

The Vista

- **New Amphitheater Dedicated**
- **Looking Back at Summer 2022**
- **The Cabins: Living in History**
- **Autumn Destination: Lake John**
- **New Hiking Map and Guide**

To conserve, support and protect the park's resources
by promoting education, recreation, and stewardship.



82 Cabin Bridge Road
PO Box 62
Forksville, PA 18616

570-924-3287
friendsofworldsendsp@gmail.com
www.friendsofworldsendsp.org

Before we move into autumn, we first look back at Worlds End's 90th summer, including **Worlds End Day** on July 30 – see page 9. We want to thank again everyone that helped make Worlds End Day 2022 a success, including our sponsors – see page 12. One of the events at Worlds End Day was the launch of our new map and guide - **Falls & Views Loop: Exploring the Wildness of Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest** ...see page 13.

Another big event from this past summer was the opening of the park's new **Amphitheater** – see page 3. And we continue the celebration of the park's 90th anniversary by looking at the **history of the park's cabin district** – see page 14. For those visiting the park this autumn or winter, there is important news about a **highway project** that may complicate your trip to the park – see page 6.

Finally, we celebrate the season by featuring another beautiful Sullivan County autumn location, **Lake John** – see page 17.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE:

The Friends of Worlds End State Park's annual meeting will be **Tuesday, November 15 at 4:00 pm** at the Worlds End State Park Visitors Center. We will be reviewing the group's activities over the past year and making plans for 2023. (Please monitor our social media as the meeting date approaches in case there is a change in location or time).

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Amphitheater Dedicated and Now Open!



On Saturday, June 25, the Friends of Worlds Ends State Park, park management and staff, DCNR officials and many park visitors gathered to dedicate the new park amphitheater.

*Above and left: Park Manager Chad McKenrick addresses the gathering.
Below left: DCNR District Manager Alex Stout.*

Below: Tom Jones entertains the crowd with a song he composed about the park for the occasion.



The New Amphitheater - beginning to completion:



The old amphitheater.



The site is cleared.



6-foot deep foundation trenches are dug.



Above: Worlds End Environmental Educator Jane Swift helps serve ice cream topped with the park's award-winning maple syrup.

The Friends of Worlds End State Park would like to thank the many people who made this 3-year project possible, including park management and staff. While it was the Friends that paid for the materials, it was the park's skilled maintenance and construction staff that built the structure from the ground – up.

Funds for the project came from donations to the Friends and from the visitors who purchased our firewood and ice over the past 3 years. Our thanks to all these contributors and patrons who made this possible!



The building materials arrive.



Supports are set.



Roof trusses are put in place.



Above: Friends of Worlds End State Park Chairman Dave Engle opened the dedication ceremony by giving the history of the project and thanking those that made it possible.

Below: That same evening saw the first amphitheater event – a presentation by K-9 Strike Force search and rescue.



The roof is completed.



6 concrete pours were needed to complete the floor.



Park staff crafted benches from a cherry tree that had fallen in the park.



Gutters and down spouting were added as the project nears completion. A new parking area was also created (left).

Route 154 Construction Closure Impacts



During recent visits to the park, you may have noticed some problems with Route 154 near the visitors center and the Point Pavilion – the road has been slipping down the hill toward the creek (see above). PennDOT has been making temporary repairs by paving and re-paving to cover the resulting cracks in the road. PennDOT will soon be making permanent repairs – but unfortunately this project will result in the closure of the highway in both directions for several months – effectively cutting the park in half. Starting September 19, 2022 through early May 2023, Route 154, between the park office and the family campground will be closed to make these repairs. (See the section of the road to be closed highlighted in yellow on the map to the right). Worlds End Road will be open – but where it meets Route 154 in the park, only a right turn will be possible – you cannot turn left to reach the cabins, park office, or day use area.

VISITORS TO THE DAY USE AREA, PARK

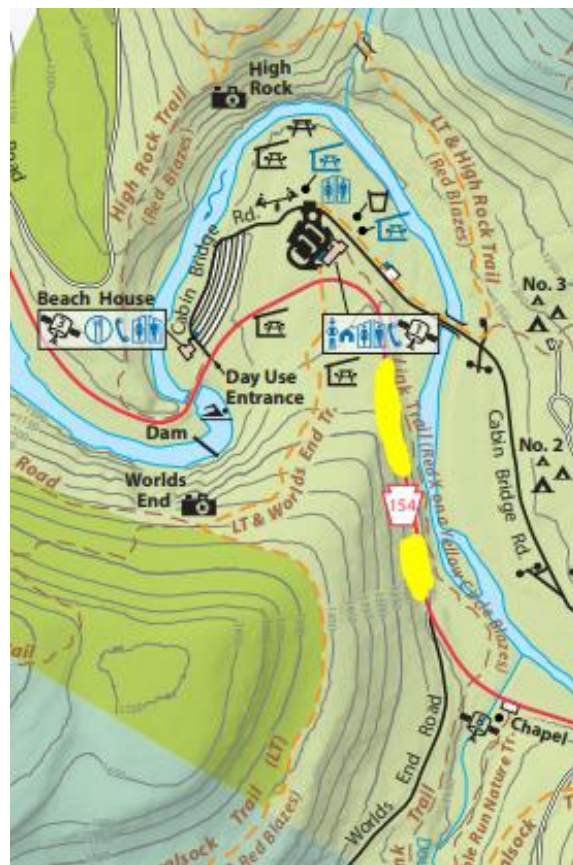
OFFICE AND THE CABINS: coming from Route 220 north and south should take Route 87 south in Dushore to Route 154 east from Forksville to the park.

CAMPGROUND VISITORS: For those with reservations at the Family Campground, report to the campground and not the park office for your reservation. Any campers coming to the campground by Route 154 east or Route 87 north will need to detour around the closure by taking Route 87 north to Dushore, Route 220 south to Laporte, and Route 154 west to the campground. Campers coming from Route 220 north or south should take Route 154 west in Laporte to the campground.

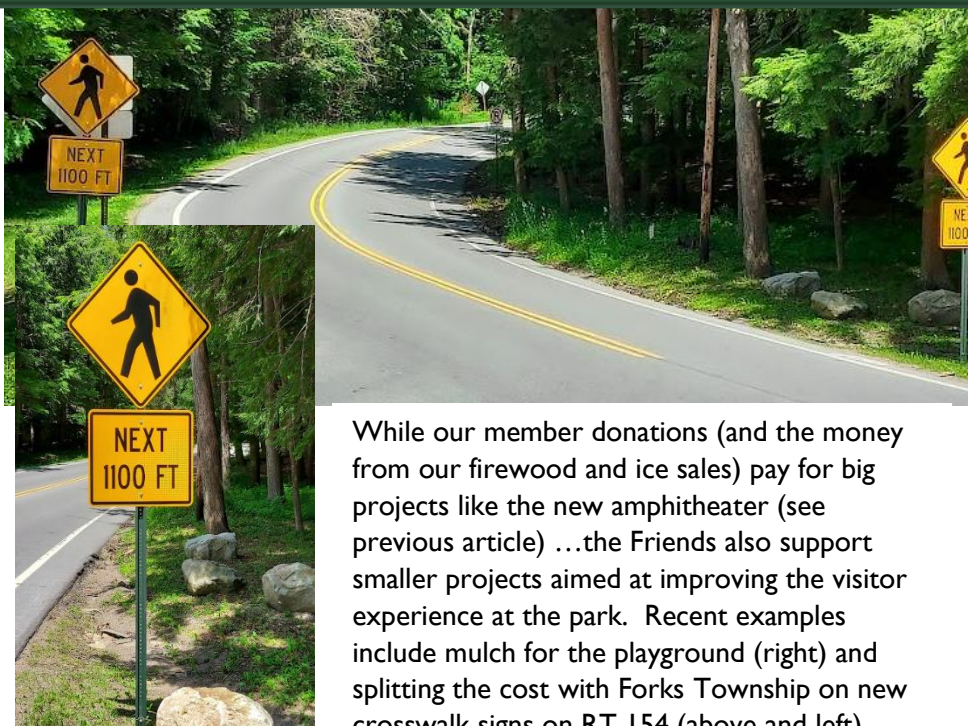
HIKING IMPACT: the Link Trail that connects the park office to the Double Run trail head will be closed between the park office and Route 154 during this project.

Look for a detour that follows the Loyalsock Trail from the park office, across the highway and up the mountain to the Pioneer Road then to Double Run.

Monitor the park's social media and future issues of *The Vista* for updates on this project over the months to come.



Your Donations to the FRIENDS at Work:



While our member donations (and the money from our firewood and ice sales) pay for big projects like the new amphitheater (see previous article) ...the Friends also support smaller projects aimed at improving the visitor experience at the park. Recent examples include mulch for the playground (right) and splitting the cost with Forks Township on new crosswalk signs on RT 154 (above and left).



Lauren Reeder in concert at the new amphitheater.



In August, Hills Grove resident Mark Lewis gave a talk about his 60 mile journey down the length of the Loyalsock by canoe.



Keep an eye out for a Bald Eagle in the white pines near the beach or cliff.



After having been closed for most of 2021, the beach reopened this summer – including new sand!

Sunday Hunting in 2022:

When planning your outdoor activities this autumn, keep in mind that hunting is allowed on Sundays on the following dates:

November 13, 20 and 27.

Always a good idea to wear fluorescent orange when out hiking on these days or any other day that hunting is permitted.



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>

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE THIS FALL AND WINTER:

Firewood is available for sale in the cabin area this winter - \$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 community on Cabin Bridge Road. Money from these sales funds the park improvement projects of the Friends of Worlds End State Park.



THE
WORLDS END
FALL CLASSIC
half marathon

WORLDS END FALL CLASSIC HALF MARATHON

Saturday September 24, 2022:

The Worlds End Fall Classic is a challenging half marathon that explores Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest. For more information check out the race's website:

<https://worldsendfallclassic.com/>

....and how to volunteer:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/PA/Forksville/WorldsEndFallClassic>

WORLDS END DAY 2022

Celebrating Worlds End 90th Anniversary!

A large crowd gathered on a beautiful summer day to celebrate Worlds End's 90th anniversary on July 30. The audience enjoyed exhibits by several local community organizations, and presentations and performances by...

The POCONO WILDLIFE REHABILITATION & EDUCATION CENTER



A kestrel falcon (above),
a saw-whet owl (above
right), a barred owl (far
right) and an albino
crow! (right)



VAN WAGNER

Who better to help us celebrate the park's 90th anniversary than musician and historian Van Wagner!



MICHAEL KURIGA



REPTILAND





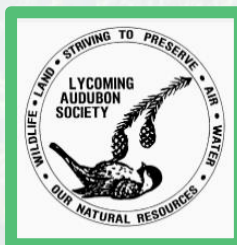
Thanks to the Sullivan Review and Fox 56 for their coverage of the day:



Our thanks to the following community organizations for their participation:



Clean Water Institute
Lycoming College
Science on the Sock



Northcentral
Pennsylvania
Conservancy



Sullivan County
Conservation
District



Loyalsock Creek Watershed
Association



Also thanks to our sponsors:

Kiwanis Club of Sullivan County



McDermott American Legion
Post 452 Mildred

Dushore Area Business Association



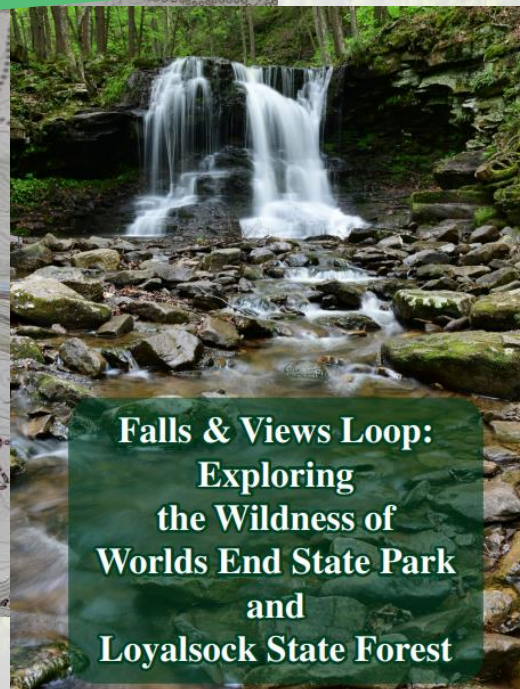
MaryBeth's
WestSide Deli

90th
Anniversary
Worlds End
State Park
1932 – 2022

Also... thanks to our generous
contributors and patrons for
making Worlds End Day 2022
possible!



New Hiking Guide and Map Launched at Worlds End Day!



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

The newest and most comprehensive hiking guide featuring Worlds End and the surrounding Loyalsock State Forest ***Falls & Views Loop: Exploring the Wildness of Worlds End State Park and Loyalsock State Forest*** successfully debuted at Worlds End Day 2022. Authors Dave Kowalewski and Ruth Rode (above) spent the day at the Friends of Worlds End table selling, autographing and answering questions about the new guide – along with countless other hiking questions from visitors. Dave and Ruth used their combined decades of local trailblazing experience on the 70-page guide and 3 maps detailing over 77 miles of trails. The ***Falls & Views Loop*** passes more than 90 seasonal falls 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! Local history is also highlighted – learn about the history of coal mining, railroading 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 Sullivan Review* (<https://thesullivanreview.com/maps/>), McCarty Mercantile and the park office. Check out future issues of THE VISTA for additional locations that will be selling this guide.



The Bloomsburg Press Enterprise featured the new guide on August 14.

Worlds End HISTORY 1932-2022

Your Cabins in the Woods

Visitors enjoy their stay in a Worlds End cabin for many reasons – the rustic charm, the peace and quiet, the sound of the Loyalsock a short reach away, the solitude of “getting off the grid” and living simply. But many visitors do not realize that they are also living in history when they stay in a Worlds End cabin – they are spending their time in a place on the National Register of Historic Places. The **Worlds End State Park Family Cabin District** was added to the National Register on May 18, 1987 (# 87000742 on the register) as a place of historic architecture and engineering significance. The Cabin District represents one of the few intact remaining examples of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) cabin construction from the 1930’s in Pennsylvania. CCC Camp S-95, located along Rock Run Road where it crosses Loyalsock Creek, built the cabins along with many of the park’s facilities including the picnic pavilions and swimming beach area. They were assisted by men from CCC Camp 96 in Hills Grove. The cabins are numbered in the order in which they were built.



Several of the cabins are one-room – with a bunk bed - that accommodate a maximum of 4 people. These are cabins 1, 6, 9, 13, 14, 15, and 16.





Two of the cabins (9 and 15) are handicapped accessible (to the left and below)



Some of the cabins are larger, with multiple rooms – and can accommodate up to eight people. These are cabins 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 18 and 19.



The cabins do not feature running water or plumbing. Instead, there are three shower houses in the cabin district that cabin residents can use. The original pit toilets can still be seen scattered among the cabins – all now closed and sealed off (photo to the left). These were replaced in the 1990's when the modern shower houses with running water were built as part of the Growing Greener park improvements initiative (below left).



Because these cabins are on the National Register of Historic Places, any alterations to the cabins must maintain the historic and architectural integrity of the structures. For this reason, it is unlikely that indoor plumbing will ever be installed in the individual cabins.



The cabins include electric ovens with a stove-top and a refrigerator/freezer. A table with chairs and/or benches are provided – along with a dresser. The cabins are heated by wood-burning fireplace inserts. Firewood is not provided – but is available at a self-serve kiosk operated by the Friends of Worlds End – located on the right just as you enter the cabin area. All of the cabins have exterior porches, picnic tables, and fire-rings.



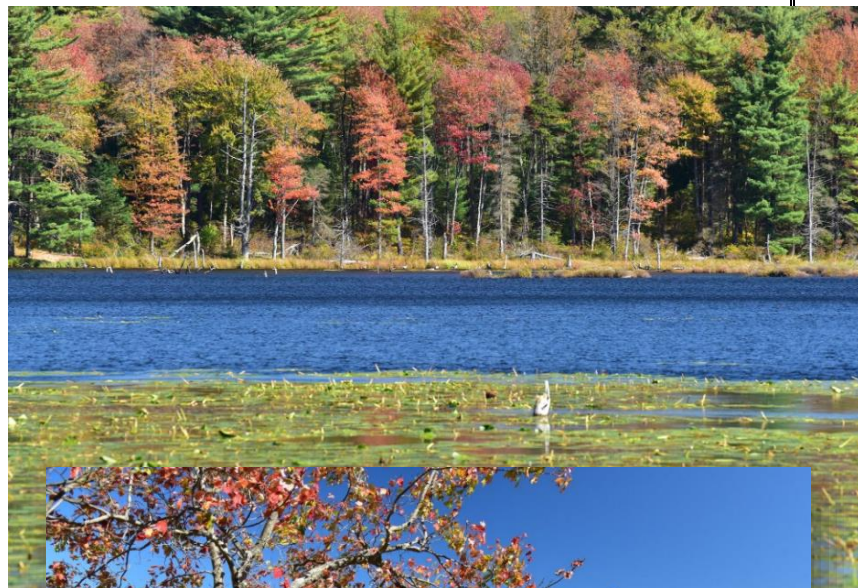
A CABIN IN WINTER? Cabins are available year-round...and are often more available in the winter off-season. Another benefit of a winter rental is that you do not have to book for an entire week – you can just do a weekend or a few days. This makes a winter rental a good opportunity to “try” a cabin. However, the real benefit of a winter rental, as many who have done so will tell you, are the cozy comforts you return to after a day of winter fun in the park – including gathering in front of a roaring campfire surrounded by snow-draped hemlocks towering into the star-filled winter night sky.

Cabin users should bring their own bedding, pillows and towels since none of these are provided. While the cabins are lighted, you may want to bring your own electric bedside lamps and flashlights/lanterns. There are no clocks, so you may want to bring your alarm clock. Cabin reservations can be made up to 11 months in advance at the Reserve America website: <https://www.reserveamerica.com/> or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757).

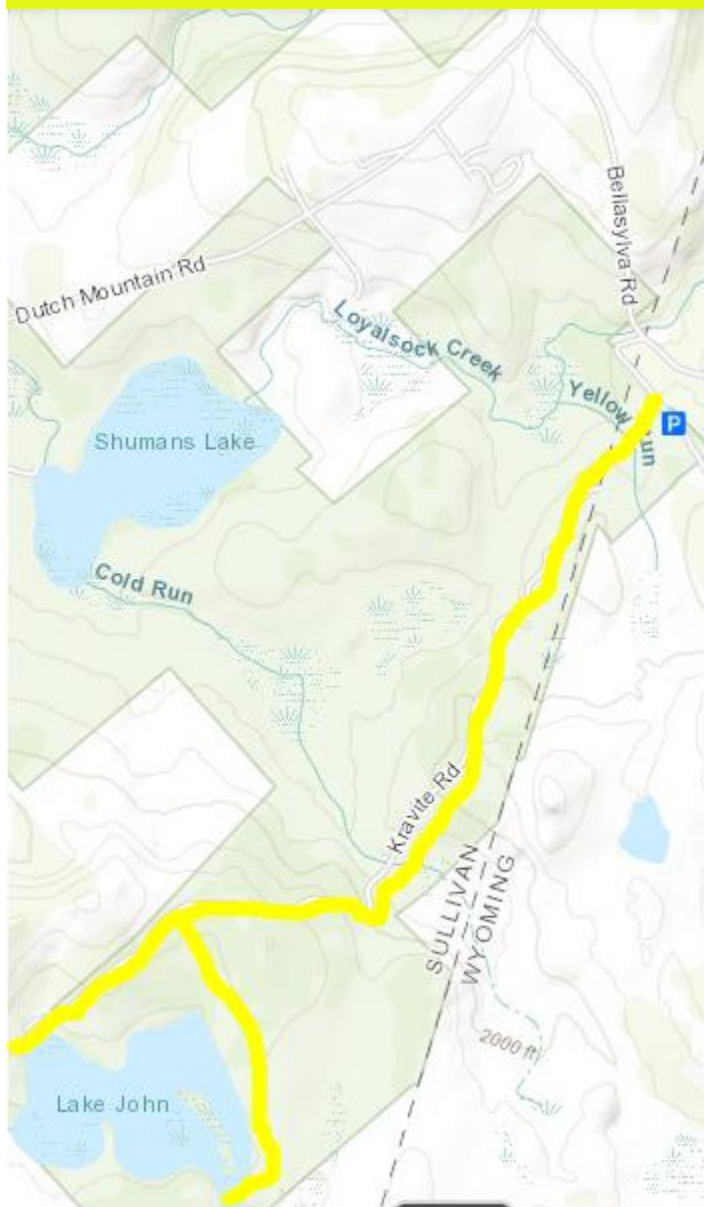
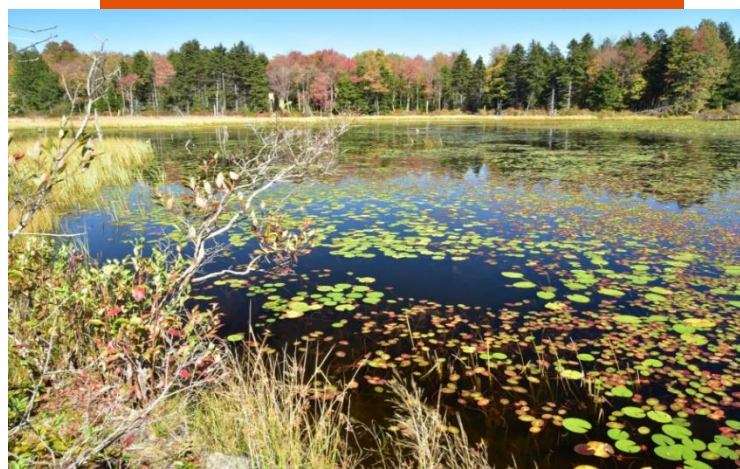


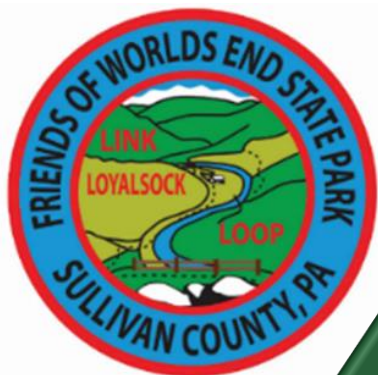
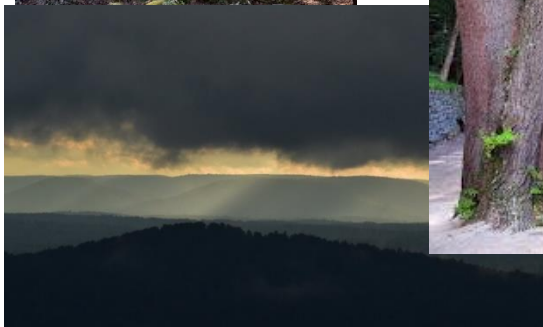
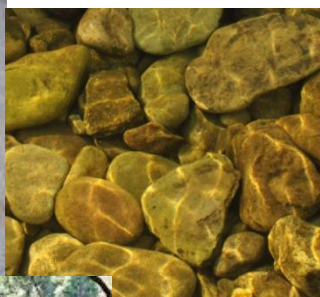
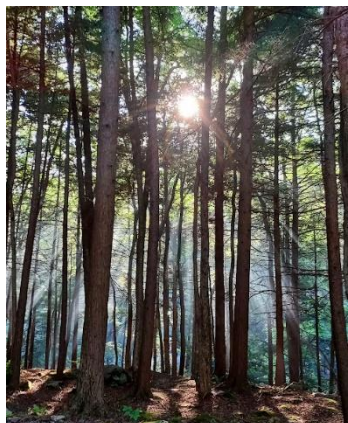
Autumn Destination: Lake John

Every autumn *The Vista* features a beautiful Sullivan County location that is on public land and accessible. This year we take you to the extreme eastern part of the county – so far east you have to first go through a part of Wyoming County to reach it. Lake John is a remote mountain pond on State Game Lands 66 that can only be reached on foot. It takes an hour or so of hiking to reach it – but is well worth the effort as you will be rewarded by a pristine lake surrounded by nothing but forest – which in early October turns brilliant shades of red, yellow and orange. Because the lake is on state game lands, hikers should wear hunter orange to maximize their visibility – keeping in mind that hunting is now allowed on certain Sundays (see page 8).



To reach Lake John: From Rt 487 in Lopez, take Dutch Mountain Road to a right turn onto Bellasyva Road, then a right turn onto Mud Run Road. You will soon see a Pa Game Commission parking area on the right. Park there, and on the right you will see the gated Kravite Road – which is your hiking path back to Lake John. After about an hour or so (depending upon your walking speed) of hiking up and down some small hills and meadows, you will come to a split in the trail, with the road to the left going to the head of the lake and the dam, while the road to the right goes to the back of the lake. Both are very scenic and worth your time and effort.





To support the **Friends of Worlds End State Park**, check out the SUPPORT section of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation website and designate your gift to the - **FRIENDS OF WORLDS END STATE PARK!**

<https://parksandforests.org/friends-groups/donate-to-a-chapter/>

Or go to our website:

<https://www.friendsofworldsendsp.org/join-or-donate>

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