

Delaware State Forest at a Glance

District Office



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District Facts

- Consists of over 83,900 acres of state forest land
- Located in Pennsylvania's Pocono plateau region
- Found in Monroe and Pike counties
- Primarily mixed oak and northern hardwoods forest
- Area was formerly glaciated, leaving glacial lakes, swamps, and bogs
- Excellent ecosystem diversity featuring mixed evergreens, ericaceous shrubs, and wetland species

Hiking



Stairway Lake Trail

- Approximately 200 miles of shared-use trails are found in the district forest.
- The 26-mile Thunder Swamp Trail System extends 26 miles in southern Pike County.
- The Blooming Grove 4-H Trail is a double loop trail totaling roughly 7 miles.
- Maps are available at district office and online.

Camping

- Primitive backpack camping (at undeveloped sites) is permitted throughout the state forest.
- A permit is required to stay more than one night at the same location.
- Camping by internet registration is available for Snow Hill, Edgemere, and Owego sites.
- Car-camping is permitted on limited sites (inquire at district office)



Sightseeing

- The 70,000-acre Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area abuts the forest district to the northeast.
- The district's hundreds of miles of state forest roads provide excellent wildlife and fall foliage viewing.
- Scenic vistas are found on Cummins Road and Stairway Wild Area.



Stairway Wild Area vista

Hunting

- Game opportunities include deer, bear, squirrels, rabbits, grouse, woodcock, and waterfowl.
- Hunting is permitted throughout state forest except in posted safety zones; please obey all regulations.



Fishing

- Delaware State Forest offers excellent fishing in dozens of lakes, ponds, and crystal-clear trout streams.
- Native brook trout can be found in Saventine Creek and Poplar, East Spring, and Red Rock runs.
- Good stocked trout streams include Bushkill, Little Bushkill, and Saw creeks.
- Pa. Fish and Boat Commission regulations apply.



Native brook trout

Wild and Natural Areas

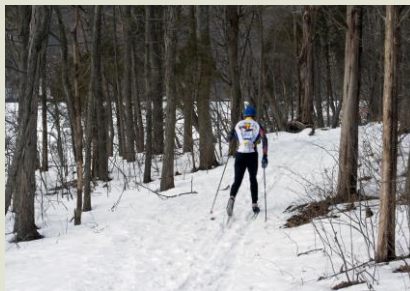


Cascading ice at Stairway Wild Area

- The 3,160-acre Bruce Lake Natural Area features the namesake, spring-fed lake and man-made Egypt Meadow Lake.
- The 1,931-acre Stillwater Natural Area is a wilderness of mature evergreens, oaks, and other hardwoods.
- The 2,882-acre Stairway Wild Area contains an old bluestone quarry and sits adjacent to the Buckthorn Natural Area.

Winter/Motorized Recreation

- 28 miles of ATV riding is offered on trails at Maple Run, Burnt Mills, and Dixon Miller Recreation Area.
- Snowmobile trails can be found at Promised Land and Tobyhanna State parks.
- Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are permitted on most roads and trails in the district forest (use caution on snowmobile trails).

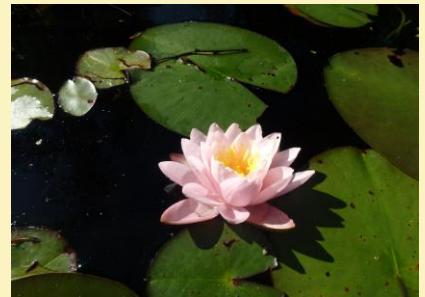


Other Recreation

- Nature education programs are offered at Meesing Nature Center in Monroe County.
- Horseback riding and mountain biking are allowed on most state forest roads and trails.
- Boating, kayaking, and canoeing is permitted on the Delaware River.
- Non-motorized boats are permitted on Pecks Pond.
- Picnic facilities are available at Snow Hill Picnic Area, Pecks Pond, and Lily Pond.



Peck's Pond



More Information

For more information on Delaware State Forest, please contact:

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www.dcnr.state.pa.us