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# The Friends

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## NEW POSTS MARK TRAILS AT RIDLEY CREEK STATE PARK

If you have walked any of the foot trails in the park this summer, you may have noticed posts marking the trails popping up at intersections on the multi-use trail or other trails in the park.

Park Manager Mike Kutzmonich, Chief Ranger Tony Mosloskie, and the Friends agreed that these trail markers would improve the hiking experience in the park, especially for visitors unfamiliar with its intertwining network of trails. There have been reports of people wandering into Tyler Arboretum and not realizing they left the Park trails, according to Ranger Mosloskie.

The trail posts, 70 in all, were purchased by the Friends and are being installed by the regular monthly volunteer trail crew. Tim Higgins, Friends Treasurer, and Gary Sawyer, Trails Co-Chair, were



*Gary and Tim at one of the new sign posts*

the chief architects of the plan approved by the park. The criteria for where to install posts were:

- 1) On both sides of a roadway where a trail intersects
  - 2) At trail intersections within the park trail system
  - 3) At selected locations where trails turn away from historic roadbeds or obvious social trails
  - 4) At parking areas that serve as access to the trails
- In some cases the posts replace existing

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### FRIENDS OF RCSP VOICEMAIL

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR FRIENDS AT ANY TIME WITH YOUR COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS.  
LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 484-442-0223, AND SOMEONE WILL GET BACK TO YOU ASAP!

*New Posts from Page 1*

markers - round plastic posts with colored tape wrapped around the top to designate the trail color. Many of these posts will be repurposed as "water bars" for erosion control along the trails.

The four-sided posts are dark brown recycled plastic composite and lettered in white with the name of the trail by color (White, Blue, Yellow, and Orange), along with a colored rectangle at the top. The posts are oriented such that each side faces out towards the color of the trail it designates, like points on a compass. To avoid ambiguity, arrows will be attached to some points to warn hikers of a turn.

"Of course, looking for blazes on the trees is always your best bet for staying on the trail you want," adds Sawyer. "In summer months the blazes are less obvious, and we hope the markers

will be a reminder for hikers to check their location."

Trail maps are available at the park office.

In addition to the trail markers, the Friends are purchasing similar looking half-mile markers for the Multi-Use Trail. Delivery is expected this fall.

So the next time you're walking in the park, check out these new navigation tools! And if you want to help keep our trails in top condition, just show up at the park office the first Saturday of each month by 9am. Work finishes by noon to enjoy refreshments.

*This article was contributed by Friends Trails Co-Chair and Board Recording Secretary Gary Sawyer.*

## COME TO MEDIA'S FOOD FAIR OCTOBER 5

The Friends of Ridley Creek State Park will have a table again at Media's Food & Crafts Fair on Sunday October 5 (rain date Sunday October 12). We will have literature and information to hand out. New members who join will get a free gift. Look for us at the Fair on State Street!

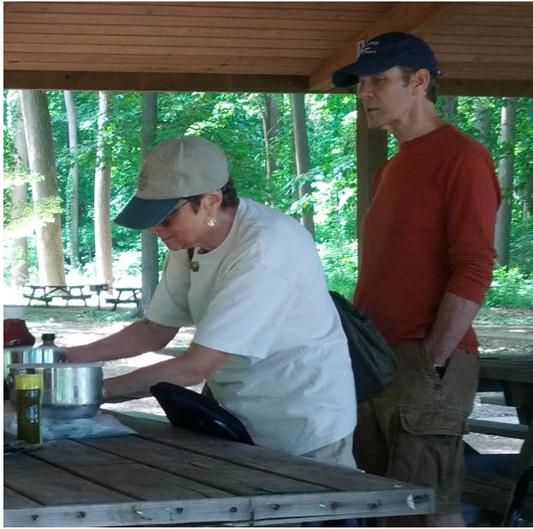
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## PHOTO CONTEST FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS



The award ceremony for our annual Photo Contest will be held on Sunday January 25, 2015. A total of 5 cash prizes will be given and there will be 2 categories - youth under 18, and adults 18 and over. Start gathering your spring and summer pictures, and then take those fall and winter pictures so you can submit your entries.

Flyers will be posted in the park. **Young people are especially encouraged to enter the contest.** Look for the contest rules and entry form on the Friends website [www.FriendsofRCSP.org](http://www.FriendsofRCSP.org). The photo contest has always been one of our most popular fundraisers, while also raising awareness of the park and the Friends.



*Vice-President Joan Nikelsky sets up for the picnic, accompanied by her husband, Peter Smyth*

## FRIENDS ANNUAL PICNIC AND ELECTION

The Friends of Ridley Creek State Park and the Trail Work Group held our annual member and volunteer appreciation picnic on June 7, 2014. Picnic offerings included hamburgers and hot dogs grilled by President Jack Miller, coleslaw, potato

salad, and other tasty fare.

The Friends' election of officers was held during this event. Jack Miller was re-elected President and Joan Nikelsky was re-elected Vice-President.

Congratulations to both!

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## LOOKING FOR A WEBMASTER

We are looking for a volunteer to handle our website. Our talented, fun-loving, and dependable Webmaster, Ted Uhlman, has taken a job that involves frequent traveling out of town and he is often unable to get Wi-Fi. The Webmaster position

includes making occasional updates to our website, adding photos, announcements about upcoming events, and posting articles and our newsletter as necessary. The entire site has been developed using only a plain text editor (i.e. NotePad), and uses Server Side Includes

with JavaScript for the three level menu system on the left side.

If you can help us, please contact Joan Nikelsky, Vice-President at 610-352-5685 or email [vp@friendsofrcsp.org](mailto:vp@friendsofrcsp.org).

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTHLY TRAIL WORK. MEET AT PARK OFFICE

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, 9AM.

MEDIA FOOD & CRAFT FAIR ON STATE STREET

SUNDAY, OCT 5 (RAIN DATE OCT 12) 9AM-5PM

PHOTO CONTEST AND AWARDS CEREMONY IN THE MANSION BALLROOM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2015, 1PM