



Friends of Salt Springs Park

May 2020

www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org

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Covid-19 Impact Update

We are pleased to report that restrictions are loosening up. With Susquehanna County moving into the Yellow category tomorrow (Friday, May 22), tent sites and restrooms will reopen. However, cabins and the Wheaton House will remain closed, and events and programs are still cancelled. And, for the foreseeable future, we ask—and strongly recommend—that all visitors wear masks and maintain social distancing.

Stacked Stone Wall Project

Back in August 2018, after the flood, we were all stunned at the force with which the water in Fall Brook had roared through the gorge and gouged a new channel to Silver Creek, forever changing a section of the land in the heart of the park. The newly created stream banks were unstable, and the incredible amount of rubble deposited at the new confluence obliterated a popular picnic area.

The Bureau of State Parks and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources committed funds to place rip rap along key sections of the stream banks and install a stacked stone wall behind the Calvin House (an important source of rental income for us). Work on the project began in early May and will conclude in mid-June. We have been watching the progress with pleasure and anticipation of reclaiming a sorely missed picnic and recreation area.



Thursday, May 7, first day onsite. Workers built a temporary road crossing for equipment and cleared away the wood and stone rubble deposited in the flood.



The east bank is now much lower (so floodwaters can overflow the bank without causing excessive damage).

Today. These stones for the wall are being maneuvered into place.



Programming Note

The cancellation of programs and events in state parks was indeed extended—this time until June 15.

In lieu of programs, environmental education coordinator Concetta Schirra has been posting information and photographs on Facebook on timely topics of interest like wildflowers and birds—topics her programs would explore were she allowed to hold them. Enjoy this sampling from the posts (and visit our Facebook page for more):



Killdeer chick. By Tom Norville.



Female red-bellied woodpecker. By Joanne Sivers.



Wood anemone. By Concetta Schirra.