

BLUE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE  
INCORPORATED  
P.O. BOX 389  
Hamburg, PA 19526

# BLUE MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE

I N C O R P O R A T E D

Fall 2022

www.bluemountainwildlife.com

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**OUR MISSION**

**THE PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF THE WILDLIFE AND WETLANDS ALONG THE SCENIC SCHUYLKILL RIVER IN NORTHERN BERKS AND SOUTHERN SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES.**



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## A FRUITFUL AUTUMN

While the Kerny enjoyed a reasonably quiet autumn, BMW was hard at work on both small and large projects that will benefit its many visitors. We are proud of how our efforts turned out.

As the winter of 2023 retreats, BMW looks forward to its spring events. Join us for the Annual

Earth Day Clean-Up on Saturday April 22nd, starting at 8 AM at the Monument Parking Lot. And at 1 PM, join us at the Monument for the Spring History Hike, a journey back in time to visit the rich history of the Schuylkill Canal, Reading Railroad and the legacy of the coal industry in the Schuylkill Gap.

**NEW SIGNAGE ARRIVES**

GERGG ADAMS

After years of meetings, negotiations and brainstorming between Blue Mountain Wildlife, PA DEP and Tilden Township, an understanding was reached regarding what the rules for the Kernsville Dam Recreation Area are and how they could be enforced. In early

November, BMW erected two new signs listing the new regulations, the most important of which is “Day Use Only” - an effort to cut down on nighttime mischief at the Kerny. BMW’s hope is that the new regulations help the Kerny stay clean, in good repair, and welcoming for all.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS—SPRING 2023

- Thursday April 13, 2023...BMW Monthly Business Meeting 6:00 to 8:00 pm Hamburg Library
- Saturday April 22, 2023...Earth Day Clean-Up 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Monument Parking Lot
- Saturday April 22, 2023...Kerny History Tour 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Meet at Monument Parking Lot





## **THERMAN MADEIRA SWITCHBACK REPAIRS**

In September of 2021, Hurricane Ida paid a short visit to the Kerny and points north, dumping a bit of rain that caused the Schuylkill River to overflow its banks. The flood waters, in concert with a number of downed trees, swept the crushed stone topping from the Therman Madeira Switchback and scored deeply into the gravel sub-base in certain spots. Temporary repairs were quickly effected, but the trail remained in a rough state while BMW sought a permanent fix. In December of 2022, that fix arrived.

During the summer, Julia Hurler of Schuylkill River Greenway contacted BMW with the news that SRG was going to be applying for grant money to repair Hurricane Ida flood damage and the BMW should gather quotes to get the work done. For a few months, BMW and SRG coordinated their efforts to find a reasonably-priced contractor and secure the funding to get the job

done. The efforts paid off when Rutledge Excavators, the contractor on the I-78 Bridge project, stepped up and proposed repair work within the available funding limits. After an agreement was reached, things moved quickly. With good weather in the second week of December, the Rutledge crew quickly repaired the flood damage and restored the Switchback to its pre-flood condition. Now walkers, runners and bikers can enjoy a smoother trail surface while they enjoy the beautiful scenery along the Schuylkill River.

**GREGG ADAMS**









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