



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



Greg Altenbach 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



Visiting the maintenance section of the mine





Climbing on the haul trucks . . .



There was a large fault from an airshaft collapse



Overlooking the pit . . .





Searching for rocks
and fossils in the pit





Searching for rocks
and fossils in the pit





The entrance to the old underground 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.

