

## **Pennsylvania State Parks**

Main web site for Dept. of Conservation of Natural Resources:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/index.aspx>

Main web site for US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District:

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/rec.htm#links>

### **Allegheny Islands State Park Icon#4**

c/o Region 2 Office

Prospect, PA 16052

724-865-2131

E-mail: [parkregion2sp@state.pa.us](mailto:parkregion2sp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/alleghenyislands.aspx>

Recreational activities

Boating

The three islands have a total area of 43 acres (0.17 km<sup>2</sup>), with one island upstream of Lock and Dam No. 3, and the other two downstream. The park is undeveloped so there are no facilities available for the public. At this time there are no plans for future development.

Allegheny Islands is accessible by boat only. Group camping (such as with Scout Groups or church groups) is permitted on the islands with written permission from the Department. Allegheny Islands State Park is administered from the Park Region 2 Office in Prospect, Pennsylvania.

### **Bendigo State Park Icon#26**

533 State Park Road

Johnsonburg, PA 15845-0016

814-965-2646

E-mail: [bendigosp@state.pa.us](mailto:bendigosp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/bendigo.aspx>

Recreational activities

Fishing, Swimming, Picnicking

The 100-acre Bendigo State Park is in a small valley surrounded with many picturesque hills. About 20 acres of the park is developed, half of which is a large shaded picnic area. The forest is predominantly northern hardwoods and includes beech, birch, cherry and maple. The East Branch of the Clarion River flows through the park. This beautiful stream was once polluted by abandoned mine drainage. It now provides excellent fishing and is stocked with trout by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

### **Chapman State Park Icon#25**

4790 Chapman Dam Road  
Clarendon, PA 16313  
814-723-0250  
E-mail: [chapmansp@state.pa.us](mailto:chapmansp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/chapman.aspx>

Recreational activities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Yurts](#) - [Camping Cottages](#) - [Camping](#)

The 805-acre Chapman State Park includes the 68-acre Chapman Lake on the West Branch of Tionesta Creek. Adjacent to state game lands and Allegheny National Forest, Chapman is an oasis of recreational facilities in a vast area of wilderness.

### **Clear Creek State Park Icon#23**

38 Clear Creek State Park Road  
Sigel, PA 15860-9502  
814-752-2368  
E-mail: [clearcreeksp@state.pa.us](mailto:clearcreeksp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/clearcreek.aspx>

Recreational activities

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Canoeing](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Sledding](#) - [Yurts](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

Clear Creek State Park encompasses 1,676.29 acres in Jefferson County. The park occupies a scenic portion of the Clear Creek Valley from PA 949 to the Clarion River.

### **Conemaugh River Lake Icon#30**

1665 Auen Road STE A  
Saltsburg, PA 15681-9302  
(724) 639-9013

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/conemaug.htm>

Recreational activities

Swimming, Boating, Canoeing, Fishing, Hiking, Hunting

An abundance of cultural resources and recreational opportunities coupled with a great river revival and trail has certainly made Conemaugh River Lake the place to be for outdoor fun! At the dam site, visitors will find a Visitor Information Center, two pavilions, a day use area, large playground facility, softball field, basketball court, horseshoe pits and volleyball court – all within close proximity to each other. Pavilions, a popular choice for special events such as birthdays and reunions, can be reserved for a fee by contacting the Park Office or by submitting a [Pavilion Reservation Request form](#).

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#### **Cook Forest State Park Icon#24**

PO Box 120  
Cooksburg, PA 16217-0120  
814-744-8407  
E-mail: [cookforestsp@state.pa.us](mailto:cookforestsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/cookforest.aspx>

Recreational activities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Horseback Riding](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Canoeing](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Scenic Views](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Winter Activities](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

The 8,500-acre Cook Forest State Park lies in scenic northwestern Pennsylvania. Once called the "Black Forest," the area is famous for its stands of old growth forest. Cook Forest's "Forest Cathedral" of towering white pines and hemlocks is a National Natural Landmark. The Clarion River is along the eastern border of the park and is popular for canoeing and rafting.

#### **Crooked Creek State Park Icon#29**

114 Park Main Road  
Ford City, PA 16226-8815  
(724) 763-3161

#### Recreational activities

The lake and its miles of scenic shoreline provide unlimited opportunities for [water-based recreation](#). A boat launch with ample trailer parking is available for boating and waterskiing enthusiasts. Swimmers and sunbathers will especially appreciate the lake's sandy, peninsula beach. The great variety and abundance of fish found in the lake have lured many fishermen to its waters. Crooked Creek Lake has yielded many fine catches of bass, muskie, sunfish and crappie. [Picnicking](#) is well liked at Crooked Creek. There are several picnic areas maintained by the Corps that are provided with tables and charcoal grills. The six picnic shelters are provided with picnic tables and grills.

Nestled among the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania, Crooked Creek Lake is an ideal setting for year round outdoor activities. Located only 30 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to discover the scenic beauty of the lake and surrounding countryside at the Crooked Creek project.

#### **Elk State Park Icon#27**

c/o Bendigo  
Johnsonburg, PA 15845-0016  
814-965-2646  
E-mail: [bendigosp@state.pa.us](mailto:bendigosp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/elk.aspx>

#### Recreational activities

[Picnicking](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Ice Boating](#)

The 3,192-acre Elk State Park is in the rugged mountains of northern Pennsylvania. The 1,160-acre East Branch Lake is large enough for unlimited horsepower boating and is great for water-skiing. The lake and nearby streams are stocked with warm-water and cold-water fish.

#### **Erie Bluffs State Park Icon#21**

c/o Presque Isle  
Erie, PA 16505-0510

814-833-7424

E-mail: [presqueislesp@state.pa.us](mailto:presqueislesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/eriebluffs.aspx>

The newest Pennsylvania State Park, Erie Bluffs is 540 acres of Lake Erie shoreline in western Erie County, twelve miles west of the city of Erie. It is the largest undeveloped stretch of Lake Erie shoreline remaining in Pennsylvania.

The park has; one-mile of shoreline; 90-foot bluffs overlooking Lake Erie; world-class shallow stream steelhead fishery; old growth forest; rare, endangered and threatened flora; uncommon oak savannah sand barren ecosystem; exceptional value wetlands; and significant archaeological sites. There are currently no facilities in the park.

### **Hillman State Park Icon#6**

c/o Raccoon Creek

Hookstown, PA 15050-9416

724-899-2200

E-mail: [raccooncreeks@state.pa.us](mailto:raccooncreeks@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/hillman.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Hiking, Hunting

This park is managed for hunting by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Hiking trails are open to the public.

### **Jennings Environmental Education Center Icon#3**

2951 Prospect Rd.

Slippery Rock, PA 16057-8701

724-794-6011

E-mail: [jennings@state.pa.us](mailto:jennings@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/jennings.aspx>

Jennings is committed to providing a diverse array of environmental education and interpretive programs. Programming is offered year-round to schools, civic groups, and the community. Each year over 167,000 visitors, 280 schools, 11 colleges and universities and a number of civic organizations are served by the Jennings Center. Educational programs are age-specific and generate learning through discovery and a hands-on approach.

## Keystone State Park Icon#10

1150 Keystone Park Road  
Derry, PA 15627-3679  
724-668-2939  
E-mail: [keystonesp@state.pa.us](mailto:keystonesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/keystone.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Trails](#) - [Biking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Winter Activities](#) - [Yurts](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping Cottages](#) - [Camping](#)

The 1,200-acre Keystone State Park is great for day-trips and family vacations year-round. Camping, modern cabins, many trails and a lake are all within walking distance, providing an ideal setting for wildlife watching or outdoor adventures. The park is within easy driving distance from the Pittsburgh metropolitan area and its many attractions.

## Kinzua Dam & Allegheny Reservoir Icon#37

1205 Kinzua Road  
Warren, PA 16365-5599  
814-726-0661

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/kinzuala.htm>

**Welcome to the Alleghenies!** Totally surrounded by forest, Kinzua Dam and Allegheny Reservoir are at the heart of one of the largest and most popular outdoor recreation complexes in the northeastern United States.

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In the summer, there are numerous activities ranging from swimming, [boating](#) and water-skiing, to camping, fishing and sightseeing. During the autumn, the Kinzua countryside produces colorful displays of fall foliage with miles of hiking trails and country roads from which to enjoy the brilliant fall scenery. Winter doesn't signal an end to the enjoyment of the outdoors. Hikers turn to cross-country skiing, fishermen continue their sport on the ice and snowmobiles speed along the many trails and forest roads. The blossoming of the woodland wildflowers signals the arrival of spring in Kinzua Country; and with it, the arrival of trout fishermen, canoeists and nature enthusiasts.

The Allegheny Reservoir spans the border between [Pennsylvania and New York](#). In Pennsylvania, the reservoir is completely surrounded by the Allegheny National Forest;

and in New York State by Allegany State Park and the Allegany Indian Reservation of the Seneca Nation. Along with Cattaraugus County in New York, these agencies provide numerous recreational facilities for your enjoyment.

### **Kooser State Park Icon#16**

943 Glades Pike  
Somerset, PA 15501-8509  
814-445-8673  
E-mail: [koosersp@state.pa.us](mailto:koosersp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/kooser.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

In the heart of the Laurel Highlands at an altitude of 2,600 feet, Kooser State Park attracts visitors year-round to its 250 acres of forest and the beautiful trout stream that flows the full length of the park.

The park's original design character was stamped by the Civilian Conservation Corps projects of the 1930s that established the existing lake and most of its use areas, its architecture and site details. The park design stresses rustic values in site and building materials and in their application: native stone, rough sawn and stained wood surfaces, log and timber members.

### **Laurel Hill State Park Icon#17**

1454 Laurel Hill Park Road  
Somerset, PA 15501-5629  
814-445-7725  
E-mail: [laurelhillsp@state.pa.us](mailto:laurelhillsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/laurelhill.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Fishing, Picnicking, Hunting, Swimming, Boating, Camping

Laurel Hill State Park consists of 3,935 acres of mountainous terrain in Somerset County. The 63-acre Laurel Hill Lake is a focal point of the park. Laurel Hill is surrounded by thousands of acres of pristine state park and state forest lands. A trail

system invites you to hike and explore the park and observe a diversity of plants and wildlife. A beautiful stand of old growth hemlocks lies along the Hemlock Trail.

### **Laurel Mountain State Park Icon#14**

c/o Linn Run  
Rector, PA 15677-0050  
724-238-6623  
E-mail: [linnrunsp@state.pa.us](mailto:linnrunsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/laurelmountain.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Skiing

High atop Laurel Ridge at close to 3,000 feet in elevation, Laurel Mountain State Park features a family-oriented downhill skiing area and beautiful views of the rolling countryside of the Ligonier Valley. The slopes and trails provide opportunities for skiers and snowboarders of all levels and the lodge is a cozy place to eat and enjoy the view.

Opened in 1939, Laurel Mountain was one of the first ski areas in Pennsylvania.

### **Laurel Ridge State Park Icon#13**

1117 Jim Mountain Road  
Rockwood, PA 15557-8703  
724-455-3744  
E-mail: [laurelridgesp@state.pa.us](mailto:laurelridgesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/laurelridge.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Hiking, Camping, Cross Country skiing, Snowmobiling, Hunting

The 13,625-acre Laurel Ridge State Park stretches along Laurel Mountain from the picturesque Youghiogheny River At Ohiopyle, PA to the Conemaugh Gorge near Johnstown, PA. This large park spans Cambria, Fayette, Somerset and Westmoreland counties. The main feature of the park is the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail, which features trail shelters for overnight camping.

### **Laurel Summit State Park Icon#15**



c/o Linn Run  
Rector, PA 15677-0050  
724-238-6623  
E-mail: [linnrunsp@state.pa.us](mailto:linnrunsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/laurelsummit.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Picnicking, Hiking

This scenic picnic area is operated by the Bureau of State Parks. The 6-acre area offers picnic tables, a pavilion, water, and restroom. The area is 2,739 feet above sea level and several degrees cooler than surrounding towns. This area also provides trailhead parking for Spruce Flats bog and Wolf Rocks Trail. Laurel Summit is a carry in/carry out area. Please take all of your trash with you.

### **Linn Run State Park Icon#11**

P.O. Box 50  
Rector, PA 15677-0050  
724-238-6623  
E-mail: [linnrunsp@state.pa.us](mailto:linnrunsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/linnrun.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Picnicking, Fishing, Horse back riding, Camping, Hiking, Hunting

Linn Run State Park is 612 acres and borders Forbes State Forest. The varied topography and mixed hardwood and evergreen forest make this park a scenic place for picnicking, hiking and cabin rentals. Grove and Rock runs join to make Linn Run, an excellent trout stream that has a lovely waterfall, Adams Falls.

### **Loyalhanna Lake Icon#31**

440 Loyalhanna Dam Road  
Saltsburg, PA 15681-9302  
(724) 639-9013

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/loyalhan.htm>

Recreational opportunities

Located in southwestern Pennsylvania, among terrain characterized by its diversity, Loyalhanna Lake provides a mixture of scenery and recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District invites you to visit the Loyalhanna project and enjoy its natural settings.

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Lake visitors will discover topography that ranges from rolling foothills of the Laurel Highlands, from which the headwaters of Loyalhanna Creek flow, to the steep, wooded hillsides, and ravines found in the vicinity of the dam site. In the midst of these surroundings, visitors to Loyalhanna Lake can enjoy various outdoor activities either [on the water](#), or [around the water](#).

### **Mahoning Creek Lake Icon#33**

145 Dam Site Road  
New Bethlehem, PA 15242-9603  
(814) 257-8811

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/mahoning.htm>

Situated among steep-sided valleys and forested hillsides, Mahoning Creek Lake is surrounded by the rugged and striking terrain of western Pennsylvania. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to discover Mahoning's breathtaking scenery and its opportunities for outdoor recreation. Visitors will delight in the scenic beauty that envelops the project. There are wondrous views along forested pathways and small inlets along the lake's shoreline. Equally, visitors will enjoy the many outdoor activities available – [boat](#), [fish](#), hike, camp, picnic or just enjoy the surrounding flora and fauna at Mahoning Creek Lake. Boating on Mahoning Creek Lake is limited to 10 horsepower and swimming is not permitted in the lake. Canoeists, fishermen and persons using small boats, however, will appreciate the more peaceful and relaxed atmosphere that is characteristic of the lake and upstream sections of the creek. Boaters will especially enjoy floating Mahoning Creek as it meanders in the steep-sided valleys on its way toward the Allegheny River, and exploring the small inlets of the lake. Mahoning Creek Lake is blessed with clean water and a varied, thriving fish population. In addition to trophy-sized pike, anglers will find abundant walleye, muskie, channel catfish, crappie and bass inhabiting the lake.

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### **Maurice K. Goddard State Park Icon#18**

684 Lake Wilhelm Rd.  
Sandy Lake, PA 16145-8715  
724-253-4833  
E-mail: [goddardsp@state.pa.us](mailto:goddardsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/mauricekgoddard.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Pavilions](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Ice Skating](#)

The 2,856-acre Maurice K. Goddard State Park features the 1,860-acre Lake Wilhelm, which is very popular with anglers. Many recreational activities attract visitors in all seasons. The large lake, abundant wetlands, old fields and mature forests provide a diversity of habitats for wildlife, especially waterfowl, eagles and ospreys.

### **McConnells Mill State Park Icon#2**

RR 2 Box 16

Portersville, PA 16051-9401

724-368-8091

E-mail: [morainesp@state.pa.us](mailto:morainesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/mcconnellsmill.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Picnicking, Climbing and rappelling, Hunting, Fishing

McConnells Mill State Park, in Lawrence County, encompasses 2,546 acres of the spectacular Slippery Rock Creek Gorge. Created by the draining of glacial lakes thousands of years ago, the gorge has steep sides and the valley floor is littered with huge boulders. A gristmill was built in the 1800s to harness the power of the water. The park is open from sunrise to sunset, year-round.

### **Moraine State Park Icon#1**

225 Pleasant Valley Rd.

Portersville, PA 16051-9650

724-368-8811

E-mail: [morainesp@state.pa.us](mailto:morainesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/moraine.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Trail Biking](#) - [Horseback Riding](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Windsurfing](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) -

[Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Ice Skating](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

The gently rolling hills, lush forests and sparkling waters disguise a land that has endured the effects of continental glaciers and massive mineral extraction. Each year over one million people visit the 16,725-acre park, yet never realize that many people helped restore the park from prior coal mining and oil and gas drilling practices. Today, the park is an outstanding example of environmental engineering achievement.

### **Ohiopyle State Park Icon#12**

PO Box 105  
Ohiopyle, PA 15470-0105  
724-329-8591  
E-mail: [ohiopylesp@state.pa.us](mailto:ohiopylesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/ohiopyle.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Trail Biking](#) - [Horseback Riding](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Waterslides](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Camping Cottages](#) - [Camping](#) - [Scale of River Difficulty](#) - [Whitewater Boating](#)

Located primarily in Fayette County, Ohiopyle State Park encompasses about 19,052 acres of rugged natural beauty and serves as the gateway to the Laurel Mountains. The focal point of the area is the more than 14 miles of the Youghiogheny [yaw-ki-GAY-nee] River Gorge that passes through the heart of the park. The "Yough" [yawk] provides some of the best whitewater boating in the Eastern U. S. as well as spectacular scenery. Surrounding Ohiopyle Falls is the Falls Day Use Area, the central point for the casual visitor. This area provides parking, modern restrooms, gift shop/snack bar, and overlook platforms with magnificent scenery.

### **Oil Creek State Park Icon#19**

305 State Park Road  
Oil City, PA 16301-9733  
814-676-5915  
E-mail: [oilcreeksp@state.pa.us](mailto:oilcreeksp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/oilcreek.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Museums, Picnicking, Canoeing, Fishing, Hunting, Hiking

The Oil Creek Valley is the site of the world's first commercial oil well. Oil Creek State Park tells the story of the early petroleum industry by interpreting oil boomtowns, oil wells and early transportation. Scenic Oil Creek carves a valley of deep hollows, steep hillsides and wetlands.

### **Parker Dam State Park Icon#47**

28 Fairview Road  
Penfield, PA 15849-9799  
814-765-0630  
E-mail: [parkerdamsp@state.pa.us](mailto:parkerdamsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/parkerdam.aspx>

Camping, Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Hunting, Picnicking, Hiking

This rustic, remote park in the heart of Moshannon State Forest is almost entirely wooded and offers picturesque areas of forest and swamp meadows, pine plantations and mixed hardwoods. The CCC Interpretive Center interprets the Civilian Conservation Corps. Parker Dam is a good base to explore the surrounding state forest.

The 968-acre Parker Dam State Park offers old-fashioned charm and character. A scenic lake, rustic cabins, quaint campground and unbounded forest make Parker Dam an ideal spot for a relaxing vacation. For wilderness explorers, Parker Dam provides a gateway to the vast expanses of the Moshannon State Forest. You can walk through a tornado ravaged woods, backpack into the 50,000-acre Quehanna Wilderness, mountain bike to your heart's content or enjoy quiet solitude searching for elusive Pennsylvania elk.

### **Point State Park Icon#7**

101 Commonwealth Pl.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-471-0235  
E-mail: [parkregion2sp@state.pa.us](mailto:parkregion2sp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/point.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Hiking, Museum

Point State Park is at the tip of Pittsburgh's "Golden Triangle." It commemorates and preserves the strategic and historic heritage of the area during the French and Indian War (1754 - 1763).

By the early 1950s, the area had deteriorated into a commercial slum. It has been reclaimed and is now one of the nation's outstanding historical parks and tourist attractions. The park is a National Historic Landmark.

### **Presque Isle State Park Icon#22**

301 Peninsula Drive, Suite 1  
Erie, PA 16505-2042  
814-833-7424  
E-mail: [presqueislesp@state.pa.us](mailto:presqueislesp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/presqueisle.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Biking](#) - [Boat Tours](#) - [Marina](#) - [Water-skiing](#) - [Scuba Diving](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Winter Activities](#)

Presque Isle State Park is a 3,200-acre sandy peninsula that arches into Lake Erie. As Pennsylvania's only "seashore," Presque Isle offers its visitors a beautiful coastline and many recreational activities, including swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, bicycling and in-line skating. A National Natural Landmark, Presque Isle is a favorite spot for migrating birds. Because of the many unique habitats, Presque Isle contains a greater number of the state's endangered, threatened and rare species than any other area of comparable size in Pennsylvania.

The gateway to Presque Isle is the new [Tom Ridge Environmental Center](#) (TREC). An educational center at heart, TREC is dedicated to teaching visitors about Presque Isle and the many different forms of life that inhabit this unique peninsula. TREC also serves as a center for research, contributing to conservation efforts and promoting environmental awareness, helping to preserve the unparalleled beauty of Presque Isle. There is free admission to the interactive exhibits and the 75-foot observation tower.

### **Pymatuning State Park Icon#20**

2660 Williamsfield Road  
Jamestown, PA 16134  
724-932-3141  
E-mail: [pymatuningsp@state.pa.us](mailto:pymatuningsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/pymatuning.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Sightseeing](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

Almost everything about Pymatuning State Park is huge. At 21,122 acres, it is the largest state park in the Commonwealth. The 17,088-acre Pymatuning Reservoir is the largest lake in the Commonwealth. In its three campgrounds, Pymatuning has the most campsites in the PA state park system. More people visit Pymatuning than almost any other PA state park. But the biggest thing about Pymatuning is the fun you can have boating, fishing, swimming, camping and enjoying other recreational opportunities. In addition to the state park facilities, the PA Fish and Boat Commission operates a fish hatchery and the PA Game Commission has wildlife viewing areas.

### **Raccoon Creek State Park Icon#5**

3000 State Route 18

Hookstown, PA 15050-9416

724-899-2200

E-mail: [raccooncreeks@state.pa.us](mailto:raccooncreeks@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/raccooncreek.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Trail Biking](#) - [Horseback Riding](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Wildlife Watching](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Winter Activities](#) - [Organized Group Cabin Camps](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Backpacking](#) - [Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

Raccoon Creek State Park has continued to develop from the park's beginning as a Recreational Demonstration Area operated by the National Park Service in the 1930s, to one of the largest and most beautiful state parks in Pennsylvania. Facilities at the park are a mix from the early Civilian Conservation Corps camp to modern facilities. In addition to recreational areas, there are large tracts of undeveloped land. The 7,572-acre park features the beautiful 101-acre Raccoon Lake.

### **Ryerson Station State Park Icon#8**

361 Bristoria Road  
Wind Ridge, PA 15380-1258  
724-428-4254  
E-mail: [ryersonstationsp@state.pa.us](mailto:ryersonstationsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/ryersonstation.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#)  
- [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Organized Group Tenting](#) - [Camping](#)  
[Cottages](#) - [Camping](#)

Ryerson Station State Park is in Greene County in the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania, near the West Virginia border. The 1,164-acre park features the 52-acre Ronald J. Duke Lake that is named in memory of a former manager of Ryerson Station State Park.

### **S. B. Elliott State Park Icon#48**

c/o Parker Dam  
Penfield, PA, PA 15849-9799  
814-765-0630  
E-mail: [parkerdamsp@state.pa.us](mailto:parkerdamsp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/sbelliott.aspx>

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) -  
[Cabins](#) - [Camping](#)

The 318-acre S. B. Elliott State Park is in the heart of the Moshannon State Forest. This entirely wooded park offers picturesque areas of forest and swamp meadows and typical second growth mixed hardwood and oak timber.

### **Shenango River Lake Icon#34**

2442 Kelly Road  
Hermitage, PA 16148-7308  
(724) 962-7746

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/shenango.htm>

Situated within the suburban Shenango Valley, Shenango River Lake provides an attractive setting for your enjoyment. Visitors may choose to spend their day



picnicking, camping or enjoying nature's beauty at one of the many recreation or access areas located on the project.

Many fishing enthusiasts are attracted to the waters of Shenango River Lake for the bass, walleye, muskellunge and variety of panfish that inhabit the lake. In addition, thousands of anglers are drawn to the dam's outflow area to fish for trout which are stocked annually by the [Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission](#) during the spring. Boating is among the most popular and varied of recreational activities at Shenango River Lake with six boat launch ramps provided. Most of the lake is available for unlimited horsepower operation and water skiing, however some areas on the lake are designated for 10 horsepower motors and minimum wake operation only.

Areas are provided on the lake for unlimited horsepower operation and water skiing as well as areas designated for 10 horsepower motors only and minimum wake operation.

For those visitors who prefer to canoe, both the Shenango River, upstream of the lake, and Pymatuning Creek offer excellent canoeing opportunities, beautiful scenery and a chance to observe nature.

Campers visiting Shenango River Lake will enjoy the spacious and modern facilities available at the Shenango Recreation Area campground. Hot showers, flush toilets and a sanitary disposal station are provided, as well as 330 campsites, many of which are equipped with electric hookups.

The Seth Myers and Coonie Trails which are one-half mile, self-guided, interpretive nature trails, invite visitors not only to experience the beauty of Shenango River Lake but at the same time to learn about its varied habitats and the relationships between plants, animals and man.

Hunting and trapping are permitted on project lands with the exception of developed recreation areas, wildlife propagation areas and posted areas. All federal, state and local laws governing these activities apply on project lands and waters.

### **Tionesta Lake Icon#35**

P.O. Box 539  
Tionesta, PA 16353-9613  
(814) 755-3512

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/tionesta.htm>

Winding its way through the rugged hills of northwestern Pennsylvania, Tionesta Lake offers a unique setting for a diversity of outdoor recreational opportunities. For those looking for a memorable outdoor experience, Tionesta offers a mix of beautiful scenery and recreational activities that will not soon be forgotten. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy boating, camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, water-skiing, picnicking, sightseeing and much more.

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Fishermen have found the variety of fishing waters in the area enticing and productive. The clear mountain streams, placid lake and glistening Allegheny River have yielded many fine catches of trout, muskie, walleye, bass and panfish.

The lake and its miles of unspoiled shoreline offer unlimited opportunities for water-based recreation. Watercraft of all types and sizes can be found on Tionesta Lake, from powerboats of unlimited horsepower with water skiers in tow, to sleek canoes and small fishing boats plying the inlets, coves and backwater areas of the lake. Easy access to the water is provided by boat launches at either end of the lake with ample trailer parking available.

Home to a remarkable variety of wildlife, Tionesta has claim as one of Pennsylvania's best big game regions. Hunters will find deer in abundance as well as bear, turkey and small game. Part of the pleasure of hunting at Tionesta is experiencing the quiet, rejuvenating forest.

Campers will find a welcome change of pace from everyday urban life at one of Tionesta's many tree-shaded campsites. Camping facilities range from rustic in nature, located at lakeside and accessible only by boat, to sites equipped with hot showers and full hook-ups.

If out sightseeing for the day, why not stop at Tionesta and enjoy a leisurely picnic with family or friends or perhaps walk on one of the self-guided nature trails? There are also several scenic overlooks that provide exciting vistas of the lake and forested hillsides.

An especially scenic time for sightseeing at Tionesta Lake is in the autumn when the splendor of the fall foliage is at its peak.

### **Union City Dam Icon#38**

Administrative Office:  
Woodcock Creek Lake  
22079 State Route 198

Saegertown, PA 16433-6213  
(814) 763-4477

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/unioncit.htm>

If out for an afternoon's drive sightseeing, why not stop at the Union City Dam and have a picnic with family and friends? Picnickers can relax in the quiet rural surroundings and enjoy the scenery and view of the dam. Picnic tables, grills and restroom facilities are provided and disabled visitors will find the tables and restroom wheelchair accessible.

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The Union City Dam provides visitors with the chance to enjoy a number of outdoor recreational opportunities. The different types of habitat and ecosystems that can be found at the project provide hikers, bird watchers and the novice naturalist with a diversity of flora and fauna to discover and enjoy.

French Creek entices many fishermen to the project to test their angling skills against game fish such as northern pike, walleye and muskie. There is also an abundance of smallmouth bass and panfish in the creek and trout in many of the creek's feeder streams.

Hunting is also a popular pastime at the Union City Dam. Deer, turkey, small game and waterfowl are plentiful and provide hunters with many exciting opportunities and experiences.

### **Woodcock Creek Lake Icon#36**

22079 State Highway 198  
Saegertown, PA 16433-0629  
814-763-4422

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/woodcock.htm>

Placidly resting amidst gently rolling hills, Woodcock Creek Lake complements the tranquil rural countryside of central Crawford County. Visitors will discover that Woodcock's pleasant surroundings are an ideal setting for outdoor and recreational opportunities. Many exceptional facilities are also provided by the Corps of Engineers which will enhance a visit to the lake.

An access roadway which traverses the top of the dam provides visitors with a novel opportunity. Nearly a mile in length, fitness buffs can enjoy a scenic walk, jog or run along the top of the dam.

The Bossard Nature Trail is designated as a National Recreation Trail in the National Trails System. Nature enthusiasts have the opportunity to make exciting new discoveries on their own or to walk the self-guided nature trail and perhaps stop to observe nature from one of two observation blinds located along the trail.

Approximately 1000 feet of the trail's pathway is paved and is easily accessible.

On weekends and holidays from Memorial Day through Labor Day, visitors will also enjoy a stopover at Woodcock's Visitor Information Center. A variety of interesting displays are exhibited at the center with interpretive programs and slide shows presented for the public's enjoyment.

An overlook on the north shore provides visitors with a scenic area to take photographs or just to relax and enjoy the day. A picnic area located downstream of the dam also offers a beautiful setting for [picnicking](#), fishing, playground fun and relaxation.

A spacious [campground](#), developed swim beach, picnic areas and a six lane [boat launch](#) are located in the Colonel Crawford Park Area on the south shore. Operated and maintained by Crawford County, the park provides excellent facilities to make your visit to Woodcock Creek Lake a memorable one.

Due to the relatively small size of the lake, a 10hp limit is in effect for power [boats](#). This limit helps retain the serene nature of the lake and ensures the safety of other types of pleasure crafts including canoes, sailboats, and sailboards.

Woodcock Creek, above and below the dam, as well as the lake, provides exceptionally good [fishing](#) opportunities. The creek is a favored trout stream and muskie, bass, walleye and panfish await anglers in the calm waters of the lake.

Pennsylvania State Game Lands 435 is found at the eastern end of the project. This provides a public [hunting](#) area, as well as excellent wildlife habitat.

### **Yellow Creek State Park Icon#9**

170 Route 259 Highway  
Penn Run, PA 15765-5941

724-357-7913

E-mail: [yellowcreeksp@state.pa.us](mailto:yellowcreeksp@state.pa.us)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/yellowcreek.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

[Hiking](#) - [Picnicking](#) - [Swimming](#) - [Boating](#) - [Fishing](#) - [Hunting](#) - [Cross-country Skiing](#)  
- [Sledding](#) - [Snowmobiling](#) - [Ice Fishing](#) - [Ice Skating](#) - [Yurts](#) - [Camping Cottages](#)

Yellow Creek State Park is in Indiana County along one of the first "highways" in the state, the Kittanning Path. This trail was used by the Delaware and Shawnee nations and by early settlers. Today, US 422 roughly follows the old Kittanning Path, and provides the main access to the park from Indiana and Ebensburg. The park is named for Yellow and Little Yellow creeks, which create the lake. The creeks have lots of yellow clay in the banks and bottoms.

### **Youghiogheny River Lake Icon#32**

497 Flanigan Road  
Confluence, PA 15424-1902  
(814) 395-3242

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/youghiog.htm>

In the heart of the Laurel Highlands and spanning the Mason-Dixon Line between Pennsylvania and Maryland lays Youghiogheny River Lake. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to experience the clean waters, mountains and steep-sided valleys which encompass the project and provide an unsurpassed setting for outdoor recreation opportunities. A popular location for recreation, Youghiogheny River Lake attracts numerous visitors each year. Boating, hunting, camping and many other outdoor activities are enjoyed by visitors with outstanding facilities provided for the public's convenience. Boaters consider Youghiogheny River Lake, with all its 16 mile length and channels up to one-half mile wide, the best power boating and water-skiing lake in southwestern Pennsylvania.

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### **Ohio State Parks**

Main web site:

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/ataglance/tabid/76/Default.aspx>

### **Barkcamp State Park Icon#28**

65330 Barkcamp Road  
Belmont, OH 43718  
(740) 484-4064

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/barkcamp/tabid/713/Default.aspx>

Recreational opportunities

Camping, Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Picnicking, Hunting, Hiking

Belmont County's rugged hills provide the backdrop for picturesque Barkcamp State Park. In addition to fine recreational facilities, visitors will enjoy the mature woodlands, open meadows, scenic lake and abundant wildlife of this secluded park.

#### **Beaver Creek State Park Icon#44**

12021 Echo Dell Road  
East Liverpool, OH 43920  
(330) 385-3091

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/beaverck/tabid/714/Default.aspx>

Camping, Boating, Hunting, Fishing, Picnicking, Hiking, Nature Center

Beaver Creek State Park is nestled in the sandstone hills of eastern Ohio. The park is comprised of various habitats including bottomlands, a gorge, forests and Little Beaver Creek--a state and national wild and scenic river. The valley of Little Beaver is characterized by steep walls, high rock cliffs and numerous gentle rapids. Geologically, the valley of Little Beaver is extremely unique, being the only stream valley in the United States yet described, in which evidence of all four major glaciations is found.

The flora of the park contains several interesting and unusual species, some of which are more commonly found in northern regions. Canada yew, yellow and black birch, hemlock and mountain laurel can be found in the deep stream valley. The stream banks are lined with delicate wildflowers including jewelweed, hepatica, violets and spring beauties.

Many types of wildlife find the park's varying habitats inviting. Red fox, skunk, raccoon and white-tailed deer are commonly seen while the elusive wild turkey is making a comeback in the area. Recently, sightings of black bear have become more frequent.

#### **Berlin Lake Icon#41**

7400 Bedell Road  
Berlin Center, OH 44401-9707  
(330) 547-3781

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/berlin.htm>

Take time out to enjoy the ever-changing pattern of life and scenery that await your discovery at Berlin Lake. Located in northeastern Ohio within a short drive of Akron, Youngstown and Warren, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District invites you to exchange the sights and sounds of the city for those of the Ohio countryside. In addition to its colorful scenery, the Berlin Lake offers visitors a wide variety of recreational experiences. Whether it's camping, boating, picnicking or just relaxing in peaceful surroundings you'll find it at Berlin Lake.

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The Mill Creek Recreation Area with its diversity of campsites, from wooded waterfront sites to grassy spots in the sun, is an ideal family campground. Facilities provided include flush toilets, hot showers, a large boat launching ramp and a sanitary disposal station. A limited number of campsites are also equipped with electric hookups. The Mill Creek Recreation Area campground is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Numerous launching ramps are located on the lake for the convenience of boating enthusiasts. Boats of many descriptions can be found on Berlin Lake during the summer, ranging from small fishing boat and sailboats to cruisers and runabouts of unlimited horsepower. There is a 10 M.P.H. speed limit on the lake at night. The usually smooth water surface also provides excellent skiing conditions. The average depth of the lake is between 10 and 15 feet, but some stumps and snags pose hazards for which boaters should be alert. Marina services, boating and fishing supplies are also available through concessionaires located at the lake.

Berlin Lake is renowned for its excellent walleye fishing and is one of the very few lakes in the area in which natural reproduction of the walleye population occurs. Anglers will also enjoy fishing for the largemouth and smallmouth bass, muskie, crappie and bluegill which abound in the lake.

Hunting is permitted at Berlin Lake with the exception of developed recreation areas and posted areas. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources manages over 6,800 acres of project lands for public hunting and wildlife management purposes. Small game species in particular are found in abundance and easy access to hunting areas is available.

**Guilford Lake State Park Icon#45**

6835 East Lake Road  
Lisbon, OH 44432  
(330) 222-1712

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/guilford/tabid/739/Default.aspx>

Camping, Boating, Fishing, Swimming, Hiking, Picnicking

Guilford Lake is situated in the glaciated plateau region of Ohio. This portion of the Appalachian foothills was overridden by the glaciers that invaded Ohio more than 12,000 years ago. Eventually, the glacial advances were blocked by the harder and higher sandstone ridges of southeastern Ohio. The bedrock materials of this area were formed 300 million years ago from deposits laid down in streams and swamps.

Natural lakes are a feature of the glaciated landscape, although most in Ohio are very small and have now aged into bogs or marshes. These bodies of water were formed by huge chunks of ice which broke off from the retreating glacier and melted in depressions forming kettle lakes.

The area surrounding Guilford Lake, before being impounded as a reservoir, was extremely swampy indicating it may have been a remnant of a natural glacial lake. The park attracts migrating waterfowl in the fall and spring and also provides good habitat for a variety of songbirds such as the red-winged blackbird, song sparrow and eastern meadowlark. Other wildlife common to the area are red fox, raccoon, skunk and white-tailed deer.

### **Jefferson Lake State Park Icon#43**

501 TWSP RD 261A  
Richmond, Ohio 43944-9710  
(740) 765-4459

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/jefferso/tabid/749/Default.aspx>

Recreational activities

Camping, Boating, Hiking, Swimming, Fishing, Picnicking

The sandstone hills of Jefferson County are part of the Appalachian Highlands which envelope the southeastern part of Ohio. In the sandstone bedrock can be found layers of coal which were formed by decaying swamp vegetation millions of years ago during the Pennsylvanian geologic period.



Covering the hills and valleys of the area is a second growth oak and hickory forest. Growing side-by-side with towering white oaks and shagbark hickories are stately beeches and maples, tulip trees, walnuts, elms and ashes.

The forest is composed of much more than trees, although they constitute its most conspicuous feature. The observant visitor may find a wealth of wildflowers such as wild geranium, hepatica and bloodroot. The leafy canopy rings with a harmonious chorus of bird songs. Wild turkey and ruffed grouse are dispersed in these hills and forests as well. These are just a few of the natural wonders found at Jefferson Lake.

### **Lake Milton State Park Icon#46**

16801 Mahoning Avenue  
Lake Milton, Ohio 44429-9998  
(330) 654-4989

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/lkmilton/tabid/759/Default.aspx>

Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Hunting, Picnicking

Lake Milton State Park lies in the portion of the Appalachian Plateau in Ohio that was overridden by glaciers some 12,000 years ago. This glaciated plateau contains a great variety of plants, animals and natural habitats. The plateau's rolling hills are interspersed with forests, bogs, old fields, streams and lakes.

The plateau is a major meeting ground of plants and forest types from the southern Appalachians and northern Allegheny regions. For instance, it is possible to see substantial stands of white oak and hickory which are typical of the southern Appalachians as well as northern hemlock forests which are more common in the northern Allegheny region. This tension zone accounts for the great diversity of plants in the area. Star flower, spring beauties, mountain maple, anemones and wood aster grace the floor of beech-maple woodlots.

Animals suited to this area include cottontail rabbit, red fox, raccoon, muskrat and woodchuck. Bird life is diverse with robins, warblers, pine siskins, hawks and owls being commonly seen. Reptiles found here include the midland painted turtle and the northern watersnake.

### **Mosquito Lake State Park Icon#40**

2961 Warren Meadville Road  
Cortland, OH 44410-9321  
(330) 637-1961

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/mosquito.htm>

The lake and most of its surrounding lands are leased by the Corps of Engineers to the [Ohio Department of Natural Resources](#) as [Mosquito Lake State Park](#). However, you will find that both the Corps and Ohio Department of Natural Resources provide numerous, well-maintained facilities at the lake to enhance your recreational experience. Mosquito Creek Lake is the second largest inland lake in Ohio with Grand Lake St. Mary's being the largest.

Almost all the Corps land at the northern end of the lake (north of the Route 88 causeway) is leased to the Ohio [Division of Wildlife](#) for fish and wildlife management purposes. The wildlife management area is located in this area and is a haven for migratory birds. Red-tailed, marsh and other hawks are common summer sights over the cleared meadows and woodlots. Among the rare and unusual birds observed are nesting bald eagles and osprey. One of Ohio's rarer species of reptiles, the massasauga rattlesnake, also occurs in the area.

The entire waterfowl management area is closed to the public except during field days when special tours are provided. However, observation from parking areas and roadways is encouraged. Outside of the management area controlled waterfowl and game hunts are provided in the area by permit only.

Renowned for its excellent walleye [fishing](#), anglers will also find crappie, bass, northern pike and catfish plentiful in Mosquito's waters. Many fishermen likewise enjoy trying their angling skills in the lake's challenging tail waters below the dam. Fishing through the ice during winter's freeze is very popular with fishermen, and Mosquito Creek's icy waters have yielded many fine catches of walleye and panfish.

The lake affords [boating](#) enthusiasts the opportunity to pursue their varied interests. Boats of all types can be found on the lake ranging from sail boats and small fishing boats to runabouts and cruisers of unlimited horsepower. The smooth waters of the lake are also ideal for waterskiing. Boaters will find [launching ramps](#) with ample parking available at several sites on the lake as well as a marina with mooring facilities and a launching ramp in the state park.

Mosquito Lake State Park has a spacious campground with 234 campsites equipped with picnic tables, fire rings, grills and sanitary facilities including a dump station and showers. The park also boasts a swimming beach, self-guided nature trail, several picnic areas and an amphitheater for the public's enjoyment. Pets are permitted in designated areas.

The Corps maintains five recreation areas in the vicinity of the dam. These include picnic areas with tables and grills, parking and easy access to the lake's shoreline or tailwaters area for fishing and sightseeing, as well as a nature trail. Old Route 305 provides a three lane boat launch ramp. Also in this area is a "watchable wildlife" site that can be accessed near the nature trail. Accessible restrooms for persons with disabilities are available at the Lakeview Recreation Area and the Tailwater Recreation Area. A fishing access area for the physically challenged is also available at the Lakeview Recreation Area.

Recreation does not stop with the onset of winter at Mosquito Creek Lake. In addition to ice fishing, the cold weather enthusiast will find cross-country skiing in the state park and snowmobile trails located along the lake's shoreline.

### **West Branch State Park and Michael J. Kirwan Dam and Reservoir Icon#42**

P.O. Box 58  
Wayland, OH 44285-0058  
330-358-2622

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/michaelj.htm>

All sizes and types of watercraft are found boating on the reservoir. Types range from cruisers and runabouts of unlimited horsepower – many with skiers in tow, to small fishing boats and canoes plying the coves and inlets in search of fish. Sailboats, with their colorful sails, are also found taking advantage of the summer breezes that come off of Lake Erie. The entire area west of Rock Spring Road causeway is a no-wake zone, excellent for a quiet, leisurely boating or fishing trip.

Marine supplies, gasoline, boat rentals, docking facilities and a concession stand for hungry boaters are available at the modern **marina** located on the south shore. There are two concrete launching ramps maintained on the reservoir and the Fisherman's Parking Area, located on the north shore adjacent to the causeway, is ideal for launching canoes and other small boats.

**Fishing** at Michael J. Kirwan is a rewarding activity. The numerous deep feeder channels and shallow shoreline provide habitat for a variety of fish species. The reservoir has yielded many trophy size walleye, muskie and striped bass. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie and bluegills are also found in abundance. During the winter months, ice fishing is popular and many fine catches of walleye and panfish are

taken. Prior to going onto the ice, anglers should check with the State Park or Corps Park Office for current ice conditions.

The 12 miles of **mountain bike trails**, developed by the [Cleveland Area Mountain Bike Association](#), at West Branch State Park offer an outstanding biking experience and have earned a five star rating. The lakeside portion of the trail consists of flowing single-track that traces along the shore of the reservoir and includes many short climbs and descents in and out of the ravines that line the lake. This portion of the trail is suitable for most riders, although there are some challenging downhill sections that may be a bit much for the absolute beginner. The single-track on the south side of Cable Line Road is more technical and challenging and is not suitable for beginners. The Rock Gorge Trail offers some very scenic riding with single-track that drops the rider into a gorge with a flowing creek below and includes several very rocky sections. The Rock Wall Trail offers some extremely challenging rock riding for advanced/expert riders but should NOT be attempted by beginners.

**Hiking** enthusiasts can spend their time on any of the several trails. The State maintains several hiking trails adjacent to the camping area and an eight mile loop of the [Buckeye Trail](#) traverses the western end of the reservoir. The Corps maintains a nature trail, Little Jewel Run, located in the vicinity of the dam's outflow. In addition, there are also snowmobile, cross-country skiing and bridle trails available.

Even if you're just out for an afternoon drive sightseeing, why not stop and have a lakeside picnic at the reservoir? The **picnic areas** are conveniently located and are provided with picnic tables, shelters and grills for your enjoyment. Also, the park's 700 foot sandy **beach** is ideal for cooling off on a hot summer day with clean restrooms and changing rooms.

## **West Virginia State Parks**

### **Tygart Lake State Park Icon#39**

Route 1, Box 257  
Grafton, WV 26354-9738  
(304) 265-1760

<http://www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/lakes/tygartla.htm>

Located in the picturesque West Virginia countryside, Tygart Lake's blue waters and irregular shoreline contrast with the surrounding steep mountain terrain. With the exception of the administrative area in the vicinity of the dam, the lake and its surrounding Federal lands are out-granted by the Corps of Engineers to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources as part of Tygart Lake State Park and the Pleasant Creek Hunting and Fishing Area.

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The steep, wooded mountainsides and the clear inviting waters of the lake attract many visitors to Tygart for a day of relaxation and enjoyment. Located around the lake are several picnic areas, hiking trails, playgrounds, and the State Park's swim beach. The beach has a well maintained sunbathing area and a cement deck that extends into the warm waters of the lake. Certified lifeguards are on duty at the beach to insure the safety of swimmers. The exceptional clarity of Tygart Lake is also attracting an ever increasing number of scuba divers to explore the lake's depths, especially in the area of Henderson's Rocks.

Tygart Lake's 10 mile length and deep waters have made the lake a popular site for power boaters and water-skiing enthusiasts. The lake's irregular shoreline also provides many inlets and backwater areas for canoes and small fishing boats to explore.

Excellent access to the lake is provided by four boat launching ramps and a public marina contributing to the lake's popularity with boaters.

Tygart Lake is considered by many to be one of the best bass waters in the area and fishing its deep waters can be a rewarding and exciting experience. In addition to bass, anglers will find abundant walleye, muskie, crappie, perch and numerous pan fish. All species of fish found in Tygart Lake are sustained through natural reproduction rather than by stocking attesting to the exceptional water quality of the lake. Fishing for rainbow and golden trout, which are periodically stocked in the tail waters of Tygart Dam, is also popular with many anglers.

Those seeking overnight accommodations at Tygart Lake have a choice between lodge or cabin facilities available at the State Park. There are also campgrounds available at the State Park and the Pleasant Creek Public Hunting and Fishing Area for those desiring a more rustic experience during their stay.