



Locust Lake State Park is in a clean watershed due to topography. The dam was constructed to create a reservoir for recreation.



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.







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.







The hydraulic shovel used for excavating cost over 4 million dollars.







John showed us the pit where excavation had occurred earlier this year and explained the process of blasting.







The boreholes at this site were drilled in a pattern to fracture the rocks and make excavation possible. A fertilizer-based explosive will be used







A view of the previous excavations from the current blasting site . . .







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.

