

In the spring of 2025, PA Parks & Forests Foundation conducted an online survey of “Your Favorite Trail to ...”. Here are some resulting ideas for backpacking.

All State Parks/Forests Mentioned

- Susquehannock State Forest
- Moshannon State Forest
- Elk State Forest
- Loyalsock State Park
- Tiadaghton State Forest
- Laurel Ridge State Park
- Ohiopyle State Park
- Allegheny National Forest
- Blue Knob State Park
- Clear Creek State Forest
- Gallitzin State Forest
- Gifford Pinchot State Park
- Hyner Run State Park
- Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center
- Oil Creek State Park
- Pymatuning State Park
- Sinnemahoning State Park
- Sproul State Forest
- Tioga State Forest
- Watkins Glen State Park (New York State)



Photo Credit : IG @TheDapperHiker

The Appalachian Trail

Counties:

Passes through Franklin, Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry, Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, and Monroe counties

- 229 miles of the Appalachian Trail traverse through Pennsylvania

- Trail runs through many of PA’s state park and forests
- Pine Grove Furnace State Park is known as the midpoint of the AT

Quehanna Trail

Counties:

Located in Cameron, Clearfield, and Elk counties

- 73.2-mile loop trail
- Duration time of 5-8 days
- Main trailhead

located at Parker Dam State Park

- Trail travels along the Allegheny Plateau providing beautiful wildlife and vistas
- 34 miles of the Quehanna Trail traverse the Quehanna Wild Area which stands as the largest designated Wild Area in Pennsylvania

Tioga State Forest

Counties:

Tioga County

West Rim Trail

- 30.5 mile point-to-point trail
- Duration of 2-3 days
- Considered to have a moderate difficulty level
- Skirts the west rim of the Pine Creek Gorge (Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon)
- Parking can be found at both the northern and southern terminus of the trail
- Rattlesnake Rock Access Area at the southern terminus and Ansonia along Colton Road at the northern terminus
- Shuttles services are offered to take hikers to and from their cars to the opposite terminus
- Many water sources, camping sites, and vistas located along the trail
- While hiking, and camping, be aware of the plant stinging nettle and timber rattlesnakes as they are both common on the trail

Basic Gear Essentials

- Tent (lightweight)
- Sleeping bag and pad
- Pillow
- Rain cover
- Proper cooking utensils and fuel for fire
- Bear proof containers or hanging system
- Water purification method
- Trekking poles
- Appropriate clothing for weather
- Navigation method
- First Aid Kit

Loyalsock State Forest

Counties:

Located in Sullivan, Bradford, and Lycoming counties

The Loyalsock Link Loop Trail

- Takes a section of the Loyalsock Trail and uses a link trail to form a small loop
- Easy 2 day trip
- Loop is a total of 17 miles long
- Pre-existing campsites at miles 6.53, 9.49, and 12.54
- Campsites marked by stone firepits
- Trail access and parking can be found at Worlds End State Park off Rt. 154
- Be sure to register car at the Visitor Center
- Trailhead is located directly behind the Visitor Center marked Link Trail

Old Loggers Path

- 27.1 miles long loop trail
- Duration of 2-3 days depending on how many miles you hike each day
- Sites for camping at miles 4.83, 17.52, and 21.33
- Adirondack style shelters found at miles 4.83 and 17.52
- Parking can be found in the town of Masten
- Parking lot is at the intersection of Masten Road and Pleasant Stream Road
- One trailhead is located right beside the parking lot while the other is located uphill from the parking lot back to Pleasant Stream Road and right across the bridge

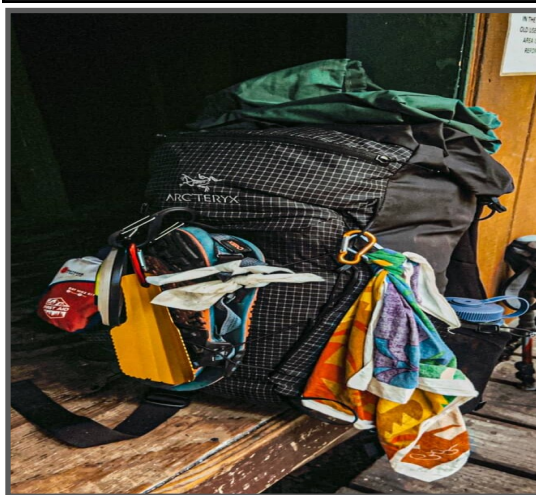


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