Forbes State Forest at a Glance

District Office

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District Facts

➢ Named for General John Forbes, British commander
➢ Comprised of over 60,000 acres
➢ Found in Fayette, Westmoreland, and Somerset counties
➢ Includes Mt. Davis, PA’s highest point at 3,213 feet

Hiking

➢ There are over 360 miles of shared-use trails and forest roads.
➢ Contains over 11 miles of the Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail.
➢ Popular hiking destinations include Laurel Mountain, Roaring Run Natural Area, and the Quebec Run Wild Area.

Maps are available at online or at the district office.

Sightseeing

➢ The Mt. Davis observation tower offers spectacular, panoramic views.
➢ Cole Run Falls, a 20-foot waterfall, can be found within the Blue Hole Division.
➢ The Braddock Division is home to the historic Wharton Furnace.
➢ Laurel Mountain’s unique natural features include a bog, and scenic overlooks at Beam Rocks and Wolf Rocks.

Camping

➢ Primitive camping is permitted throughout the state forest, except in posted areas.
➢ A permit is required for primitive camping if staying on a site for more than one night.
➢ Six motorized sites are available within the district. (by permit only)

Camping permits are available online or at the district office.

Hunting

➢ Big game opportunities include deer, bear, turkey.
➢ Small game opportunities include grouse, squirrels, rabbits.
➢ Hunting is permitted throughout forest.
➢ Obey all hunting regulations, avoid hunting in marked safety zones.

Colorful fall foliage at Wolf Rocks.
Fishing

➢ Excellent cold-water fishing opportunities exist on Blue Hole Creek, Jones Mill Run, Mill Run, Quebec Run, Linn Run, Roaring Run, Camp Run, Laurel Hill Creek, and Indian Creek.
➢ A 1.6-mile delayed harvest area can be found on Indian Creek near Jones Mills.
➢ Pa. Fish and Boat Commission regulations apply.

Winter Activities

➢ Blue-blazed trails are maintained for cross-country skiing and some of these trails are groomed by volunteers.
➢ Snowshoeing is permitted on most trails, however it’s important to stay out of groomed tracks and keep to the side of the trail.
➢ The district maintains 115 miles of groomed snowmobile trails.

Wild and Natural Areas

➢ Quebec Run Wild Area consists of 7,441 acres of explorable wilderness.
➢ The 3,593-acre Roaring Run Natural Area contains Roaring Run Trail, featuring 29 stream crossings.
➢ Spanning 581 acres, Mt. Davis Natural Area features massive boulders and High Point Overlook.

Other Recreation

➢ Mountain biking and horseback riding are permitted on most forest roads and trails.
➢ Picnic areas within the state forest include Mt. Davis and Lick Hollow.
➢ Recreational programming is available from mid-February through October; for more information, check out the DCNR calendar of events.

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More Information

Contact:
Forbes State Forest District Office

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www.dcnr.state.pa.us