Locust Creek supplies Locust Lake with water. The meanders in this creek clearly show the depositional features of point bars and the erosional features of cut banks.

Locust Lake State Park is in a clean watershed due to topography. The dam was constructed to create a reservoir for recreation.
The Schuylkill Conservation District and the Schuylkill Headwaters Association work toward a cleaner watershed through passive remediation projects such as this wetlands at Mary-D. Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) enters the system with low pH and high iron levels. The water is passed over limestone to increase the pH. There are a series of pools in which the iron can oxidize and precipitate out of the AMD.
John Hadesty of Lehigh Anthracite gave us a tour of the crushing and sorting facility. Anthracite from this mine is used for filtration, welding, stainless steel creation, the carbon in tennis rackets, and many other products.
Climbing on the haul trucks . . .
From the base of the excavation pit, the terraces were visible as were the holes in the bottom rock from deep mining and the surface mining traces from the 1930s.
The hydraulic shovel used for excavating cost over 4 million dollars.

Searching through the pieces at the bottom of the base rock
Climbing on the haul truck and visiting the final stop in the mine – historic entrance to the number 8 mine.
The 309 Discharge is a site of active remediation where the water is being treated to increase the pH and remove iron prior to discharge into the Little Schuylkill River. Following the active treatment, the water flows through a wetland area where iron precipitates prior to entering the Little Schuylkill River.