

Stop #5

N 41° 02.987 W 75° 38.389

This is where the really big boulders live! The biggest rocks are up to 25-feet in length. The rocks in this super secret section are much larger and more angular than the rocks near the parking area, which suggests that they have not moved as much as the smaller rocks.

Stop #6

N 41° 03.098 W 75° 38.366

Now you are at the tail end of the whale. From here, it is about 1,700 feet back to the parking lot. Be careful as you make your way back to the starting point; the rocks get smaller as you approach the parking lot end of the field, and may require more time to navigate than expected.

Final Cache

At Stop #6, look into the edge of the forest to the NE. What color is the paint blaze on the tree? Take the number of letters in that color, multiply by 4, and insert that number in the blank spot:

N 41° 03._ _7 W 75° 38.684

Thanks for visiting!

Thank you for visiting Hickory Run State Park! While you're here at the park, please consider checking out some of the other attractions:

- Over 40-miles of trails
- Hawk Falls, a beautiful natural waterfall
- Swimming beach at Sand Spring Lake open from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Campground with nearly 400 sites
- Scenic vistas from Fireline Trail
- Disc golf and orienteering courses located in the Sand Spring Day Use Area
- Free interpretive programs on weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Several streams, ponds, and a lake for fishing

Be prepared with your GPS

- Know how to use your GPS unit.
- Bring along with you:
 - park map • water • extra layers
 - first aid kit • extra batteries
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be back
- Practice Leave No Trace on your adventure; take only pictures, leave only footprints.
- Pay attention to your surroundings.
- In the case of an emergency, call 911.

Welcome. Now get out!

Don't let your adventure end here. Check out the various kinds

of fun the other Pennsylvania state parks and forests have to offer, and *GET OUT!*

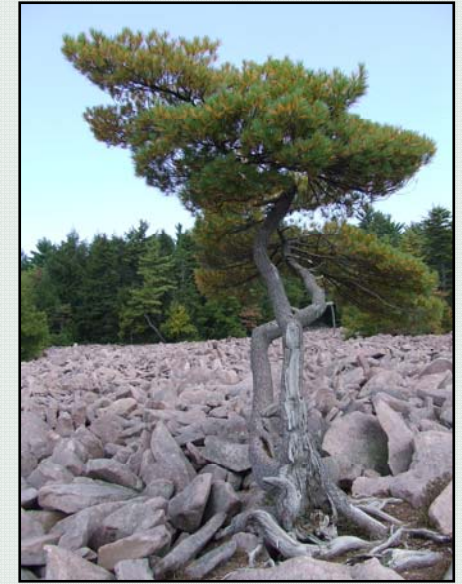
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/getoutdoorspa



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

Hickory Run State Park

Boulder Field GPS Tour



The Boulder Field at Hickory Run State Park is a fossil, a relic... It is not the remains or an impression of an ancient animal or plant, but a piece of a landscape left over from the last ice age that began 80,000 years ago.

Grab your GPS unit and follow the coordinates for a behind-the-scenes tour of this landscape that time forgot.

This GPS Tour is an official geocache at www.geocaching.com (GC1H60Z)

Type: multi-cache
Difficulty: ★★ ★

Size: small
Terrain: ★★ ★ ★

For more information

Hickory Run State Park
RR1 Box 81, White Haven, PA 18661
(570) 443-0400
hickoryrunsp@state.pa.us



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



There are several ways to get to Boulder Field. You can drive right to it by following the signs from Route 534, or you can hike there. Either way, please pick up a park map at the park office or campground contact station before starting your adventure.

Please note that there are no facilities located at Boulder Field, please use the restrooms at the Day Use Area before or after visiting the Boulder Field if necessary.

Stop #1

N 41° 03.035 W 75° 38.725

Welcome to the gateway to the Boulder Field!

Before exploring the field, take a moment to read about the fascinating history of the formation of the Boulder Field on the interpretive signs to the right. For more information, attend an interpretive talk or stop by the park office with questions.

The Boulder Field is not only a State Parks Natural Area, it is also a National Natural Landmark, having National Park Service and State Parks protection. Please help to keep the Boulder Field as natural as possible... during your visit, please practice Leave No Trace:

- Moving or removing rocks is illegal.
- Writing on the rocks is illegal.
- Take your trash with you. There are dumpsters in the Day Use Area.

Are you ready to explore? Going from one stop to another, please keep in mind the following:

- Proper footwear (sneakers) is essential for safety.
- Keep both hands free, and try to stay low, walking like a monkey!
- Bring water; it can get very warm on the rocks and going to each stop will be about a 1-mile walk.
- Zip keys, cell phones, and other important items in a pocket or store in another secure location—the field is 10-12 feet deep and if you drop something, it is likely that you will never see it again!

Stop #2

N 41° 02.993 W 75° 38.660

Despite the fact that it is illegal to move or remove rocks, people have. You can see that this has happened at this spot. People have moved the rocks around in an attempt to dig to the bottom of the Boulder Field, 10-12 feet down. Sandstone that is gray has built up a coating over thousands of years. That coating helps protect the rock from erosion. Rocks that have been moved and turned over have the fresh red sandstone surface exposed. Because that red surface does not have a protective coating built up on it, those rocks are more vulnerable to erosion. And, because they have been moved, those rocks are more likely to be wobbly—so be careful as you explore the field!

You may see more of these pits as you explore. Take a moment to look and listen as you come upon them. The Boulder Field drains a swampy area at the eastern end of the field, and in some of the pits you can see or hear running water under the rocks. The water flows under the field and forms Hickory Run, the creek after which the park has been named. From the Boulder Field, Hickory Run flows through the park to Hickory Run Lake, down past the two group camps, past the park office and chapel, and eventually into the Lehigh River.

Stop #3

N 41° 02.961 W 75° 38.698

The Boulder Field is shaped like a whale (use your imagination!). At this point, you are at the very tip of the whale's imaginary lips!



Stop #4

N 41° 02.971 W 75° 38.607

Here at the edge of Boulder Field, change is constant. Succession is a natural process that can drastically change landscapes and ecosystems. The field is lined mostly by evergreen trees (such as White Pine and Eastern Hemlock), but also by some deciduous trees (such as Red Maple, American Beech, and Black Birch) which lose their leaves each fall. Where those leaves fall, a little bit of soil builds up, and slowly grasses and seedlings make their way in towards the field. Yes, Boulder Field is shrinking due to succession. However, this is a very slow process, and it is a natural process. Because Boulder Field is a State Parks Natural Area and National Natural Landmark, we want it to remain as natural as possible and will not interfere with the succession taking place here.



The edge of Boulder Field is not only where most of the change is occurring, it is also the place that you are most likely to see snakes!

Snakes are cold-blooded and have to regulate their body temperature with the temperature around them, and on sunny days, it is too warm for them out on the boulders. In addition, snakes are like humans in that they like to eat, and snake food consists of small rodents, insects, and amphibians which can be found into the forest, and not out on the boulders. So here at the edge of the field, and into the forest (not out in the middle of Boulder Field) is where you are most likely to encounter a snake. At Hickory Run State Park 12 species of snakes make their home, only two of which are venomous: the Timber rattlesnake and Northern copperhead.