

Frank E. Masland Jr. Natural Area

Area Facts



- Area is 1,270 acres.
- Tract is found southeast of the town of Center Square in Perry County.
- Area is oriented on the southeast-facing slope of Bowers Mountain and located within Pennsylvania's Ridge and Valley ecoregion.
- Area protects the watershed of North Branch Laurel Run.

Tuscarora State Forest

For more information, please contact:

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pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
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Ecosystem/Terrain

- The forest is a mix of mature second-growth oak and other deciduous species.
- Some hemlock remains in the natural area, despite the effects of the hemlock woolly adelgid.



Eastern hemlock, the state tree.

- Terrain is rugged and steep in some areas, ranging from around 1,400 to 2,000 feet in elevation.

Wildlife

- The natural area provides critical habitat for the PA-Threatened Allegheny woodrat.
- The natural area supports many types of birds, including several warbler species.
- N. Branch Laurel Run holds a naturally-reproducing population of brook trout.



The eastern box turtle is among several reptile species observed in the natural area.

- The natural area is a special Amphibian and Reptile Protection Zone.
- Game species like deer, turkeys, and bears are common in the natural area and may be hunted during appropriate seasons.

Access

- Routes 233, 997, 944, 274 and US76 are major corridors that in the area.
- Laurel Run Road accesses the area from the southwest.
- Bower Mountain Road and Wolf Road access the natural area from the north
- Several interconnected hiking trails traverse the southern portion of the natural area.



The rare Allegheny woodrat has been observed in the natural area.

