Pennsylvania State Parks Mission: The primary purpose of Pennsylvania state parks is to provide opportunities for enjoyable outdoor recreation and serve as outdoor classrooms for environmental education. In meeting these purposes, the conservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic, and historical values of parks shall be given first consideration. The conservation of parks shall be ensured by efficient administration that protects the natural environment for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

**WELCOME**

1. Discover the challenges of finding the Missing Mushroom Trail.
3. Experience the fun of relaxing, swimming, or fishing on Pocahontas Lake.
4. Enjoy a stroll through the woods with friends and family at one of our 1200+ miles of trails.
5. No need, outdoor enthusiasts! Stop by our park offices to see our camping options and get permits for your next vacation.
6. We invite you to fish throughout the summer to discover the favorite resident waters for Julia Vaugh's butterfly family found in Scenic Hill County. Massena.

Top 10 Activities to do at Pocahontas State Park:

1. Boating: Pocahontas Lake is the largest state park lake in the state, and provides ample opportunities for boating and fishing. The lake is open for boating year round. Call 911 and contact a park employee.
2. Fishing: Pocahontas Lake is stocked with largemouth bass, hybrid striped bass, and catfish. The lake is open for fishing year round. Call 911 and contact a park employee.
3. Camping: There are 40 modern sites, some with electricity or water and sewer hook-up, available at the campground. The campground has an ADA accessible campsite and a modern area.
4. Hiking: The trails at Pocahontas State Park are open year round. Call 911 and contact a park employee.
5. Bicycling: Bike rentals are available at the park office. The trails are accessible to all abilities and are suitable for mountain biking.
6. Horseback Riding: Horse rentals are available at the park office. The trails are accessible to all abilities and are suitable for horseback riding.
7. Picnicking: Picnic tables are available throughout the park. Call 911 and contact a park employee.
8. Environmental Education and Interpretation Programs: The park offers a wide variety of interpretive and educational programs year round. Through hands-on activities, guided tours, and engaging, interactive experiences, program participants gain an appreciation and understanding of Pennsylvania's stewardship toward natural and cultural resources. Prevent bird and lake birds from the lake are offered spring through fall. For more detailed information, please contact the park office.
9. The environmental learning center in the Conewago Day Use Area is open year-round during the summer. Visitors can explore the center to discover more about the park’s natural environment.
10. Cattle: The State Capitol, Hershey, Gettysburg County’s Amish Country are nearby. The park is home to several hundred acres of Pinchot Lake. The lake is open for fishing year round. Call 911 and contact a park employee.

**Gifford Pinchot**

Gifford Pinchot was born in 1858 to a wealthy family. A lifelong interest in nature led him to protect Pennsylvania’s forests and founded the state’s first national forest. Gifford Pinchot is the namesake of the Conewago Day Use Area and Pocahontas State Park.

“In the many, many public official portfolios where my administration solicited favorably our people to the services of the United States, Gifford Pinchot was the mark I sought first. —President Theodore Roosevelt

Gifford Pinchot became governor of Pennsylvania in 1902. A reformer turned, he worked 16 hours a day, built Pennsylvania's state budget around $17 million, and gave himself a pay cut. Pinchot was not afraid of a fight. Offset at work was the political landscape. Pinchot fought hard for the people. Several times a year Pinchot fought head to head against the line's administration. Inevitably, I would talk this talk in a public or where the people would come to him in the hall. There is never a better chance to advance a cause. It is only when the people see for themselves the advantage of the laws, that the line is excellent for this to come from them to the market. These 29 years of experience I have made fine for getting him from the line to the people. Through this process, I have the power. These 29 years of experience I have made fine for getting him from the line to the people. Through this process, I have the power. These 29 years of experience I have made fine for getting him from the line to the people. Through this process, I have the power. These 29 years of experience I have made fine for getting him from the line to the people.

**NATURAL HISTORY**

The lake is open for fishing year round. Call 911 and contact a park employee.

**Protect and Preserve our Parks**

at the park office.

hunting and trapping in the park is available

buildings and private residences in and

rifles and handguns is prohibited. Hunters

season, shotguns and muzzleloading long

November 1 to the end of flintlock deer

in the park. Hunting weapons are restricted

Pennsylvania State Parks that are available

boat registration from any state;

registration from any state. Non-powered

BOATING:

of reverting farm fields and wooded

Hunting woodchucks, also known as

Special regulations apply to all hunting

The ADA accessible

Campers can access the trails directly from

public is from the Conewago Day Use Area.

HORSEBACK RIDING:

intersection with PA 177. Horse rentals

area has a ball field. Four picnic pavilions,

has a volleyball court and the Conewago

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HIKING: 18 MILES OF TRAILS

There are more than 18 miles of marked trails at Gifford Pinchot State Park. Most trails interconnect to allow hikers to meet their individual desires. Be aware that the park is open to hunting. Information on hunting seasons is available at the park office. For your safety, wear orange.

Blue blazes mark the Mason-Dixon Trail.

- Red blazes are hiking trails that are shared with mountain bike riding.
- Yellow blazes are hiking only trails.

**Trail Guidelines:**
- Wear good shoes on this trail because the surface can be rocky in some places and wet in other places. Many hikers combine portions of this trail with other trails like Alpine, Gravel, Oak, and Quaker Race to make shorter loops.
- Cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete Trail makes a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete Trail can be reached from near Boat Mooring Area #3.

**Gravel Trail:** 1.2 miles, easiest hiking
This trail runs near the southern border of the campground and connects between Lakeside, Old Farm, and Ridge trails. Old Farm Trail follows an old farm road to the top of Straight Hill. The trail is a dirt or rocky surface, uneven terrain, and can be muddy in wet weather. Many old stonewalls provide reminders of long abandoned efforts at farming. The trail crosses Gravel Trail and eventually splits into two branches that connect along the top of Straight Hill to form a loop. The habitat here includes early successional oak and hickory forest. A number of old stonewalls provide reminders of long abandoned efforts at farming.

**Maison-Dixon Trail:** 200 miles (16.8 miles within the park), most difficult hiking
This trail begins near the campground entrance where it intersects Lakeside Trail. From there, hikers can continue into the park campground. It may be accessed from all major entrances of the park. It may be accessed from all major entrances of the park. The trail enters the park along Conley Road in the east and Squire Gratz Road in the northwest. Through-hikers may only camp at the park campground.

**Tell us about your hike at:**
[www.explorefpa.com]

powered by ppa

**Blue Blaze(s) mark the Mason-Dixon Trail.**

**ALPINE TRAIL:** 0.5 miles, easiest hiking
This trail runs through second growth forest and follows portions of Lakeside, Alpine, and Ridge trails. This trail is best accessed from the Quaker Race Day Use Area or from the Cabin Colony for cabin occupants. This trail has a gravel surface. Alpine Trail has an outstanding crop of wildflowers in April and May, with bluebells and marsh marigolds. The trail begins on the east side of Conewago Day Use Area. This wide trail follows an old woods road and has a gravel surface. A loop can be made by using part of Lakeside Trail making a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete supports from an old toboggan run can be seen along this trail.

**BEAVER CREEK TRAIL:** 1.1 miles, most difficult hiking
This trail runs near the northeastern corner of the park. The trail meanders through low-lying wooded terrain and can be muddy in wet weather. The trail is mostly maturing oak and hickory forest. A number of old stonewalls provide reminders of long abandoned efforts at farming.

**GRAVEL TRAIL:** 1.2 miles, easiest hiking
This trail runs through second growth forest from the campground to the area of the boat rental at the western end of the Conewago Day Use Area. This wide trail follows an old woods road and has a gravel surface. A loop can be made by using part of Lakeside Trail making a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete supports from an old toboggan run can be seen along this trail.

**LAKESIDE TRAIL:** 0.5 miles, most difficult hiking
This is the longest most scenic trail in the park. It may be accessed from the north end of the park. Walking is easy to do. Many parts of the trail are easy walking with gravel surfaces, but some of the terrain sections are narrow with uneven footing and not in other places. Many hikers combine portions of this trail with other trails like Alpine, Gravel, Oak, and Quaker Race to make shorter loops.

**MIDLAND AND FERN TRAILS:** 0.5 mile, easiest hiking
These small side trails off Lakeside Trail can be reached from near Boat Mooring Area #3. This short trail connects the campground to the area of the boat rental at the western end of the Conewago Day Use Area. This wide trail follows an old woods road and has a gravel surface. A loop can be made by using part of Lakeside Trail making a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete supports from an old toboggan run can be seen along this trail.

**OLD FARM TRAIL:** 1 mile, easiest hiking
This trail runs along the northeastern border of the campground and is a connector between Lakeside, Oak, and Ridge trails. Old Farm Trail follows an old farm road to the top of Straight Hill.

**PINCHOT TRAIL:** 1.0 miles, most difficult hiking
This trail runs near the southern border of the campground and connects between Lakeside, Old Farm, and Ridge trails. Old Farm Trail follows an old farm road to the top of Straight Hill. The trail is a dirt or rocky surface, uneven terrain, and can be muddy in wet weather. Many old stonewalls provide reminders of long abandoned efforts at farming.

**QUEAKER RACE TRAIL:** 1.7 miles, more difficult hiking
This trail begins near the campground entrance where it intersects Lakeside Trail. From there, hikers can continue into the park campground. It may be accessed from all major entrances of the park. It may be accessed from all major entrances of the park. The trail enters the park along Conley Road in the east and Squire Gratz Road in the northwest. Through-hikers may only camp at the park campground.

**RIDGE TRAIL:** 1.2 miles, more difficult hiking
This trail runs through Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. The trail has blue blazes and connects portions of Lakeside, Oak, and Ridge trails. Ridge Trail follows an old farm road to the top of Straight Hill. The trail is a gravel surface, uneven terrain, and can be muddy in wet weather. Many old stonewalls provide reminders of long abandoned efforts at farming.

**Tulip Popular Trees:**
These small side trails off Lakeside Trail can be reached from near Boat Mooring Area #3. This short trail connects the campground to the area of the boat rental at the western end of the Conewago Day Use Area. This wide trail follows an old woods road and has a gravel surface. A loop can be made by using part of Lakeside Trail making a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete supports from an old toboggan run can be seen along this trail.

**Wetland Area:**
These small side trails off Lakeside Trail can be reached from near Boat Mooring Area #3. This short trail connects the campground to the area of the boat rental at the western end of the Conewago Day Use Area. This wide trail follows an old woods road and has a gravel surface. A loop can be made by using part of Lakeside Trail making a nice trail for hiking, jogging, cross-country skiing, and bicycling. Concrete supports from an old toboggan run can be seen along this trail.