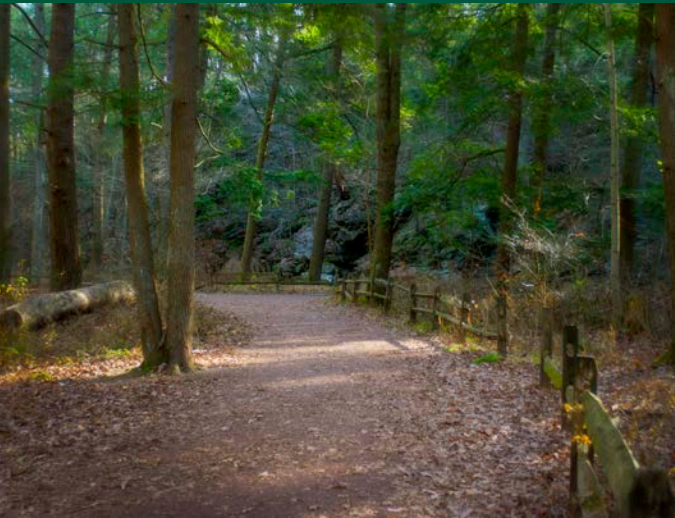


A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for
Jacobsburg Environmental
Education Center



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center
400 Belfast Road
Nazareth, PA 18064
610-746-2801
JacobsburgSP@pa.gov

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



Jacobsburg Environmental
Education Center

Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center encompasses 1,168 acres of forests, fields, and creeks which provide a wealth of recreational and educational opportunities. A visitor center with educational exhibits is open 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Hiking, biking, horseback riding, and exploring the park are available year round.

Park educators offer programs for students from preschool through college, as well as community programs focusing on outdoor recreation and the natural and cultural history of the area.

The Jacobsburg National Historic District lies almost entirely within the park property and gives visitors insight into colonial gun manufacturing. The famous Henry Rifle was once crafted here.

Jacobsburg is a partner in the Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape, which is comprised of state and local governments, as well as nonprofit conservation groups. The conservation landscape promotes land conservation, recreation, and education.

Directions

GPS DD: Lat. 40.78401 Long. -75.29358

Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center is in Northampton County and can be reached from PA 33 at the Belfast Exit, near Nazareth, Pa.

Wildlife Watching

The diverse habitats found in the park are home to many different animals. Over 80 species of butterflies, 23 species

Learn, Experience, Connect

Programs are offered year round to school groups, visitors, and the local community. Opportunities are available for visitors to connect to resources found at Jacobsburg through guided programs. These programs focus on the natural, historical, and cultural features of the park and region. The center also offers summer day camps for children.

School students engage in hands-on activities while exploring and learning about the unique ecosystems of the park to further their awareness, appreciation, and knowledge of the natural environment.

A variety of workshops are available for teachers seeking professional development related to the natural environment. The workshops provide curriculum instruction and resources on various education and recreation topics. Workshops are based on state and national environmental education curricula. Act 48 hours are available for most workshops.

Heritage Education Program

The Jacobsburg Historical Society offers a wide range of exciting historical programs throughout the year. Programs include displays and demonstrations of early gun making at the Pennsylvania Longrifle Heritage Museum, located within the Henry Homestead. Historic buildings are open for tours periodically and by appointment.

of mammals, 27 species of reptiles and amphibians, and over 160 species of birds have been documented. The best birdwatching opportunities occur during spring and fall migrations.

The park’s native gardens and wildlife viewing areas provide many opportunities for close viewing of birds, butterflies, and small mammals. Visit the park office butterfly garden or venture across the road to the native garden and wildlife watching area near the Henrys Forge Historic Area for a chance to view the local wildlife.

Natural Resources

The rolling terrain of Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center is on the northern edge of the Lehigh Valley near the foothills of the Kittatinny Ridge. Habitats range from fields in various stages of successional growth to mature forests. Approximately 2.5 miles of the beautiful Bushkill Creek and its tributary, Sobers Run, wind through the park.

Jacobsburg’s natural resources are not only an excellent outdoor laboratory for environmental education but are also important to many visitors for healthy outdoor recreation and exercise.

The natural areas and open spaces provided by this public resource are becoming increasingly important in a continually expanding urban setting.

HENRYS WOODS

The portion of the park’s woodlands known as Henrys Woods is one of the most beautiful natural resources in the Lehigh Valley. Visitors hiking its 1.9-mile trail loop experience the sights, sounds, and coolness of the Bushkill Creek as it meanders past dramatic slate outcroppings and old growth stands of hemlock and white oak.

Jacobsburg serves as an outdoor laboratory for visiting biologists, college interns, and resource professionals involved in a variety of research projects.

Contact the park office or explore the online calendar of events, https://events.dcnr.pa.gov, for more information on programs and other learning experiences.



A monarch butterfly is one of many species that can be seen within the park.

Living history programs include mid-1840s rendezvous, period encampments, and early-American crafts. Classes in gun making and related fields are offered.

Contact the historical society for program and building tour information. 610-759-9029.
www.jacobsburghistory.com

Recreational Opportunities

The park is open seven days a week, year round, from sunrise to sunset. The visitor center is open 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

HIKING: 18 miles of trails

The network of trails makes the park’s fields, woodlands, and streams accessible to both students and visitors. All trails are open to hiking and most are also open to mountain bikers, horseback riders, cross-country skiers, and snowshoers. Non-hunters are encouraged to wear blaze orange during hunting seasons.

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

PICNICKING: A picnic area along Belfast Road near Henrys Woods Trail has picnic tables, grills, and modern restrooms.

A pavilion in the Henrys Forge Historic Area accommodates up to 65 people and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. It can be reserved by contacting the park office.

FISHING: Bushkill Creek is stocked by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and provides excellent trout fishing. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: About 937 acres are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer and squirrels.

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.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Discover Lehigh Valley. www.discoverlehighvalley.com

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.

Jacobsburg National Historic
District

The Jacobsburg National Historic District is located within the eastern side of the park. The district is on the National Register of Historic Places and its story is intertwined throughout the early development and growth of our nation. Jacobsburg was the home of the Henry Family and their small arms industry, which played a key role in the American Industrial Revolution.

The first of the Henry gun makers, William Henry I, opened his gun shop in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1750. He was the armorer for the Braddock Campaign of 1755 and the Forbes Expedition of 1758.

William Henry II joined a small gun-making shop in Christian’s Spring near Nazareth in 1776 and became its master gunsmith in 1777. In 1792, Henry II purchased land at Jacobsburg on which he built a gun manufactory in 1798.

Henry II acquired the land from the heirs of Jacob Hubler, who in 1740 founded the community from which Jacobsburg draws its name. Only foundations remain of the village of Jacobsburg and the gun manufactory. Henry II erected a forge (bloomery) to supply the gun factory with iron to manufacture guns. In 1812, a larger manufactory was built in nearby Boulton to accommodate large government firearms contracts.

Three succeeding generations of Henrys produced small arms at Boulton until the late 1800s. Competition from arms companies using mass production techniques made the Henrys’ handcrafted technology obsolete.

The Henrys produced firearms for all of the nation’s major conflicts from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War. They also were the primary suppliers of rifles for the largest American business enterprise of the early 19th century, John Jacob Astor’s American Fur Company. The Henry firearm became the most prominent weapon of the western frontier due to its durability, accuracy, and relatively low cost.

BOULTON HISTORIC SITE

In the southern portion of the Jacobsburg Historic District is the Boulton Historic Site, which is administered by the Jacobsburg Historical Society.

Visitors can explore historic buildings including the Henry Homestead, which was built in 1812 and houses the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum. The nearby John Joseph Henry House was built in 1832.

More information on the historic district, including a schedule of programs, is available from the Jacobsburg Historical Society, 610-759-9029.
www.jacobsburghistory.com

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.

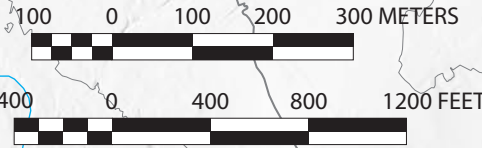
NEAREST HOSPITAL

St. Luke’s Anderson Campus
1872 St. Luke’s Boulevard
Easton, PA 18045
866-STLUKES

JACOBSBURG ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Pets are required to be on leash and controlled at all times.
Help keep the park and the Bushkill Creek clean by picking up after your pets.
Please use stream access points to get to the stream, don't make your own path.



- Park Office and Visitor Center
- Blue Symbol Means ADA Accessible
- Modern Restrooms
- Non-flush Restrooms
- Water
- Picnicking
- Picnic Pavilion
- Amphitheater
- Wildlife Watching Area
- Native Plant Garden
- Unpaved Road
- Bridge
- Parking Paved
- Parking Unpaved
- Parking ADA Accessible
- Gate and Number
- State Park No Hunting
- State Park Hunting

TRAIL INFORMATION

- MULTI-USE TRAIL: Hiking, Mountain Biking, Cross-country Skiing, Horseback Riding**
 - Jacobsburg Trail 3.0 Mi.
 - Homestead Trail 3.6 Mi.
 - Sobers Run Main Loop 2.7 Mi.
 - Sobers Run Connector Trail .. 1.4 Mi.
 - Sobers Run Explorer Trail 1.7 Mi.
- HIKING ONLY TRAIL**
 - Henrys Woods Trail 1.9 Mi.

JACOBSBURG NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT SITES

- ① Site of Jacobsburg Village
- ② Henrys Forge
- ③ Henry Homestead/ PA Longrifle Museum
- ④ John Joseph Henry House (HQ. Jacobsburg Historical Society)