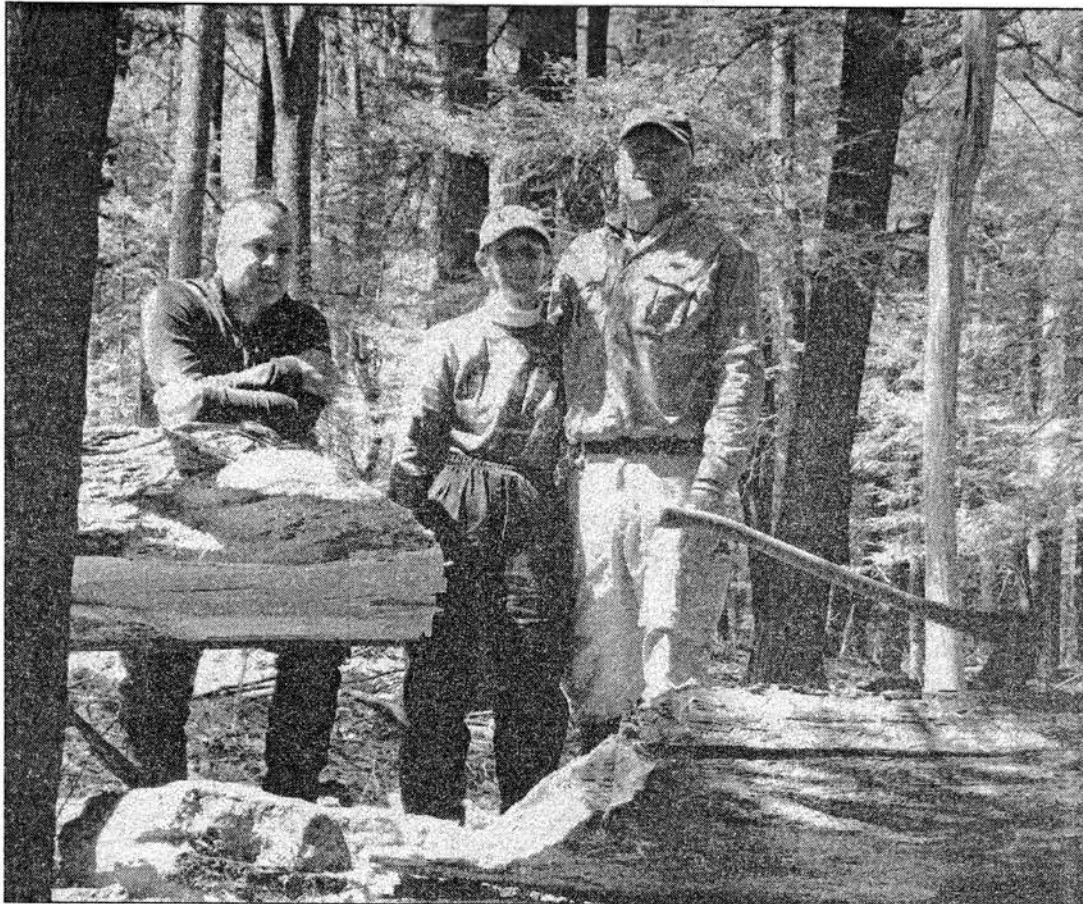


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Pictured are volunteer trail stewards with the Warren-based non-profit organization Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (FAW) along the Allegheny National Forest's scenic Hickory Creek Wilderness trail during FAW's recent trail stewardship weekend in honor of Earth Day.

FAW Honors Earth Day

The FAW (Friends of the Allegheny Wilderness) volunteers honored Earth Day by having a trail stewardship weekend along the Allegheny National Forest's scenic Hickory Creek Wilderness trail. Using only axes, they cut a hiker passage through a large-di-

ameter oak tree that had fallen on the trail. In federal wilderness areas such as the Hickory Creek Wilderness, no power tools are used for trail clearing or for any other purposes.

This method of trail clearing also has significant value because, while it allows easy passage for

hikers on foot, it acutely frustrates and discourages illegal non-conforming uses of the trail such as by motorized and mechanized vehicles. Rough axe cuts also provide a rustic, aesthetically pleasing appearance for the wilderness hiker.