

May 27, 2013



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PARK PICKS by FRIENDS OF THE ALLENTOWN PARKS



Discovery Walk Hike & History at Canal Park

The Lehigh Canal was completed in 1829 and is a portion of the 165-mile Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage

Corridor which runs from Bristol, PA to Wilkes-Barre.

A recent economic development study determined that at least 280,000 people walk the trail annually. Consisting of 49 locks and 9 dams, it's hard to imagine that during its heyday (1855) over one



million tons of cargo were shipped via the canal. Interestingly, that year was also when the Lehigh Valley railroad was completed. Unfortunately, transport via canal couldn't compete. Now, a walk in the park as well as along the main towpath of the canal one is surrounded by lush greenery. Saturday was a beautiful day to step back in time with Silas Chamberlin of the D & L National Heritage Corridor



and imagine the canal when it was THE best means of cargo transport .



Allentown skyline as viewed from the fish ladder near the Hamilton St. dam. More photos on our Facebook page

Friends of the Allentown Parks 2700 Parkway Blvd. Allentown, PA 18104



Phone: 610-432-7275 info@allentownparks.org www.allentownparks.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 1 @ 10:00 a.m.-noon - Discovery Walk: Hike & History at Lehigh Mountain Park led by Tom Gettings of the Wildlands Conservancy. Meeting point will be in the park off Constitution Drive. Check website for exact location (www.allentownparks.org).

This event has been designated an official National Trails Day event by the American Hiking Society. NTD is the country's largest celebration of trails.

Little Lehigh Creek Cleanup



We thank the members of the Little Lehigh Chapter of Trout Unlimited for generously spending their time and energy in collecting litter in

and along the Little Lehigh Creek. We also thank the many fishermen and women for collecting litter and maintaining the cleanliness of the creek on a regular basis, as well as the Allentown Department of Parks and Recreation for their continued support of our projects and providing the necessary tools and supplies.



National Environmental Education Foundation Grant Awarded

Friends of the Allentown Parks is pleased to announce it has received a \$2,000 Every Day Event Grant of the National Environmental Education Foundation. The grant provides partial funding for three events: Hurricane Sandy Tree Replacement plantings, Insect Discovery Walk and Muhlenberg Lake native habitat activities. Our sincere thanks to NEEF and Toyota.

Twenty-six nonprofit friends groups received Every Day Event Grants of up to \$2,000 to engage their communities in educational, recreational and volunteer-based events on public lands. Every Day Event Grants are part of National Environmental Education Foundation's Public Lands Every Day and made possible with the generous support of Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.



National Public Lands Day

