HIKE EVENT: New trail leads to waterfall at Paradise-Price Preserve

At 777 acres, Paradise-Price Preserve in northeastern Pennsylvania is fairly big and a relatively new conserved area. This summer, a dedicated crew from Paradise Township has cleared and blazed trails there – including a 5-mile round-trip path to the falls at Brodhead Creek.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, hike leader Carol Hillestad will show the way. The free guided hike is part of the Get Outdoors Poconos series. Another, shorter hike (one that doesn't reach the falls) will be held Sunday, Sept. 24.

Terrain varies from an old fire road through cool glens, along a flat ridgetop, to a wide and well-marked trail. The open woods become large wetlands, and then the trail turns rocky. The effort is worth it, though, as the scenery opens up to Brodhead Creek below, with a low horseshoe waterfall tumbling over ledges of bedrock.

Beavers have taken up residence there, and along the trail hikers may see bear scat, turkey feathers, grouse and a couple of deer stands.

IF YOU GO

Join hike leader Carol Hillestad for this challenging hike of about 5 miles. A shorter option will be offered (see below).

WHEN: 10 a.m. Saturday, September 23, 2017

WHERE: Meet at Paradise-Price Preserve, Henry's Crossing Road. Take Route 191 in Paradise Valley to Cranberry Creek Road. From Cranberry Creek Road, take Henry's Crossing Road. When you cross the railroad tracks, the trailhead is on your right. If you wish, bring a snack to enjoy at the falls.

SHORTER HIKE OPTION: An easy, 1-mile round-trip walk is planned for 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017, at this preserve. No view of the falls, but we will see a large glacial split rock and enjoy a leisurely walk in the early fall woods.

COST: Free; registration is required.

INFORMATION: Call 570-839-1120 or 570-629-2727; email info@brodheadwatershed.org. For information about this and other hikes in the free Get Outdoors Poconos series, go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos. The hike series is administered by Brodhead Watershed Association and supported by a grant from the William Penn Foundation.