



New Assistant Manager Named for Delaware Canal State Park Complex

By DCNR

NORTHAMPTON COUNTIES - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources announced that Ronald Gilliland will serve as an assistant manager for the Delaware Canal State Park Complex in Bucks and Northampton Counties -- managing the northern portion of Delaware Canal State Park and overseeing operations at Ralph Stover State Park.

"Ron's experience with DCNR in a number of roles are a tremendous asset at one of our signature parks," Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn said. "We are pleased to have Ron's passion and dedication at the Delaware Canal complex and look forward to seeing his positive impact at the parks and in the community."

Gilliland's roles at the department span multiple positions, such as semi-skilled laborer, park resource ranger, wastewater treatment plant trainee, maintenance repairman, and as a park manager trainee for the eastern region of DCNR's Bureau of State Parks prior to his appointment at Delaware Canal.

Gilliland said he is excited for this new role, noting that he is eager to elevate Ralph Stover and the active and passive recreation opportunities it offers.



Red In The Winter Woods

By Chris K. Firestone, Botanist, Ecological Services, Bureau of Forestry
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY - This time of the year, even the woods are decked out for the holiday season!

Red is used in celebrating and decorating for winter solstice, Christmas, and Kwanzaa, and symbolizes many things.

There are many plants with red berries or stems that add a festive contrast to the neutral whites and browns of a winter woods.

American holly (*Ilex opaca*) is native to Pennsylvania, frequently planted, and will easily escape from cultivation.

Berries are produced on the female holly plant and can be poisonous to pets and humans if eaten in large quantities.

However, birds and small animals are unaffected and will rely on these berries throughout the winter.

It's said that burning holly with the Yule log will burn away troubles from the following year!

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