

NPS Announces Re-opening of Buttermilk Falls Trail and Mountain Road

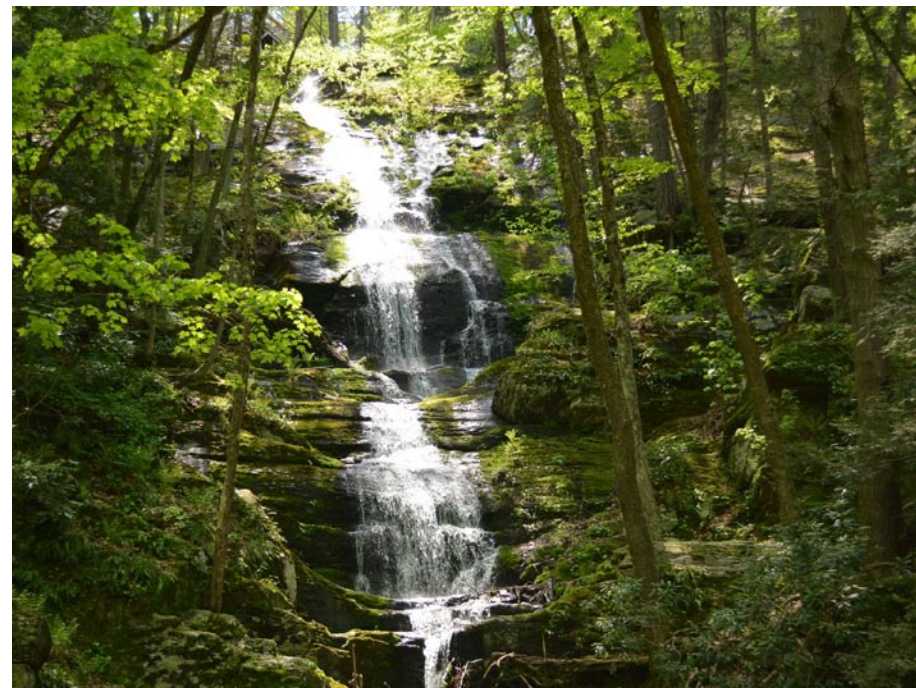
By Kathleen Sandt / Public Affairs Specialist, National Park Service

BUSHKILL, PA- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area announced today that Mountain Road and the Buttermilk Falls Trail in Walpack Township, NJ will re-open, with access by vehicle, on Friday, October 22. "There has been a lot of much-needed work going on in this area over the last few months that will help to protect park resources, improve sustainability, and provide a better experience for visitors at one of the most popular destinations in the park," said John Lambert, Chief of Facility Management. "We are thrilled to be able to re-open the trail and open the road to vehicles for the remainder of the fall season now that work in the area has been completed."

Mountain Road has been closed to vehicles since January 2019 for different purposes, including annual winter closures and to allow for greater social distancing opportunities during a period of record visitation in 2020. Most recently, the gravel road was closed to vehicles while a team of historic preservation specialists and masons repaired and restored a historic stone culvert through which Buttermilk Falls Brook passes after tumbling over the 75-foot falls. Mountain Road will be closed to vehicles for the winter, as it is each year, on January 1 or after the first significant snowfall, whichever comes first.

The Buttermilk Falls Trail also received a major upgrade. The 1.4-mile trail was closed for the past 2 months while the park's trail crew replaced the rotted timber staircase and rebuilt 2 observation platforms. "This work will improve the hiking experience for visitors who come to see the tallest waterfall in the state of NJ and one of the most scenic areas in the national recreation area," said Jesse Rourke, acting trail crew leader. "Drainage improvements and the replacement of failing telephone pole trail structures with rot-resistant black locust that was sourced within the park from trees that were toppled by storms will also improve the long-term sustainability of this popular destination, reduce future maintenance costs, and protect natural and cultural resources within the area."

For directions and information on the Buttermilk Falls Trail visit our website at: Buttermilk Falls Trail - Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov). For updates on road and trail closures in the park see the Current Conditions page on our website at Current Conditions - Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov). For additional information or questions follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DelWaterGapNPS or call the information desk at (570) 426-2452.



To Roseto Residence

RE-ELECT

BY WRITE IN VOTE



MAYOR



JOSEPH C. ANGELINI