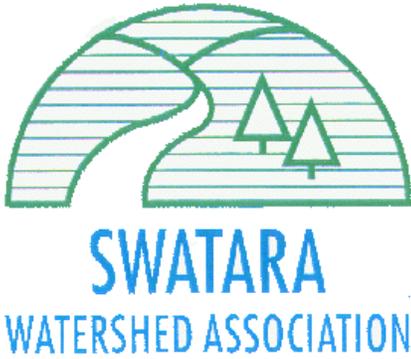


Swatara Watershed Association
2302 Guilford St.
Lebanon PA 17046
Www.SwataraWatershed.com
Join us on Facebook: Swatara Water Trail



Swatara News

June 2012

Swatara State Park

Part of Project 70, Swatara State Park was on the drawing board for 42 years. Many people thought they'd never see any development in their lifetime. 2012 turned out to be a year when a miracle took place. Old State Road has new larger culverts to facilitate storm water under the old road, which predated other transportation arteries like Route 72 and Interstate 81. Of course the Swatara itself was once a transportation artery as was the Union Canal and Lebanon to Tremont Railroad passing through Swatara Gap. Old State Road is still closed. Other improvements are to include parking and a foot bridge through the center of the Park.



The car is on the driveway to the Bordner Cabin.



Piers for a new foot bridge.

For the Bordner Cabin, SWA is awaiting Labor and Industry approval in order to complete required repairs including porch piers, upper window guards, an accessible ramp from the drive around to the back of the Cabin, and a fence extending along Rattling Run.

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Swatara Sojourn

About a month before the Swatara Sojourn, in a 'Drains to Streams' educational event and to aid municipalities in their quest to comply with MS4, a storm sewer mandate, 13 marked Devil Ducks were released into a storm sewer drain. If you find one of the ducks, please contact us or send a photo to



litz@mbcomp.com so that we can document the duck's journey. Look for our educational video on **YouTube**.

On the **Swatara Sojourn on May 5 & 6**, paddlers looked for the ducks. They did find a pink duck with a number on it and a pink balloon that looked like a duck, but not the red Devil Ducks. Paddlers also found tires, a kitchen sink, a crock, Barbie doll, dam buoy, and a ton of other trash.



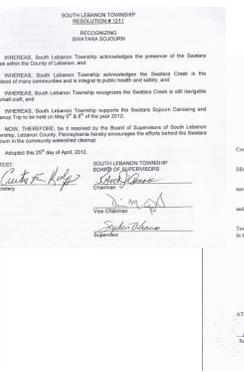
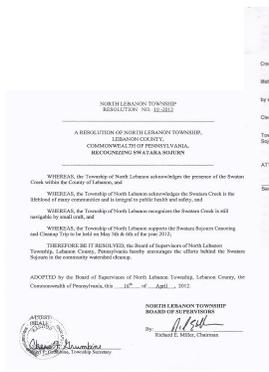
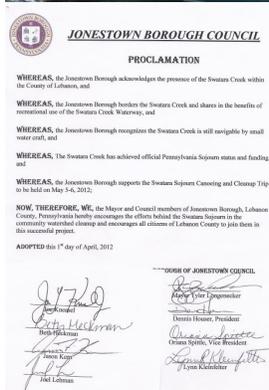
SWA had help from a host of **co-sponsors**, American Water Company, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Dick and June Blouch, the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority, The Hershey Company, Hershey Highmeadow Campground, Indian Echo Caverns, Izaak Walton League, LV Expo, Manada Conservancy, Middletown Boro, PA Fish and Boat Commission, Penn DOT, Penn Waste, POWR, Soaps by Elizabeth, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, Swiss Premium Dairy, and Weidle Sanitation.

Municipalities providing proclamations of support include: the County of Lebanon, Jonestown Boro, North Cornwall, North Lebanon, North Londonderry, and South Lebanon Townships.

Remnants of TS Lee abound—from sheets hanging in trees to a wall from a home that washed away. Tires hung 25' in the air in overhead wires and trees. A pile of tires was also deposited around Hummelstown.

On a brighter note, we saw a majestic bald eagle soar overhead; had perfect weather; and ample water for the float trip.

Next year will be our 25th year of organizing canoe trips on the Swatara. We'd love for you to join in the celebration. Mark you calendar for the first weekend in May.





Preparing to launch



Nine-year-old Owen Barnett left and his brother Matthew, 5, children of Autumn Barnett of Dills, prepare to launch Owen's kayak on Saturday at the start of the 24th annual Swatara Sojourn off Ducks Bridge Road. Matthew was the youngest participant in the trash-clearing event, which is scheduled to conclude today in Middleburg.

Great (and cleaner) outdoors

The annual Swatara Sojourn drew dozens of boaters from ages 5 to 65 to tidy up the Swatara.



BY THE NUMBERS — In 2012, the Swatara Sojourn drew 75 participants from ages 5 to 65 to tidy up the Swatara. The event is scheduled for a two-day Sojourn.

The Swatara Watershed Association hosts the annual event each year. The event is scheduled for a two-day Sojourn.

Although this year's trip will be shorter than last year's, it will still be a great opportunity for the Swatara Watershed Association to clean up the river.

**It takes a community.
 Thank you for sponsoring the 2012 Swatara Sojourn!**



A winning formula:
 2 Days
 + 75 participants
 + Tons of trash & tires
 + Sponsors =
 1 Successful Sojourn



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Swatara Watershed Park

1929 Blacks Bridge Road, Annville PA
Primitive Camping, U-Tow canoes, Fishing, Hiking, Bird Watching

Tropical Storm Lee hit us pretty hard, but we reopened after volunteers helped us clean up on work days, including United Way Day of Caring. We lost office furniture, our tow van, lawn mower, some picnic tables, and a canoe. We still have some seasonal primitive campsites available.

Church groups, schools, scouts, and other non profits qualify for special discounts on a trailer of eight U-Tow canoes. We have two trailers of canoes. See our website for more details.

Www.SwataraWatershed.com.

For a \$50 donation, our pavilion is available for family reunions, class picnics, birthday parties....

Tom Embich, a retired HACC Environmental Education Instructor, is our volunteer Park Ranger.

