

Clear Creek State Forest at a Glance

District Office



Address:

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District Facts

- Named after the crystal-clear stream flowing through the Jefferson county tract
- Comprised of 16,229 acres of forested floodplain and Allegheny Plateau hardwoods
- Located in Jefferson, Venango, Forest, and Mercer Counties

Hiking



- 35 miles of trails in Jefferson County and 26 miles in Venango County
- Popular trails include Little Clear Creek Trail, Silvis Trail, Trap Run Trail, and Bear Town Rocks Trail.
- North Country National Scenic Trail runs through Cook Forest.

Maps are available at district office.

Camping

- Trailer and tent sites are available at Clear Creek and Cook Forest State Parks.
- Four motorized camp sites are offered in the forest district.
- Primitive backpack camping is permitted along most trails and throughout the district, however a permit from the district office is required to stay >1 night at one site.



Sightseeing

- A vista at Bear Town Rocks overlooks the scenic Allegheny Plateau.
- An auto tour explaining local history and ecology starts at forest headquarters about two miles northeast of Sigel on Route 949.
- The River Trail in the Kennerdell Tract in Venango County offers scenic views of the Allegheny River.



Bear Town Rock Trail vista

Hunting

- Big game opportunities include deer, bear, turkey.
- Small game opportunities include grouse, squirrels, rabbits.
- Hunting is permitted throughout district forest.
- Please obey all hunting regulations, avoid hunting in marked safety zones.



Fishing

- Excellent fishing opportunities throughout Clear Creek
- Clarion and Allegheny Rivers are known for smallmouth bass, trout, and walleye.
- Dennison Run, Bullion Run, Callen Run, Maple Creek, and Clear Creek are good trout fisheries.
- PA Fish and Boat Commission regulations apply.



Clear Creek and Cook Forest State Parks

- Nearly 10,000 combined acres
- Both parks border the Clarion River, a prime canoeing, rafting, and kayaking destination.
- 25 miles of hiking trails can be found at Clear Creek.
- The Inn at Cook Forest, on the historic Cook family homestead, is a bed and breakfast open to the public.



Canoeing the Clarion River



Special Management Areas

- The “Forest Cathedral”, registered as a National Natural Landmark in Cook Forest, is a 400-year-old stand of hemlocks and white pines.
- Dennison Run is managed as an exceptional value watershed, with a sustainable wild brook trout population.
- The Callen Run tract is managed as an old-growth/late succession oak forest.



Old-growth hemlock trees

Other Recreation

- Mountain biking is permitted on roads and trails within the forest district, except trails south of and including Dennison Run Trail.
- Cross-country skiing is permitted on all trails.
- Horseback riding is permitted on most trails except those posted on the Kennerdell Tract.
- Picnicking facilities are offered at Laurel Fields Day Use Area and in Clear Creek and Cook Forest State Parks.



More Information

For more information on Clear Creek State Forest contact:

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