

Moon Lake Camping Area

The Moon Lake State Forest Recreation Area offers an array of opportunities to enjoy nature. Whether it is boating or fishing on the 47-acre lake, or riding the many miles of mountain bike trails there is something for everyone. There are 12 rustic campsites at Moon Lake, each containing a tent pad, fire ring, and picnic table.

Number	Size	Trailer
1	110' x 40'	Y
Will fit most trailer sizes including fifth wheels and class A motorhomes		
2	30' x 30'	N
Suitable for car camping only		
3	30' x 30'	N
Suitable for car camping only		
4	50' x 40'	Y
Suitable for pop up campers and small travel trailers		
5	40' x 40'	N
50' walk in from parking		
6	40' x 30'	Y
Suitable for pop up campers and small travel trailers		
7	100' x 40'	Y
Suitable for popup campers, small travel trailers and some motorhomes OR car camping		
8	40' x 40'	N
50' walk in from parking; fits 2 cars		
9	40' x 40'	N
Suitable for car camping only		
10	50' x 30'	Y
Suitable for car camping only		
11	30'x30'	N
Suitable for car camping only		
12	40'x30'	N
Suitable for car camping only		

Thornhurst Camping Areas

The Thornhurst Tract is an outdoor enthusiasts' paradise. Activities range from hiking the more than 33 miles of hiking trails, riding the 28 miles of snowmobile trails, camping at the 6 rustic campsites, and more. The scenic and remote character of this tract is a valued portion of the Pinchot State Forest.

Fireline Camping Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ADA accessible.</li><li>• Maximum trailer length 26 ft.</li><li>• Located on Fireline Road adjacent to Manny Gordon Recreation Area.</li></ul>
Sassafras Camping Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Located on Sassafras Road off of Pittston Road.</li><li>• Site is behind locked gate. Lock combination will be assigned upon reservation.</li><li>• Keep gate closed at all times.</li><li>• 100' x 100' in size; good for groups.</li></ul>
Carvolth Camping Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Located on Carvolth Road off of Pittston Road.</li><li>• Maximum trailer length 20ft.</li><li>• Site is behind locked gate. Lock combination will be assigned upon reservation.</li><li>• Keep gate closed at all times.</li></ul>
Manny Gordon Camping Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Located in the Manny Gordon Recreation Area on the loop behind the picnicking facilities.</li><li>• Three sites available; good for multiple small groups.</li></ul>

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.

Dual Certified Forest

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.

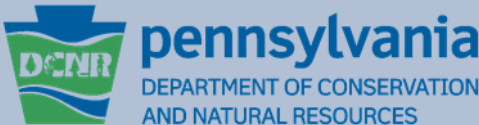
The FSC® is an independent organization supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world's forests.

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-part standard



For more information

**Pinchot Forest District**  
1841 Abington Road  
North Abington, Twp., PA 18414  
Phone: 570-945-7133  
Fax: 570-945-7236  
FD11@pa.gov



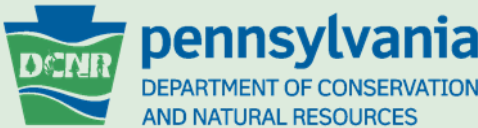
Camping Policy

Pinchot State Forest



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 Pinchot State Forest is comprised of almost 50,000 acres. The district serves Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties.





## Motorized Camping Policies

### PERMITS

(a) Reservations for state forest campsites can be made online at the [Pennsylvania State Parks and Forest Reservation Website](#) at any time, or by calling 888-727-2757, Monday through Saturday 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. For fees and cancellation policies, please visit the [Bureau of Forestry Fee Page](#).

(b) Permits will only be issued to individuals 18 years of age or older

(c) Campers shall have their permits available to present upon request from forest rangers or state forest officers.

(d) Campsites shall be vacated by 3pm on the day the permit expires.

### OCCUPANCY

(a) Occupancy of a campsite is limited to no more than 10 people.

(b) A responsible person of at least 18 years of age must accompany each camping group.

(c) Maximum camping period is limited to 7 consecutive nights, provided campsites are available. Campers must vacate the site for at least 48 hours before returning.

### USE

(a) Camping is restricted to designated, numbered sites within any Recreation Area or Camping Area.

(b) No more than 1 wheeled camping unit per site.

(c) Vehicles must be kept on developed campsite.

(d) Pets must be restricted to the permitted, designated campsite.

(e) Owners must properly dispose of the animal's excrement.

(f) The use of chainsaws within any Recreation Area or Camping Area is prohibited.

(g) Excessive noise; any unreasonable noise that causes others to be inconvenienced, is prohibited.

(h) Quiet hours are between 10PM and 7AM.

(i) Fires are limited to the approved metal fire rings provided and shall be attended at all times. All fires shall be extinguished COMPLETELY before leaving the campsite.

(j) Property left unattended on any campsite for a period of 24 hours shall be deemed abandoned and will be removed by DCNR employees. Such property will be stored for a 90 day period. To reclaim lost items, contact the District Office at 570-945-7133. If not claimed within 90 days, the property may be disposed of.

(k) Moon Lake Recreation Area is closed to camping from November 1 to March 31.

(l) Carvolth and Sassafras campsites are closed from the first day of rifle bear season to the last day of rifle deer season.

### MISCELLANEOUS PROHIBITIONS

(a) The use of water outlets, springs and waterways for washing purposes is prohibited. Discharge of trailer sewage, sink water or waste on or into the ground or surface waters is prohibited.

(b) Removal or destruction of tables, fireplaces or any other Commonwealth property is prohibited.

(c) No other permit is required for gathering dead and down firewood for use during your stay.

(d) The discharge of firearms, fireworks, and explosives is prohibited.

(e) Hunting within any Camping or Recreation Area is prohibited. Hunting firearms shall be kept unloaded in a secure location while staying in the campground.

(f) Damaging any tree or shrub is prohibited.

(g) All other DCNR Bureau of Forestry Rules and Regulations – Title 17. Pennsylvania Code, Part I. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Subpart C. State Forests, Chapter 21. General Provisions - apply within Pinchot State Forest Recreation Area and Camping Area.

## Campfire Policies

- Fires are permitted in the provided fire rings at any time unless otherwise prohibited by the district forester or designee. This prohibition would not apply to small self contained camp stoves when used in a safe manner.
- Campfires require that adequate precautions be taken to prevent the spread of fire into the forest.
- Campfires shall be attended at all times.
- A person causing a wildfire, in addition to possible criminal penalty is liable for all damages, costs of extinction and fines.
- Dead and downed wood may be gathered and burned when permitted but may not be removed from the site. Power tools & chain saws are not permitted.
- Littering or disposal of garbage, paper, household refuse, waste or other material of any kind is prohibited in fire rings or elsewhere .
- Campfires are prohibited from **March 1 to May 25**, without authorization from the district forester.

## Group Camping Policies

Group Camping is defined as more than 10 people in a unit while overnight camping, either motorized or primitive. Written authorization must first be obtained from the Forest District Manager or designee. A camping permit and Letter of Authorization are issued to the group and both must be displayed at the campsite. Additional restrictions such as mandatory use of self-contained portable toilets, or the need to break into smaller groups may be required. There is one designated group site at the Moon Lake Recreation Area and is open to organized groups only.

## Water Trail Camping Policies

Water trail camping is defined as camping at sites designated for camping along designated water trails. A permit is not required unless the camper plans to spend more than two nights at the same location. Five state-owned islands on the North Branch of the Susquehanna are designated for camping. Two of the islands have developed campsites which include a picnic table and fire ring.

## Primitive Camping Policies

Primitive Camping is defined as overnight camping where all equipment is transported manually (non-motorized vehicle methods including watercraft, bicycle, horse) and where a motorized vehicle is not located near or part of the camping experience. Use of established trailside sites is encouraged

- All campsites must be at least 25 feet from the nearest edge of a trail. The campsite shall not be visible from the trail where possible.
- All camping should be at least 100 feet from any stream or other open water source. Some established primitive campsites may be unable to meet this criterion due to steep topography or other local permanent conditions.
- Backpack campers staying no more than one night at a given location do not need a camping permit

***Pinchot State Forest is managed on a leave no trace philosophy that is a CARRY IN, CARRY OUT approach. Depositing any refuse on State Forest Lands is prohibited. You are responsible to remove and properly dispose of any refuse or trash from your stay.***



The Manny Gordon Recreation Area contains three campsites located behind the picnic facilities. These sites are easily accessed a short distance from the paved Bear Lake Road and make an ideal base camp for exploring the many highlights of Thornhurst



### PERMIT APPLICATION CONDITIONS

- Visit [Pennsylvania State Parks and Forest Reservation Website](#) to view campsite details, availability, and to submit an application.
- You may also request a permit by calling 888-727-2757, Monday through Saturday, 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM except on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.
- If calling for a permit, please have all the required information available.
- Stays are limited to seven nights at a campsite. Campers must vacate for at least 48 hours before returning
- By reserving a site you are acknowledging that you have read the policies and agree to abide by all State Forest Rules and Regulations.

The Sassafras campsite is well suited for larger groups. While it provides little shade, it does allow for an expansive view of the night sky. Campers will enjoy this remote campsite, which like Carvolth, is behind a gated administrative road.



The twelve campsites in the Moon Lake Recreation Area are great for family camping as there are easily accessible areas for walking, nature observation, as well as fishing and boating on Moon Lake itself.



## Moon Lake Recreation Area Camping Map

Pinchot Forest District

Plymouth Township, Luzerne County  
1 in = 250 ft

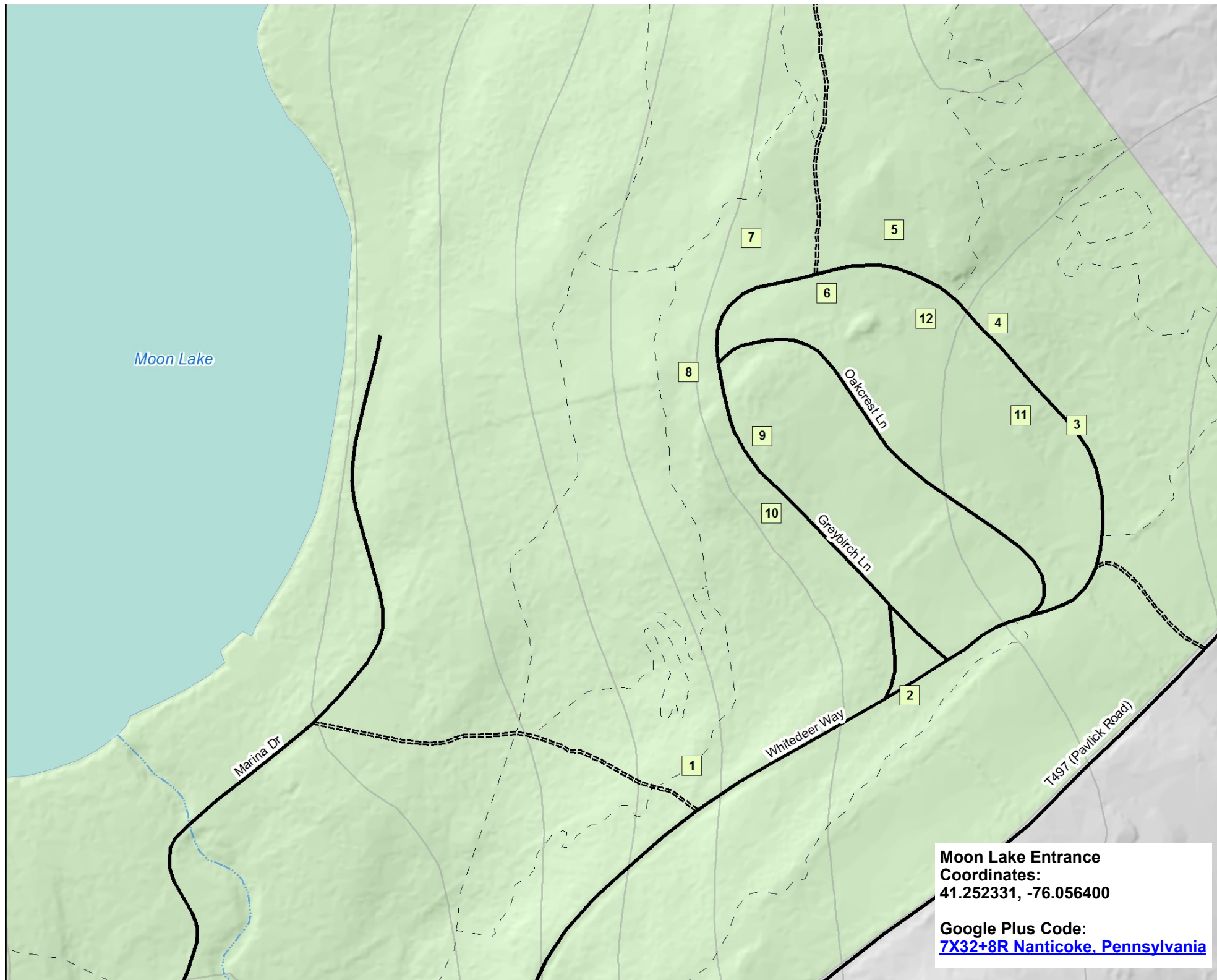
*\*All rustic campsites contain a picnic table and  
metal fire ring. No modern amenities are available.*

*Campsites are for parties  
of less than 10 people.*

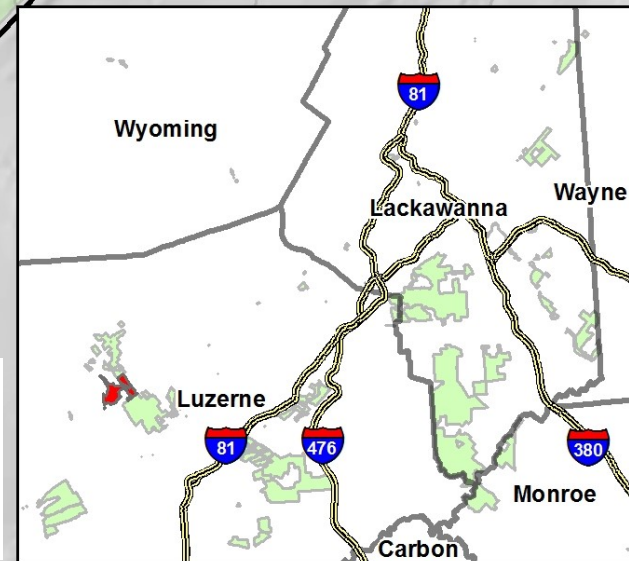
 Campsites

--- Mountain Bike Trails

===== Administrative Roads (Closed to Public)



Moon Lake Entrance  
Coordinates:  
41.252331, -76.056400  
Google Plus Code:  
[7X32+8R Nanticoke, Pennsylvania](https://www.google.com/maps/place/41.252331,-76.056400/@41.252331,-76.056400,15z)





## Thornhurst Tract Camping Map

Pinchot Forest District  
Thornhurst Twp.,  
Lackawanna County  
1 in = 1,500 ft

 $1 \text{ in} = 1,500 \text{ ft}$ 

## Camp Sites



Gate


$$\mathbb{Z}$$


## Parking



## Pine Hill Vista



Forest Headquarters



Manny Gordon Rec. Area



- Primary Roads



- State Forest Roads
- Administrative Roads

Administrative Road  
Snowmobile Trails

### Pinchot Trail

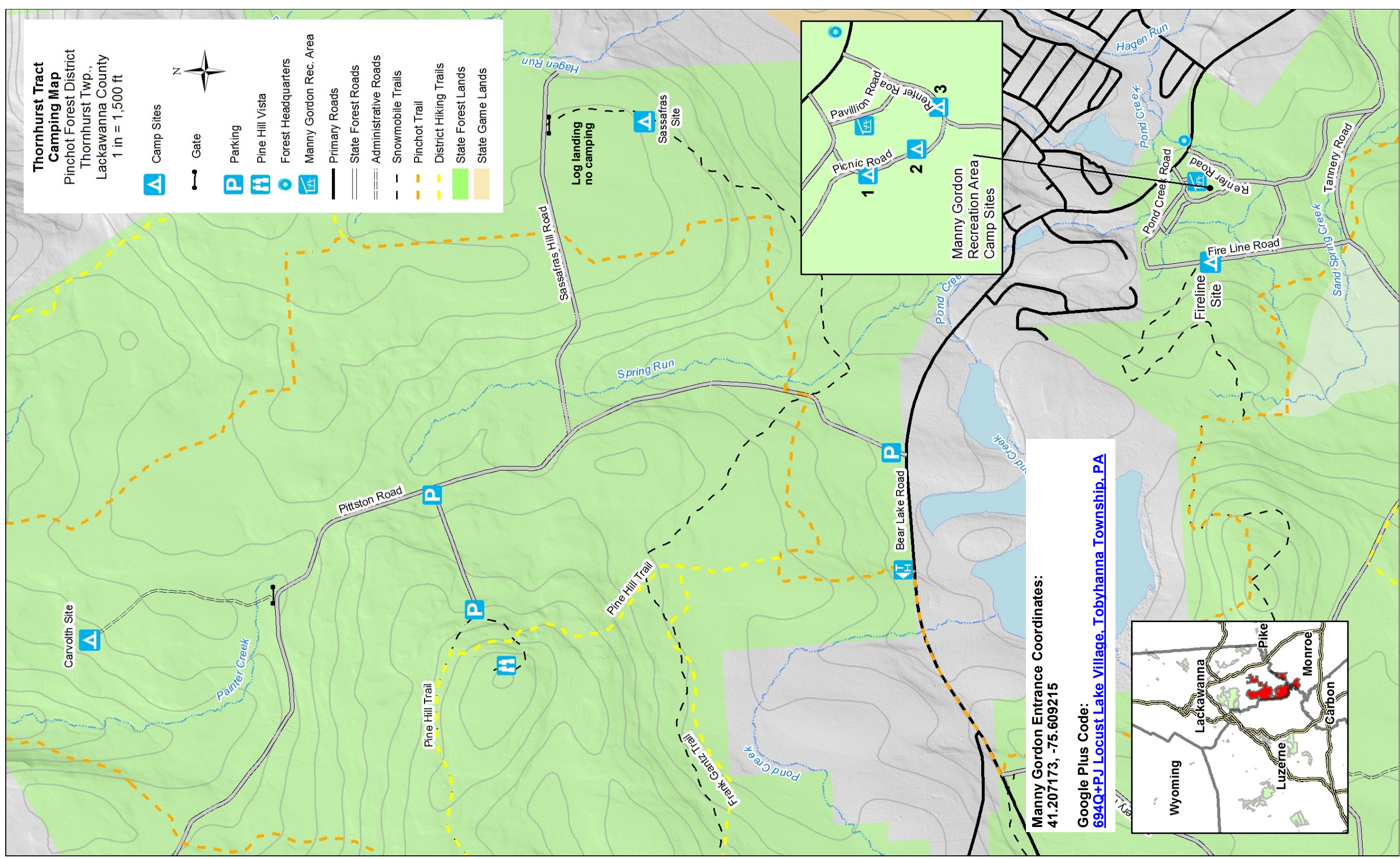


## District Hiking Trails



## State Forest Lands

## State Game Lands



**Manny Gordon Entrance Coordinates:**  
**41.207173, -75.609215**

**Google Plus Code:**

**694Q+PJ Locust Lake Village, Tobyhanna Township, PA**

