

GET OUTDOORS POCONOS



Find your hike here



COURTESY OF THE BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



GET OUTDOORS POCONOS

In appreciation of protected land, protected water

THIS GUIDE TO 'GET OUTDOORS POCONOS' is brought to you by the Brodhead Watershed Association and funded by a grant from the William Penn Foundation. In 2015-16, BWA hosted guided hikes at the parks and preserves listed here.

BRODHEAD WATERSHED ASSOCIATION is a non-profit environmental organization formed in 1989. BWA is dedicated to protecting and preserving water resources, water quality and surrounding environment of the Brodhead watershed.

THE WILLIAM PENN FOUNDATION is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Greater Philadelphia region and ensuring a sustainable environment for the Delaware River watershed, which includes the Brodhead watershed.

FOR INFORMATION, including more hikes that are added monthly, go to brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos/index.html or scan this QR code:



TO FIND YOUR HIKE

Seventeen hikes are listed here, from easy to difficult. Use this key to find the level you're looking for:

EASY



Relatively short or can be cut short; clearly defined and wide trails with smooth footing, modest elevation change.

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MEDIUM



Longer, more woody with blazes, narrower trail, some rocky or wet footing, varied terrain with ups and downs.

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DIFFICULT



Most are 2 miles or more, trail may require attention to follow; expect rocky or wet footing, steep sections.

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LOCATOR MAP
of all sites on page 12

PINEBROOK PARK

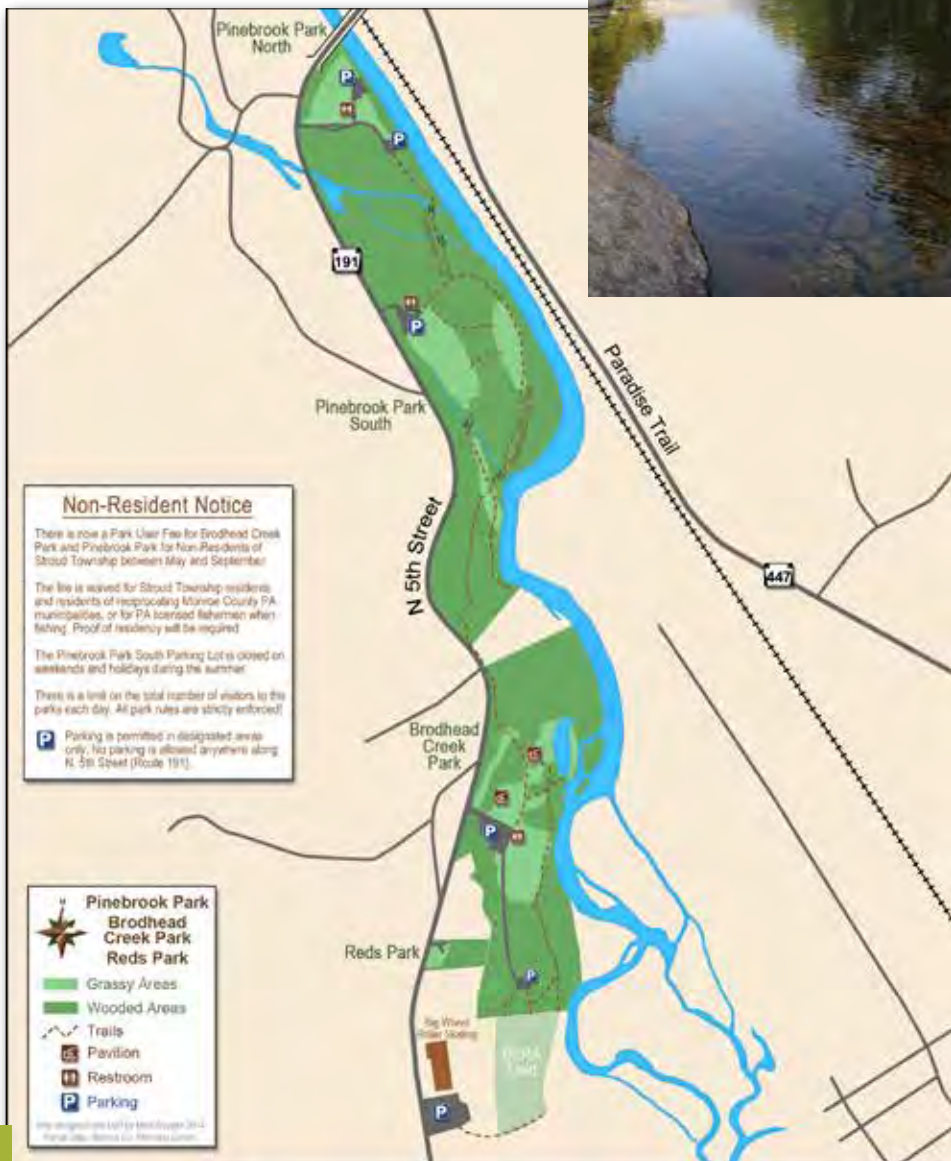
Protects the waters of Brodhead Creek

TRAILS: Easy 3-mile walk can be done in less than two hours. Crushed-stone path is wide and smooth – suitable for bikers, strollers, wheelchairs.

HIGHLIGHTS: Brodhead Creek. Large, mown field forms unofficial, unfenced dog park. Shade trees and

benches border creek. Fishing pond for kids.

LOCATION: Multiple entrances to Pinebrook Park along North Fifth Street, Stroud Township, Pa., two-tenths of a mile south of Route 447. **GPS:** 41-02.120N, 75-12.644W



PARADISE-PRICE PRESERVE

Protects the waters of Cranberry Creek and Brodhead Creek

TRAILS: 777-acre preserve crisscrossed by unblazed trails and woods roads, some rocky. Two trails at Henry's Crossing and on the eastern side – each about a mile round trip – are excellent for beginners, seniors, families.

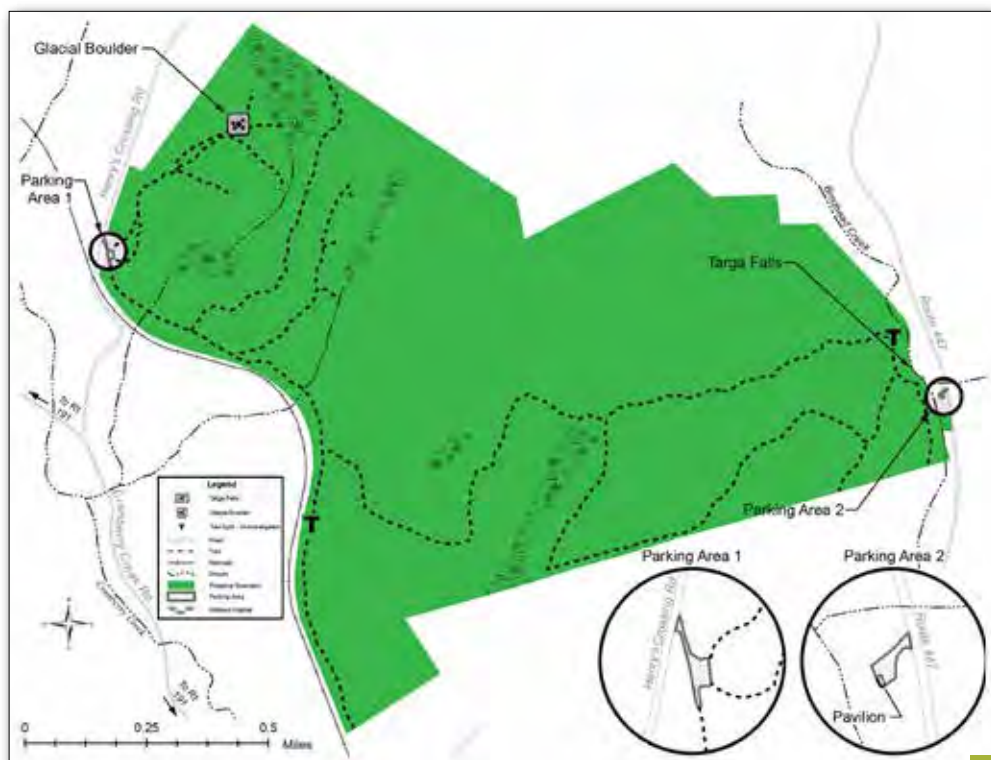
HIGHLIGHTS: Open woodlands, blueberry bushes, boulders. Easy, wide and grassy stroll through a sunny forest of mixed hardwoods to a glacial split-rock boulder as big as an elephant. View of beautiful Brodhead waterfall on eastern side.

LOCATION: In Paradise and Price townships, Pa. Two entrances, about 6 miles apart.

• Henry's Crossing trailhead in Paradise Township: Take Route 191 to Cranberry Creek Road. Turn onto Henry's Crossing Road and head north, crossing the railroad tracks. Turn right at a small green sign – "Preserve Parking" – to enter the parking lot. *GPS: 41.132810, -75.263699*



• Eastern side: Exit the Paradise Price Preserve trailhead and turn right onto Henry's Crossing Road. Take the first right onto Clark Road. Follow Clark Road downhill to a stop sign on Route 447. Go right on Route 447 for 1.5 miles. Parking area is on the right, just past a small bridge over Stony Run. *GPS: 41.127816, -75.230916*



Map courtesy Sam Piel

CHERRY CREEK LOOP

Protects the waters of Cherry Creek, Brodhead Creek, Delaware River



TRAILS: This easy, 2.6-mile loop crosses Cherry Creek. The loop is within a 28.5-acre park.

HIGHLIGHTS: Stepping stones across the creek. Playground, covered picnic tables, well-maintained gravel walking trails, soccer fields, information kiosks and benches along the trails. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: At Minisink Park on River Road, Smithfield Township, near Delaware Water Gap, Pa. Take Route 80 west to Delaware Water Gap exit. At the first stoplight, go left, under the highway. Parking is on your right. **GPS:** 40.992375, -75.139070



Map courtesy Monroe County Planning Commission

A.T. BLAKESLEE PRESERVE

Protects the waters of Tobyhanna Creek and Lehigh River



TRAILS: Three blazed trails: Pine Trail, blazed in orange, is a quick half-mile. Highland Trail, blazed in blue, is almost a mile long and loops through mixed hardwood and pine forest. Red-blazed Creek Trail is a 2.3-mile, out-and-back walk along the creek. Side





trails exist. Roots and rocks are common on the trails, which are wet in many places. A walking stick is helpful.

HIGHLIGHTS: The falls at Tobyhanna Creek, with bridges and simple stepping-stone crossings made of tree-trunk slices and smooth rocks. An easy-to-reach haven for walking, fishing, picnicking,

photography, and peaceful contemplation. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: Near Blakeslee, Pa. Take Route 80 to Exit 284 – Route 115 North. After the Tobyhanna Creek bridge, parking areas are on left. Note: Two trailheads serve Austin T. Blakeslee Natural Area.
GPS: 41.083096, -75.584391

LEGEND

-  Creek Trail (1.14 mi)
-  Highland Trail (0.93 mi)
-  Pine Trail (0.52 mi)
-  Austin T. Blakeslee Natural Area



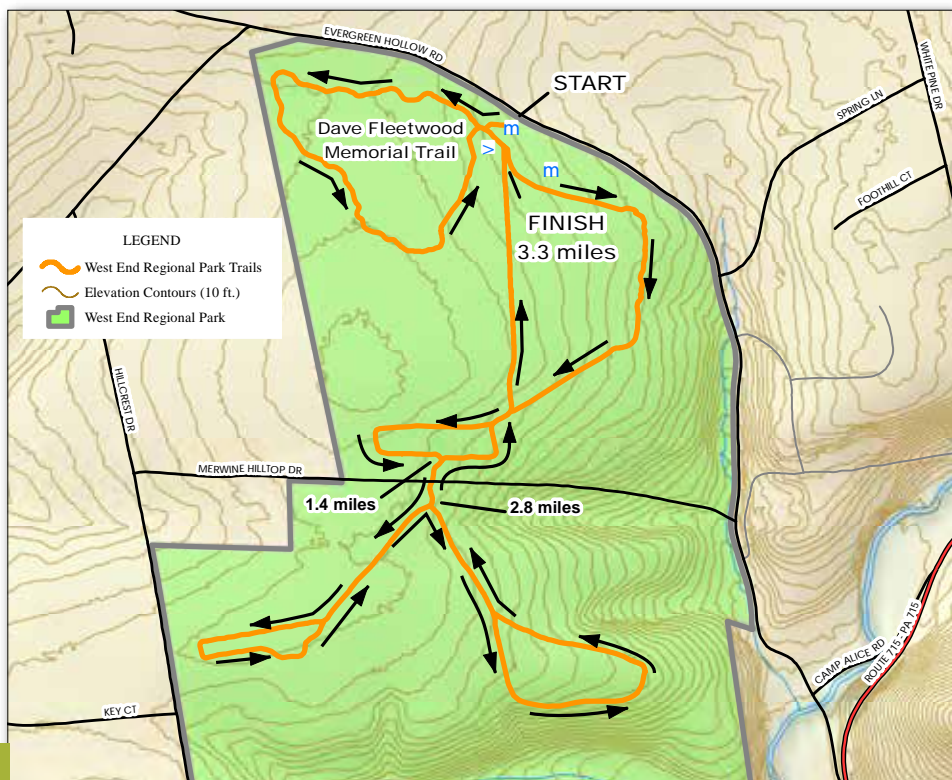
WEST END REGIONAL PARK

Protects the waters of McMichael Creek

TRAILS: Three wide, gravelled loop trails that are well-marked and maintained – 3.3 miles total, with elevation change of 240 feet. Trail maps are posted at intervals throughout the site. One trail is wheelchair-friendly.

HIGHLIGHTS: Bird habitat and wildflower meadow. Walkers, runners, bikers, snow-shoers, and cross-country skiers are welcome. The park is sometimes used for mountain bike runs and 5K footraces. One of the trails offers two sets of fitness courses.

LOCATION: Trailhead is at 578 Evergreen Hollow Road, Brodheadsville, Pa. *GPS:* 40.960078, -75.407142



THUNDER SWAMP

Protects the waters of Little Bushkill Creek and Delaware River

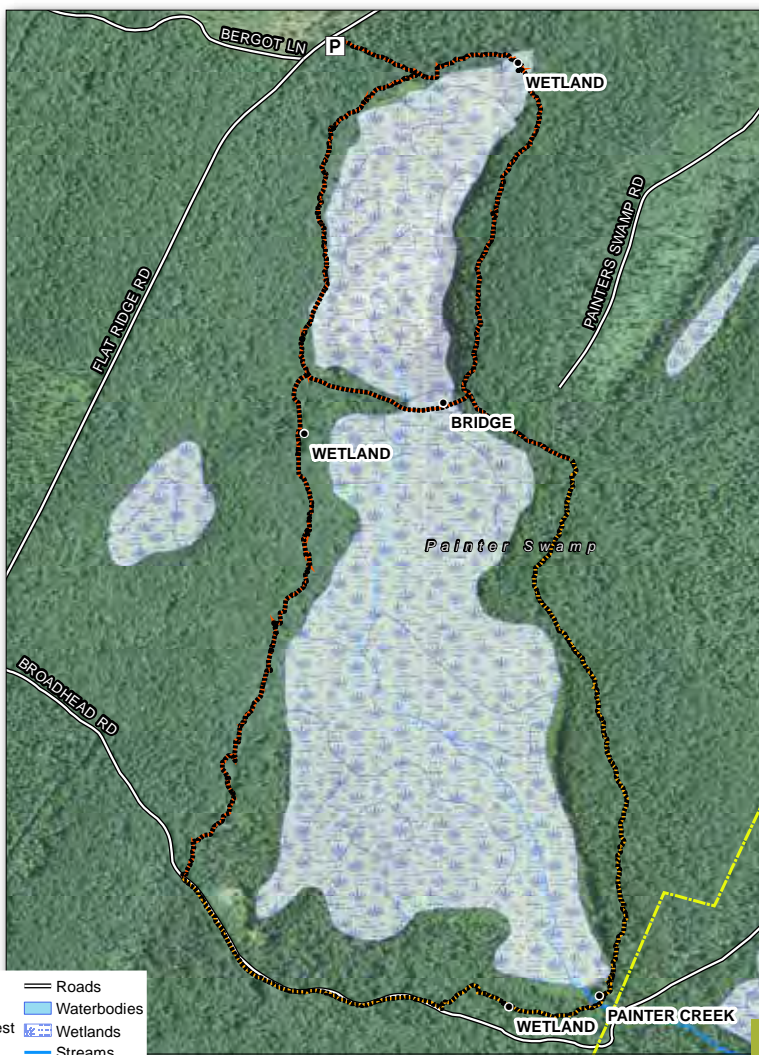
TRAILS: Trails are often rocky and wet. Thunder Swamp's 45 miles of trails are blazed with orange. The 3.5-mile Painter Swamp Trail is blazed with red. Trail intersections are marked with white way-finding signs. Maps are provided in boxes at trailheads.



HIGHLIGHTS: Big slices of slate rise out of glacier-carved landscape. Abundant wildlife. Beaver-made ponds. Hiking, snowmobiling, ATV trails, camping, hunting. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION:

Trailhead is off Flat Ridge Road, Dingmans Township, Pike County, Pa. Take Route 402 to Bushkill Road. Take Bushkill Road 1.3 miles to Flat Ridge Road on your left. Two stone pillars mark the dirt road. Follow Flat Ridge 2.1 miles to parking area on the right, just past Bergot Road.
GPS: 41.242219, -75.028363



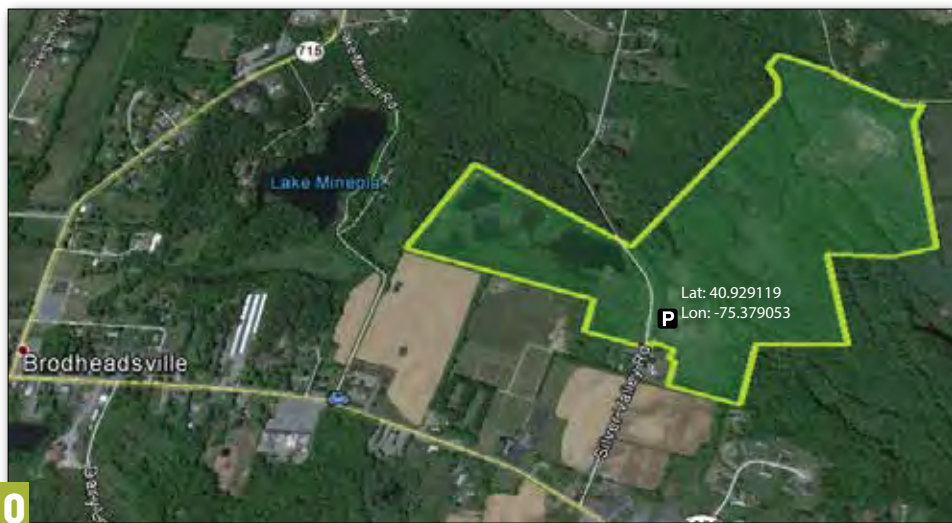
SILVER VALLEY

Protects the waters of McMichael Creek

TRAILS: Difficulty and distance depend on trail taken within network of trails at Silver Valley Natural Area, but can be wet and rocky. Boardwalks cover swampy spots. Not handicapped-accessible.

HIGHLIGHTS: 109 acres open to public, with fishing pond. Trails meander along a 19-mile course of McMichael Creek – get a glimpse of trout. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: In Chestnuthill Township, Pa. From Route 209 near Meadow Brook Diner in Brodheadsville, go north on Silver Valley Road for three-tenths of a mile. Park in the gravel turnout on the left. Cross the road and go around the metal gate to follow jeep trail down to the creek. Cross the bridge to access Silver Valley Natural Area. **GPS:** 40.929025, -75.379180



Map courtesy Chestnuthill Township

PASOLD FARM PRESERVE



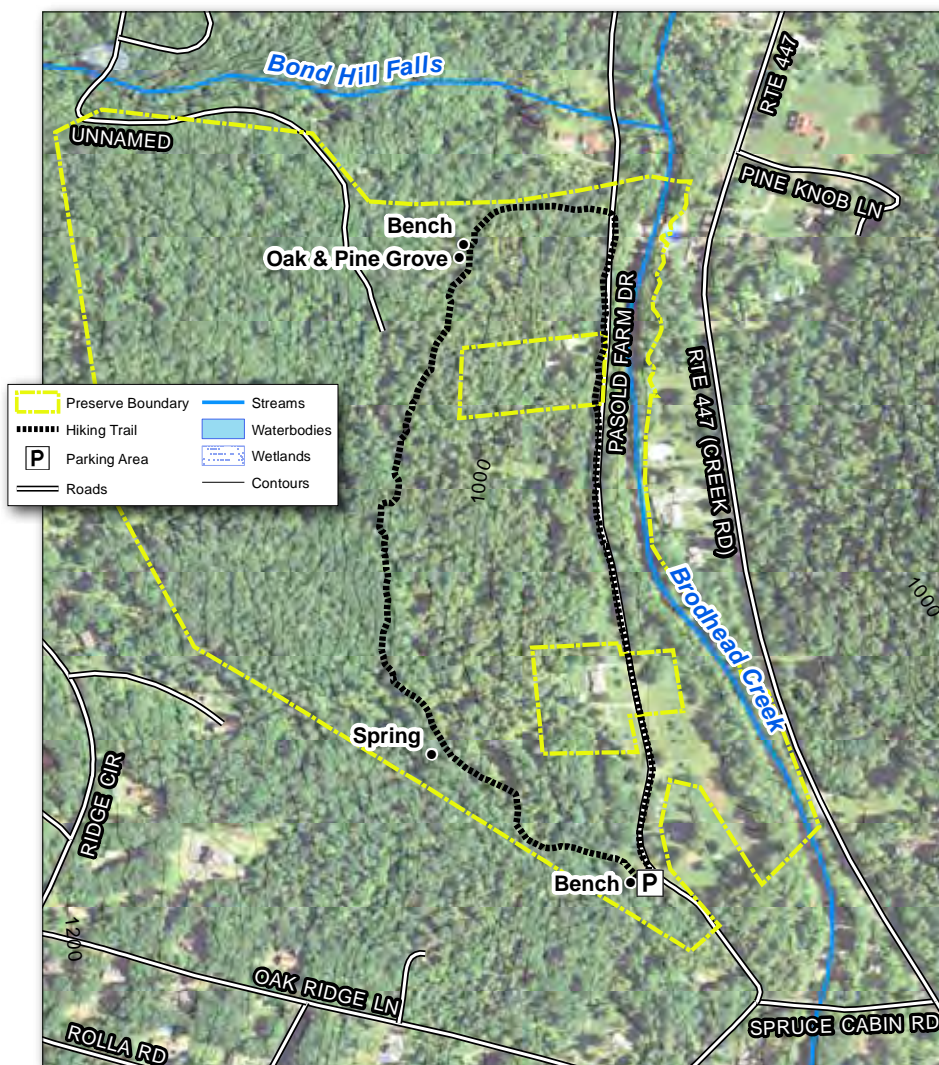
Protects the waters of Brodhead Creek



TRAILS: Blazed in blue, the trail is moderately difficult with one short, steep climb, and one downed tree to clamber over. Parts are wet. The trail is a 2-mile loop through woods and along a road that can be done in an hour or less. Leashed dogs welcome. No trash receptacles.

HIGHLIGHTS: Glacial erratics, a "kissing tree," remnants of old farm. Side trails lead from the road to Brodhead Creek. Catch-and-release fishing in season, with proper state permit.

LOCATION: Parking area is on Pasold Farm Drive (off Spruce Cabin Road in Canadensis, Pa.). Take Route 447 to Spruce Cabin Road. Go 50 feet, cross the bridge. Pasold Farm Drive is on your right. **GPS:** 41.178917, -75.251109



BWA map by Raymond Macik



GET OUTDOORS POCONOS

Find your hike here



Map by Ambrose Cavalier

CHILDS PARK

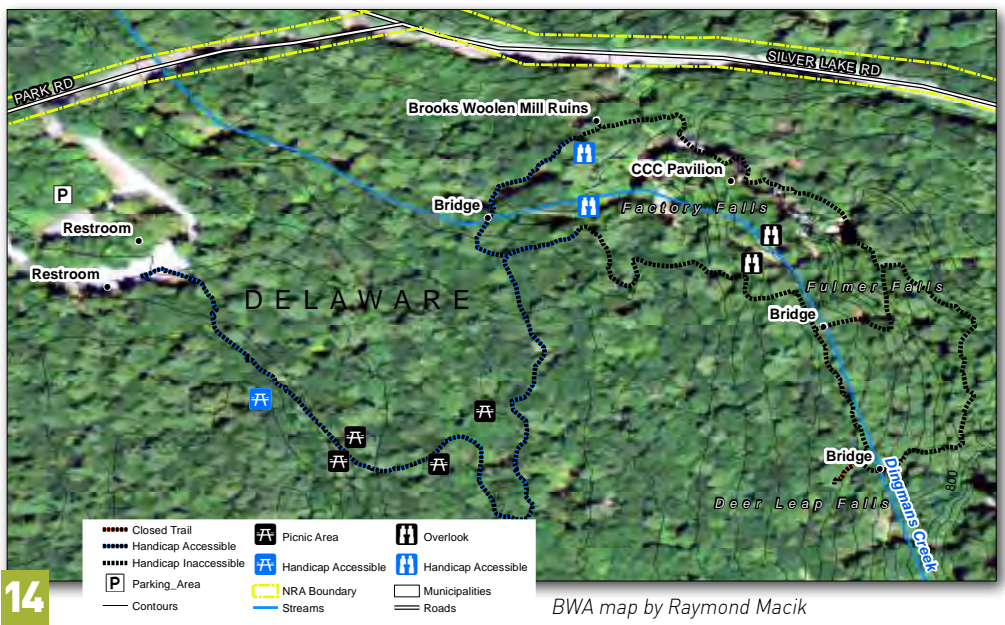
Protects the waters of Dingmans Creek and Delaware River



TRAILS: Easy to moderate walking on improved trails throughout. Handicap-accessible to the first waterfall, approximately 1/3 mile, one-way. Total is a 1.4-mile loop, with many stairs and boardwalks and elevation change of 144 feet.

HIGHLIGHTS: Three waterfalls with 150-foot drop. Stone ruins of old mill. New walkways, picnic spots, and interpretive signs along the way. Only working dogs allowed.

LOCATION: Childs Park is in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in northeastern Pennsylvania. Take Route 209 to the Dingmans Ferry stoplight. Take Route 739 west to Silver Lake Road, then left onto Childs Park Road. *GPS: 41.238223, -74.919032*



BWA map by Raymond Macik

SNOW SHANTY LOOP



Protects the waters of Snow Shanty Run and Wallenpaupack Creek

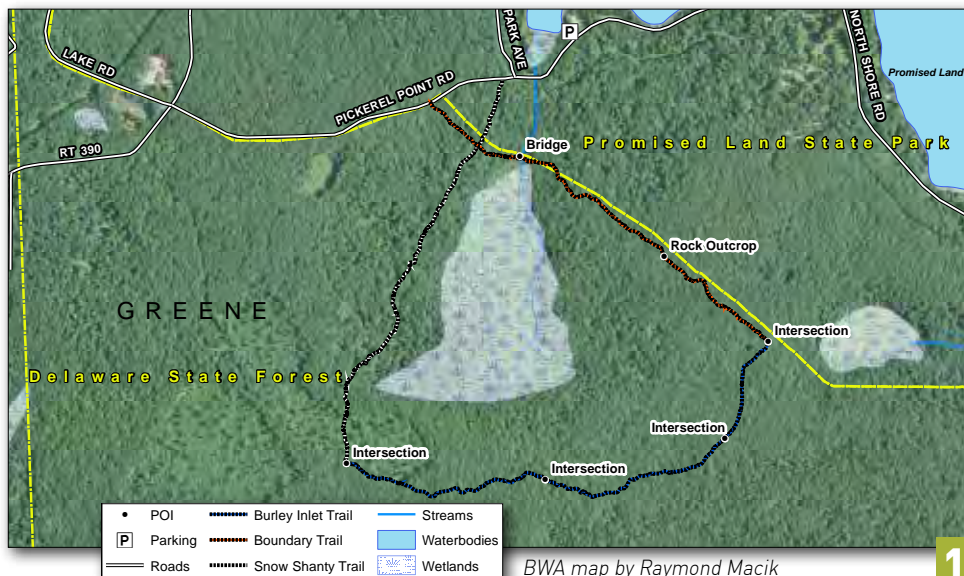


TRAILS: 2.5-mile loop on Snow Shanty Trail, off Pickerel Point Road in Promised Land State Park. All trails have blue blazes. Trail intersections are marked with white way-finding signs, keyed to an excellent map of the park, available at the park office. Trails are often rocky and may be wet.

HIGHLIGHTS: Bridge over swampland, view from atop split rock. Promised Land's

wilderness and wildlife of almost 3,000 acres includes hiking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, swimming, boating, hunting, geocaching, picnicking and camping. An active eagles' nest can be seen at the Wildlife Observation Station. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: Promised Land State Park is 10 miles north of Canadensis, on Route 390 in Pike County, Pa. **GPS:** 41.301419, -75.198473



BWA map by Raymond Macic

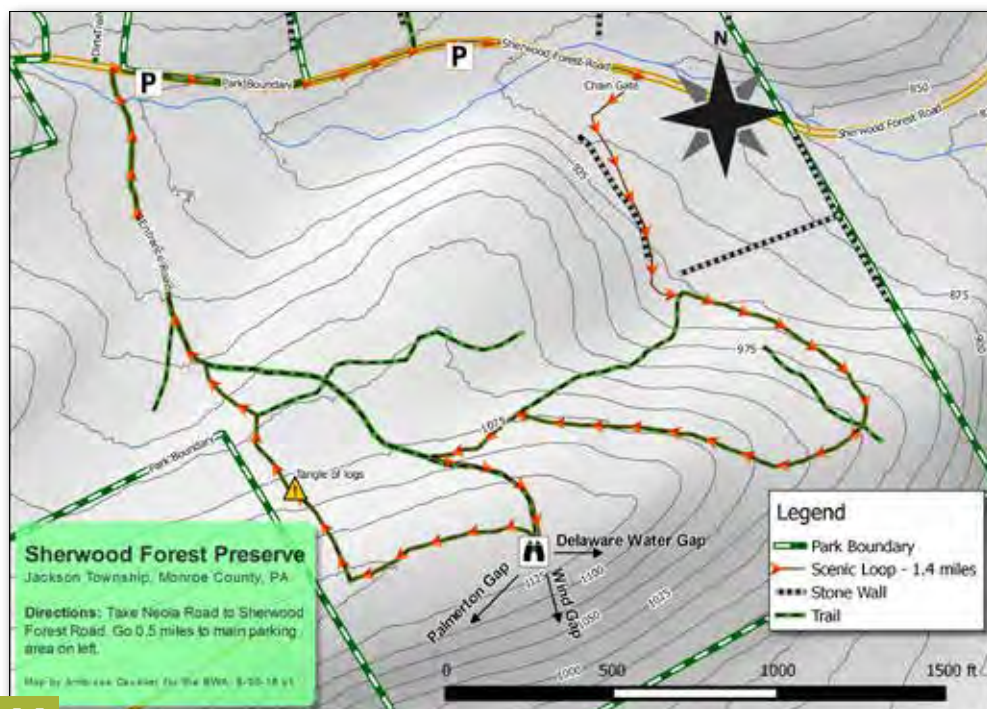
SHERWOOD FOREST

Protects the waters of Appenzell Creek and McMichael Creek

TRAILS: Explore 175 preserved acres of Sherwood Forest Greenway. Trails are rough-flagged and may be wet and rocky. Scenic loop, at 1.4 miles, is an easy, uphill slope at first, gradually increasing toward the summit.

HIGHLIGHTS: At 1,125-foot elevation, a panoramic view of Delaware Water Gap and more. Remnants of old farm, stone walls. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: From Tannersville, Pa., take Route 715 South past Jackson Township Fire Co. and Municipal Building, to the four corners stop. Go left on Neola Road. Take Neola Road 2.2 miles to Sherwood Forest Road. Go right. The parking area is half a mile on the left. **GPS:** 40.968270, -75.355488



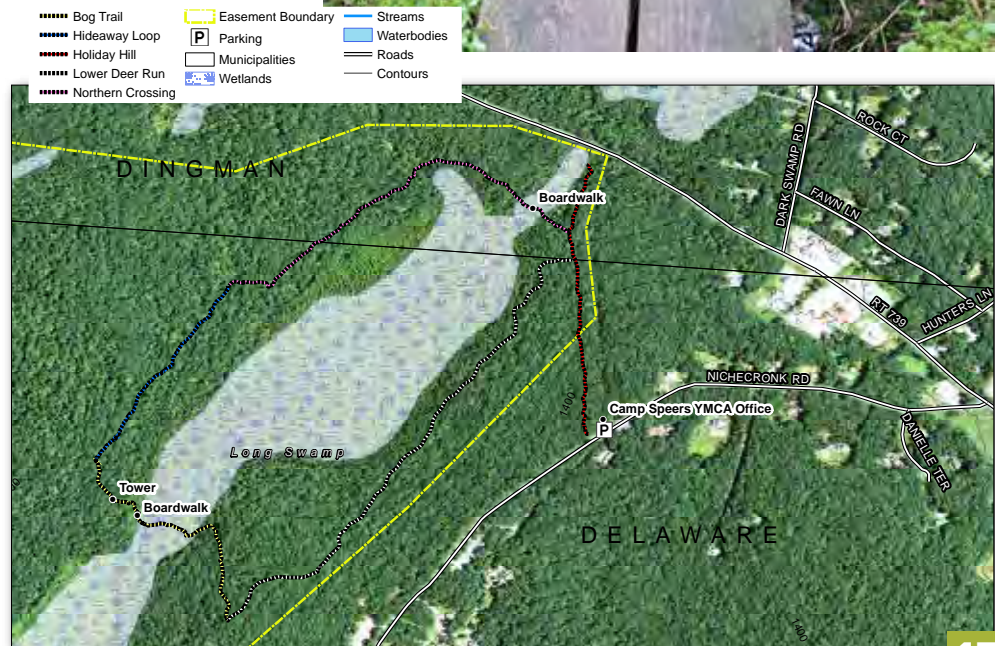
LONG SWAMP

Protects the waters of Dingmans Creek

TRAILS: Easy-to-moderate footing, mostly on narrow, single-track trails. Rocky in places and wet off the boardwalk (where you may not stray). This 3.5-mile trail can be hiked in two hours.

HIGHLIGHTS: 458 preserved acres of forested wetland with plank boardwalk, built inches over the swamp – cool, dark, damp and otherworldly. No dogs.

LOCATION: Go to Camp Speers YMCA on Nichecronk Road, off Route 739 North, 5.4 miles past the Route 209 light in Dingmans Ferry, Pa. Long Swamp is open for public hiking, but you must check in and check out at the Camp Speers office and wear a wristband.
GPS: 41.280492, -74.935899



SWIFTWATER FOREST

Protects the waters of Forest Hills Run and Swiftwater Creek



TRAILS: A family-friendly, 90-minute walk of about 2.5 miles. Moderately difficult stretches of the trail are steep. Trails have not been blazed, though they have been flagged.

HIGHLIGHTS: Steep old woods road leads uphill through a mixed hardwood forest, passing the chimney and fireplace of a long-gone cabin. Wildflowers and forest animals. Hiking, birding, photography, cross-country skiing, and picnicking. Dogs welcome.

LOCATION: Trailhead is off cul-de-sac on Donaldson Road, off Lower Swiftwater Road, Paradise Township, Swiftwater, Pa.
GPS: 41.102408, -75.294083



ZIMMER PRESERVE

Protects the waters of Brodhead Creek



TRAILS: Although the trail is blazed, legal access to the property requires a scramble along the border of a neighboring property owner. Red blazes mark most of the trail, but use the map below to guide you in entering and exiting the preserve. The blazed trail begins at 41.170170, -75.248622. Blazing is sporadic or nonexistent up to this point. Depending on the season, expect to cross some wet patches.

HIGHLIGHTS: 97-acre wildlife sanctuary on grounds of ruined resort inn. Old woods road is lined with stone walls. Stepping-stone stairs and lightning-blasted pine.



LOCATION: On Spruce Cabin Road in Barrett Township, Pa. GPS: 41.171101, -75.252533



STAIRWAY RIDGE

Protects the waters of the Delaware River

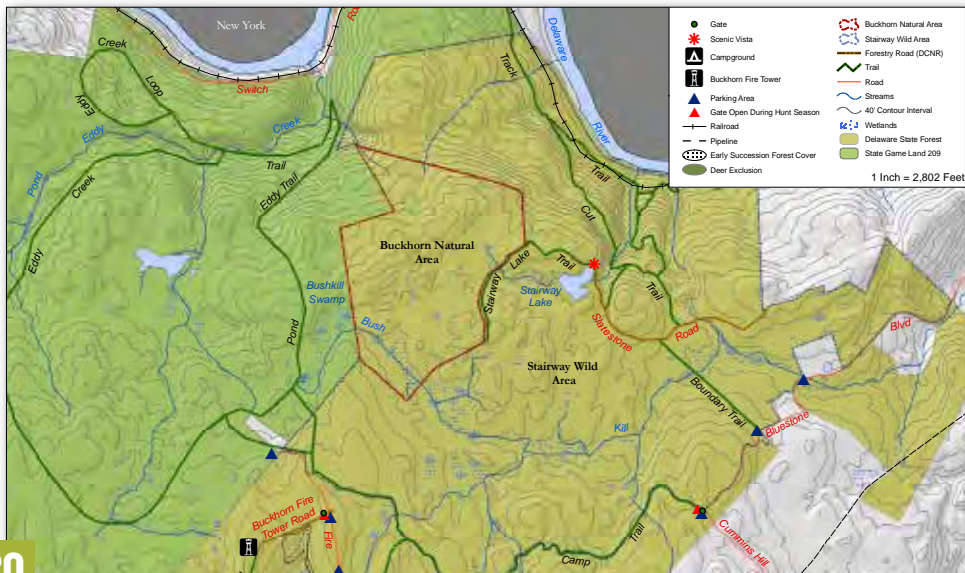


TRAILS: Trails are blazed in blue. Trails have roots and rocks. The more difficult, 3.5-mile hike requires crossing wetlands and small creeks on makeshift crossings. Easier hike is 3.25 miles. A walking stick is helpful.

HIGHLIGHTS: Beaver-dammed Stairway Lake at 1,100 feet in elevation, with a mountaintop view of New York State and the Delaware River. Leashed dogs welcome.

LOCATION: East of Milford, Pa., 708-acre Stairway Ridge is part of Delaware State Forest, adjoining Pennsylvania State Game Lands 209. Two trailheads are on Bluestone Boulevard in Westfall Township. From Milford, take Route 6 east for 2.7 miles to Cummins Hill Road (unmarked, on the left). Take Cummins Hill Road under Route 84 – 4 miles to Bluestone Boulevard (also unmarked). Go right on Bluestone six-tenths of a mile for the more challenging hike to parking on the left; or go 1.1 miles for the easier hike, also on left. **GPS:** First trailhead, 41.400874, -74.779711; second trailhead, 41.404452, -74.775011

Map courtesy Pennsylvania Game Commission



SHUMAN POINT

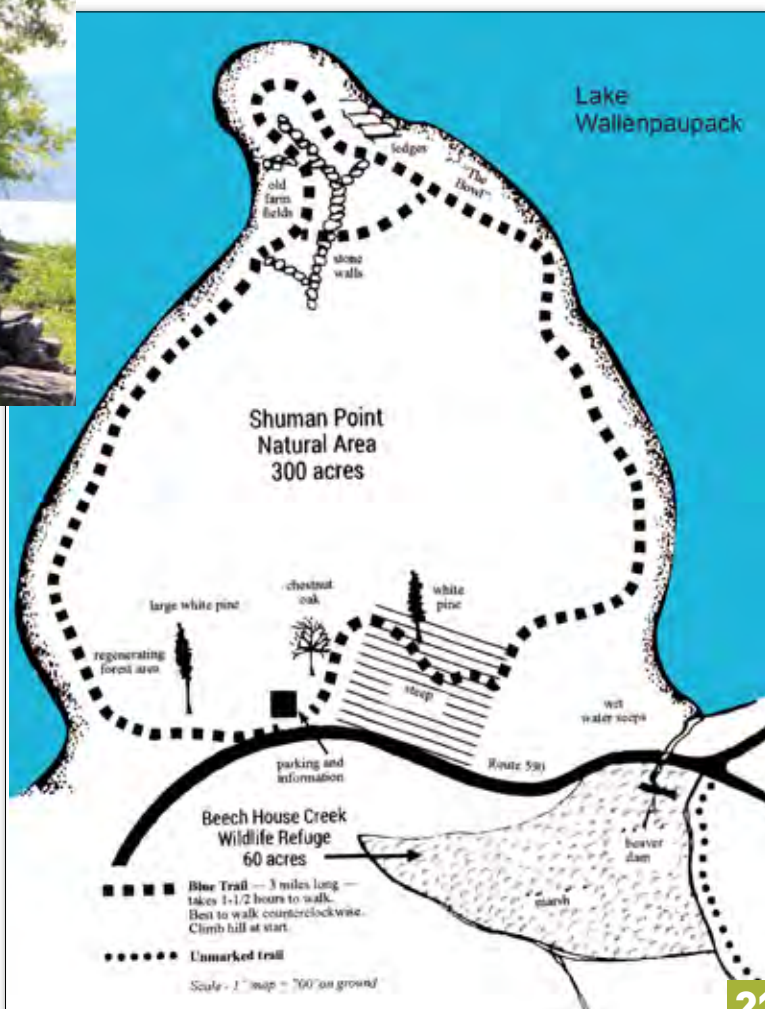
Protects the waters of Wallenpaupack Creek



TRAILS: A blue-blazed 3-mile trail of moderate difficulty. Steep and wet in places, with a stretch of rocky footing leading to a small open flatland at the top.

HIGHLIGHTS: Gorgeous views of Lake Wallenpaupack, elaborate rock totems. Dogs welcome.

LOCATION: In Pike County, Pa., take Route 6 to Route 590 West. Follow Route 590 West for about 2.5 miles. The parking lot is on left, about 100 yards past Crazy Fingers Restaurant, Lakeville. *GPS: 41.450525, -75.205100*



Map courtesy Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Preserve

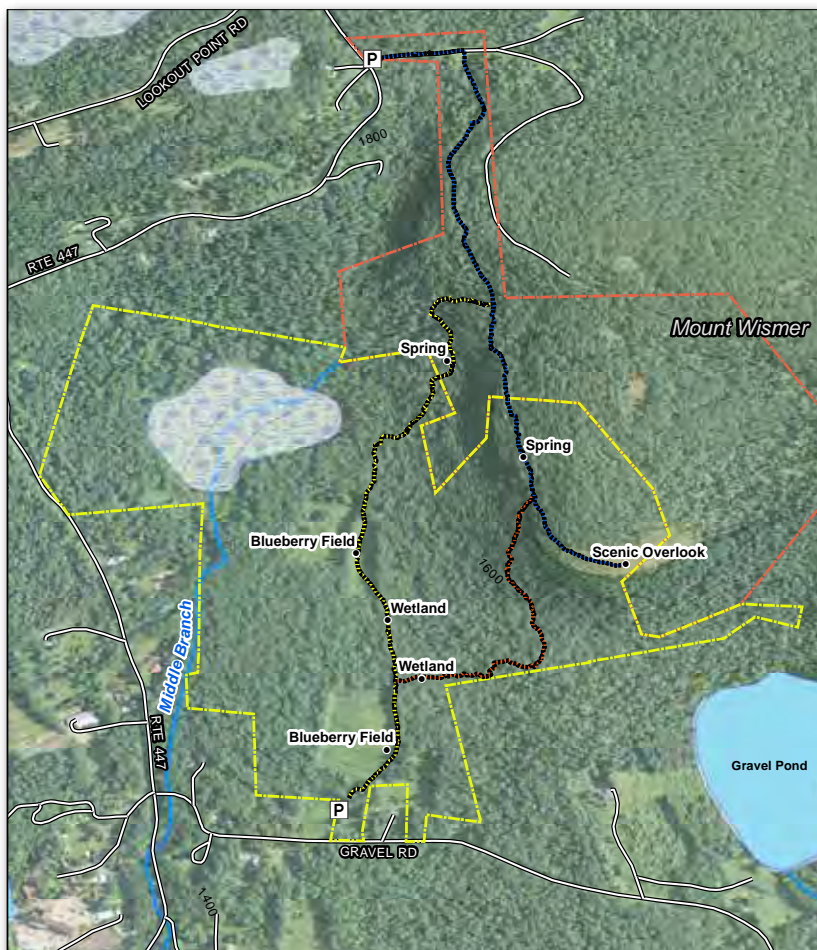
MOUNT WISMER

Protects the headwaters of Brodhead Creek



TRAILS: No blazes at the start. Follow the woods road, beyond the metal gate, always bearing right to find two blazed trails to top. The 1.75-mile red trail is extremely steep and rocky. The 4-mile yellow trail will take at least two hours to hike. Parts are wet. For a much easier trail to a marsh, bear left when yellow blazes go right uphill.

HIGHLIGHTS: Rock formations and blueberry fields. Mountaintop of 90-acre preserve affords a panoramic view to Delaware Water Gap and beyond.



BWA map by Raymond Macik

LOCATION: Off Route 447, on Gravel Road in Barrett Township, Pa. Continue east on Gravel Road, just past the green nature preserve sign. Take the dirt lane on your left to the trailhead. **GPS:** 41.226228, -75.262982

- Blue Hiking Trail
- Red Hiking Trail
- Yellow Hiking Trail
- Gravel Nature Preserve
- Mt. Wismer Preserve
- Contours
- Parking Area
- Roads
- Waterbodies
- Wetlands
- Streams

Love the outdoors?

This is the place for you!

Hundreds of miles of trails are waiting for you to explore in the Poconos. Hikes sponsored by Brodhead Watershed Association – and detailed in this booklet – introduce you to some of them.

This place is like no other on Earth. Here you'll find ancient mountains, a quaking bog that once held mastodon bones, and plant and animal diversity that rivals the world's rain forests. Fast-tumbling waterfalls and lazy, mellow rivers. Glacial boulders as big as houses.

You'll also find your choice of outdoor adventures. Take an easy stroll on groomed paths at a nature sanctuary. Backpack into the wilderness for overnight camping. Strap on snowshoes to visit pristine lakes and a beaver lodge. Even fish some of the most famous trout waters in America.

You'll find creeks, streams, and wetlands on almost every hike. There's a reason for that: pure, safe water is important! Conserving land that protects water quality has been a priority of county and municipal open space land programs. Citizens of the Poconos have voted to purchase and preserve these public lands to protect our water supply and that of future generations — and that same land offers healthy outdoor adventures for all.

Members of Brodhead Watershed Association are dedicated to preserving and protecting our creeks, streams, and drinking water, as well as the land it depends on. Please join this good work! Become a member of the BWA at

www.brodheadwatershed.org

And have a great hike!



GET OUTDOORS POCONOS

Find your hike here

brodheadwatershed.org/gopoconos

