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Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Closed Tunnel Penns Creek Poe Paddy Catch and Release Area

Re: Closed Tunnel Penns Creek Poe Paddy Catch and Release Area

Author: : troutbert

Date: : 2013/4/12 20:11:54

URL:

From PennLive.com

In advance of the April 13 traditional statewide opening day of trout fishing season, the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is reminding anglers, hikers and other users of the Penns Creek Path rail-trail that the Poe Paddy Tunnel remains closed because of deteriorating structural conditions. Falling and loose overhead rocks forced the mid-February closing of the structure that passes through West Paddy Mountain along Penns Creek and close to Poe Paddy State Park, Centre County. The historic tunnel is part of the Mid-State Trail and former Cherry Run Railroad bed. "With warming weather and the approaching April 13 opening of trout season, we are expecting an increased number of trail-users in that area and we want to get the word out about the closing," said John Portzline, assistant district forester with Bald Eagle State Forest District. The tunnel was used frequently by hikers and biking enthusiasts as well as anglers who use the tunnel to access two different stretches of Penns Creek, a premier trout fishing destination. Parking areas for Mid-State Trail access near the tunnel have been posted with closing notices. Repair work and duration of the closing are contingent upon emergency funding, Portzline said.

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Many times I've walked through that tunnel and have seen big rocks lying on the ground and thought, hmmm, those rocks fell out of the ceiling. I hope another one doesn't fall right now and knock my brains out. Then started walking a little faster. Part of the Penns Creek experience.