



Friends of Salt Springs Park November 2019

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www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org



DCNR Seeks Your Input



The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) wants you to help shape the future of Pennsylvania state parks.

The current strategic plan (*State Parks 2000*) has guided park improvements and funding priorities for the past 25 years. DCNR is in the process of identifying priorities for the next 25 years. Research for the new plan, *Penn's*

Parks for All, is winding down, and, before the public input period concludes on December 31, 2019, state park officials offer a final opportunity for you voice your opinions.

Online, telephone, and paper surveys conducted in 2017 and 2018 were organized around five categories, and a preliminary report summarizes the survey results and recommendations generated. DCNR asks that you review the results and recommendations and add your comments.

The five categories are

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

Read the full preliminary report here: http://www.docs.dcnr.pa.gov/cs/groups/public/documents/document/Penns_Parks_for_All_Draft_Strategic_Report_092619.pdf

Then, share your thoughts and comments here: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/PennsParksforAll/Pages/default.aspx>

This might seem like a rather dry exercise with little immediate return, but, if nothing else, please read the page and a half (pp. 10–11) on issues facing state parks today that the strategic plan is designed to address, including the impacts of climate change and changes in public recreation interests. We must show the decision-makers how much our state parks mean to us or risk the funds being channeled elsewhere.

Upcoming Programs

Full Moon Hike
Friday, December 13, 6:30 p.m.



Not surprisingly, Native Americans called the December full moon the Cold Moon. Dress warmly and join us for a hike, hopefully through an inch or two of freshly fallen snow to help light our way. **\$5; members, free.**

Winter Snow Fun. Saturdays, December 14 and 21, 1 p.m. We will provide snowshoes or ice cleats and poles—just wear your winter boots. Basic instruction will be given to those new to these winter sports. **If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll reschedule. Free-will donation.**

Holiday Centerpiece and Nature Crafts
Sunday, December 15, 1 p.m.



Let's take a walk to gather some of nature's treasures and create a piece of art. Bring a container for your work (like a shadow box or picture frame) and any accessories you may want to add. Bring your own tools—scissors, glue, glue gun—if you can; we'll have a limited supply available to share. **Fee: \$5; members, free.**

2019 Annual Dinner Meeting



Mary Butler steps down from the board of directors after 6 years of serving as board secretary and member of several committees.

The Friends of Salt Springs Park will turn 25 years old on December 24, 2019. This milestone was celebrated on Friday, November 8, at the Friends' Annual Dinner Meeting at the Montrose VFW.

This year a few special activities to commemorate both the organization's history and the evening itself were added to the traditional buffet dinner and business meeting.

Photographer Dave Woods brought props and took pictures of guests to keep as mementos. Memories were tested with trivia questions, and wallets were emptied for raffle baskets. Small gift bags were given, and highlights from the past 25 years were shared in photographs and scrapbooks. More than 70 people gathered to wish the Friends well and celebrate their success.



Our 2019 Volunteer of the Year, Jim Kessler, shown here with his wife Jan, was honored for his many years of service.

Board Matters

Mary Butler and Richard Jordan will leave the board at the end of December, having served the maximum number of consecutive years (6) allowed in the bylaws. No matter what time of year, though, we are always interested to hear from anyone willing to consider joining the board. Attend a meeting or two and see what you think.