

Gouldsboro State Park

Gouldsboro State Park is located in Monroe and Wayne counties in northeastern Pennsylvania. The 2,800 acre park includes the 250-acre Gouldsboro Lake.

Directions

The park entrance is one-half mile south of the village of Gouldsboro on PA 507. PA 507 intersects with I-380 at Exit 13 two miles south of the park entrance, and with I-84, 13 miles north of the park entrance.

GPS DD: Lat. 41.22934 Long. -75.46340



Jay Gould

The name Gouldsboro comes from the village north of the park that was named for Jay Gould (1836-1892). A native of New York, Gould acquired a large fortune that, by 1892, included ownership of ten percent of all railroad track in the country. One railroad he owned was the Erie-Lackawanna. This rail line parallels the eastern boundary of the park and is now a part of the Steamtown National Historic Site railroad excursion route between Scranton and Pocono Summit.

Gould was a co-owner of a leather tannery at Thornhurst, a small village 9.5 miles west of Gouldsboro. Raw hides shipped from Australia and the western United States came to Gouldsboro by railroad, then were taken in two-ton loads by horse-drawn wagons over a plank road to Thornhurst for tanning.

In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee. Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards.

NEAREST HOSPITAL

Geisinger Community Medical Center
1800 Mulberry Street
Scranton, PA 18510
570-703-8000

Reservations

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.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau, 800-POCONOS. www.poconomountains.com

Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro state parks are in the famous Pocono Mountain resort area. Nearby attractions include: **Lake Wallenpaupack**, one of the largest man-made lakes in Pennsylvania; **State Game Lands 127 and 312**; **Big Pocono State Park** at the top of **Camelback Mountain**, which features a view of three states and a ski area; and the **Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area**.

History

The landscape of the area is broad, flat, and swampy mixed with low hills covered with a northern hardwood forest. Common tree species are beech, birch, and maple. This landscape affected the settlement and industries of the area.



Ken Barber

ICE INDUSTRY: From about 1900 to 1936, Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro lakes were the site of active ice industries. The ice was cut from the lakes during the winter and stored in large barn-like structures. During the rest of the year, the

Recreational Opportunities at Both Parks

SWIMMING: The sand beach at each park is open from late-May to mid-September, 8:00 AM to sunset. Swim at your own risk. Please follow posted rules.



FISHING: Common fish in Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro lakes are bass, pickerel, yellow perch, catfish, and sunfish. Tobyhanna Lake also has stocked brook and brown trout. Gouldsboro Lake has walleye and crappie. An ADA accessible fishing pier is available at each park.

ICE SAFETY: Ice thickness is not monitored. For your safety, make sure ice is at least 4” thick for a single user and 7” thick for a small group. Always carry safety equipment.

ICE FISHING: Both lakes are popular ice fishing spots.

ICE SKATING: Ice skating is available as natural conditions permit.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: Most of Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro state parks are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are white-tailed deer, black bear, squirrel, and turkey. Furbearers include beaver, muskrat, mink, fox, coyote, and raccoon. Hunting is also permitted in nearby State Game Lands 127 and 312.

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

Hiking: 20 Miles of Trails



The rugged terrain of Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro state parks makes for challenging but rewarding hiking. All trails are blazed. Double blazes indicate a change of direction or a trail junction.

Follow these rules for a safe hike:

- An adult should accompany children.
- Be sure to wear hiking boots.
- Motor vehicles are prohibited on trails, except snowmobiles are permitted on Lakeside Trail at Tobyhanna State Park.

TRAILS AT GOULDSBORO STATE PARK

Old Entrance Trail: 1.8 miles, easiest hiking

This trail transects the Gouldsboro day use area, connecting Prospect Rock Trail and Old Route 611. Access the trail from any of the day use parking areas.

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.

BOATING: electric motors only

The 170-acre **Tobyhanna Lake** has 78 overnight mooring spaces, and the 250-acre **Gouldsboro Lake** has 50 overnight mooring spaces. These seasonal spaces require a mooring permit, which is available at Tobyhanna State Park’s office.

Both lakes have boat rentals. Rowboats, kayaks, paddle boats, canoes, and electric motor boats are available daily from Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day, except in inclement weather.

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.

PICNICKING: Picnic areas with picnic tables and charcoal grills are available at both Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro state parks. Picnicking is permitted throughout the year from sunrise to sunset.

At **Tobyhanna State Park** a small playfield is near Lot 4 and a playground can be found near the swimming beach. An ADA accessible picnic pavilion with electricity is in Lot 1 and may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. If unreserved, the picnic pavilion is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

An ADA accessible picnic pavilion with electric in Lot 3 at **Gouldsboro State Park** may be reserved up to 11 months in advance. If unreserved, the picnic pavilion is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: In Gouldsboro State Park, mountain biking on Old 611 and Old Entrance Road Trail begins in the day use area. In Tobyhanna State Park, Lakeside Trail circles the lake and borders the Black Bear and Bender Swamps Natural Area.

Old Route 611: 3.8 miles, easiest hiking

Beginning at the southern end of Old Entrance Trail, this flat, wide trail runs along the western side of Gouldsboro State Park, paralleling I-380. This trail is excellent for hiking, bicycling, and cross-country skiing.

Prospect Rock Trail: 2.9 miles, more difficult hiking

This trail begins at the northern end of Old Entrance Trail and connects with the northern end of Old Route 611. It has several very rocky sections.

TRAILS AT TOBYHANNA STATE PARK

Lakeside Trail: 5.1 miles, easiest hiking

This improved trail has a hardened base for hiking and bicycling in summer and cross-country skiing and snowmobiling in winter. Allow at least 2.5 hours to complete the entire trail around Tobyhanna Lake.

Range Trail: 3.3 miles, more difficult hiking

It is a 6.6-mile walk from the trailhead on Lakeside Trail to PA 196 and back. Allow three hours for this trip. Range Trail is a demanding hike and should not be attempted without the proper hiking footwear. An adult should accompany children

Tobyhanna State Park

Tobyhanna State Park is in scenic Monroe and Wayne counties in northeastern Pennsylvania. The 5,440-acre park includes the 170-acre Tobyhanna Lake. Tobyhanna is derived from an American Indian word meaning “a stream whose banks are fringed with alder.”



Directions

The park entrance is 2.1 miles north of the community of Tobyhanna on PA 423. PA 423 intersects with I-380, 2.5 miles south of the park entrance. The park can also be reached from I-84 via PA 507, PA 191 and PA 423, a total distance of 11.4 miles.

GPS DD: Lat. 41.20736 Long. -75.39643

Recreational Opportunities

SNOWMOBILING: Tobyhanna State Park provides a one-way snowmobile trail 5.1 miles in length that runs counterclockwise on Lakeside Trail. The trail begins at Lot 1, which has heated restrooms, parking, and unloading space.

Conditions permitting, snowmobiles may be operated only on the designated, one-way trail from the day after the last day of deer regular firearm season in December until April 1. Operators and passengers must follow the PA Snowmobile Law. Please remember to respect the environment and the rights of others. Snowmobiles are prohibited in Gouldsboro State Park.

ORGANIZED GROUP TENTING: Five rustic sites are available in Tobyhanna State Park. Sites One to Four accommodate up to 20 people. Site Five accommodates up to 40 people. All sites can be combined to accommodate up to 120 people. The area is adjacent to Parking Lot 4 and is open year round. It has vault toilets and a hand operated water pump.

and no one should hike the trail alone. Be prepared to ‘rock hop’ and cross a few wet areas. This trail follows the border of the Black Bear and Bender Swamps Natural Area, passing through several other wetlands and boulder fields created by the last glacial period.

TRAILS IN BOTH PARKS

Frank Gantz Trail: 3.2 miles, most difficult hiking

Frank Gantz Trail connects Tobyhanna State Park’s Lakeside Trail with the south day use parking lot in Gouldsboro State Park. Children should not hike this trail without adult supervision. Special care should be taken when crossing PA 4013 (Tobyhanna Road). This is a demanding trail with many areas where ‘rock hopping’ is necessary. Good hiking boots are essential for a pleasant and safe hike. Allow at least three hours for a round trip.

Tell us about your hike at:



Wildlife Watching

Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro state parks are in the Pocono Plateau, a rugged highland with rocky soil, nutrient-poor bogs, dark evergreen forests, and a diversity of animals and plants.

About 20,000 years ago, a giant sheet of ice at least one mile thick covered the area. Evidence of the glacier is the very rocky soil that is called glacial till and the abundance of bogs.

Much of the park is characterized by sphagnum moss bogs, evergreen trees, and thin, moist, rocky soil. Blackburnian warbler, red-breasted nuthatch, and northern waterthrush are common to this habitat. In the spring, spotted and Jefferson salamanders and wood frogs migrate to the bogs to breed. Interesting plants like the carnivorous pitcher plant, cotton grass, and many sedges inhabit the bogs. Yellow bladderwort is a carnivorous plant that lives in some of the bogs and in Tobyhanna Lake. Sacks on the underwater portion of the plant trap tiny aquatic animals.

Due to logging, large portions of the forest have regrown with a mix of deciduous trees like American beech, many

CAMPING: A 140-site campground is open from the second Friday in April to the third Sunday in October. For an additional fee, 26 sites offer 30-amp and 50-amp electric service. Pets are permitted at specific sites for a fee. Flush toilets, showers, and water spigots are provided in a central location. A playground is provided for children. Trailers and motor homes may use a sanitary dump station located between the park office and the campground entrance.

Due to the high elevation of nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, campers should be prepared for cool nighttime temperatures, even during the summer months.

Cautions: Please Read

Visitors using more remote and undeveloped areas of Tobyhanna State Park should be aware that they could encounter old, unexploded artillery shells. Three types of shells have been found in the park. The largest projectile is 18 to 24 inches in length and about 6 inches in diameter. The medium projectile is 2.5 inches in diameter and from 10 to 14 inches in length. The smallest projectile is 3 inches long and 1.25 inches in diameter. Shells are found in severely rusted condition without any recognizable markings or imprints. Their overall appearance is that of a pointed cylinder of rusted steel. Visitors encountering such items should not touch, attempt to move, or otherwise disturb the items, and should call the park office to report the location to insure proper disposal.

State Park Natural Area

The Black Bear and Bender Swamps Natural Area is made up of acidic shrub swamps totaling 1,600 acres. Openings through the trees contain sphagnum moss and rare plants and animals. Black Bear and Bender Swamps will be maintained in a natural condition by allowing physical and biological processes to operate, usually without direct human intervention.


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

Lehigh Valley Hospital - Pocono Medical Center
206 East Brown Street
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301
570-421-4000

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.

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.

• Because uncontrolled pets may chase wildlife or frighten visitors, pets must be controlled and attended at all times and on a leash, caged or crated. Pets are prohibited in swimming areas.

species of oak, and red maple. American redstart, red-eyed vireo, and Louisiana waterthrush are birds common to these forests.

In early May, before any trees have leaves, the serviceberry trees flower. In mid-June, the plentiful mountain laurel blooms, followed in late-June to early-July by the rhododendron. In mid-July, the highbush blueberries bear fruit, providing a feast for bears and birds.

Black bears are common in the park. This omnivore eats plants, grasses, berries, and occasionally meat. Unfortunately, bears find human food to be nearly irresistible. Keep food in the trunk of a car or in a camper. Please observe wildlife from a safe distance.

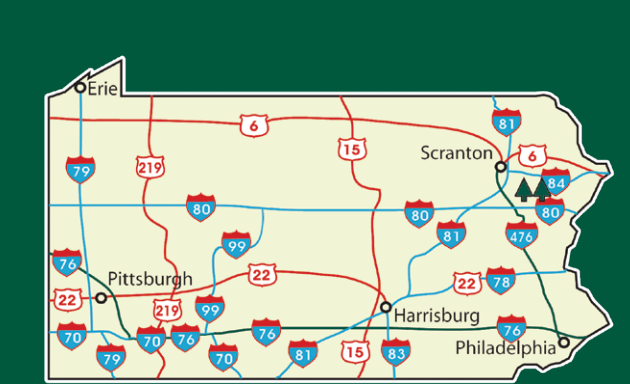
Black bears normally avoid people, but bears dependent on eating human food can become aggressive when people get between them and food. If this situation occurs, make loud noises like yelling, honking a car horn, or banging a pot. Notify a park employee if you have difficulties with a bear. Never approach a bear and be especially wary of mother bears and cubs.

A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for

Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro State Parks



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



For More Information Contact:

Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro State Parks
114 Campground Road
Tobyhanna, PA 18466-0387
570-894-8336
email: tobyhannasp@pa.gov
GPS DD: Lat. 41.20736 Long. -75.39643
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Information and Reservations

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



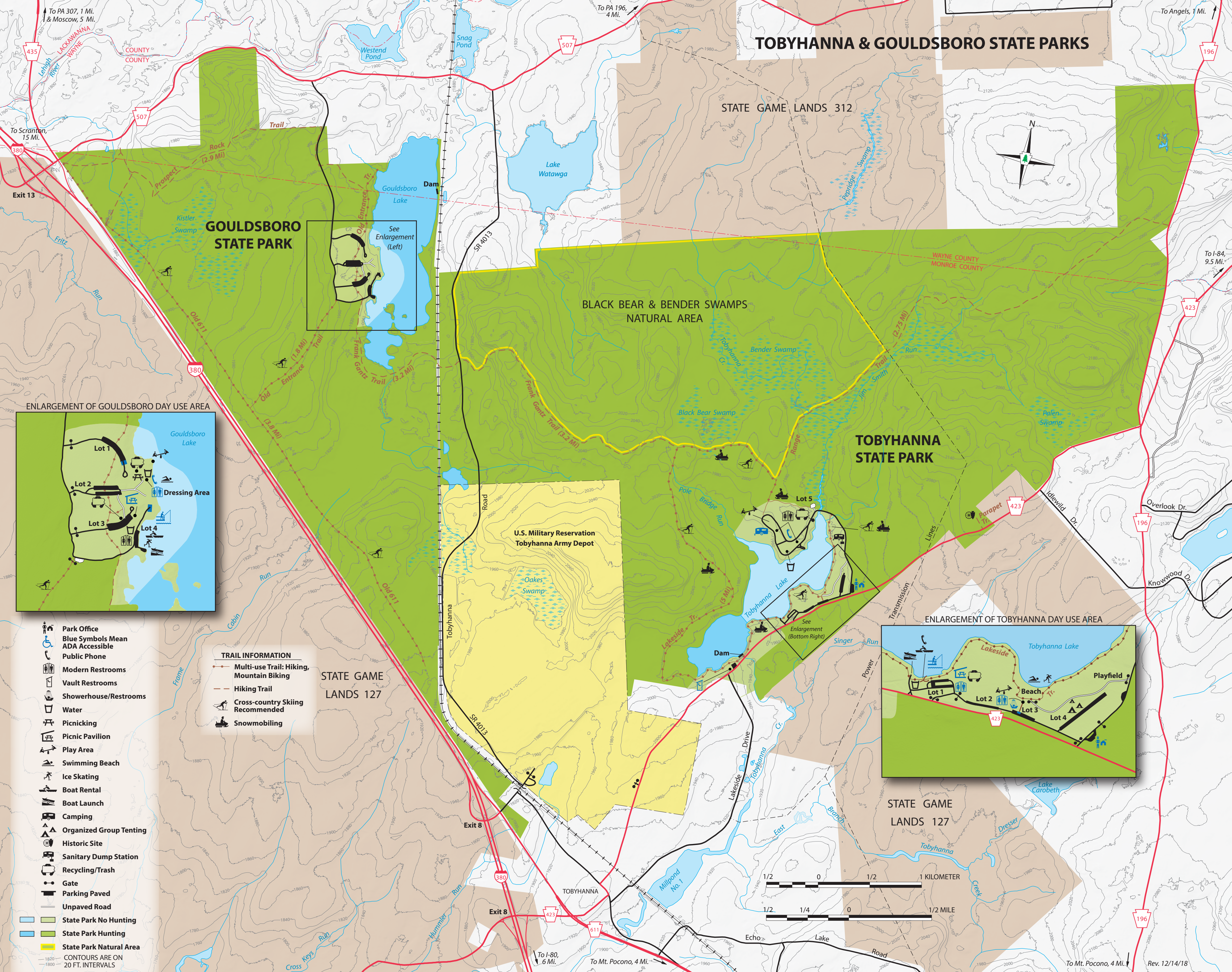
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2018



American black bear

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Feeding raccoons, squirrels, or chipmunks may expose you to the threat of rabies. Feeding Canada geese at the swimming areas results in large quantities of fecal droppings, which is offensive to park visitors.



TOBYHANNA & GOULDSBORO STATE PARKS



GOULDSBORO STATE PARK

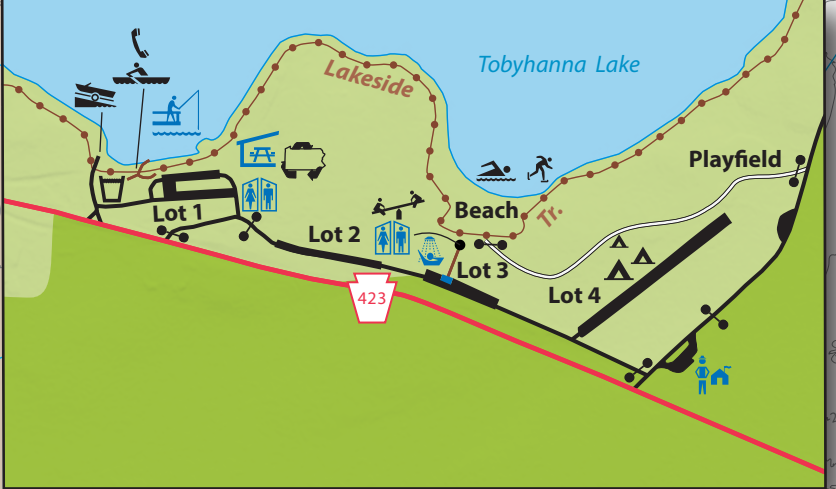
TOBYHANNA STATE PARK

BLACK BEAR & BENDER SWAMPS NATURAL AREA

ENLARGEMENT OF GOULDSBORO DAY USE AREA



ENLARGEMENT OF TOBYHANNA DAY USE AREA



- Park Office
- Blue Symbols Mean ADA Accessible
- Public Phone
- Modern Restrooms
- Vault Restrooms
- Showerhouse/Restrooms
- Water
- Picnicking
- Picnic Pavilion
- Play Area
- Swimming Beach
- Ice Skating
- Boat Rental
- Boat Launch
- Camping
- Organized Group Tenting
- Historic Site
- Sanitary Dump Station
- Recycling/Trash
- Gate
- Parking Paved
- Unpaved Road
- State Park No Hunting
- State Park Hunting
- State Park Natural Area

- TRAIL INFORMATION**
- Multi-use Trail: Hiking, Mountain Biking
 - Hiking Trail
 - Cross-country Skiing Recommended
 - Snowmobiling

