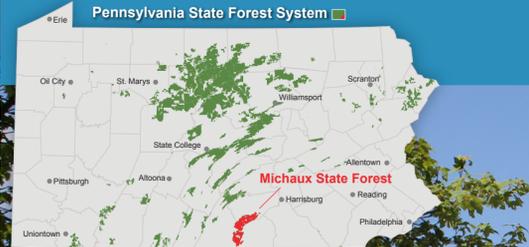


Michaux State Forest

Map and Recreation Guide



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Website
 Visit www.dcnr.pa.gov/forestry for more information.

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PADCNR

For Your Safety
 State forests belong to the people of Pennsylvania. Enjoy them, but take time to know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. To get a copy of State Forest Rules and Regulations, contact the district office or visit our website.

In Case of Emergency
 Call 911 for police, fire, ambulance, and search and rescue. Be aware that the remote nature of state forests often precludes good cellular phone service. If possible, move to higher ground to attempt your call.



Recreation

Hiking
 Several locations in Michaux State Forest, including Caledonia and Pine Grove Furnace state parks, provide access for hikers to the 36 miles of the Appalachian Trail located in the state forest. This 2100-mile National Scenic Trail traverses the entire length of the state forest. In addition to the Appalachian Trail, 11 miles of hiking trails wind through Michaux State Forest, including Buck Ridge Trail (4 miles), Beaver Trail (1.3 miles), Rocky Knob Trail (4.3 miles), and Pole Sleepie Trail (.9 miles).



The popular Pole Sleepie Trail rewards users with a scenic vista after a moderately challenging hike.

Picnicking
 Picnicking is available at Old Forge Picnic Area, located 4.5 miles south of the village of South Mountain along Old Forge Road. It features two pavilions, picnic tables, grills, restrooms, and an athletic field. One of Michaux is part of Pennsylvania's extensive 2.2 million-acre state forest system managed by DCMR's Bureau of Forestry. Twenty state forests are located in 50 of the commonwealth's 67 counties and comprise 13 percent of Pennsylvania's total forest land. State forests are vast and remote, representing one of the largest expanses of wildland in the eastern United States. They offer unparalleled scenic beauty and boundless recreational opportunities. They are known for their extensive network of trails, awe-inspiring vistas, flaming fall foliage, and picturesque drives. These forests belong to the citizens of Pennsylvania, and are there for you to use, enjoy, and explore.

Camping
 Camping is permitted throughout the state forest. There are numerous designated primitive campsites without developed facilities within the state forest that can be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. However, primitive backpack camping is allowed throughout the entire forest. Primitive backpack campers do not need a permit if they stay no more than one night at a location along the trail. Campers staying in



Enjoy a scenic autumn drive along Route 233 through Michaux State Forest.

Fishing and Boating
 Coldwater fishing is available during the appropriate season in several creeks that run through Michaux State Forest. Stocked trout streams include the East Branch of the Conococheague Creek, East Creek, Mountain Creek, Laurel Creek, Mountain Creek, and West Branches of Antietam Creek, Mountain Creek, and Fuller lakes, and the Weynesboro Reservoir. Warm water fishing is available at the Long Pine Run Reservoir. Weynesboro Reservoir, and Carbaugh Dam. Non-gas powered boats are permitted at Long Pine Run Reservoir.



State forests provide billions of gallons of water to surrounding communities.

Hunting
 Hunting for deer, turkeys, grouse, squirrels, and more recently, black bear, is a popular use of the forest during designated seasons. Aside from a few safety zones around buildings, leased camps, and picnic areas, hunting is permitted throughout the state forest.

History
 Michaux State Forest encompasses about 87,448 acres along South Mountain, the northern terminus of the Blue Ridge Mountains, extending about 40 miles into southcentral Pennsylvania in a generally southwest to northeast direction. The range itself is six to seven miles wide and is bounded on both sides by broad, fertile agricultural valleys including several large communities with a wide variety of light to medium industry. The forest is named in honor of Andre Michaux, a renowned French botanist and explorer who discovered and named over 280 new plant species in colonial America.

Historically, Michaux State Forest has played an important role in Pennsylvania's forest conservation movement. The first tract of land was purchased here in 1901. The majority of Michaux State Forest land was acquired in the early 1930s.

Michaux State Forest can boast many firsts in forestry in Pennsylvania. The first forest tree nursery was established at Mont Alto in 1902 and one year later the Pennsylvania State Forest Academy was opened near the nursery at the site of the old Mont Alto Iron Furnace. One primary purpose of the forest academy was to train professional foresters for the new state Department of Forestry. This forest can also claim



Local iron furnaces stripped the trees from South Mountain to make charcoal fuel from the mid-1780s to the early 1900s.

Pennsylvania's first wooden fire tower, built in 1905, and the first steel structure built in 1914. The first forest tree plantings and cultural work on state forests were concentrated in this area, primarily because of the location of Mont Alto Forest Academy. For a brief time in its early years, the bureau, under Dr. Joseph Rothrock, founded and administered the South

Mountain Tuberculosis Sanatorium. This was subsequently turned over to the Department of Health and has been converted to a geriatric center since tuberculosis is no longer a major health problem.

Year-round recreational use of the forest has grown dramatically. The close proximity to several large metropolitan areas is one of the major reasons for the extremely heavy use. Washington D.C. and Baltimore are less than two hours away by car. Local residents and those enrolled at the many local colleges also constitute a large portion of use of Michaux State Forest.

Hunting and fishing are historically popular pastimes. ATV, mountain bike, and equestrian usage continues to increase in popularity. Organized events (requiring permits) such as mountain bike races, running races, rock climbing, and "pioneer treks" are common on many weekends throughout the year.

State Parks and Recreation Areas

Caledonia State Park
 This 1,125-acre park in Adams and Franklin counties offers picnicking, hunting, biking, boating, and hiking on 10 miles of trails, including the Appalachian Trail.

Pine Grove Furnace State Park
 Located in Cumberland County, this 696-acre park features Laurel Lake and Fuller Lake, which provide fishing, swimming, and boating.

Mont Alto State Park
 Mont Alto is a 24-acre park offering picnicking and fishing.

Kings Gap Environmental Education and Training Center
 Educational programs are offered throughout the year at this 2,531-acre park in Cumberland County.

Codorus State Park
 Codorus State Park features Lake Marburg, a 1,275-acre lake within a 3,490-acre park in York County.

Gifford Pinchot State Park
 This 2,338-acre park in York County includes a 340-acre lake, over 300 campsites, and modern cabins.

Historic iron furnace at Pine Grove Furnace State Park.

Visitors enjoy a picnic at Gifford Pinchot State Park.



Interesting geologic formations can be found on the mountains of Michaux State Forest.

Motorized Trails
 For All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Michaux State Forest maintains 36 miles of designated summer and 41 miles of designated winter ATV trails. ATVs must be registered with DCMR and comply with other regulations. Contact the Michaux State Forest District Office for additional information or visit the bureau's ATV information page.

Winter Activities
 Michaux State Forest offers approximately 132 miles of snowmobile trails and the four-mile Smoke Zimmerman Cross-Country Ski Trail. Many additional miles of roads and trails are available for cross-country skiing when snowfall is suitable.

South Mountain Golf Course
 The privately operated, nine-hole South Mountain Golf Course is located off Route 233 near the village of South Mountain. Nestled in the heart of the forest, the challenging course offers beautiful scenery for the golf enthusiasts.

Wild and Natural Areas

Pennsylvania's state forest system includes dozens of special wild and natural areas designated to protect unique or unusual biological, geological, scenic, and historical features, or to showcase outstanding examples of the state's major forest communities. Natural areas are "managed" by forest and direct human intervention is limited. They provide places for scenic observation, protect special plant and animal communities, and conserve outstanding examples of natural beauty. Wild areas are generally extensive tracts managed to protect the forest's wild character and provide backcountry recreational opportunities.

Meeting of the Pines Natural Area
 This 611-acre natural area is located adjacent to University's Mont Alto Campus. Five species of native pines (white, pitch, table mountain, Virginia, and shortleaf) are found growing together, the result of extensive cutting, burning, and replanting by the nearby forestry school.



White-tailed deer typically bear twin fawns.

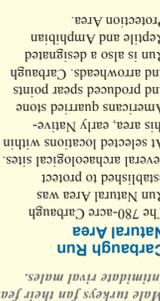
Carbaugh Run Natural Area
 The 780-acre Carbaugh Run Natural Area was established to protect several archaeological sites. At selected locations within this area, early Native Americans quarried stone and produced spear points and arrowheads. Carbaugh Run is also a designated Reptile and Amphibian Protection Area.

Carbaugh Run Natural Area
 This 183-acre area is located just west of Irishtown Road. It was established to protect the numerous seasonal ponds scattered throughout the area. These ponds provide critical breeding habitats for certain reptiles and amphibians.



J. T. Rothrock enjoyed an open vista from Pulpit Rock in 1907. Today that rock stands amidst pine and oak forest.

Carbaugh Run Natural Area
 Coldwater streams provide homes for native brook trout.



Beatown Woods Natural Area
 This 27-acre area is a rich northern hardwood forest more typical of northern Pennsylvania, New York, and New England. Characteristic species found in this forest type include sugar maple, yellow birch, American beech, and eastern hemlock.

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Bureau of Forestry—Conserving Penn's Woods

The mission of the Bureau of Forestry is to ensure the long-term health, viability, and productivity of the commonwealth's forests, and to conserve native wild plants.

State Forest Management
 The bureau manages state forests to provide a suite of uses and values, while maintaining their wild character. State forests are managed for pure water, recreation, scenic beauty, plant and animal habitat, sustainable timber, and mineral resources. State forest management is guided by the State Forest Resource Management Plan.

The state forest system is a "working forest." The Bureau of Forestry carefully manages the forest for a variety of uses and values, while ensuring sustainability.

Ecosystem Management
 The bureau employs "ecosystem management" as its principal strategy for managing state forests. This approach seeks to conserve natural patterns and processes while advancing long-term sustainability. Ecosystem management promotes conservation of plant and animal communities and the landscapes and habitats that support them. It also accounts for needs and values of people and communities.

Visitors may encounter active timber harvests on state forest land. Harvesting trees provides sustainable wood products for society while enhancing habitat and overall forest health.

A Working Forest

Mountain Laurel, Pennsylvania's State Flower.

As you travel throughout the state forest, you'll see examples of our forests "at work." Some of these management practices are more noticeable than others, such as active timber harvests, deer enclosure fences, prescribed fires, and spongy moth spraying. Others are subtle, such as protection of a vernal pool, buffering a stream from timber harvesting, or designating a special area to conserve its wild character or protect a rare plant community. Each of these management practices and activities plays a vital role in the management and conservation of our state forest system.

Dual Certified Forest
 Pennsylvania's 2.2-million-acre state forest system is one the largest dual certified forests in North America. The forest is certified under the 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.

Forest Conservation
 The bureau's role in forest conservation extends beyond state-owned lands. The agency is charged with protecting all of Pennsylvania's forests from wildfire and damaging insects and diseases, and conserving and managing the state's native, wild plant communities. As the state's lead forest conservation agency, the bureau promotes forestry knowledge and stewardship to other government agencies, communities, landowners, forest industries, and the general public.

Help Conserve our Forests
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