight Lewis Lumber Co. for their help and also the park staff for their excellent work on these projects.



FIREWOOD AND ICE AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER:

Firewood is available for sale in the campground and cabin area - \$8.00 per bundle. In the campground, look for the self-serve kiosks near the Loop A and Loop B shower-houses - and in the cabin area, near the trash dumpsters on the right as you enter the cabin area on Cabin Bridge Road. Ice is available for \$6.00 for large bags; \$3.00 for small bags at the campground outside the Loop A shower-house and also at the kiosk outside the park office. Money from these sales funds the park improvement projects of the Friends of Worlds End State Park.



BECOME A DCNR CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER:

If you are interested in volunteering at the park, we encourage you to register. Registering brings you insurance coverage and the ability to track your volunteer hours. See more on DCNR's website:

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/GetInvolved/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/VolunteerApplication.aspx>

Endless Mountains Heritage Region 25th Anniversary and PA River of the Year Sojourn:

Celebrate the Endless Mountains Heritage Region's 25th Anniversary and the designation of the North Branch of the Susquehanna River as 2023's River of the Year by paddling the river from Sayre to Shickshinny in Luzerne County June 2 – 10. For more information and to register, see

<https://emheritage.org/event/emhrs-25th-anniversary-and-pa-river-of-the-year-sojourn/>



FOREST THERAPY WALK on Sunday, July 23 with Beth Jones, Certified Nature and Forest Therapy Guide.

For more information, see these websites:

<https://www.deepgreenjourney.com/>

<https://www.deepgreenjourney.com/forest-therapy-hikes>

...and monitor the park's social media as the date approaches.

INTERNATIONAL MUD DAY – Saturday, June 24

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Location: Picnic area near the beach.

Children and adults all over the world are celebrating the glorious benefits of mud, so come join the fun! You'll be able to frolic in our Mud Pit, make mud pies in our Mud Pie Kitchen, paint with mud, search for fossils, and more! And, don't worry about the mess - a quick dip in the Loyalsock Creek will wash it away! This event is free and open to the public.



LOYALSOCK STATE FOREST : 2023 Motorized/Roadside Camping Changes

Note: this article concerns camping in the Loyalsock State Forest – NOT Worlds End State Park. Camping procedures for the park remain unchanged.

State Forests (including the Loyalsock State Forest, have moved to a new online/ phone-based reservation system that aligns with what state parks use.

STATE FOREST MOTORIZED, ROADSIDE CAMPING RESERVATIONS NOW ONLINE



View real time campsite availability and campsite information, location, and photos.

\$10/night camping fee for PA residents, \$15/night for non-residents + \$6.50 transaction fee.

Money goes to campsite maintenance, improvement, and conservation.



This new reservation system can be accessed via <https://pennsylvaniastateparks.reserveamerica.com/> or (888) 727-2757.

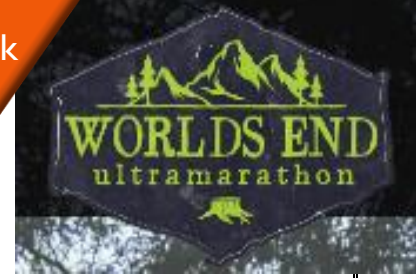
The even and odd shutdown period for campsites remains in effect from last year. From January 1 – June 30, the even-numbered campsites are available to be reserved, and from July 1 – December 31, the odd-numbered sites are available. This is automatically built into the new reservation system, so a seasonally closed site will not show up as available. (Exceptions are the sites at the Masten and the Bridle Trail heads, where ALL sites remain available year-round.)

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateForests/FindAForest/Loyalsock/Pages/Maps.aspx>

WORLDS END ULTRAMARATHON:

One of the country's premier trail racing events, the Worlds End 50k/100k UltraMarathon is on Saturday June 3, 2023. The 100k event starts at 5:00AM with the 50k event starting at 7:00AM. For more information, see the race website:

<https://worldsendultra.com/>



GRINDURO International Cycling Event Returns to Sullivan County – Weekend of June 16-18!

The **Grinduro** returns to the Sullivan County this summer – at Elk Creek Escape in Hillsgrove – and features a 70-mile cycling route highlighting the best of the Endless Mountains - pioneer roads, historic logging towns, covered bridges, scenic vistas and logging trails deep into the forests that combines the elements of a mountain bike enduro with a gravel grinder- style road race. Festivities include displays of art and music, food, people and camping. To find out more, see the Grinduro website:

<https://grinduro.com/pennsylvania.php>

PARK INFORMATION ONLINE:

<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/WorldsEndStatePark/Pages/default.aspx>

For directions to the park, information on summer park events, reservations, maps, and special bulletins, monitor the park's official website at the above URL address. The park also has a Facebook page.



PARK MANAGEMENT CHANGE:

Worlds End park Manager, Chad McKendrick, left the park in late May for a new position within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Friends of Worlds End State Park thank Chad for his support – especially during 2022's park anniversary celebrations and wish him well in his new position.

Monitor the park's social media and the next issue of THE VISTA for news on his replacement.

The Friends of Worlds End State Park win the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation 2023 Volunteer Education Award



The Friends of Worlds End State Park was honored on May 16 at the annual Pennsylvania Parks and Forest Foundation (PPFF) banquet at Little Buffalo State Park with the 2023 Volunteer Education Award!

Above, left to right: Friends of Worlds End Dave Engle, Tom Yarnall, Lisa Engle, Michael Scott, Kyle Fawcett, Mic Scott, Dan Mumford, and sponsor Marc Lewis.

Right: The Park's Environmental Educator, Jane Swift, who nominated the Friends for this award, holds the award trophy.

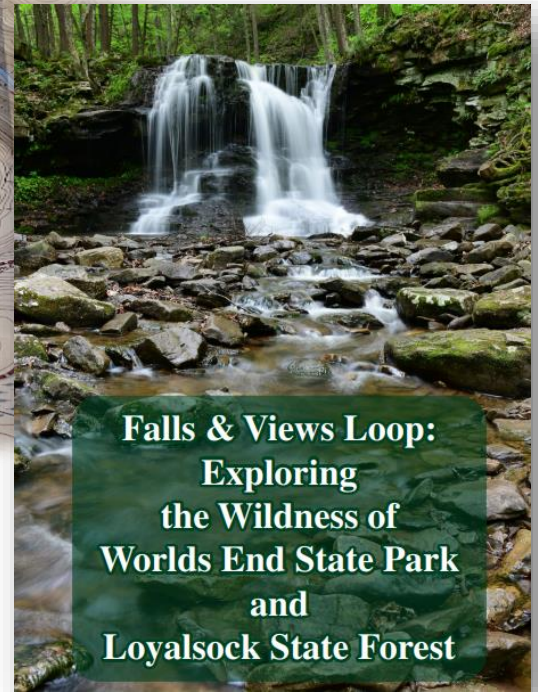


The Friends of Worlds End State Park thank Marc Lewis and Lewis Lumber Products for their generous sponsorship of our 2023 PPFF Volunteer Education Award.



LEWIS LUMBER PRODUCTS
FINE HARDWOOD MOULDINGS & CUSTOM MILLWORK

Falls & Views Loop: Exploring the Wildness of Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest **NOW AVAILABLE!**



**Falls & Views Loop:
Exploring
the Wildness of
Worlds End State Park
and
Loyalsock State Forest**

Summer is hiking season – and new for summer 2023, well-known Friends of Worlds End State Park and local trailblazing legends Dave Kowalewski and Ruth Rode have used their combined decades of local trailblazing experience on the new **Falls & Views Loop: Exploring the Wildness of Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest**. This 70-page guide includes 3 maps detailing over 77 miles of trails at Worlds End State Park and the Loyalsock State Forest. The **Falls & Views Loop** guides you to more than 90 seasonal waterfalls and 40 views. The first 18 pages provide general reference information concerning the park and forest – followed by over 50 pages of detailed turn-by-turn directions highlighting waterfalls, views, geological features, trail registers, water sources, and alternate routes. Shorter loop options are also provided for those unable to complete the entire trail in one outing – including day-hike and 2-day hiking options – or even an afternoon outing. Local history is also highlighted – learn about the history of coal mining, logging railroads and the Civilian Conservation Corps here in Sullivan County among many other things. **Falls & Views Loop: Exploring the Wildness of Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest** is available from:

- The Worlds End Park Office for \$20.00.
- The Sullivan Review (<https://thesullivanreview.com/maps/>)
- McCarty Mercantile in Hillsgrove.
- Keystone Trails Association (<https://www.kta-hike.org/>)
- Otto's Bookstore in Williamsport.

ALSO AVAILABLE: If you want to know about trails and loops centered on the park, our *Trails in and Around Worlds State Park – Challenging Day and Backpacking Loops* is still available for \$10 at the park office. It is also available from the Keystone Trails Association - <https://www.kta-hike.org/>.



Our FRIENDS OF WORLDS END STATE PARK trails patch is also on sale at the park office for \$5.

EXPLORE ARCHERY THIS SUMMER AT WORLDS END!

The park's popular archery course returns this summer for its 7th year! If you have ever wanted to explore archery – this is your opportunity. Certified Archery Instructors Jane Swift and Mike Scott will once again be offering archery lessons at the park this summer with an emphasis on safe archery practices. The park will provide the equipment you need.

Ages: 9 – 90 Location: Point Pavilion.

DATES: All classes 9:30 – 10:30:

- Tuesday, June 13
- Saturday, July 1
- Tuesday, July 11
- Tuesday, July 25
- Tuesday, August 8
- Tuesday, August 22

Check out the park's social media for possible additional dates this summer and early autumn.



Above: Park Environmental Educator and archery instructor Jane Swift.

We asked instructors Jane Swift and Mike Scott about teaching and learning archery at Worlds End...

Who are these classes for?

Pretty much anyone can learn archery – you do not have to be especially athletic or have previous experience. We have had grandparents learning along with their grandchildren. All you really need is a bit of patience – but most students are surprised how quickly they learn and improve.



Above: Deputy Game Warden and archery instructor Mike Scott.

What is the most challenging thing to learn or get most used to for most students?

First time students sometimes struggle a bit with holding the arrow to the bow and keeping the arrow on the arrow rest. But this is something they soon get used to. The most important thing we teach is safety. Bows and arrows are weapons and need to be respected and treated as such. So from the very beginning, we stress safety – especially always knowing where your arrow is pointing to and making sure nothing is between you and the target or behind the target.

What is your favorite part of teaching archery?

Seeing our students when they first realize that archery is not difficult and watching - both children and adults – succeed at something they thought they could never do!



How did you get interested in archery and how long have you been teaching it?

Mike: I have been bowhunting since a teenager – taught by my father. Back in 2015 I took an intensive archery training course with the state, and have been teaching it ever since.

Jane: About ten years ago, I began exploring new ways to engage older



children and teens in outdoor recreation. In 2017, I became aware that the PA Game Commission was offering archery kits to a small selection of state parks to promote “Explore Archery” programs. I was quick to apply for the grant and was happily surprised that Worlds End was one of the few parks selected. The kit included over \$3000 worth of equipment – everything needed to start an archery program. That same year I became a USA Archery Level I instructor through DCNR.

The park maintenance crew quickly created a new archery range in the Point Pavilion picnic area and I offered my first Explore Archery program in August with 21 participants. The following year, I went through additional training through the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). Since then, Mike Scott and I have introduced nearly 350 people, aged 9 through adult to the exciting sport of archery!

I want to thank the Bureau of State Parks and the Friends of Worlds End State Park for grants of additional equipment to accommodate the increase of participation in the Explore Archery program.

5 THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER AT WORLDS END!

1. Enjoy a Swim at the Beach!

Yes – the water can be a bit chilly – especially early in the summer – but it is so refreshing! The Worlds End beach is one of the most unique and beautiful swimming holes in the state – constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. You can enjoy the crystal-clear water, surrounded by the towering pine trees and mountains reflected in the water.



2. Attend a Saturday Evening Campground Program at the Park's New Amphitheater!

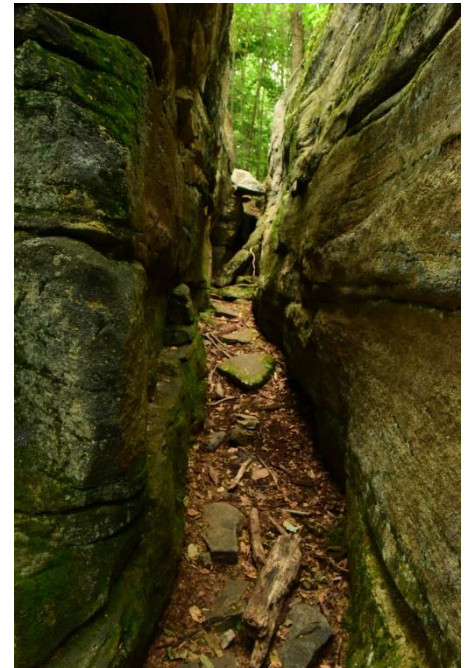


Many Saturdays at the park conclude with a special program at the campground amphitheater or park office – usually in the evening. Holiday weekends sometimes feature additional programs at various times of the day. Look for notices of these programs on bulletin boards throughout the park.

3.

Explore the Rock Garden!

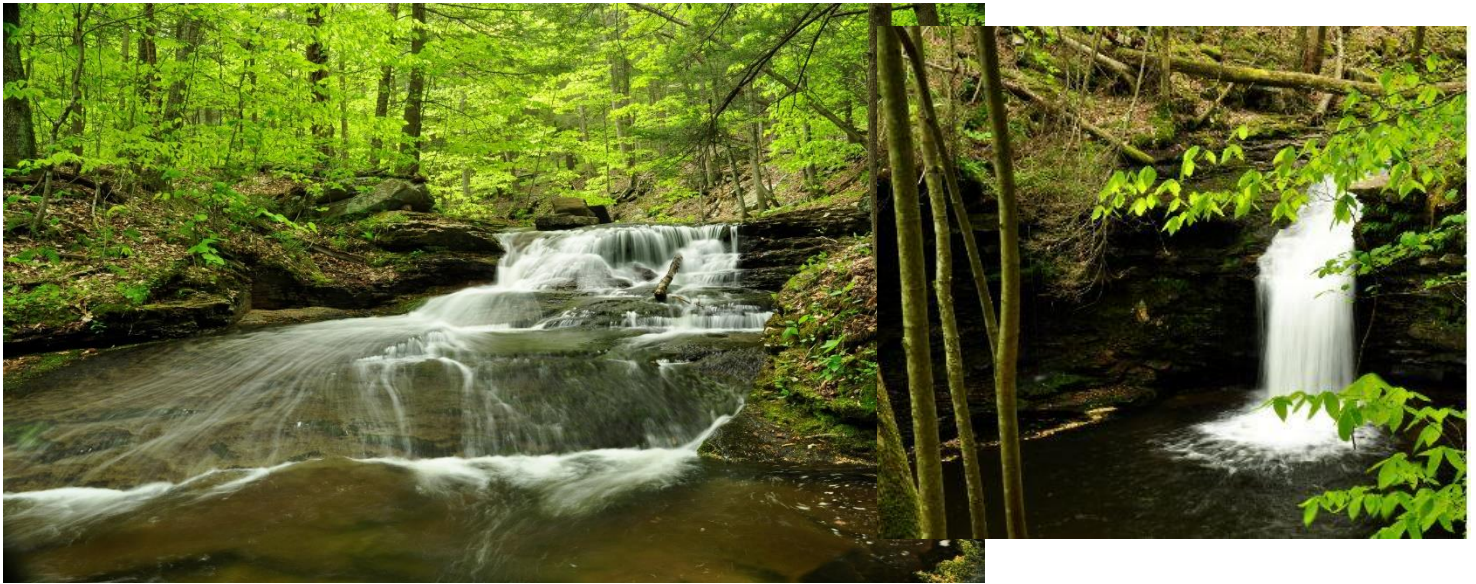
Across the road from the Loyalsock Canyon Vista and a short walk up the hill is one of the park's geological wonders – the Rock Garden – an outcropping of erosion resistant boulders composed of coarse-grained sandstone and conglomerate rock.



4.

Hike the Double Run Trail!

Given that the park is in a canyon, many of the trails in it are admittedly a rather steep uphill climb. If you are looking for a more “moderate” hike for the family – the Double Run Nature Trail is ideal! You can park at the Double Run trailhead along Route 154 and follow the green blazes up stream for a 1.2 mile looping hike that will bring you back to the parking area. The trail will take you up the west branch of Double Run along pools and waterfalls (including Cottonwood Falls). An educational map and guide of the trail is available at the park office that highlights some of the geologic and historical features found along the trail.



Some of the waterfalls you will see along the Double Run Nature Trail – including Cottonwood Falls (on the right).

5. Hike the Canyon Vista Trail!



If you are looking for a more challenging hike – check out the 4-mile loop, blue blazed Canyon Vista Trail. This trail, with some steep sections, explores the eastern half of the park and rewards hikers with a spectacular view of the Loyalsock Canyon and the park from its vista at an elevation of 1750 feet (picture above). There is a trailhead with parking along route 154 just to the east of the park. You can also park at the entrance to the family campground and access the trail at that location.

5 THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER IN THE LOYALSOCK STATE FOREST!

1. HIKE THE FERN ROCK NATURE TRAIL!

If you are looking for a flat, moderate looping hike for the family, the Fern Rock Nature Trail is ideal. This 2-mile educational trail will guide you to numerous interesting environments including a wetland and cascades on Ketchum Run. The trailhead is at the intersection of Worlds End Road and High Knob Road at the top of the mountain above the park. Download a map and guide:

<https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=2858644&DocName=Fern%20Rock%20-%20Forestry%20Trail%20Guide%208-5x14.pdf>

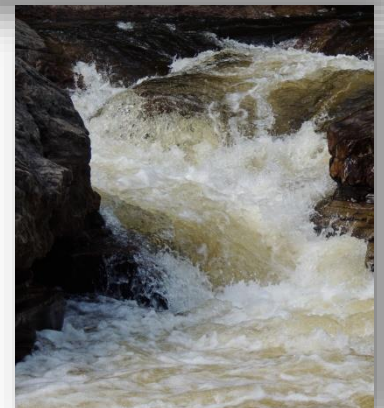


Look for these yellow and blue blazes to guide you along the trail.

2. HIKE TO AND EXPLORE THE HAYSTACK RAPIDS!

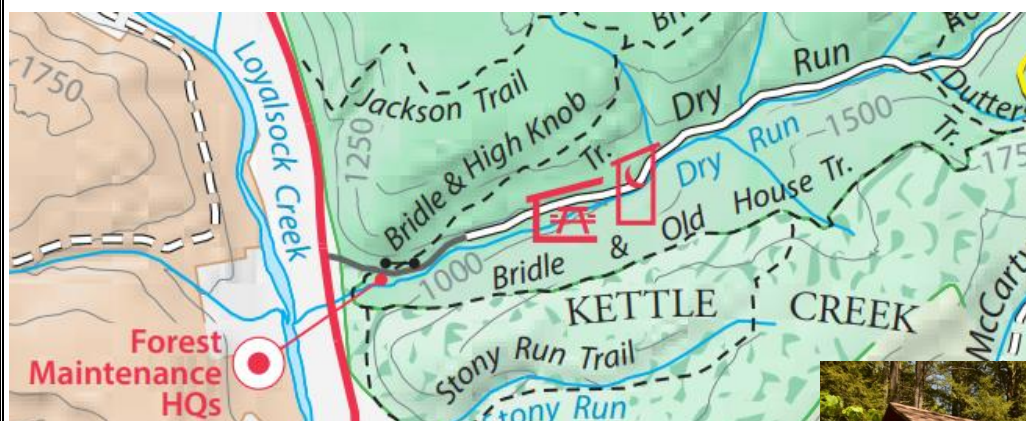
The Haystacks Trail starts at the Loyalsock Trailhead parking lot along Route 220 and is blazed in yellow rectangles. After 20-30 minutes of hiking you will arrive at a place where Loyalsock Creek flows through and around huge boulders creating swirling rapids and deep pools. Download a trail map on DCNR's website, along with a brochure that discusses the unusual geology of the rapids.

<https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=2858641&DocName=Haystacks%20-%20Forestry%20Trail%20Guide%208-5x14.pdf>



3. EXPLORE THE DRY RUN GORGE!

In the Dry Run Gorge you can enjoy lunch at a picnic area constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. A highlight of the gorge is Dry Run Falls (picture on upper right) – one of the more famous and picturesque of “drive-to” falls in the state. But there are other falls worth seeing along the tributaries that flow into Dry Run that you can bushwhack to (one of these, Andrea Falls, is pictured on the right). Dry Run Road is off of route 87 just to the south of Hillsgrove.



Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) Camp 96 (picture below) was located in Dry Run Gorge, near where the Hillsgrove Forest Maintenance Headquarters is today. They built the Dry Run Picnic facilities – see to the right and below right. This camp was opened on May 6, 1933 and closed in January 1936.

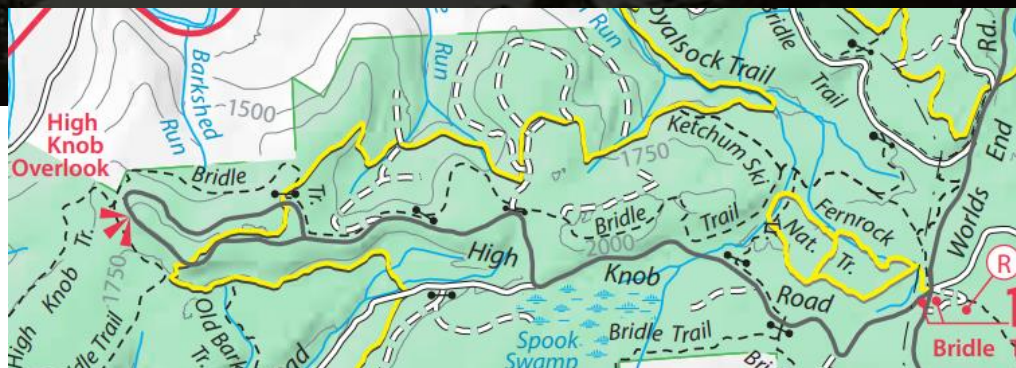


Catch SUNset at High Knob Overlook

4.



High Knob Overlook is a west-ward facing vista that you can drive to using High Knob Road off of Worlds End Road.



5. Canoe and Kayak on a pretty Mountain Lake!

The Loyalsock State Forest is home to a number of beautiful mountain-top lakes that are ideal for your canoe and kayak. Sones Pond, Hunters Lake and Bear Wallow Pond feature boat launches – and picnic tables and restrooms.

SONES POND: Take route 154 from Laporte onto Rock Run Road. At the top of the mountain turn left onto Loyalsock Road.

HUNTERS LAKE: Take route 42 from Muncy Valley and near the top of the hill - left onto Brunnerdale Rd.

BEAR WALLOW POND: From Hillsgrove on route 87, take Mill Creek Road until a left on Camels Rd, then onto Bear Wallow Road to the lake.



Join the **Friends of Worlds End State Park** for **FREE!**

As of 2023, membership is FREE! All we need is your email address so that we can email you the **THE VISTA** four times a year!

To get on our email list, see our website:

<https://www.friendsofworldsendsp.org/mailling-list>

Of course we always welcome contributions! To contribute, see our website:

<https://www.friendsofworldsendsp.org/donate>

If you prefer to donate by mail, please make checks payable to the PPF and include Friends of Worlds End on the memo line. Checks should be mailed to:

Michelene Scott, Treasurer
Friends of Worlds End State Park
PO Box 62
Forksville, PA 18616



The Friends of Worlds End State Park is a Chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization—contributions to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. No goods or services were received in exchange for this contribution. The official registration of the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

PHOTO CREDITS: Cover: Sunset from Loyalsock Canyon Vista by Dan Mumford. Page 3: Dan Mumford, Kyle Fawcett. Page 4: Dave Engle, Dan Mumford. Page 6: Jane Swift. Page 8: Dave Engle, Dan Mumford. Pages 10-11: Jane Swift. Page 12 - 13: Dan Mumford. Page 14: Dan Mumford, Kyle Fawcett. Page 15: Dave Kowaleski, Dan Mumford. Page 16-17: Dan Mumford. Page 18: High Knob Overlook by Dan Mumford.