Lyman Run State Park

The 395-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
Lyman Run State Park is 15 miles east of Coudersport and seven miles west of Galetton on Lyman Run Road.

Recreational Opportunities

CAMPING: Bush toilets and hot showers
Dugout Rock and Lower Campgrounds offer separate camping areas with a total of 35 RV and tent campsites. Each campground 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 in most of the area in December in the Lower Campground. Pets are permitted on designated sites in both campgrounds.

Camping is lower in the Lower Campground offer licensed drivers with ATV's 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 signs along the trails.

Beehive Trail: 1.4 miles, more difficult hiking
The massive, old stumps along this trail show signs of ancient wildlife. Beehive Trail was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s and connects Dugout Rock Campground and Rock Run Road. Wildcat Trail intersects Beehive Trail making a loop.

Lyman Run Trail: 3.3-3.8 miles, more difficult hiking
Hike from one end of the park to the other following Lyman Run through many miles of a rugged trail to a railroad trace. Lyman Run can be accessed in Lower Campground, at the spayway, 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 spayway.

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 bums on this trail are the remains of old railroad ties from the Goodyear Brothers logging railroad that hauled tan bark and logs back to downtown and on a railroad trace. Lyman Run 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 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 Trail.

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.ExplorerPenn.com

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

ATV's 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 offstaging areas are available at Dugout Rock and Lower Campgrounds.

RESTROOMS and Refreshment Concession at Lyman Run Lake are within walking distance of the joint use "ATV" parking lot located on the Lyman Run dam brent along Lyman Run Road.

Dugout 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 waterfowl. You must also permit 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 Gaming 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 unsecured 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 who are authorized to carry a firearm concealed on their person while they are participating in a state or local hunt.

PIECINGING: The shaded picnic area has picnic tables, charcoal grills, hot dog grills, 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 43-acre Lyman Run Lake include a launch ramp and a courtesy dock. The mooring area holds 40 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 centerpieces 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.

ICF 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.

Environmental Education and Interpretation

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 merganser and American coot. 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 settler the present day Potter County. In 1809, Lyman built his home in nearby Lymanville (now Ladon), east of present day Coudersport. A large area of white pine were harvested and floated down the West Branch 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 1902, Charles Goodyear and Frank 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 railroad and 30 miles of log trails and 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 down Lyman Run to the sawmill in Galetton. At night, trains hauled hemp look to leather tanneries in Galetton, Woodfield, and Elkland.

The land changed hands several times until it was purchased by the J. Gaffney Company, who cut the remaining hardwoods for a wood chip 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 88.8 miles in the area that currently is the park maintenance area. The young men of the camp completed foretree 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 Route 6, Pine 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 stream fishing. 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, horshoe riding, and other outdoor opportunities are available in forest lands. 814-274-3600

Access for People with Disabilities

This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are compatible with 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.

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. S. E. 6 East Coudersport, PA 16915 (814) 274-9000