

Pinchot Trail

The Pinchot Trail is a 26-mile state forest hiking trail and is open to foot traffic only. This loop can easily be done in a weekend excursion or several side trails or roads can be used to make smaller day hiking loops. This relatively easy trail traverses a variety of different forest types and travels along several bogs and wetlands. One of the highlights of this trail is the scenic Choke Creek Falls.

District Hiking Trails

The Watres Trail is a 6-mile side loop of the Pinchot Trail. This path traverses some of the most remote portions of the Thornhurst Tract as it winds its way along Painter and Panther Creeks.

The Pine Hill Trail offers access off of the Pinchot Trail to the Pine Hill Vista and can be used to make a short loop with the Frank Gantz Trail.

Choke Creek Nature Trail and Butler Run Trail can be used to form shorter loops with the southern portion of the Pinchot Trail.



The Pine Hill Observation Deck offers an awe-inspiring view of the Pocono Plateau.

For more information

**Pinchot Forest District
Resource Management Center
Forest District #11**

**1841 Abington Road
North Abington Twp., PA 18414
(570) 945-7133**

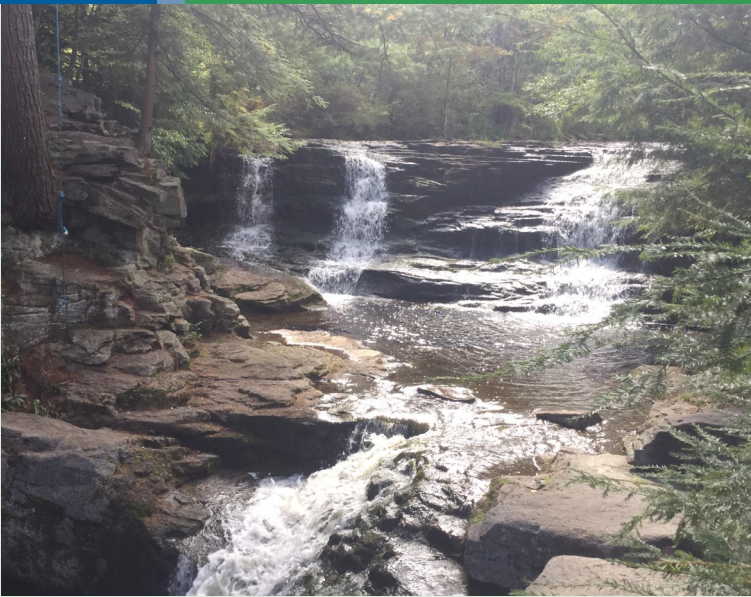
Dual Certified Forest

Pennsylvania’s 2.2-million-acre state forest system is one of the largest dual certified forests in North America. The forest is certified under Forest Stewardship Council™ and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® standards.

The FSC® is an independent organization supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests.

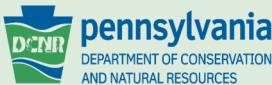
SFI® certification focuses on protection of water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk, and forests with exceptional conservation value. Dual certification ensures that Pennsylvania’s state forests are managed to the highest third-party standards.

Thornhurst Tract Pinchot State Forest



Pennsylvania’s vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy, and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health and to conserve native wild plants.

Pinchot State Forest comprises 50,000 acres and serves Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wyoming, and Wayne counties.



Manny Gordon Recreation Area

This recreation area is named after former district forester Manny Gordon who is well known for his urging of local residents to “enjoy, enjoy” the great outdoors. There are two pavilions, several picnic tables, and fire rings available for use. Three rustic campsites can also be utilized but must be reserved. Please note that hunting is closed in the recreation area.

Camping

In addition to the campsites at the Manny Gordon Recreation Area, there are three remote sites throughout the tract. One on Fireline Road, one on Sassafras Hill, and one on Carvolth Road. Please observe all state forest rules and regulations and practice leave-no-trace principles. Reservations for state forest campsites can be made online at the [Pennsylvania State Parks and Forest Reservation Website](#) at any time, or by calling 888-727-2757, Monday through Saturday, 7:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.

Snowmobiling

A well-marked, 28-mile snowmobile trail opens the day after regular rifle deer season closes. Snowmobile off-loading areas are located at the Manny Gordon Recreation Area and in the parking area at the intersection of Pittston Road and Bear Lake Road. The snowmobile trail system remains open until March 31 as conditions permit.

Pine Hill Vista

The observation deck on Pine Hill offers a sweeping 360-degree panorama of the Pocono Plateau. It is particularly beautiful in autumn with vibrant displays of fall colors. This vista is a short walk from a parking area on Pine Hill Road.

Spruce Swamp Natural Area

This 87-acre site is found at the headwaters of Sand Spring Creek along Tannery Road. This glacial bog contains native spruce, balsam fir, and tamarack. Labrador tea and bog rosemary, not commonly found in Pennsylvania, also grow here. Surrounding the bog and acting as a buffer is a typical hardwood forest interspersed with hemlock and assorted pines.

CCC Camp S-140

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a program in the 1930s designed to put young men to work performing various conservation projects. One camp was found in what is today the Pinchot State Forest at the Manny Gordon Recreation Area.

Pinchot State Forest

Pinchot State Forest is named in honor of former Pennsylvania governor and state forester Gifford Pinchot. Pinchot was a visionary of forest management whose considerable influence on President Theodore Roosevelt helped spark a national awareness of responsible forestry practices and conservation. The district’s approximately 50,000 acres of state forest blanket many of the mountains near the confluence of the Susquehanna and Lackawanna Rivers. Pinchot State Forest land is distributed over several unattached tracts including Thornhurst, Harvey’s Creek, Crystal Lake, Mocanaqua, Seven Tubs, Deep Hollow, Montage, Elmhurst, Moosic Mountain, and Wanamie.

Pinchot State Forest is an essential part of the acclaimed Pocono mountain region of northeast Pennsylvania. Evidence of the region’s glacial past can be observed in sprawling boulder fields and many remaining ponds and lakes. Beautiful northern and mixed hardwood forest dominate the landscape, as well as some of the most spectacular waterfalls and geologic formations in the northeast U.S.



Thornhurst Tract

Pinchot Forest District

Thornhurst Twp.,
Lackawanna County
1 inch = 3,500 feet

Pine Hill Vista

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Parking

Trailhead

Forest Headquarters

Manny Gordon Rec. Area

Camp Sites

Fire Towers

Primary Roads

State Forest Roads

Administrative Roads

Pinchot Trail

District Hiking Trails

Snowmobile Trails

Streams

State Forest Lands

State Game Lands

