

# Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy

*Conserving and enhancing the lands and waters of Northcentral PA*



Summer 2022

***Thank you for conserving and  
enhancing the lands and waters  
in the region.***



## **Conservation Stories Because of You:**

- Tioga River Closer to Clean
- Family Fishing Nets Smiles (and Fish)



## Coal Creek Property Purchased – Tioga River One Step Closer to Clean

With help from its members the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy purchased 216 acres in Blossburg (Tioga County) to help treat Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) in the Tioga River watershed.

We (the collective “we” of members, staff, and Board as NPC) have never worked on Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) projects. But, when NPC was asked to help with an AMD project in the Tioga River watershed your support allowed for conversations to take place about the project and how it fit with the mission.

The 216 acres was for sale. The owners were supportive of the AMD treatment but were ready to not own the property. Someone needed to buy the property and work with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

With the organizational support of members, like you, and funding from SRBC we closed on the property in May!

Coal Creek flows through the property, but more importantly the largest discharge in the watershed is on the adjacent property. The engineers are designing the treatment system now but know they will need to use a portion of the 216 acres to get access to the large discharge.



The large discharge is important. By treating this discharge nearly 20 miles of the Tioga River will be able to support fish and on it's way to being fully restored. (Yes, you read that right, twenty miles).

The property is just blocks away from downtown Blossburg. For years, this town, on the banks of the Tioga River, hasn't been able to enjoy the River or use it.

Blossburg Mayor, Shane Nickerson explained, “As a kid you knew to wear your old shoes when you were going into the (Tioga) River because whatever you wore in would be orange when you came out. It's exciting and amazing to think that we're getting closer to the Tioga being a clean River and Island Park being a place for fishing.”

Members and donors, like you, created the organization to be here and ready to work to secure 216 acres. That 216 acres will help positively impact the lives everyday of Blossburg's residents as well as Mansfield and communities all along the River's path.

One thing about the members and donors to the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy, you are willing to try something new. Thank you for your part in allowing this amazing AMD project to move ahead.





## Family Fishing Nets Smiles (and Fish)

There were plenty of first timers fishing at the Family Fishing Program on May 15, 2022 at Rose Valley Lake. NPC partnered with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Susquehanna Trout Unlimited to promote the fishing tackle loaner program and get some people casting and reeling.

NPC's office is a fishing tackle loaner site for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited. Anyone can stop in (although we encourage people to call ahead) and borrow 1 fishing rod or 24 fishing rods. The rods are set-up and ready to go and we'll even send along some extra tackle in case, just in case.

While some of these families have gone fishing before, for others this was a first time adventure. We gave them some practice casting and tying knots as well as reviewed fishing etiquette before the anglers took on the lake.

Unfortunately the weather turned and after about 90 minutes of fishing thunder brought things to an end.

Thank you to our members for helping to support the fishing tackle loaner program so people have an opportunity to try fishing and learn more about how much fun clean water (because the fish need clean water) can be!





## Middle Creek Receiving Cleaner Water

Stream banks along an unnamed tributary to Middle Creek were stabilized to help stop dirt from getting into the water and to stop the over widening underway. This work is happening because NPC's members support clean water and recognize the power in forming partnerships.

The landowners reached out the Snyder County Conservation District for help with a walkway (a designated, stable path for livestock to use when moving from place to place). At the site visit to look at the walkway, the Watershed Specialist saw there was potential for log and rock structures to stabilize the streambanks.

The landowners were willing, so while the contractor was there to work on the walkway in May, the streambanks were stabilized. The landowners even decided to move their fencing farther back from the stream and the Conservation District will be planting a riparian buffer this fall.

The northcentral regional office of the PA Department of Environmental Protection featured the project for their May media event. WNEP's Nikki Krize came out with Chris Keating (Tom, her normal videographer was on vacation) and ran the story several times during their evening newscasts. The link is really long, but if you search for "WNEP Nikki Krize Snyder County Middleburg Stream" you'll find it.

NPC's members provide support for partnerships like this that allow projects to happen that clean-up streams and improve water quality throughout the region! Thank you members and Snyder County Conservation District, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for the partnership that made this project happen!



# DONATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS • April 1 to June 30, 2022

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*In memory of Mary Cosgrove*  
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*In memory of Rich Adams*  
The staff of the Pennsylvania DEP -  
Northcentral Regional Office



*Thank you for supporting  
the work of the  
Northcentral Pennsylvania  
Conservancy!*



## Members Meet Along Loyalsock Creek

NPC members gathered at Pier 87 along Loyalsock Creek on June 15, 2022 for the Annual Membership Meeting.

The Nominating Committee recommended Dennis Ringling and Amie Penfield be elected to a first 3-year term. Both had been appointed to fill positions on the Board created when other Board members resigned from the Board.

Jonathan Bastian and Jonathan Nichols are both completing two consecutive 3-year terms and are rotating off the Board. Roy Siefert was elected to fill one of the seats.

The elections took effect at the June 28, 2022 Board meeting.





The regional dinners are returning! Join us at one or both.  
We're heading to Blossburg to learn more about the Tioga River and the Abandoned Mine Drainage and to Lock Haven to learn more about how our yard makes a difference to pollinators and water.

## Dinner in Tioga County to Focus on Tioga River Clean-Up

Date in September being finalized

Blossburg Fire Hall

*Featured Speaker:*

Tom Clark

Susquehanna River Basin Commission

Dinner catered by Jamie Fry,  
formerly of the Wren's Nest

Join us in Blossburg to learn more  
about the Tioga River's history and  
efforts underway to ensure its future  
is a clean one.

Reservations will be due at least 1 week  
prior to the event and no cancellations  
will be refunded after that date.

More information will be mailed  
out in late July/early August.

## Penn State Master Gardeners to Present at Dinner in Clinton County

Date in September being finalized

On the patio at Stella A's,  
downtown Lock Haven

*Featured Speaker:*

Penn State Master Gardeners

Dinner menu being finalized

We're headed back to Stella A's  
after a 2 year hiatus!

We'll be on the patio, weather permitting.

Reservations will be due at least 1 week  
prior to the event and no cancellations  
will be refunded after that date.

More information will be mailed out  
in late July/early August.

## Afternoon in the Garden – at historic Muncy Farms

- **September 18, 2022**
- **2pm to 5pm**
- **Outside (Rain or Shine)**

Samuel Wallis built the stone house on Muncy Farms in 1769. The house is the oldest in Lycoming County and played a role in the Great Runaway, the West Branch division of the Pennsylvania Canal, and the railroading era.

Join us for Hors D'oeuvres and socializing as we enjoy the stunning, newly renovated gardens and the exterior of the home. Due to the hospitality of Malcolm Barlow and John Schaeffer will be able to wander the gardens and enjoy some conversation.

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## Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy

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## Afternoon in the Garden – at historic Muncy Farms

*details on page 7*

The cost is \$60 per person for the September 18, 2022 event. Reservations are required and are due September 9, 2022. Refunds will not be given after this date.

Thank you to our sponsors to date:

### The Loyalsock Foundation

Amie Penfield-Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
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For more  
information  
about this event,  
scan the QR  
code!

