

September 9, 2008

Dear Mid-Atlantic Regional Partnership Committee:

Already the days grow shorter and the leaves begin to turn as we refocus our attention on both the fun and weighty issues of the season that bear on our Appalachian Trail.

Phil Day and I look forward to visiting with you once again and participating in our usually spirited discussions at the September 19-21 meeting at the beautiful AMC Mohican Outdoor Center in Blaiirstown, New Jersey (directions below). If you can make it, please join us for supper at the Blaiirstown Diner (address below) at 7 p.m. Friday evening.

Attached are a draft agenda and several issue papers that have been slightly updated since July based on input received from volunteer managers and the regional partnership committees. (When you open them, changes from Bob Proudman's July emailing will show as "track changes" in the individual MS Word documents.)

I am also sharing a memo that I sent to the Pennsylvania clubs last month. We have scheduled a briefing from Charles Elliott, Esq., ATC's lawyer during the 2001-2004 clashes with racetrack developer Alpine Rose. Please see the background paper I wrote "Brief Overview of Pennsylvania Land Use Planning." I want other clubs in the region to learn about this landmark state legislative achievement in the Commonwealth this year. "Chot" will tell us about his work and we can review this new law together. I hope Chot will join us for supper too.

Summary of Issues Enclosed:

1. Advisory resolution on Side trails adopted by the Stewardship Council
2. Geocaching policy showing one change
3. Global Climate Change issue paper and resolution
4. Approvals of Management Actions (two documents) showing several changes
5. Land Protection Policy
6. Pennsylvania Land Use Planning
7. VIP and VIF – Volunteer Protections

The ATC Stewardship Council hopes for your concurrence, or suggested amendments, with issues 1. - 5. Barb Wiemann and Walter Daniels are representatives to the council from the RPC. They welcome your input on issues affecting your sections and clubs. The council and ATC Board of Directors will meet October 30-November 1, 2008.

Be sure to also check out the [LL Bean Grants to A.T. Clubs](#) program. Deadline for 2009 applications is November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Karen Lutz  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Director

Phil Day  
Mid-Atlantic RPC Chair

**Locations:**

Mohican Outdoor Center  
50 Camp Road  
Blairstown, NJ 07825-9655

Blairstown Diner  
Rt 94 186 State Route 94  
Blairstown, NJ 07825  
(908) 362-6070

**Accommodations:**

Mohican Outdoor Center is a public facility, located on a beautiful glacial lake in the 70,000-acre Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, close to the Appalachian Trail. Blueberry Hill Lodge and Black Oak Lodge are equipped with kitchens and bathrooms. The lodges have 3 separate bunk rooms that accommodate 17 people and there is a cot available for an extra person as well. The kitchen is equipped with refrigerator, stove, microwave, coffee maker and pots, pans and utensils if you are doing your own cooking. In addition there is a large family room with comfortable furniture and a fireplace for use during the winter months (*closed between May and September*). Pets are not allowed inside or outside any AMC facility or at platform tents or campsites. Also, smoking or open flames are not allowed in or near any structure. Alcoholic beverages are permitted at the lodge, and must be consumed in a responsible manner.

You will need to bring your own bedding, (sleeping bags seem to work out best), pillowcases and towels. Pillows are provided. Upon departure we ask all to help out by cleaning up after themselves and leave common areas, bathrooms, kitchens, etc. as they were when you arrived. Also, please carry out any leftover food supplies. There is a dumpster across from the Main Lodge and recyclables can be placed outside of the garage or separated and placed in the recycle containers you may find there.

For facility details visit the Mohican website:

<http://www.outdoors.org/lodging/lodges/mohican/index.cfm>

**Directions:**

<http://www.outdoors.org/lodging/lodges/mohican/mohican-directions.cfm>

**Message board:**

Mohican staff at 908-362-5670 will post messages on their message board.

**Questions?**

Contact John Luthy, Office Manager, Appalachian Trail Conservancy Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (717) 258-5771 – [jluthy@appalachiantrail.org](mailto:jluthy@appalachiantrail.org)