Day Tripping - April 2022

As the Spring arrives and warmer days happen, you may feel like you would like to get out in the sunshine and see the sites around us. This month, we will venture into some of the things to see close to our home. Most of us have been to Hickory Run State Park, but there are a few places there that you do not want to miss. Boulder Field is well known and if you have not ventured there, it is a site to be seen. If you go from here turn right onto SR 940 and turn left when you get to SR 534. Follow this road into the park. Turn left at the road marked for Sand Spring Day use area. At the first Y in the road, take a left and follow signs for 4.5 miles, along a dirt road, to the parking lot at Boulder Field. Park the car and get out to see an amazing mass of rocks. The field is 400 feet wide and 1,800 feet long. The boulders are predominately red sandstone but also some quartz conglomerate. If you have great balance, venture out onto the rocks and enjoy your adventure.

When you leave Boulder Field, continue on the road and look for the sign for the beach at Sand Spring Lake. This is a nice beach with very clean facilities.

For a very pretty and exciting side road, go back to where you turn for Boulder Field. Instead of turning right onto the one way road, turn left toward the Daddy Allen area and you will follow a rhododendron and mountain laurel trail. At one point you will cross the stream. Don't worry you will not be swept away. This road is especially beautiful in May and June when the plants are blooming.

The new visitor's center at Hickory Run is a nice place to visit also.

When you are coming back from Hickory Run, you could stop at the the Tannery. Shortly after passing the The Inn at Hickory Run, you will see the Tannery Road on your left. Turn onto this. Before crossing the bridge that goes over the Lehigh, there is a parking lot. Pull in. Take the short walk along the path to visit the Tannery ruins.

The Lehigh Tannery was one of the largest tanneries in the entire nation. Extending 680 feet along the river, the tannery processed as many as 80,000 hides a year. At one time the Lehigh Tannery was a bustling little town complete with a hotel and schoolhouse. Fire struck the tannery in 1875 and burned it to the foundation. They never rebuilt it. (facts from *Exploring Audubon's Lehigh: An Auto Tour in Northeast PA Pocono Mountains.*

After visiting the Tannery, cross over the bridge and the Lehigh river and turn into the parking lot on your left. You can walk down the Lehigh Trail south. About 1/2 mile down on the right you will see a waterfall.