Crystal Lake

The Crystal Lake Tract covers a remote area around Crystal Lake northwest to Interstate 81 and east of the town of Mountain Top. The tract totals almost 7,000 acres. The tract consists of one large interconnected area of land, plus three smaller parcels of forest found north of and adjacent to Nescopeck State Park, State Game Lands 187 and 119. Please note that the lake itself is not open to public recreation, nor are any lands within 500 feet of the reservoir. ATVs are not permitted in the Pinchot State Forest.

Part of this tract contains Joe Palooka Mountain, which has some historical value with the popular Joe Palooka Comic Strip. For the adventurous hiker a stunning natural vista can be found on this mountain that overlooks the City of Wilkes Barre.

The Black Diamond Trailhead is also located in this tract and provides ample parking and access to the Black Diamond and D&L Trails. This relatively flat trail is ideal for a leisurely walk or bike ride.



Crystal Lake provides drinking water for thousands of people and is protected by the surrounding state forest land.

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 CouncilTM 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.





For More Information

Pinchot Forest District Resource Management Center Forest District #11

1841 Abington Road North Abington Twp., PA 18414 (570) 945-7133 FD11@pa.gov



Crystal Lake Tract

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.

Pinchot State Forest comprises almost 50,000 acres and the district serves Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming counties.



