A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for Lyman Run State Park

# Lyman Run State Park

The 595-acre Lyman Run State Park is in scenic Potter County. Maples and cherries dominate a mixed northern hardwood forest that surrounds the 45-acre Lyman Run Lake, making a most scenic setting.

# Directions

GPS DD: Lat. 41.72207 Long. -77.77890

Lyman Run State Park is 15 miles east of Coudersport and seven miles west of Galeton on Lyman Run Road.

# Recreational Opportunities

### CAMPING: flush toilets and hot showers

Daggett Run and Lower campgrounds offer separate camping areas with a total of 35 RV and tent campsites. Each campsite contains a picnic table, fire ring, and lantern hanger. Twenty-nine campsites have electricity. Six campsites are walk-ins. The campgrounds have modern washhouses with hot water, flush toilets, and showers. The campgrounds are open from the second weekend in April to the end of deer season in December. A sanitary dump station is in Lower Campground. Pets are permitted on designated sites in both campgrounds.

Campsites in the Lower Campground offer licensed drivers with ATVs direct access to the Susquehannock State Forest ATV trail system at the Lyman Trailhead.

HIKING: 6 miles of hiking trails

The hiking trails link to many miles of trails in Susquehannock State Forest. Unless noted below, all trails are marked with rectangular yellow blazes. There are trailhead and intersection signposts.

#### Beehive Trail: 1.4 miles, more difficult hiking

The massive, old stumps along this trail show signs of ancient wildfires. Beehive Trail was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s and connects Dagget Run Campground and Rock Run Road. Wildcat Trail intersects Beehive Trail making a loop.

Lyman Run Trail: 3-3.8 miles, more difficult hiking Hike from one end of the park to the other following Lyman Run through many habitats and on a railroad trace. Lyman Run Trail can be accessed in Lower Campground, at the spillway, or where it intersects the Susquehannock Trail System. Until a bridge is installed, hikers must make a wet crossing of the creek between Lower Campground and the spillway.

#### Rock Run Trail: 0.6 mile, more difficult hiking

Along this aptly named trail are very large boulders. Rock Run Trail descends rapidly from Rock Run Road to intersect Spur Line Trail near Lower Campground.

#### Spur Line Trail: 0.75 mile, easiest hiking

The bumps on this trail are the remains of old railroad ties from the Goodyear Brothers logging railroad that hauled tan bark and hemlock logs during the lumbering era. Spur Line Trail ascends slowly from Lower Campground up to Rock Run Road. To the right along Rock Run Road is Lyman Run Vista. Hikers can complete a loop by continuing on the road then turning right onto Rock Run Trail.

#### Wildcat Trail: 1.3 miles, more difficult hiking

Along this trail is a small upland bog that has northern cotton grass and several majestic old growth hemlock trees. Wildcat Connector links Wildcat Trail with Rock Run and Spur Line trails.

Susquehannock Trail System: This 85-mile trail loop traverses some of the most rugged, mountainous terrain in northcentral Pennsylvania. This trail system also passes through Denton Hill, Patterson, and Ole Bull state parks.

Tell us about your hike at: www.ExplorePAtrails.com.

ATV TRAIL: Lyman Run State Park is an access point for the 43-mile Susquehannock ATV Trail.

**ATVs must be loaded/offloaded in the Lyman Run ATV trailhead parking lot located east of the park office on Lyman Run Road. This lot has space for five vehicles with trailers.**

Additional ATV offload/staging areas are available at DCNR’s Bureau of Forestry (Denton Hill) trailhead and the Susquehannock State Forest Rock Run Road trailhead.

Restrooms and the Watercraft and Refreshment Concession at Lyman Run Beach are within walking distance of the joint use “ATV” parking lot located on the Lyman Run dam breast along Lyman Run Road.

Dagget Hollow Road (campground), Park Office Road, Lower Campground Road, and designated day use vehicle parking lots are off limits to ATVs.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: ♿ About 505 acres are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer,

turkey, and bear. Hunting is also permitted in the adjacent Susquehannock State Forest.

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.

PICNICKING: The shaded picnic area has picnic tables, charcoal grills, hot charcoal disposals, drinking water, and a play area. Modern restrooms are in the beach house. One picnic pavilion may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. When unreserved, the picnic pavilion is free on a first-come, first-served basis.

### BOATING: electric motors only

Boating facilities on the 45-acre Lyman Run Lake include a launch ramp and a courtesy dock. The mooring area holds 60 boats. A permit, available at the park office, is needed for the mooring area.

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.

SWIMMING: The 300-foot sand beach is open from late-May to mid-September, 8:00 AM to sunset. Swim at your own risk. Please read and follow posted rules for swimming. A modern bathhouse with flush toilets, changing rooms, snack bar, and boat rental is the centerpiece of the beach area.

SNOWMOBILING: A 43-mile loop trail in Susquehannock State Forest passes through Lyman Run State Park.

### FISHING:

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

LAKE FISHING: The 45-acre Lyman Run Lake is noted for its exceptional water quality and provides excellent fishing for trout, smallmouth bass, and panfish. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocks the lake with rainbow and palomino trout throughout the fishing season.

ICE FISHING: Lyman Run Lake provides ice fishing during the winter months.

**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. Always carry safety equipment.

STREAM FISHING: Lyman Run from Lyman Run Lake to West Branch Road is approved trout water and stocked each spring. From the inflow to Lyman Run Lake upstream, 5.3 miles of Lyman Run and all its tributaries are excellent for wild brook trout fishing. Anglers should consult the Summary of Fishing Regulations and Laws for current restrictions and creel limits.

# Learn, Experience, Connect

April through October an environmental educator presents resource-oriented programs like guided hikes and kayak programs. Schools, organizations, and clubs may request programs on a variety of topics including watersheds and stream ecology. Additional information is available at the park office.

# Wildlife Watching

Depending on the season, visitors can see woodland wildlife like bobcat, coyote, white-tailed deer, black bear, and wild turkey. In the spring, Lyman Run Lake is visited by migrating waterfowl like common loon and common merganser. A good pair of binoculars is often enough to see nesting pied-billed grebe, wood duck, and red-breasted merganser.

# History

Lyman Run State Park was named for Major Isaac Lyman, an American Revolutionary War soldier believed to be the second permanent settler in Potter County. In 1809, Lyman built his home in nearby Lymansville (now Ladonna), east of present day Coudersport.

In the 1880s, large stands of white pine were harvested and floated down Lyman Run to Pine Creek and on to Williamsport. In the 1890s, the Goodyear Brothers purchased most of the land drained by the West Branch of Pine Creek.

In 1905, Frank and Charles Goodyear constructed a large camp and engine terminal in the area that now is the park day use area. From this base, steam locomotives pulled log trains through the ten miles of main line and 30 miles of spur lines. Many of the spur lines were steep, with grades of up to ten percent.

Each day, up to 100 train cars of logs were hauled out of Lyman Run to the sawmill in Galeton. At night, trains hauled hemlock bark to leather tanneries in Galeton, Westfield, and Elkland.

The land changed hands several times until it was purchased by the R.J. Gaffney Company, who cut the remaining hardwoods for a wood chemical plant on the West Branch Pine Creek. Logging ceased in 1913.

For forest fire and watershed protection, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the land in and around Lyman Run in the 1920s.

In the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps built Camp S-88 in the area that currently is the park maintenance area. The young men of the camp completed forestry improvements and road construction projects. Toward the end of World War II, the camp housed German prisoners-of-war. After the war, the camp seasonally housed migrant workers who harvested the local potato crop.

Construction of Lyman Run Dam began in 1951. Lyman Run State Park opened to the public in 1955. The dam was replaced in 2006.

# Explore Pennsylvania Wilds

Pennsylvania Wilds is two million acres of public lands for hiking, biking, fishing, boating, hunting, and exploration in northcentral Pennsylvania.

Highlights of the area are elk watching, scenic PA 6, Pine Creek Gorge (PA Grand Canyon), the darkest skies in the east at Cherry Springs State Park, and hundreds of miles of backpacking trails, bike paths, and trout fishing streams. www.pawilds.com

# Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Visit Potter Tioga, 570-742-0635. www.visitpottertioga.com

Lyman Run State Park is nearly surrounded by the 265,000 acres of **Susquehannock State Forest**. Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and other recreational opportunities are available in forest lands. 814-274-3600

# Access for People with Disabilities

♿ This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

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

# In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee. Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

**NEAREST HOSPITAL**

Charles Cole Memorial Hospital

1001 East Second St. U.S. 6 East

Coudersport, PA 16915

(814) 274-9300

# For More Information Contact:

Lyman Run State Park

454 Lyman Run Road

Galeton, PA 16922-9782

814-435-5010

LymanRunSP@pa.gov

# Information and Reservations

Make online reservations at:

www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday.

www.visitPAparks.com

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Facebook: @visitPAparks

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