

Tiadaghton Forest Resource Management Center

Conserving Penn's Woods

Tiadaghton District Office



Located just north of Waterville, PA along State Route 44 in the historic Pine Creek Valley, the Tiadaghton Forest Resource Management Center has several interpretive displays to educate the public about Pennsylvania's native flora and fauna and the history of forest management from the 1800s through the current century. Many of the displays are interactive and provide learning opportunities for people of all ages.

The building is the headquarters of the Tiadaghton Forest District where all district foresters, rangers, technicians, and other staff are based.

LEED Certification

The Tiadaghton Forest Resource Management Center is a LEED certified building. Integrating locally obtained and recycled materials into the construction process and passive solar and geothermal heating systems; this state of the art building makes a reduced environmental impact compared to others of its size.



Ecosystem Management

Four videos present the Bureau of Forestry's position on multiple use management of the State Forests. Ecosystem Management describes the philosophy of managing first to conserve the interconnected wholeness of the forest and maintain the ecosystem services of the landscape. The Recreation video shows many of the opportunities for Pennsylvanians to enjoy their State Forests. Forest Protection describes the Bureau's efforts to control invasive species and deal with wild fires. Finally, The Working Forest describes the Bureau's efforts to harvest wood products in the State Forest sustainably according to the certification standards of the Rainforest Alliance under the Forest Stewardship Council™.

Environment



The richness of the Pine Creek Valley environment is shown in the interactive Flora and Fauna display, the 180 gallon fish tank stocked with native brook trout, and eight birds of prey taxidermy specimens.



Forest Conservation

Each forest has a history. Not just a biological history, but a history of those who had the vision to be good stewards and conserve the forests for generations to come.

Whether for marketable timber, wildlife habitat, recreation, or energy resources, many people through the centuries have been important to the conservation and responsible management of our forest resources. The Forest Heroes videos tell the stories of six conservation leaders. You too can be a part of this rich heritage of conservation of our Pennsylvania forests!



The forest challenges display presents some of the difficult problems and choices facing the Bureau of Forestry staff in the Tiadaghton. Invasive species, forest fragmentation, energy development, oak species regeneration, and assisting private forest landowners who manage the majority of Penn's Woods are just some of the challenges our foresters face.



History of Pine Creek Valley



The replica of a log slide depicts how harvested trees were moved off the steep mountain sides early in the Nineteenth Century. The logs were dragged down the slides by horses to temporary splash dams on the small creeks feeding Pine Creek. In the spring of the year, when the water was high, the dams would be opened or 'splashed' and the logs were floated down Pine Creek to the Susquehanna River and on to the lumber mills of Williamsport.



During the latter 1800's the Shay steam locomotive, a narrow gauge engine that could handle steeper grades than standard locomotives, enabled more efficient movement of logs to the mills. Railroad switchbacks were built on many steep mountain slopes. At Slate Run and Cammal, steam powered lumber mills were built and the lumber was sent to Baltimore and New York City on the standard gauge railroad that is today the Pine Creek Rail Trail. The advent of the steam engine increased the pace of logging and eventually led to the complete destruction of the once great forests. The model of a Shay railroad is shown above.

Educational Resources

Richard Hill, the Environmental Education Specialist at the Tiadaghton Forest Resource Management Center, is available for historical and environmental walks and presentations at the center. He can also provide programming that meets the PA Department of Education Environment and Ecology Standards.

Rich taught biology and general science for 22 years in the Williamsport Area School District and earned his M.S. in Forest Resources from Penn State in 2011.

He can develop lesson plans to meet the needs of a broad spectrum of ages and educational levels. He can also direct you to media and publication resources to address environmental education standards.

Rich is a certified teacher facilitator for the Pennsylvania Songbirds, Project Learning Tree, Leave No Trace, and Project WILD curriculum supplements.

Please contact Richard Hill at richill@pa.gov or (570) 753-5409 ext: 132 to schedule a presentation, at the center or in school classrooms, to supplement your curriculum.

Pennsylvania Wilds

An interactive map indicates the many scenic and recreational opportunities in the PA Wilds. Touch the lighted dots and three video screens display pictures of the selected site.



Native Plants and Tree Walks



The Native Treasure Niche is a native plant garden that contains plants that lived in Pennsylvania before the colonial era began in about 1600. They are uniquely suited to the climate requiring less maintenance to thrive. A pamphlet is available that describes native gardening and challenges the public to identify nine of the native plants. The Niche is enclosed by a deer exclusion fence. The Tree ID Trail is about one mile long and begins just to the left of the Native Treasure Niche. Trees along the trail are marked with yellow tags and the public is challenged to identify them using the DCNR Common Trees booklet and the Tree ID Trail pamphlet.



More Information

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