

Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy

Jacoby Falls and Wallis Run

It's January and we've got Spring fever, already. So, we're planning a Spring event that will let us showcase two projects in one. You can join us for a very short walk down to the site of the 2012 Wallis Run stream restoration project. Or, you can join us for a longer walk/hike to Jacoby Falls. Heck, you could even do both, since we're scheduling them back to back.

We're working on a specific date and time. An email will go out with the details. If you don't receive our emails, call us at 570-323-6222 and we'll get you on the email list. If you don't do email, call us and we'll call you when details are finalized.

**NPC does not warrant or represent that there will be icicles hanging off the Falls at the time of the hike as shown in the photo. We can hope, but can't guarantee.



Jacoby Falls puts on a spectacular icicle display

Construction at Bakers Run to Begin this Spring

You may recall NPC's acquisition of 8 acres along the West Branch Susquehanna River (West Branch) back in 2007. We partnered with the Bureau of Forestry on this project to increase access to the West Branch. This property is almost exactly half way between the river access at Hyner and the one in Woodward Township, Clinton County.

After several years of planning, designing, and obtaining permits, the Bureau of Forestry has bid out construction of the access site and awarded a contract. Construction should begin and end this year. It probably won't be ready for the summer paddling season, but it may be ready to use for a fall foliage float.

A river access point in this stretch of the River was identified as a need in Clinton County's open space plan as well as the Lower West Branch Susquehanna River Conservation Plan.

It's always nice to see a project move from planning to implementation and then to completion.

Upcoming newsletters will have more information on the construction progress and when the access point is ready for use! Thank you to the NPC members who helped make this possible!



Regional Dinners Highlight Conservation Easement Inspections and Peregrine Falcon Banding

Everyone who attended the fall regional dinners in Morris Run (Tioga County) and Lock Haven (Clinton County) shared good food, camaraderie and information. We hope you enjoyed the events as much as we did.

Thank you to Wayne Laubscher for providing information about the Peregrine project he has been involved with. It was a very interesting program and we were fortunate to have some other birders involved in the project in the audience that evening.



The peregrine falcon was listed on Pennsylvania's first endangered species list, developed in 1978. Today peregrines remain a state endangered species. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, however, has removed the bird from the federal endangered and threatened species lists. There are currently more than 1,700 breeding pairs in the United States and Canada. Pennsylvania's breeding base of peregrines comprises about a dozen pairs.

2012 YEAR END APPEAL

**Thank you to everyone who donated to the 2012 Year End Appeal!
We always appreciate the extra donations our members make,
and the notes so many of you include with your donation.**

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Names listed above provided donations received through 12/31/2012

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Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy

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From Farm to Forest

According to the website "History Orb" the first photograph from an airplane in the U.S. was taken on January 10, 1910. Now, this may not seem like a big deal to you, but we use aerial photographs all the time at NPC.

Aerial photographs not only give us a different perspective of a property and its role in the landscape, but also allow us to better understand a property's history. Below are two photos including a portion of a NPC Easement - 1939 and 2011. If you compare them, you'll see how the property changed from open farm fields and pastures into woodland.

Since the plants and trees on the property changed, the wildlife on the property, and using the property, changed too. The bear shown was photographed on this property. In 1939 his great-great-great-grandparents (yes, three greats) may have been near the farm, but they wouldn't have been living on it. They probably preferred the patches of

woods along the ridges.

Are you intrigued? Do you want to see what your neighborhood looks like from above? If you have a computer, you can go to Google or Bing (both have fairly recent aerial photos) and enter your address then select "maps". You should get an aerial view that's pretty close to the address you entered. For historic maps, visit PennPilot, <http://www.pennpilot.psu.edu/index.html>



In this photo you can barely see the road (it was probably only one lane, maybe a lane and a half). There are a lot of farm fields and pasture, but very little forest cover.



Now, the road is much easier to find (it's probably wider). The farm fields and pasture are much easier to pick out since there is so much forest cover to contrast.