

Explore the Outdoors

Near Scranton, PA



- **Archbald Pothole State Park** – Boasts the largest pothole. Outdoor educational exhibits and hiking are also available.
- **Beltzville 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 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** – The visitor center highlights Native American culture.
- **Gouldsboro State Park** – A 250-acre lake for boating, as well as hiking, fishing, hunting, and winter sports.
- **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.
- **Pinchot State Forest**- Noted for its diverse recreational opportunities and the 23 mile Pinchot Hiking Trail.
- **Lackawanna State Park** – Featuring a campground and pool. A lake and creek are enjoyed by boaters and anglers.
- **Lehigh Gorge State Park** – The park has over 20 miles of abandoned railroad grade which provides opportunity 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.
- **Promised Land State Park** – Popular year round. A seasonal museum explores area wildlife and the work of the CCC.
- **Ricketts Glen State Park** – Take the Falls Trail to explore the Glens Natural Area and view many amazing waterfalls.
- **Tobyhanna State Park** – A scenic park including 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.
- **Varden Conservation Area** – A network of trails provides opportunities for hiking and quiet contemplation.

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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 Varden Conservation Area

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 and <https://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/index.aspx>