

Dear Swatara State Park Patron,

People who use, enjoy, and live near the Commonwealth's 117 state parks and 20 state forests are often the best supporters of these lands. Many of these citizens—people like you-- are willing to commit time, energy, and resources to enhance the conservation and enjoyment of their favorite state lands.

You are invited to join the staff of Memorial Lake and Swatara State Parks and the Pa Parks and Forest Foundation to explore the idea of launching a friends group for Swatara State Park. A meeting is scheduled at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 and will be held at The Lodge at Twin Grove Resort and Campground, 1445 Suedberg Road (SR 443) Pine Grove, PA.

The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF), a non-profit organization formed in 1999, assists motivated citizens, businesses, and local organizations in forming friends groups to support a state owned park or forest. Working with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR), the PPFF will help craft a group that reflects the needs of the park or forest and the interests of the participants.

A friends group consists of motivated people and organizations in the community. They understand the value and benefits of a state park or forest and share a common goal to work with PPFF and the DCNR in making that park or forest the best in the Commonwealth. These groups are not government advisory groups, but they are often an important source of support and public comments.

The goals of a friends group are unique, crafted to fit the needs of the park or forest and the talent and interests of the friends group. At the meeting, we will explore the needs of Swatara State Park, discuss the ideas of the potential friends group members, and decide on the next steps.

We hope to see you on Tuesday, March 29 at The Lodge at Twin Grove Resort and Campground to explore this exciting possibility.

From:

Angel Croll
Park Manager
Memorial Lake &
Swatara State Park

Marci Mowery
President
Pa Parks and Forests Foundation