

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Spend the Day



BOATING: electric motors only
A boat launch in the Lake Day Use Area is popular with electric boats, kayaks, and canoes. A mooring area near the boat launch has spaces available for rent from April to October, and several courtesy spaces are reserved for overnight guests. A mooring permit is required and may be obtained at the park office.

Motorboats must display a boat registration from any state. Non-powered boats must display one of the following: boat registration from any state; launch permit or mooring permit from Pennsylvania State Parks, available at most state park offices; launch use permit from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

Excellent fishing can be found on First Fork Sinnemahoning Creek, downstream from the mouth of Schoolhouse Run for 3.9 miles. This section is designated as a delayed harvest, artificial lures only special regulation area. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

PICNICKING: The park contains two main picnic areas. The Lake Day Use Area at the George B. Stevenson Reservoir is located in an open grassy area and includes picnic tables and charcoal grills. In addition, a pavilion with an adjoining checkers/chess table and grill is located at the Eagle Watch Area directly above the boat launch.



FISHING: The 145-acre George B. Stevenson Reservoir has fishing for coldwater and warmwater species, including brook, rainbow, and brown trout, smallmouth and largemouth bass, sunfish, bluegill, perch, pickerel, crappie, and catfish. An ADA accessible fishing pier is located near the boat launch. Throughout the park, creeks also provide good angling and some streams in the park contain native brook trout.



HIKING: 6 miles
Lowlands Trail: 5 miles, no blazes, easiest hiking

The Lowlands Trail follows the course of the First Fork, passing through open fields, shrubby riparian zones, and mature forests. This scenic trail was originally part of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad bed. Educational panels along the way provide insights into the wildlife and ecology of the park. This trail allows access to the Wildlife Viewing Area at the northern end of the park and the Viewing Blind near 40 Maples.

Red Spruce Trail: 1 mile, yellow blazes, more difficult
Connecting the campground to the 40 Maples Day Use Area, this shady trail skirts a wetland area and passes under the dense canopy of a mature, mixed hardwood forest.

BICYCLING: The 5-mile Lowlands Trail provides opportunities to view wildlife while traveling on the scenic rail trail. Bicycling is also permitted on all park roads.



HUNTING AND FIREARMS: About 1400 acres of the park are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during the established seasons. Common game species are deer, grouse, squirrel, bear, turkey, and waterfowl.

Hunting woodchucks, 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 uncased 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 kept in the owner's vehicle or enclosed trailer. Exceptions include: law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid *Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms* are authorized to carry a firearm concealed on their person while they are within a state park.

Stay the Night

CAMPING: The 35-site campground is one mile south of the Park Office and Wildlife Center along PA 872 and is open from the mid-April to mid-December. The camping area features a sanitary dump station and a modern restroom with showers. The restroom and some campsites are ADA accessible. Electric hookups are available at most sites, which are sized to accommodate camping equipment from tents to large recreational vehicles. A picnic table, lantern hook, and campfire ring are provided at each site. Pets are permitted on designated sites. Campsites can be reserved up to 11 months in advance and up to noon on the day of arrival. The centrally-located campground amphitheater offers educational programs throughout the summer season.

BROOKS RUN CABIN: The modern cabin is nestled in a hemlock grove along Brooks Run at the southern end of the park. The four-bedroom cabin accommodates twelve people and includes an updated, modern kitchen and a living room with a stone fireplace. Linens, washcloths, towels, cleaning supplies, and food are not supplied. A secluded patio and campfire area provides convenient space for outdoor cooking and entertaining. This popular cabin can be reserved up to 11 months in advance and must be reserved at least two days in advance. It is available by the week during the summer peak season and for a minimum of two days during the non-peak season.



Enjoy the Winter



SNOWMOBILING: Within the park, 1.5 miles of joint-use road and 5 miles of Lowlands Trail may be traveled by snowmobile. The route is clearly marked by signs and orange blaze markers. Current snow depths and conditions are posted on the state parks website.

The park route joins the trails of Elk State Forest at Brooks Run Road, totaling 25 miles of trail system. Most state forest trails are groomed for snowmobiling.

Snowmobiles may be operated on designated trails and roads from the day following the last day of deer season in December until April 1, weather permitting. Snowmobiles are prohibited from operating on frozen water surfaces and shorelines. All snowmobiles must be registered.

ICE FISHING: Conditions permitting, all areas of the lake are open for ice fishing except within 50 feet of the trash boom by the dam. **Ice thickness is not monitored.** For your safety, make sure ice is at least 4" thick for a single angler and 7" thick for a small group. Extreme caution must be taken during ice related activities. Dangerous ice conditions like unsafe or weak ice or air pockets may exist due to rapidly rising or falling lake levels. Always carry safety equipment.



GEORGE B. STEVENSON DAM

- Rolled, earth-fill structure 1,918 feet long and 166 feet high
- Top width of 30 feet and a maximum width of 940 feet at the base
- A 16-foot diameter reinforced concrete tunnel carries the flow of the creek through the right (west) abutment of the dam
- The 211-foot-high reinforced concrete control tower houses the two, 37-ton sluice gates and operating equipment
- The flood control storage of the reservoir is equal to 5.85 inches of runoff from the 243-square-mile drainage area above the dam

GPS DD: Lat. 41.40685 Long. -78.02129



Photograph by Gamett and Fleming, Inc.

