Lackawanna State Park

The 1,445-acre Lackawanna State Park is in northeastern Pennsylvania, ten miles north of Scranton. The centerpiece of the park, the 119-acre Lackawanna Lake, is surrounded by picnic areas and multi-use trails winding through forest. Boating, camping, fishing, mountain biking and swimming are popular recreation activities.

Directions

The park is easily reached from I-81. Visitors should take Exit 199 and travel three miles west on PA 524. Visitors coming from U.S. routes 6 and 11 should take PA 438 east about three miles to PA 407, then north.

Reservations

Make online reservations at www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday, for state park information and reservations.

Recreational Opportunities

PICNICING: Most of the main picnic area overlooks the lake. Grills and modern restrooms are throughout the area. Small picnic areas can be found at the Bullhead Bay Boat Launch to the north, and States Creek Mooring Area on the southern end of the lake.

Three picnic pavilions may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. If not reserved, the pavilions are free to a first-come, first-served basis.

SWIMMING: The pool is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day, unless posted otherwise. A bathroom and snack bar are adjacent to the pool.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: Over 900 acres are open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer, turkey, rabbit, pheasant and grouse. Additional areas in and around the campground are open for specific hunting seasons only. Contact the park office for details.

Hunting woodcocks, also known as groundhogs, is prohibited. Dog training is only permitted from the day following Labor Day through March 31 in designated hunting areas. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission rules and regulations apply. Contact the park office for ADA accessible hunting information.

Use extreme caution with firearms at all times. Other visitors use the park during hunting seasons. Firearms and archery equipment used for hunting may be unsecured and ready for use only in authorized hunting areas during hunting seasons. In areas not open to hunting or during non-hunting seasons, firearms and archery equipment shall be stored in the owner’s car, trailer or leased campsite. The only exception is that law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms may carry said firearm concealed on their person while they are within the park.

HIKING: 18 miles of trails

A series of looping trails limited to foot traffic wander through the campground and day use areas of the park. Additional multi-use trails explore forests, fields, lakeshore areas and woodland streams. Tell us about your hike at: www.exploreparks.com

HORSEBACK RIDING: The multi-use trails can be used by horseback riders. Abington Trail is recommended. Trailer parking is available in the northeastern section of the park along Wallsville Road (PA 438). Many trail foot bridges are not built for equestrian crossing.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: About 15 miles of multi-use trails wind through the park, traversing hills, lakeshore, forests and fields. Trailheads are at the States Creek Mooring Area and on Rowlands, Wallsville and Austin roads.

FISHING: The 198-acre Lackawanna Lake has cold-water and warm-water fish. Common fish are trout, muskellunge, walleye, channel catfish, bullhead, pickerel and largemouth bass. The 2.5-mile long lake has more than 7.5 miles of shoreline. The fishing pier by the main boat launch is ADA accessible. The 3-acre Trestle Pond, in the northern end of the park, is open to youth fishing only (ages 12 and under) and hosts a variety of warm-water species.

BOATING: Electric motors only

The 198-acre Lackawanna Lake is popular for canoeing, kayaking and rowing. There are three boat launches around the lake. A limited number of boat mooring spaces are available on a seasonal basis. A boat concession near the swimming pool area rents various types of boats. Motorboats must display a boat registration from any state. Non-powered boats must display one of the following: boat registration from any state; launching permit or mooring permit from Pennsylvania State Parks that are available at most state parks offices; launch use permit from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

Stay the Night

CAMPING: Flush toilets, warm showers, etc. The campground is within walking distance of the lake and swimming pool, and features forested sites with electric hook-ups and walk-in tent sites. Campground shower houses provide warm showers and flush toilets. Fox Run and Maple Lane loops allow access at designated sites. A sanitary dump station is near the campground entrance.

The campground opens the second Friday in April and closes the third Sunday in October. The maximum camping period is 14 consecutive days in the summer season and 21 consecutive days in the off-season.

Three camping cottages and two yurts are in the Carpenterville Loop. Camping cottages feature wooden walls and floors, windows, porch, and electric lights and outlets. Each cottage sleeps five people in bunk beds. Yurts are round, canvas and wood walled tents with a wooden deck. These feature a cooking stove, microwave oven, refrigerator, counter, table, chairs, electric heat and outlets, and sleep four or five people in bunk beds.

ORGANIZED GROUP TENTING: Three areas with a combined capacity of 160 people are open April through October to adult and youth groups. This area has a modern shower house along with picnic tables, fire rings and water hydrants. Advance reservations are required.

Winter Activities

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: All trails can be cross-country skied and snowshoed, although Lackawanna, Snake Mountain and most trails in the campground and picnicking areas are recommended.

SLEDGING AND TUBOGRANNING: The gentle slopes by Hilltop Pavilion are recommended for sledding.

Ice thickness and conditions are not monitored. For your safety, carry safety equipment and be sure ice thickness is at least four inches thick. Ice under the PA 407 bridge is UNSAFE all winter. Check the park website or call the park office for snow and ice conditions.

ICE FISHING: Most of the 198-acre Lackawanna Lake is open for ice fishing, except for the ice skating area, under the PA 407 bridge and near the dam.

ICE SKATING: When conditions permit, park staff clear an area of ice near the fishing pier for skating. Always check the ice thickness before traveling on the ice.

Environmental Education and Interpretation

For More Information Contact: Lackawanna State Park 1839 Abington Road North Abington Township, PA 18414-9785 570-945-3229 (Main Office) 570-563-3101 (Campground Office) email: lackawannasp@pa.gov GPS: Lat. 41.59959 Long. -75.70555 An Equal Opportunity Employer

www.visitPAparks.com

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In the early 1800s, settlers followed this path and built farms in the valley. The trail became designated PA 407.

In 1809, several area farmers organized the Maitland Fair and Driving Park Association. Annual fairs and horse races attracted large crowds for a dozen years. The racecourse was in the current park camping area on the Woodland Pond Trail.

In 1912, the D. L. & W. Railroad purchased land to build a reservoir, which was never built.

The land was leased to farmers until 1946 when Robert Moffit, a prominent Scranton coal operator, purchased the land and rented it to his employees.

In 1904, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the land and developed it into an outstanding recreation area whose primary attraction is Lackawanna Lake, the meeting place of many streams. The park was dedicated on June 10, 1927.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Lackawanna County Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.visitnepa.org

The Countryside Conservancy owns lands adjoining Lackawanna State Park. Hiking, biking and picnicking are permitted. www.countrysideconservancy.org

Lackawanna State Park is in the Lackawanna Heritage Valley. www.lhv.org

Archbald Pothole State Park, to the east, exhibits one of the world’s largest glacial potholes, which was carved by glacial meltwater during the last ice age.

Salt Springs State Park, to the northwest, features waterfalls and towering basalt columns with hemlocks.

www.friendsoflackawannapark.org

Prompton State Park, to the north, borders the 290-acre Prompton Lake, operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Visitors can motorboat, fish, hunt and explore the park on the 23 miles of multi-use trails.

Access for People with Disabilities

This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are permitted. www.countrysideconservancy.org

5. This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

If you need accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.

In an Emergency

Contact a park employee or dial 911. For directions to the nearest hospital, look on bulletin boards or at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL

Geisinger Community Medical Center 1800 Mulberry Street Scranton, PA 18510 570-969-4000

www.lackawannapark.com

Lackawanna is an American Indian word meaning “the meeting of two streams” and became the name of the lake. An important American Indian trail linked the Lackawanna Lake to New York State.