

Blessing Mountain

On the network of trails upon Blessing Mountain, hikers will experience an array of environments as they venture on different trails, from wild settings walking amongst a sea of mountain laurel to passing through towering conifers on the initial ascent of the Matt Mertes Trail. Serene springs and small brooks offer beauty in spring and rock slopes challenge hikers any time of year. These trails can be used to form various day hikes and can be connected with the trails of Rider Park. All named trails are marked in yellow with the exception of Cheryl's Trail.

Boundary Trail

This .5-mile trail runs parallel to the State Forest Boundary.

Cheryl's Trail

Cheryl's Trail is marked in blue and is for the experienced hiker. It follows Cold Run and passes over Blessing Mountain for 3.6 miles before hitting the State Forest Boundary. *There is no bridge where Cheryl's Trail crosses Wallis Run.*

Lance Trail

This trail connects The Weitzel Hollow Trail to Cheryl's Trail at 1 mile in length.

Middle Point Trail

This .5-mile trail connects the Weitzel Hollow Trail with Rider Park.

Matt Mertes Memorial Trail

This 2-mile trail was named in memory of a local Boy Scout and showcases a vista looking south.

Walled-Up-Springs Trail

This 1-mile trail descends from Blessing Mtn., follows a hollow to Caleb's Creek, and follows Caleb's Run Trail to the boundary.

Weitzel Hollow Trail

This 2-mile trail follows Weitzel Hollow Run then continues to Cheryl's Trail.

Rider Park

Owned by FCFPA Properties Inc. and managed by the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania, the 867-acre park was a gift of the late Thomas J. Rider to the people of Lycoming County. This scenic treasure offers a variety of low impact recreational activities in a natural setting. A portion of the park rests atop Katy Jane Mountain which is part of the Allegheny Front that separates the Ridge and Valley Province from the Allegheny Plateau.

For more information on Rider Park visit <http://www.wlfoundation.org/rider-park> or call 570-601-3377 or 1-877-480-3377.

Allegheny Ridge Trail

This brown blazed trail climbs Katy Jane Mountain from Yeagle Road. It is .6 mile long.

Cheryl's Trail

This 3.6-mile trail is a continuation of the trail from state forest land. As it continues onto Rider Park it features a guide to tree identification.

Francis X. Kennedy

This easy .5-mile hike features Doe Pen Vista. The trail is marked in green.

Katy Jane Trail

This trail is 2.6 miles and is blazed in yellow. Its highlights include two scenic vistas, one of which looks east toward the Loyalsock Valley. The other provides distant views of the Bald Eagle Mountains south of Williamsport.

Loop Trail

This red blazed side trail makes a .6-mile loop.

Saddle Trail

This red blazed trail is .4-mile long and offers a shortcut for those wanting a shorter hike on The Katy Jane Trail.

Care for the Land

State forests belong to all Pennsylvanians. Take time to enjoy them, but know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. Please be careful with fire, keep our forests litter free and don't damage trees and other plants.

Certified "Well Managed"

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.



For more information

Loyalsock State Forest
Resource Management Center
Forest District #20

6735 Route 220
Dushore, PA 18614
(570) 946-4049



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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Blessing Mountain Trails

Loyalsock State Forest and Rider Park

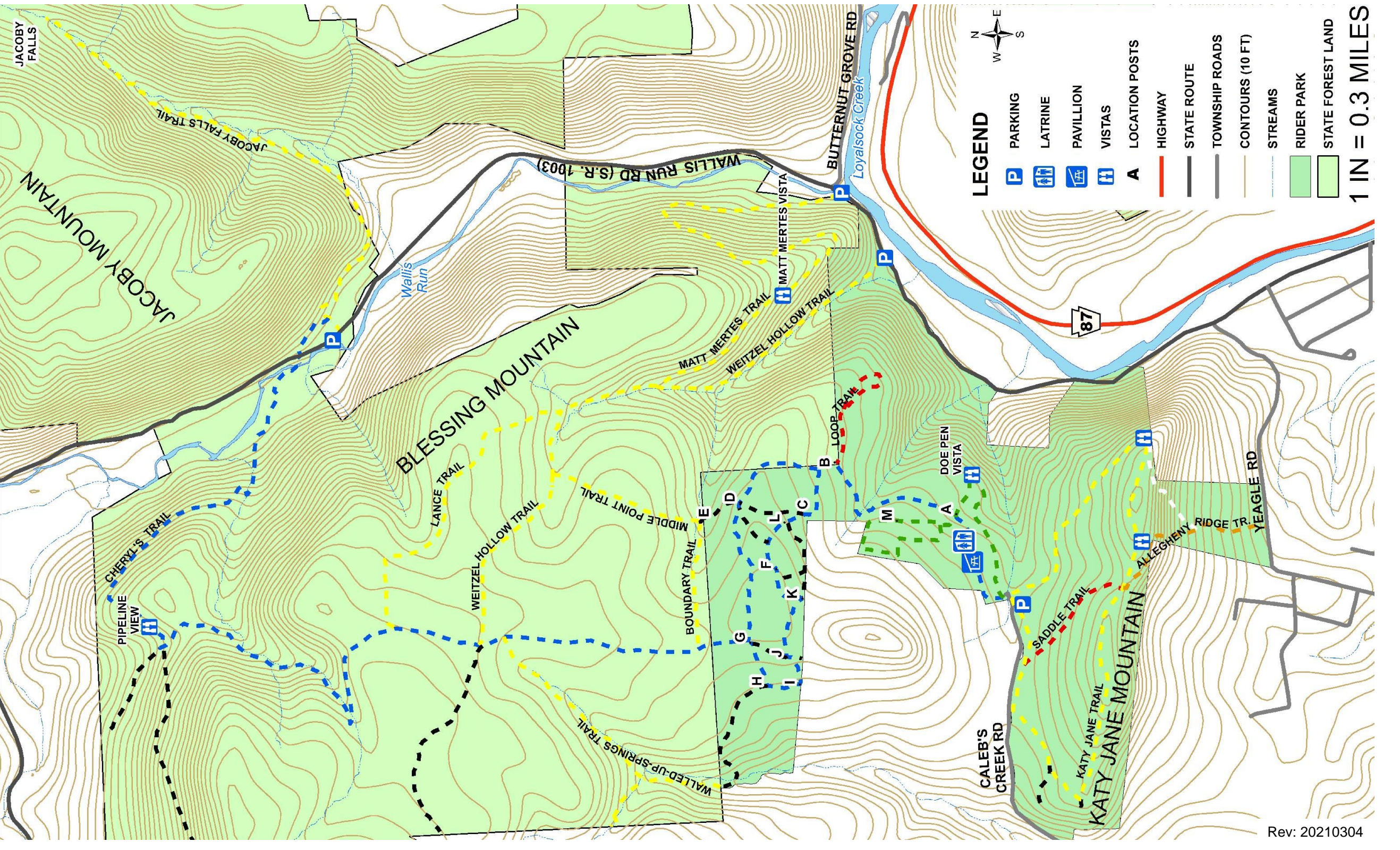


Pennsylvania's vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health and to conserve native wild plants.

The Loyalsock State Forest comprises 115,000 acres in Bradford, Lycoming and Sullivan counties.



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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



LEGEND

- PARKING
- LATRINE
- PAVILLION
- VISTAS
- LOCATION POSTS
- HIGHWAY
- STATE ROUTE
- TOWNSHIP ROADS
- CONTOURS (10 FT)
- STREAMS
- RIDER PARK
- STATE FOREST LAND

1 IN = 0.3 MILES