



For More Information Contact:

Yellow Creek State Park
 170 Route 259 Highway
 Penn Run, PA 15765-5941
 724-357-7913

email: yellowcreeksp@pa.gov
 GPS: Lat. 40.57822 Long. -79.00006
 An Equal Opportunity Employer

www.visitPAparks.com

Information and Reservations

Make online reservations at:
www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free
 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.,
 Monday to Saturday, for state park information
 and reservations.

Yellow Creek State Park

The 2,981-acre Yellow Creek State Park is in Indiana County along one of the first “highways” in the state, the Kittanning Path. This trail was used by the Delaware and Shawnee nations and by early settlers.

Today, visitors enjoy the sand beach, picnicking and educational and recreational programs. The 720-acre Yellow Creek Lake is a destination for boaters and anglers. The lake and park are an important rest stop for migrating birds.

The park is named for Yellow and Little Yellow creeks, which flow into the lake. Both creeks contain yellow clay in their banks and bottoms.

Directions

Yellow Creek State Park is along PA 422 between the towns of Ebensburg and Indiana.

Reservations

Make online reservations at: www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Saturday, for state park information and reservations.

Recreational Opportunities

HIKING: 5 miles of trails

Laurel Run Trail is a 0.5 mile loop which starts at the park office. This easy hike is especially beautiful in the spring when wildflowers abound.

Ridgetop Trail is a challenging 2-mile trail. It begins in the beach/day-use area and winds through a variety of habitats.

Damsite Trail is a 2.5-mile trail that offers a view of the Yellow Creek Dam. To drive to this trailhead, follow PA 259 south from the park office. After taking a right turn on PA 259 toward Brush Valley, turn onto Hoffman Road, the second road on the right. This road ends at a small parking area where Damsite Trail begins.

Tell us about your hike at: www.explorepatrials.com

MOUNTAIN BIKING: 18 miles of trails

The mountain bike trails on the north and south shores are for hikers and bikers. The trails are easy riding with some challenging sections, which have alternate routes to bypass the obstacles. The trail loops around the park, with intersections marked with letters.

FISHING: The 720-acre Yellow Creek Lake is well stocked with most warm-water game fish and panfish. These include smallmouth and largemouth bass, walleye, muskellunge, northern pike, tiger muskellunge, yellow perch, bluegill and catfish. There is an ADA accessible fishing pier on the north shore. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission big bass regulations are in effect on Yellow Creek Lake.

Laurel Run, Yellow Creek and Little Yellow Creek are stocked with brown and brook trout and provide excellent trout fishing.

The breast of Dragonfly Pond is usable by many people with disabilities, and is also for children 12 years and younger. Access ramps and benches are provided.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission laws apply. Fishing is not permitted in the swimming area, from boat launching docks or in the boat mooring area.

YURTS: These round, canvas and wood walled tents have a wooden floor and deck and sleep five people in bunk beds. Yurts have a cooking stove, refrigerator, microwave oven, countertop, table, chairs, electric heat and outlets, fire ring and picnic table. Restrooms are nearby.

Pets are prohibited in the cottage/yurt area.

CAMPING COTTAGES: Six 13' by 15' cottages are along the lakeshore near McFeaters Cove. Each cottage sleeps five people in bunk beds. The cottages have wooden floors, windows, porch, picnic table, fire ring, and electric lights and outlets. Restrooms are nearby.



SWIMMING: The 800-foot beach is open from late-May to mid-September, 8 a.m. to sunset. Swim at your own risk. Please read and follow posted rules. A large, modern bathhouse and a snack bar are in the beach area. Pets are prohibited on the beach.

ORIENTEERING: A small orienteering course is on the north shore near the camping cottages.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: Most of Yellow Creek State Park is open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer, pheasant, rabbit, squirrel, bear, turkey and waterfowl.

Hunting woodchucks, also known as groundhogs, is prohibited. Dog training is only permitted from the day following Labor Day through March 31 in designated hunting areas. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission rules and regulations apply. Contact the park office for ADA accessible hunting information.

Use extreme caution with firearms at all times. Other visitors use the park during hunting seasons. Firearms and archery equipment used for hunting may be uncased and ready for use only in authorized hunting areas during hunting seasons. In areas not open to hunting or during non-hunting seasons, firearms and archery equipment shall be kept in the owner's car, trailer or leased campsite. The only exception is that law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid *Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms* may carry said firearm concealed on their person while they are in the park.

BOATING: up to 20 hp motors permitted

The 720-acre Yellow Creek Lake has boat launching ramps on the north shore, the south shore, in the beach day-use area and also a small launch in Grampaps Cove. A boat rental in the beach/day use area offers motorboats, canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, pontoon boats and paddleboards. The boat rental is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Overnight mooring of boats is permitted in the park by special permit only. For your safety, please be certain that required U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices are on board for all passengers.

Motorboats must display a boat registration from any state. Non-powered boats must display one of the following: boat registration from any state; launching permit or mooring permit from Pennsylvania State Parks that are available at most state park offices; launch use permit from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

PICNICKING: The beach/day use area has parking for over 4,000 people. Picnic tables, modern restrooms and a limited number of charcoal grills are scattered throughout the area. Visitors are encouraged to provide their own grills. Open ground fires are not permitted in the park. Pets are permitted in the day use area and must be controlled and attended at all times and on a leash or otherwise safely restrained.

Three picnic pavilions may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. Unreserved picnic pavilions are free on a first-come, first-served basis.

A small picnic area on the north shore is near the North Boat Launch and another picnic area is near the park office.



Winter Activities

ICE FISHING: Sunfish, perch and pike are caught most frequently through the ice at Yellow Creek. Wooden devices for ice rescue are located around all ice use access areas. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission laws apply and anglers must display a valid fishing license.

SLEDDING AND TOBOGGANING: An area for sledding and tobogganing is maintained opposite the south shore boat launch. If you decide that another hill looks more inviting or challenging, please be alert for old fences that may still be in the area.

SNOWMOBILING: Registered snowmobiles are allowed in one area that is about 350 acres in size. This designated area consists of forests and open fields. The access to this trail area is from the beach/day use area.

ICE SKATING: The lake near the boat rental building in the beach/day use area is available for ice skating. There are facilities here for a warming fire and winter picnics.

ICEBOATING: Iceboating is permitted on the lake provided the boat displays a launch permit. Iceboats are not available for rental.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING: While no special area or trail system has been developed for these winter sports, the park has many opportunities for cross-country skiers and snowshoers of all experience levels.

Environmental Education and Interpretation

The park offers a variety of environmental, recreational and interpretive programs from April 1st to October 31st. Through hands-on activities, guided walks and evening programs, participants gain appreciation and understanding of the park's natural resources. A schedule of activities is available at the park office. The Environmental Learning Classroom is near Dragonfly Pond.

Curriculum-based environmental education programs are available to schools and youth groups. Teacher workshops are available. Group programs must be arranged in advance.

Park History

As part of its plan to have a state park within 25 miles of every resident of Pennsylvania, the former Department of Forests and Waters began acquiring land for a park in 1963. An earth and rock dam, creating a 720-acre lake, was completed in 1969. The park was dedicated in 1976. An additional 159 acres of developed land were purchased in 1982.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Indiana County Tourist Bureau.
www.visitindianacountypa.org

State game lands 273 and 248 provide areas for public hunting and general recreation.

Access for People with Disabilities

This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.

In an Emergency

Contact a park employee or dial 911. For directions to the nearest hospital, look on bulletin boards or at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL

Indiana Regional Medical Center
 835 Hospital Road
 Indiana, PA 15701
 724-357-7000