



The Glens Natural Area

Fishermen exploring the lower reaches of Kitchen Creek discovered waterfalls on the land owned by Colonel R. Bruce Ricketts. Explorations revealed that two branches of Kitchen Creek cut through deep gorges in a series of waterfalls, then united at Waters Meet and flowed through a glen among giant pines, hemlocks, and oaks.

The lower glen came to be called Ricketts Glen. Many of the magnificent trees in this area are over 300 years old. Diameters of almost four feet are common and many trees tower to 100 feet in height. Southern and northern hardwood species meet here, creating an extensive variety of trees.

Colonel Ricketts built trails to the area of the waterfalls, which came to be known as the Glens Natural Area. The Glens became a registered National Natural Landmark in 1969. In 1993, it became a State Park Natural Area and will be protected and maintained in a natural state.

Common Trail Routes

Twenty-one waterfalls ranging in height from 11 feet to 94 feet are within the Glens Natural Area. The wet and rugged Falls Trail System requires difficult hiking to view the many waterfalls. Adams Falls is only a few hundred feet from the Evergreen Parking Lot off PA 118.

Plan your route for the least fit hiker in your group for an enjoyable experience for all.

TRAIL NAME	MILES
Highland Trail	1.0
Ganoga Glen side of Falls Trail	1.2
Glen Leigh side of Fall Trail	1.0
Falls Trail from PA 118 to Waters Meet	2.0

3.2 mile loop with 18 waterfalls: Combine Highland Trail, Glen Leigh side of Falls Trail, and Ganoga Glen side of Falls Trail in a clockwise direction for a loop that showcases most of the waterfalls.

7.2 mile out and back loop with 21 waterfalls: Starting at the PA 118 parking lot, hike the Falls Trail, bearing left at the Waters Meet intersection to follow the Ganoga Glen side, and turn right on Highland Trail. From Highland Trail, hike south on the Glen Leigh side of Falls Trail. Continue on Falls Trail to the starting point.

How to Access the Waterfalls

There are three parking lots that provide access to the Falls Trail System:

Lake Rose Trailhead Parking

- Closest access to Falls Trail System and western park trails
- Small parking lot fills up quickly during peak times
- 0.4-mile hike to first waterfall, about 10 minutes

Beach Lot #2 Trailhead Parking

- Closest access to Glen Leigh side of Falls Trail System and eastern park trails
- Follow signs leading out of the lot and down the trail adjacent to the cabin road for 0.5 miles
- 1-mile hike to closest waterfall, about 20 minutes

Evergreen Parking and Glens Lot Trailhead Parking

- Southern access to Fall Trail System and eastern park trails
- Adams Falls is a short walk from either parking lot
- 1.5-mile hike to Murray Reynolds Falls, about 30 minutes

Hike Safely

CAUTION: Hikers using the Falls Trail System should be in good physical condition, wear sturdy boots, and use caution due to slippery/wet conditions and steep trail sections.

The following guidelines will help ensure a safe and enjoyable hiking experience while at the park.

- Give yourself plenty of time to hike. Plan to be off the trails well before dark.
- Let someone know where you are hiking and when you should return. Cell service is limited in the park.
- Always wear sturdy boots. Wearing sneakers, sandals, water shoes, and street shoes can lead to serious accidents when hiking.
- Be prepared. The weather changes quickly in the park. Have proper clothing and equipment (i.e. compass, map, matches, water, food, flashlight, etc.) available in case of an emergency. This is especially important when traveling remote trails or when hiking during non-summer seasons.
- Stay on the trail to prevent unnecessary damage to natural resources and dangerous situations.

Winter Access

The Falls Trail System is closed in the winter except for properly equipped ice climbers and hikers.



Trail Guide

Falls Trail System

Ricketts Glen State Park



695 State Route 487
Benton, PA 17814-8900
GPS DD: Lat. 41.33517 Long. -76.30153
570-477-5675
RickettsGlenSP@pa.gov

www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks

The Glens Natural Area Trail Map



Delaware 37'



Mohican 39'



Sheldon Reynolds 38'



F.L. Ricketts 38'



B. Reynolds 40'

