

The Newsletter of the Friends of Worlds End State Park.



# *The Vista*

Winter 2020

Vol. 2 Issue 1

## Inside This Issue:

- Plans for Worlds End 2020
- Amphitheater Improvements
- Winter Activities and Safety
- Penn's Parks For All Report

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



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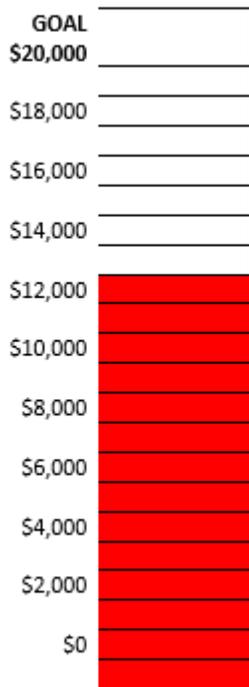
Tom Yarnall

## WORLDS END 2020 !

For those of us of a certain age, Worlds End 2020 sounds like a science fiction story set in the distant future – but here it is! At the November 20 Annual Meeting, while there was a review of the accomplishments and challenges of the past year - the new year, the new decade, was foremost in everyone's mind. In this newsletter, we will highlight some of our plans for 2020, including improvements to the park's amphitheater (see page 3). The Annual Meeting started with a tour of the park, highlighting current projects and future needs (see picture below). And President of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forest Foundation, Marci Mowery, joined us to discuss upcoming statewide events in the coming year, including the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day in April, and the just released Penn's Parks For All report (see page 6).



## BOARD CREATES SPECIAL FUND FOR AMPHITHEATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



At the November 20 Annual Meeting, the Board voted to set aside \$12,000.00 towards the campground amphitheater improvement project. This project is intended to make the amphitheater an all-weather venue, and to increase its versatility for new events, like family movie nights. The expected cost of the project is estimated to be approximately \$20,000, leaving \$8000 still to be raised. The project may include upgrades like the following:

- Installing a roof.
- Improved stage and screen.
- New projection and sound system.
- More seating.
- Improved lighting.

Contributions, including donations of materials and equipment, are appreciated. Look for updates in future Vistas.



The Friends of Worlds End State Park trail patch is now on sale at the park office for \$ 5.00 along with our new map, *Trails in and around Worlds End State Park*. The map is also available from *The Sullivan Review*, *McCarty Mercantile* and online from the *Keystone Trails Association* (<https://www.kta-hike.org/>). And firewood will be available all winter long in the cabin area at the self-serve kiosk for \$8.00 a bundle. Money raised from these sales fund the park-improvement projects planned by the Friends of Worlds End State Park.



# Winter Activities and Safety



Just because it can be cold outside is no reason to stay inside. You can still enjoy the park and getting outside can be a great way to beat the winter blahs and combat cabin fever. For outdoor recreation ideas and conditions, DCNR has winter activity reports on their website: <http://maps.dcnr.pa.gov/storymaps/winteractivities/#overview>

You just have to keep in mind a few things to ensure your own safety.

- The air temperature in the park and the mountains can be significantly colder and windier than in the towns and valleys.
- Dress in layers. As you move around, and get warmer, you can always remove a layer – or add additional layers as needed. And wear a hat!
- Warm, sturdy footwear is essential if you are hiking.
- Know the trails you are hiking – have a map (available at the park office). Trails on the north side of mountains or in deep hollows can be snowy and icy. Hiking or trekking poles can help in such conditions.





- Winter air can not only be cold – but also very dry. Stay hydrated! Take along beverages- and drink before you feel thirsty to stay properly hydrated.
- There is no cell service in the park. Make sure someone knows where you are and when you expect to return.
- A sunny day on white snow can be blindingly bright – don't forget sunglasses.
- The winter days are not only cooler – but also shorter. Make sure you plan your outings so that you are out of the woods well before the early sunsets.

## **SAVE THE DATE: WORLDS END DAY 2020 – SATURDAY JULY 25!**

The board is currently developing plans for the Worlds End Day 2020. Please contact us if you have any suggestions for us as to what you would like to see at this event.



## **ENROLL TO 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/GetInvolved/Pages/default.aspx>

## **In Memoriam**

Worlds End lost a true friend with the recent passing of Scott Bartman, whose support and love for the park and the Loyalsock State Forest was well known. Last year, when looking for a photograph to grace our new park trails map, we turned to Scott, who provided the lovely photo of the park's Cottonwood Falls you can see on the map's cover. The Friends of Worlds End has gratefully accepted generous donations totaling \$800.00 in memory of Scott. His devotion and passion for this park and the surrounding communities will be sadly missed.

## **Penn's Parks for All Update: Preliminary Report Issued Comments Invited – Deadline December 31.**

A series of surveys was conducted by Penn State in 2017 and 2018 to assess the attitudes and opinions of Pennsylvania state park visitors and the public regarding key issues affecting the future of the state parks. The results of these surveys will help inform the Penn's Parks for All strategic plan -- guiding DCNR's work for the next 25 years.

Presented in the *Penn's Parks for All Preliminary Report* is a summary of results from the various surveys, along with proposed recommendations to guide the management of Pennsylvania state parks for the future. DCNR invites all Pennsylvanians to review this report and provide comments. The recommendations include the following areas:

1. Improving Outdoor Recreation Opportunities
2. Expanding Overnight Accommodations
3. Protecting the Parks' Natural & Cultural Resources
4. Paying for State Parks
5. Improving Services & Facilities

The report, along with additional information can be found on DCNR's website:

[http://www.docs.dcnr.pa.gov/cs/groups/public/documents/document/Penns\\_Parks\\_for\\_All\\_Draft\\_Strategic\\_Report\\_092619.pdf](http://www.docs.dcnr.pa.gov/cs/groups/public/documents/document/Penns_Parks_for_All_Draft_Strategic_Report_092619.pdf)

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

### **Comments will be accepted until December 31, 2019.**

Comments about the report may also be mailed to:

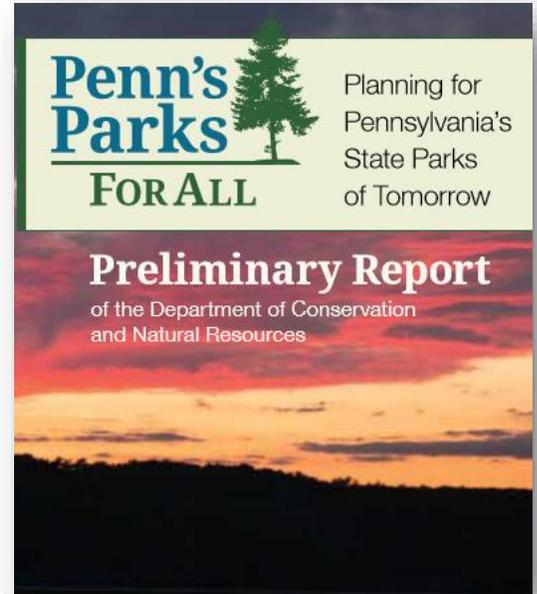
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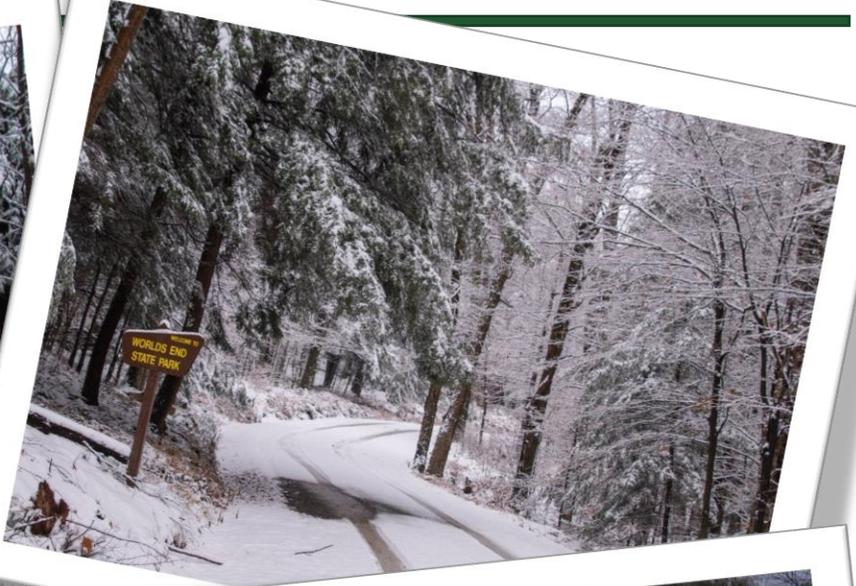
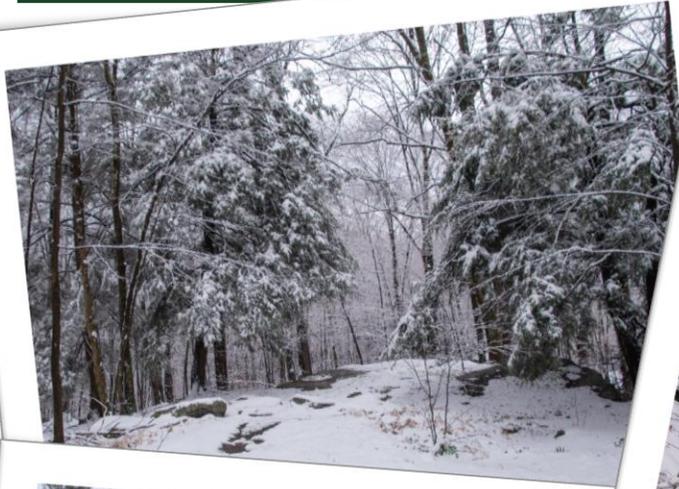
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To support the Friends of Worlds End State Park, check out the SUPPORT section of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation website and designate your gift to the FRIENDS OF WORLDS END STATE PARK!

<https://ppff.z2systems.com/np/clients/ppff/donation.jsp?campaign=348&>

<https://paparksandforests.org/support/ways-to-give/>

*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.*

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