

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in 2019

**Earth Day, Saturday April 27:** Volunteers needed for trail maintenance, invasive plant removal, and other tasks to get the park ready for summer.

**Woodsy Owl, weekend of May 18:** Two nights free camping in exchange for a Saturday morning volunteering in the park. Friends will host a potluck lunch Saturday. Please sign up via the State Park office.

**Iron Run & Charcoal Challenge, Saturday June 8:** The annual *Iron Run Half-Marathon* is a trail run over the hills and through the woods. The *Charcoal Challenge* is a 5k run/walk. Runners can sign up at [www.RunReg.com](http://www.RunReg.com). Also, we need many volunteers at checkpoints and registration.

**National Public Lands Day, Saturday September 28:** Volunteers needed to help maintain trails and structures in the park, and replace invasive plants with natives.

**Fall Furnace Fest, October 19-20:** Join us for a 2-day family oriented weekend event with live music, craft & food vendors, history demonstrations, hay wagon rides, pumpkin carving and the story of the "Hairy Hand" at Fuller Lake. Volunteers are needed, whether for a few hours or during the entire two-day festival: please email [PGFvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:PGFvolunteers@gmail.com).



*A big shout-out to all our dedicated volunteers!  
Won't you join us in making the park even better?*

**Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park  
1100 Pine Grove Road  
Gardners, PA 17324**

Visit our website: [www.pinegrovefriends.org](http://www.pinegrovefriends.org)  
and follow us on Facebook:

***Friends-of-Pine-Grove-Furnace-State-Park***

***Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park***  
*was formed in August 2010 as a chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF).*

*PPFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to PPFF are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

*Official registration for PPFF is available from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

FRIENDS OF  
**Pine Grove  
Furnace**  
STATE PARK  
Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation



***Our Mission:*** *The Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park exists to keep history alive and promote educational and recreational programs at the park and surrounding areas through special events and trail development while protecting the park's natural resources.*

**Visit us on Facebook, and at our  
website: [www.PineGroveFriends.org](http://www.PineGroveFriends.org)**

# Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park

As the *Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park* enters its 9<sup>th</sup> year as a volunteer non-profit chapter of the *PA Parks & Forests Foundation*, I am proud of the ongoing efforts by volunteers and supporters to help this small but very busy State Park. Our group continues to work with park staff to maintain quality educational and recreational programs at this jewel of the South Mountain landscape.

One of our primary goals is to raise money for park projects. Our regular fundraisers include Fall Furnace Fest (with the famous pumpkin float and Hairy Hand story at Fuller Lake); the Iron Run half-marathon & Charcoal Challenge 5k; campground firewood sales; and merchandise sales. All money we raise stays at this park to support recreation, conservation and education.

We continue to cut, split and stack wood for firewood sales – a special thank you to the dedicated volunteers who help us with that ongoing and time-consuming task. The Friends group also supports Earth Day, National Public Lands Day, and the Woodsy Owl Weekend by coordinating a potluck lunch for volunteers at those events. We are grateful for the many volunteers who help to maintain trails and bridges, remove

invasive plant species, and volunteer at special events like Fall Furnace Fest.

In past years, the Friends group repaired the historic furnace stack in the center of the park, purchased two large playgrounds for the campground and Fuller Lake, and supported construction of a “natural” play area at Laurel Lake. In 2018 we paid to replace locksets on numerous buildings and gates, simplifying the daily workload of park staff.

Looking forward to 2019 and beyond, we have lots of plans to continue to improve the visitor experience at Pine Grove Furnace. In 2016 the Friends paid for and built a substantial hiking bridge on Mountain Creek Trail; we are now beginning the process to install a second bridge across the creek, to connect that trail with Koppenhaver Trail. We will need to schedule several workdays in early 2019 to restore footpaths hard-hit by unending rain last year. Please watch for trail volunteer requests via our website, Facebook and emails to our member list. The Friends also look forward to supporting reconfiguration of the Family Campground entrance/exit, and a new kayak EZ-dock at Laurel Lake.

Please join us in ensuring that Pine Grove Furnace continues to be one of the best State Parks in Pennsylvania.

*Andre Weltman, Chairman*

# Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park

**March 2019 – March 2020 membership includes discounts on merchandise!**

\_\_\_ Individual \$10.00  
\_\_\_ Family \$15.00  
\_\_\_ Tax-deductible donation of \$\_\_\_

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| <b>NAME(S)</b> |  |                 |  |
| <b>STREET</b>  |  |                 |  |
| <b>CITY</b>    |  |                 |  |
| <b>STATE</b>   |  | <b>ZIP CODE</b> |  |
| <b>PHONE</b>   |  |                 |  |
| <b>EMAIL</b>   |  |                 |  |

**Willing to help split/stack firewood? \_\_\_**

Make checks payable to the  
PA Parks and Forest Foundation (PPFF)  
and please write “FOPGF” on memo line.

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail membership form and payment to:**

Friends of Pine Grove Furnace  
1100 Pine Grove Road  
Gardners, PA 17324