

## How We Can Help Wildlife Withstand Climate Change

By Brodhead Watershed Association  
EAST STROUDSBURG - Climate change is reshaping our world and our watershed, affecting humans, plants, and animals alike. What is the science behind climate change? How is it affecting our wildlife and fisheries? What steps are necessary to mitigate its effects and minimize our carbon footprint?

Brodhead Watershed Association is honored to bring Ed Perry, Pennsylvania outreach coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation, to the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center as the third speaker in the 2019 Climate Change Speaker Series.

Perry studied aquatic biology at Ohio State University and is a retired assistant supervisor with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where he supervised protecting streams and wetlands. He has spent the last decade traveling Pennsylvania as an advocate for the National Wildlife Federation's global warming campaign, educating anglers, hunters, conservationists and the general public about the effects of climate change on Pennsylvania's fish and wildlife.

The presentation "discusses all the impacts we are already seeing and what the future holds if we continue on our current path," Perry says. "The last half discusses actions we can take individually and collectively."



Ed Perry and one of his favorite bass.

## Senate Approves Scavello Bill Allowing Local Police Radar

By Christine Zubeck

**HARRISBURG** – The Senate today voted overwhelmingly to approve legislation sponsored by Senator Mario Scavello (R-40) permitting Pennsylvania municipal police to utilize radar for speed enforcement.

"All states but Pennsylvania permit their local police to use radar for monitoring traffic speed. In Pennsylvania, only the State Police are currently authorized to use radar," said Scavello. "It makes no sense that the state allows municipalities to use red light cameras to curtail unsafe driving, but does not allow the use of this World War II era technology."

Scavello noted speed as a factor in a recent pedestrian fatality in Mount Pocono, Monroe County, at a heavily congested intersection where high speed has contributed to a history of crashes. "The only way the local police can enforce and enforce properly is with radar," he said.

Senate Bill 607 includes revenue cap on the amount of money a municipality may keep from speeding tickets which allows for no more than 20 percent of their municipal budget.

This legislation is supported by the Fraternal Order of Police Pennsylvania State Lodge, PA Chiefs of Police Association, PA Municipal League, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, PA Association of Township Commissioners, PA State Association of Township Supervisors, PA State Mayors Association and Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia.

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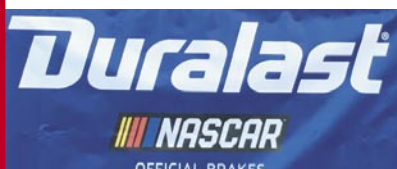
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## The River Unites Us: Stories about the Scenic Wild Delaware River by those who know it best



Sharon Davis  
Delaware River  
Program Manager  
NPCA

This month's column features **Bob Heil**, Executive Director, Brodhead Watershed Association

**The River Unites Us:** What does the Brodhead Creek Watershed Association (BWA) do?

**Bob Heil:** The BWA is a non-profit organization that educates the public about the importance of clean water, we advocate for strategies and actions that ensures clean water for all by working with a variety of stakeholders. We work across a 300 square mile area in eastern Monroe County to protect and promote all waters that flow into the Brodhead Creek.

**TRUU:** What challenges are facing our watershed?

**BH:** One challenge is the false narrative that economic development and environmental protection are mutually exclusive. They are not. While economic initiatives may cost more in high quality watersheds, they also have a high return on investment by protecting the very environment that makes our areas so attractive in the first place. Another challenge is that our water is very clean, and it is hard for many of us to appreciate the reality that clean water is a fact of life here. There are many places with a real and ongoing struggle for clean water access, and our community often takes what we have here for granted.

**TRUU:** The Scenic Wild Delaware River (SWDR) Geotourism Program encourages travelers to experience the region's natural resources and gain appreciation for preserving our unique assets. What are some things that the average recreational user can do to promote conservation of the watershed?

**BH:** Experience and Appreciate the Resources. Paddle, hike, bike, go fishing. Visit a local farm

stand; eat dinner at a local restaurant, sip a locally produced wine, take in a performance at a local arts venue, take photos. Then, tell your friends and your local leaders about your experience. Businesses and community leaders understand the economic impact of Geotourism. Supporting your local conservation organizations is also a very important step.

**TRUU:** SWDR encompasses a 150-mile, three state, 9 county region. Do you work in partnership with other organizations towards a comprehensive watershed protection plan?

**BH:** We work collaboratively with several organizations through the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. It truly is "the sum of the whole is greater than the sum of the parts" scenario. We work with The Nature Conservancy, Pocono Heritage Land Trust and Delaware Highlands Conservancy to name just a few. BWA focuses on water issues while others focus on land protection and land management.

**TRUU:** Finally, what "must experience" places do you recommend for geo-travelers that can be found at our website, [www:ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com](http://www.ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com)?

**BH:** BWA has some trails listed on the SWDR website. Swiftwater Forest Preserve Trail in Monroe County, PA, is a moderate, family friendly walk. The route passes the ruins of a former backwoods cabin and through a miniature pine barrens. Thunder Swamp within the 84,000-acre Delaware State Forest in Pike County, PA., is a glacier-carved gem. Thunder Swamp shines with creeks, 45 miles of trails, and unusual flora and fauna. You can hike as little as one mile or do the whole 45. There are so many places, I suggest you invite a friend, pack a lunch, walk to a local stream or waterfall or someplace you have never visited and enjoy the afternoon.



Bob Heil

This column is syndicated by the **Blue Valley Times**

#### About The Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism Project:

Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism is one of only 23 geotourism programs created by National Geographic worldwide. Working collaboratively in the 3 states along the middle & upper Delaware River region, the Program promotes and sustains the region's resources for long-term economic and environmental vitality. NPCA helps staff this program. Visit the interactive travel website showcasing local experiences at

[www.ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com](http://www.ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com)



[www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org)



For more information contact Sharon Davis, [sdavis@npca.org](mailto:sdavis@npca.org) or tel: 570.460.4468