# A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for Linn Run State Park



pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATIO



Linn Run State Park 770 Linn Run Road Rector, PA 15677-0050 724-238-6623 LinnRunSP@pa.gov

Make online reservations at www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday.

www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks

Linn Run State Park

The varied topography and mixed hardwood and evergreen forest make the 612-acre Linn Run State Park a scenic place for picnicking, hiking, fishing, and lodging. Grove and Rock runs join to make Linn Run, an excellent trout stream. The lovely Adam Falls is a scenic spot near the picnic area. Forbes State Forest borders Linn Run State Park and offers over 60,000 acres of public land for outdoor recreation.

### Directions

### GPS DD: Lat. 40.15427 Long. -79.2133

To reach the park from Ligonier, take US 30 east for two miles. At the intersection of PA 381, turn south for two miles. In the small town of Rector, turn left onto Linn Run Road.

### Reservations

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### **Recreational Opportunities**



PICNICKING: The Adam Falls and Grove Run picnic areas have picnic tables, drinking water, playgrounds, and non-flush restrooms. Adam Falls also has a picnic pavilion with electricity that may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. Unreserved picnic pavilions are free on a first-come, first-served basis. Recycling is available in both picnic areas. Please help by disposing of your trash in proper receptacles.

FISHING: Linn Run offers excellent trout fishing, including for native brook trout. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

HORSEBACK RIDING: Horseback riding is permitted along Linn Run Road and on designated trails in Forbes State Forest.

**SNOWMOBILING:** In the park, snowmobiles are permitted on the road in the cabin area only. Road access to Forbes State Forest snowmobile trails is near the cabin area.

**6** CABINS: Nine rustic cabins and one modern cabin are available for year-round rental. During the summer season, only weekly rentals are available. Rustic cabins have simple furnishings that include a kitchen, (table with benches, refrigerator, stove, and oven), heater, fireplace inserts for heating, fire ring, and picnic table. Rustic cabins do not have running water, but potable water, showers, and restrooms are nearby. The modern cabin is ADA accessible and includes a modern bathroom and kitchen, as well as all the furnishings listed for the rustic cabins.

**HUNTING AND FIREARMS:** Over 400 acres are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer, turkey, bear, and squirrel.

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 nonhunting 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.

#### HIKING: 3.15 miles

Adam Falls Trail: 1-mile loop, yellow blazes, more difficult hiking

This loop features a mountain waterfall tucked in among rhododendron and eastern hemlock. This very rocky trail passes by large boulders.

#### Flat Rock Trail: 0.5 mile, yellow blazes, easiest hiking

This trail ends at a large, smooth rock in Linn Run. Please be cautious; the rocks are slippery! Swimming is prohibited in this area.

#### Grove Run Trail: 0.9 mile in park, yellow blazes, more difficult hiking

Within the park, the trail starts by the Grove Run Picnic Area and travels east, paralleling Linn Run Road. The trail continues as a 4-mile loop into the state forest, where it becomes progressively steeper and more difficult.

#### Iscrupe Trail: 0.75 mile, yellow blazes, most difficult hiking

This trail follows the original Linn Run Road and was used by early visitors to the Adam Falls Picnic Area

### History

Linn Run is in the heart of the Laurel Mountains. The mountainous land ranges from 1,300 feet to 2,800 feet above sea level. Most of the land was bought from the Byers and Allen Lumber Company for \$42,662 in 1909. It was the first major public purchase of denuded forest land in the Ohio River Basin in Pennsylvania. Today, it is difficult to visualize what this land looked like in 1909 or to imagine that some people questioned the wisdom of purchasing so much "wasteland."

About fifteen years prior to the acquisition of the Linn Run property, this entire area was clearcut. The old growth forest was transformed into an area devoid of timber and wildlife.

Felled tree trunks suitable for cutting into in timber, called saw logs, were sold for lumber. Small logs were used for props in nearby coal mines. Eastern hemlock bark, a source of tannin, was bundled and shipped to tanneries. Treetops littered the area. The railroad that hauled timber and other products to market sparked many severe wildfires.

In his first report (September 1909), Forester John R. Williams wrote, "I should say that fully three-fifths of the reserve has been burned over since lumbering was done. The fires did great damage to the young growth. Some places are covered with nothing but ferns and blackberry bushes." Occasional scars from those early fires can still be seen after years of forest rehabilitation.

In 1910, the newly formed Pennsylvania Game Commission cooperated with the former Department of Forestry to restock white-tailed deer, which were imported from New York and Michigan for release at Linn Run and throughout Pennsylvania.

Interesting traces remain of the Pittsburgh, Westmoreland, and Somerset Railroad that serviced the area. The main line extended from Rector to Somerset. The tracks switched back and forth across Linn Run several times, making it easier to get the heavy loads up the mountain. Along the Fish Run Trail in Forbes State Forest you will find traces of the old railroad bed.

### Nearby State Parks and Forests

At an elevation of 2,739 feet, Laurel Summit State Park provides access to a commanding view of Laurel Ridge and the surrounding region via the Wolf Rocks Trail. Visitors can enjoy the remote feeling of the wooded picnic area with a picnic pavilion and non-flush restrooms. 724-238-6623 Laurel Mountain State Park offers a family-friendly downhill skiing and snowboarding area. The lodge offers food and beverages. For more information, contact the Laurel

Mountain Ski Resort at 724-238-2801. www.laurelmountainski.com

The 13,625-acre Laurel Ridge State Park is home to the 70-mile Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail, and offers snowmobiling, hunting, and cross-country skiing. 724-455-3744

Kooser State Park's 250 acres of forest and stream provide a beautiful backdrop for picnicking, fishing, hiking, camping, and cross-country skiing. 814-445-8673

Laurel Hill State Park has an extensive trail system and provides opportunities to explore a beautiful stand of oldgrowth eastern hemlock or view wildlife. The park also has fishing, hunting, camping, and swimming opportunities. 814-445-7725

Forbes State Forest provides over 60,000 acres for hunting, fishing, hiking, and the highest point in Pennsylvania - Mount Davis - at 3,213 feet. 724-238-1200



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Mountain laure

### **Nearby Attractions**

Information on nearby attractions is available from Go Laurel Highlands. 724-238-5661. www.golaurelhighlands.com

### Protect and Preserve Our Parks

Please make your visit safe and enjoyable. Obey all posted rules and regulations and respect fellow visitors and the resources of the park.

- Be prepared and bring the proper equipment. Natural areas may possess hazards. Your personal safety and that of your family are your responsibility.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Firewood Advisory: Firewood may contain non-native insects and plant diseases. Bringing firewood into the park from other areas may accidentally spread pest insects and diseases that threaten park resources and the health of our forests. Use local firewood. Do not take wood home and do not leave firewood. Burn it!
- Prevent forest fires by having a fire in proper facilities and properly disposing of hot coals. Do not leave a fire unattended.
- Because uncontrolled pets may chase wildlife or frighten visitors, pets must be physically controlled, attended at all times, and on a leash, caged, or crated. Electronic fences and leashes are prohibited.

#### Access for People with Disabilities 81

5 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

Excela Health Latrobe Hospital One Mellon Way Latrobe, PA 15650 724-537-1000

