

THE FALLS

The Upper and Middle Falls descend a total of 56 feet, while the Lower Falls plunges an additional 34 feet. The Falls was a natural landmark long before the Buck Hill Falls Co. purchased the land in 1901.

About six feet of the top of the original falls broke away during the 1955 flood, and a crane was used to reset the rock ledge to the top of the falls. When you walk to the Upper Falls and look down to the Lower Falls, you can see the rebar rods used to reaffix the ledge.

In 2001-02, BHCF obtained permits and excavated the lower plunge pool to restore its pre-1955 flood condition and erected the new stair tower to the base

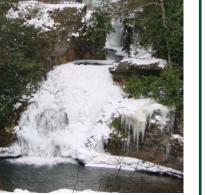


Photo by Ginny May

of the Falls. The BHCF facilitated the restoration of the path to the Upper Falls and railings in 2010.

JENKINS WOODS NUMBERED NATURE WALK

Naturalist John Serrao posted 25 numbered nature stops within Jenkins Woods. Learn about each when you download Serrao's full guide to the trail--available on the BHCF website.

Distance: 1.5 miles; about 1.5 hours at a leisurely pace.

Begin at the Jenkins Memorial stone (down the paved road beyond the gate near the pool parking lot. At the stone, take the right fork and continue downhill on the dirt Birch Lake Road).

Learn

1. Red Oak Shadbush

- **Black Birch**
- **White Pine**
- **Red Maple** 5. Hemlock 6.

2.

- **Buck Hill Creek**
- Rhododendron
- 9. Sassafras
- 10. Chestnut Oak
- 11. Wildlife
- 12. Black Tupelo

- 13. Basswoos
- 14. Sugar Maple
- 15. Yellow Birch
- 16. Evergreen Ferns
- 17. Nursery Log
- 18. Sapsucker Holes
- 19. White Ash 20. Witch Hazel
- 21. Wildflowers
- 22. Tulip Tree
- 23. Salamanders
- 24. American Beech
- 25. White Oak

Download the full guide on the BHCF website!



WILDLIFE







Keep track of the many species you see through vour travels along the trails. Send your sightings and pictures to BHCF at: . BHFhiker@gmail.com.

Depending on the season, it may be possible to see black bear, white-tailed deer, porcupine, grey squirrels, chipmunks, and more.

The four-prong tracks you find in the mud or snow are probably from the local 'rafter' (group) of wild turkeys. Other birds to look for include Bald Eagle, osprey, red-tailed hawk, black-capped chickadee, and summertime warblers such as black-throated blue, ovenbird, and yellowrumped warbler.





Above photos by Darryl Speicher

ALONG THE WAY

Sylvan Sword Trail This short connecting trail leads you from the picnic area to the Falls Road Trail. Along Sylvan Sword Trail, the few remaining Bull Pine trees indicate that a forest fire had once swept through the area. Bull Pines need fire to propagate. These old trees have survived many events including occasional fires that have swept through this part of the forest.

Glade Trail Walk along the Buck Hill Creek as it flows towards the tumultuous falls. Here the creek is a gentle waterway where you can look for aquatic critters and invertebrates that adhere to the underside of the stream rocks. May flies and stone flies are indicative of the high quality of this water.

Upper Glen Trail This trail crosses over what is often called the "Red Rock Bridge," built around 1914. The area is an ideal spot for fly-fishing, a sport that was developed in the Pocono Mountains and made famous along the many steams and tributaries of the Brodhead Creek.

Indian Trail Sojourn down the Indian Trail. An historic trail, this woodland walk connects the Inn to the Jenkin's Woods Trails through beautiful wetlands, low shrub thickets, and hemlock stands. This trail was used often while the inn was still in operation.

ENVIRONMENT

swimming area.

HISTORY

Photo by David Coulter

Jenkins Woods original dedica-

replaced, Photo: 1991

and Tom Knepp

tion plaque, which was stolen and

(L-R) John Styk, Sr., Ted Jenkins

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Hemlock woolly adelgids are small aphid-like insects that nestle at the base of the hemlock needles, drinking the sap as it flows. This insect puts additional stress and has caused mortality in hemlocks throughout eastern North America. Some trees die within four years; others persist in a weakened state for many years. BHCF measures to control the adelgid include the introduction of ladybird beetles in the area and injections into hemlocks.

Deer Exclosure Forest

Regeneration: (off Indian Trail) Installed in 2014, this fence surrounds a 8-acre forest plot. The fence keeps out deer while allowing young oaks, hickory and beech trees to reach maturity. With the intense pressure of deer browse in the area, wildlife food trees have been unable to regenerate and produce the mass food resources needed by the woodland animals to help them survive the harsh Pennsylvania winters.



Jenkins Woods is a virgin

primeval forest--the only one of its

kind in the Poconos, and one of a

very few in Pennsylvania. Dur-

ing the 19th and 20th centuries,

leveled the surrounding forests.

Hemlocks were cut in especially

large numbers for their bark, a

into leather.

by humans.

periods of widespread clear-cutting

source of tannins to tan deer skins

Protected from the saw, Jenkins

now represents a living museum

of the trees which once covered

exceed 300 years in age. Storms,

down some ancient trees, but the

forest remains largely undisturbed

much of our state--some that

floods and insects have taken

About one-half mile below the falls, the

creek was once dammed to form a lake

birchwood bridge spanned the dam.

Rae Donnelly's vintage post card book

Early Buck Hill pictures the Glenmere

Hill community used the dam for a

Boathouse (once at Hemlock Cathedral) on its cover. Prior to the construction of a pool at Senior Lodge in 1909, the Buck

big enough for boating and swimming. A



Photo by Karen Tetor

GUIDED HIKES



The BHCF conducts hikes and educational programs throughout the year. Such opportunities as quided historical hikes and birdwatching are listed on the BHCF

www.buckhillconservation.org

The Jenkins Woods, Glen and Buck Hill Falls Nature Trails



THE BUCK HILL **CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

BUCK HILL FALLS, PA

Mission: "To preserve and protect land in and around **Buck Hill Falls, to promote** the health of the local forest and watershed, and to foster appreciation of the area's natural beauty."

Support the Buck Hill Conservation Foundation www.buckhillconservation.org

November 2015

10 ADVENTURES FOR ON THE TRAIL

- 1. Access the Jenkin's Woods guided hike from the BHCF
- 2. Enjoy a packed lunch at the Sylvan Sword picnic bench.
- 3. Bird watch at Hemlock Cathedral; access the bird info. on the BHCF website. **4.** Look for archeological remains, bridges, and the boat-
- house lost in the 1955 flood **5.** Be a detective! Find signs of the eroded stream bed
- where the creek used to flow.
- **6.** Take family photos at the falls and compare with historic photos
- 7. Pick up 10 different leaves and make a leaf identification book.
- **8.** Snow shoe on the trails and identify animal tracks.
- **9.** Find a salamander; let it go.
- **10.** Spend the afternoon with a sketchbook or an easel.

