

# Explore the Outdoors

## Near Jim Thorpe, PA



- **Beltville State Park** – The 525' sand beach makes swimming and boating popular here. Excellent trout fishing, hiking, and biking.
- **Big Pocono State Park** – Scenic views of 3 states can be enjoyed from the summit of Camelback Mountain. There are miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking.
- **Delaware Canal State Park** – Enjoy ever-changing scenery along the 60 mile historic towpath of the Delaware Canal.
- **Delaware State Forest** – The forest is characteristic of the Pocono region, with remote glacial lakes and bogs rich with plants, wildlife and scenic beauty.
- **Frances Slocum State Park** – 165 acre lake for boating and fishing, diverse wildlife in the forests and fields.
- **Gouldsboro State Park** – Gouldsboro Lake is popular for boating, fishing, swimming. 10 miles of hiking trails.
- **Hickory Run State Park** – Located at the foothills of the Pocono Mountains, you can swim in Sand Spring Lake or hike on over 40 miles of trails. A great spot for exploring is Boulder Field, a National Natural Landmark.
- **Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center** – This is the perfect setting for hunting, fishing, bird watching, and outdoor enjoyment. There are miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding.
- **Lehigh Gorge State Park** – The park has over 20 miles of abandoned railroad grade, great for hiking and biking.
- **Locust Lake State Park** - Known for its camping areas, but hiking, swimming, and fishing are popular as well.
- **Nescopeck State Park** – Hike trails through quiet forests and along the creek. The Environmental Education Center offers year round programs.
- **Nockamixon State Park** – Popular activities are picnicking, visiting the pool, hiking, biking, fishing, and boating.
- **Promised Land State Park** – 2 lakes, camping, hiking, and beautiful scenery make the park popular year round.
- **Ralph Stover State Park** – Scenic picnicking along the Tohickon Creek.
- **Tobyhanna State Park** – A scenic park including the Tobyhanna Lake, perfect for swimming.
- **Tuscarora State Park** - The park offers a wide variety of environmental education and recreational programs. A great spot for day trips and family reunions.
- **Weiser State Forest** – Hiking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and mountain biking are popular here.

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## Volunteer Opportunities

### Volunteer

Volunteers - they're the lifeblood of our parks and forests. The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation offers a wide variety of opportunities to put a volunteer's special skills to work. Whether you're a trail-builder, a wildlife expert, an event organizer or one of those special people who always say, "Just put me to work wherever you need me," Pennsylvania's state parks and forests have a role for you.

### Foundation Volunteers

Volunteers are welcome to assist with mailings, events, photography, videography, media editing, and more.

### Volunteer in State Parks and Forests with Friends Groups

Friends Groups are local groups who volunteer their time, services and support to enhance our state park and forest systems.

### What Do Friends Groups Do?

They work in partnership with the park to:

- Raise money for park playgrounds, equipment, and material
- Organize annual park cleanups and regular trail work days
- Plan and execute special events including craft shows, concerts and festivals
- Construct park and forest amenities like trails, visitor centers and gift shops
- Serve as campground hosts, visitor center hosts, and docents
- Create awareness about the value of their state park or forest

### Eastern Pennsylvania Friends Groups

- Friends of Beltzville State Park
- Friends of Big Pocono State Park
- Friends of Nockamixon State Park
- Friends of Weiser State Forest

### Conservation Volunteers

Volunteer opportunities in state parks and forests are also available through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Learn more at [www.paparksandforests.org](http://www.paparksandforests.org) and <https://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/index.aspx>