Blue Knob State Park

Blue Knob State Park is named for its majestic dome-shaped mountain. A 5,256-foot above sea level, Blue Knob is the second highest mountain in Pennsylvania, only 7 feet less than Mount Davis in Somerset County. Situated on a spur of the Allegheny Front overlooking the scenic Ridge and Valley Province to the east, Blue Knob has spectacular views. Unique photographic opportunities are available during low humidity weather and with changes of season.

A northeastern view from the second highest point in Pennsylvania can be seen at the summit of the 3,711-foot Bald Hill on closed park land opened by the ski resort.

A southeastern view can be enjoyed at Chappell Field, across from the campground. Included with this view is a close-up of the western slopes of Blue Knob Mountain.

A southwestern view can be enjoyed at the Willow Spring Picnic Area.

Blue Knob State Park is a great place to see wildlife in all seasons. Here are some highlights.

Fall is an exciting time at Blue Knob. Visitors can observe wildlife and plants preparing for the coming winter. Some animals begin to migrate, others prepare to hibernate, and others put on great displays during fall courtship. Many animals are preparing to make them easier to see and photograph. The vibrant colors of fall foliage usually peak in the second and third weeks of October. With an abundance of sugar maple, red maples, the mountain oaks appear to be on fire due to the red and yellow leaves.

Mammals, such as muskrats produce large crops of acorns so that at least a few will escape the black bears, deer, squirrels and turkeys that are fattening up for winter. The arrival of water- and deer-dwelling ducks means it is time for the brook trout to emerge.

Enjoy The Winter

SNOWMOBILING: Snowmobile routes are open daily after the end of hunting season in December. The trail system consists of eight miles of marked trails along park roads and with orange-diamond markers. Park roads are not open for snowmobiling. Please stay on the Expressway.

 Очень удобно сохранять и использовать текст в формате HTML для дальнейшего использования в различных контекстах.

BLUE KNIGHTS: A 100-person capacity is available for overnight use to organize groups. The group camp is an ADA accessible accessible (A.D.A.)-equipped facility. Advance reservations are recommended.

Reservations

Make online reservations at www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free 1-888-PA-PARKS (727-7757), 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday, for state park information and reservations.

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**Hiking: 18 miles of trails**

This multi-use trail starts at the picnic pavilion above the Rock 'N' Ridge Trail and extends to the ski resort along Ski Access Road. The ‘Look Out’ loop is suitable for the whole family, but the remainder of the trail is not.

**CRST RIDGE TRAIL: 1.9 miles, orange blue, easiest hiking**

This multi-use trail starts at an intersection of Chappells Field Trail and extends to the base of the loop. This is an easy downhill hike for the entire family. To access the trail, park at the lowest intersection of Chappells Field Trail and Knob Road, or at the second curve above the pool.

**HOMESTEAD TRAIL: 1.8 miles, orange blue, easiest hiking**

A loop trail off the second major curve along Park Road to Willow Springs Picnic Area, this trail winds through old homestead sites in a rolling valley section of the park. A wide, gentle trail with some uphill travel, this trail is suitable for the whole family. Good hiking opportunities are in the old fields. Park along Park Road at the second curve.

**LIT TLE TRAVEL: 26 miles, red blue, most difficult hiking**

Beginning at the town and ending at the Barbour State Forest Ranger Station on FS 58, this 26-mile trail is a favorite of backpackers, cross-country skiers and day hikers. This trail uses a combination of public and private lands. The trail follows many of the narrow-gauge railroad beds from the logging activities of the 1920s. This trail covers a wide variety of terrain contained in the ridge and valley section of the park, including Blue Knob Mountain and the Allegheny Front. Unnamed connecting trails are blazed in a double blue blazes. Proper hiking boots are recommended. This trail is not recommended for small children. A topographical trail map is available for the entire Little Turkey Trail and the Bureau of Forestry, John P. Steyer Trail. Overnight parking is at the Bear Rock Ranger Station or the Blue Knob park area. Overnight camping by backpackers is allowed only on the area.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW TRAIL: 5 miles, double red blue, most difficult hiking**

This multi-use trail is in a wilderness part of the park. The trail begins a short distance from the curves on the Three Springs Trail. This trail begins a short distance from the curves on the Three Springs Trail. It makes a short, 0.9-mile ‘Look Out’ loop before crossing the Three Springs Trail again. The trail then descends along the Blue Knob Creek before extending along the eastern slope of the mountain to Willow Springs Picnic Area. The trail then proceeds north along an old waterline to Deep Hollow Run and climbs to the ridge and valley section of the park. The ‘Look Out’ loop is suitable for the whole family, but the remainder of the trail is not recommended for adults. Proper hiking boots are a must because terrain is steep and rugged. Access points to different sections of the trail are limited. This trail should not be used during inclement weather because fog is dense due to the higher elevations. Park along the curve approaching the ski resort along Ski Access Road.

**ROCK ’N’ RIDGE TRAIL: 2.8 miles, inverted Blue Trail, most difficult hiking**

This multi-use trail starts at the picnic pavilion above the pool, then follows a homestead road descending through the center of the park near a mountain brook. The trail is a steady uphill climb until it peaks near the mountain-slope and returns along the high-ground connecting the ridge top east of the pool complex. This is a ridge and valley trail suitable for the whole family. Park at the Blue Knob State Park Area.

**SUNKINKEE TRAIL: 3 miles, yellow blue, moderate hiking**

This trail begins at the park and uses openings created by waterlines and service roads. Beginning on Blue Knob Road at SR 4073, this trail traverses Willow Springs Picnic Area. Organized Group Cabin Camp, the campground and Chappells Field, then connects to the lower section of Rock ’N’ Ridge Trail leading to the pool complex. Park at Chappells Field Trailhead.

**THREE SPRINGS TRAIL: 2 miles, orange blue, easiest hiking**

This multi-use trail is a very wide, gentle mountain trail used by service roads and waterlines. It begins at the ski slope and extends along the eastern slope of the mountain to Willow Springs Picnic Area. Enjoy the mountain forest setting with views of the ridgeline from about 2,000 feet. Park at the curve approaching the ski resort along Ski Access Road.