

Simon B. Elliott State Park



For More Information Contact:

S.B. Elliott State Park
 c/o Parker Dam State Park
 28 Fairview Road
 Penfield, PA 15849-9799
 814-765-0630
 email: parkerdamp@pa.gov
 GPS: Lat. 41.11276 Long. -78.52594
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www.visitParks.com

Information and Reservations

Make online reservations at:
 www.visitParks.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.

Simon B. Elliott State Park

The 318-acre Simon B. Elliott State Park is in the heart of Moshannon State Forest. This entirely wooded park offers picturesque areas of swamp meadows and a forest of typical second growth mixed hardwood and oak timber.

Directions

S.B. Elliott State Park is in Clearfield County off PA 153 just north of Exit 111 of I-80, nine miles north of the community of Clearfield.

For GPS devices use the following coordinates:
 GPS: Lat. 41.11276 Long. -78.52594

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Recreational Opportunities

FISHING: Fishing in small mountain streams surrounding the park offers sport for those who like to walk and fish in uncrowded streams for native trout.

HIKING: 3 miles of trails

Hiking trails take visitors to various places on the mountaintop while backpack hikers can get on the Quehanna Trail by way of the Central Pennsylvania Lumber Company Trail. The Quehanna Trail System offers over 75 miles of hiking and backpacking. Hikers can go for up to seven overnights without retracing steps by using the northern and southern loops and connecting trails. This trail also connects on to the Susquehannock Trail System north of the community of Sinnemahoning.

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



PICNICKING: Picnicking amidst towering pine and oak trees is a treat for the whole family. The park offers ample parking, tables, three reservable picnic pavilions, drinking water and non-flush restrooms.

CAMPING: rustic sites

A 25-site camping area, across from the log cabin park office, offers modern restrooms but no showers and a sanitary dump station. Pets are permitted on all sites. The maximum stay in this area is 14 days during the summer season. Campers must vacate the park for 48 hours between stays. The restroom and site seven are ADA accessible. The campground is open from the Friday before Memorial Day to Labor Day.



CABINS: Six rustic cabins, of CCC origin, are available for rent. Minimal furnishings include: single bunk beds, chairs, table, a gas stove, refrigerator, gas heaters, electric lights and fireplace. The cabins are open from the second Friday in April to mid December.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: About 234 acres are open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are bear, deer, turkey, rabbit, grouse and squirrel. Thousands of acres of surrounding Moshannon State Forest are open for hunting.

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.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING: Ski on more than four miles of easy to moderate ungroomed roads and trails.

SNOWMOBILING: During the winter months, the main parking lot is plowed to allow registered snowmobiles to unload and operate on the roads and trails in the Moshannon State Forest. A map of the roads and trails open to snowmobiling is available at the Parker Dam park office. Snowmobiles may be operated on designated trails and roads from the day following the last deer season in December until April 1, weather permitting.

History

This mountaintop was once covered in giant white pine and hemlock trees. At the turn of the century, the Central Pennsylvania Lumber Company and the Goodyear Lumber Company built railroads and roads to harvest the timber.

This logging devastated the area, entirely wiping out the magnificent stands of pine and hemlock. The swift departure of the logging companies allowed the barren forests to regrow. This devastated land was eventually sold to the

Commonwealth, usually at tax sales, and later became Moshannon State Forest.

Now, about a century later, many of the logging roads and railroad grades can be seen in the maturing stands of oak and maple.

The Honorable Simon B. Elliott was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature and a member of the old State Forestry Reservation Commission, a precursor to the Department of Forestry. This early conservationist promoted the idea of creating a nursery to raise trees for planting in the surrounding area.

In 1911, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania established the Clearfield Forest Tree Nursery in a mountain pasture atop Penfield Mountain. This nursery was later renamed for District Forester William F. Dague who was in charge of its operation from its start in 1911 until 1947. The Dague Nursery closed in 1978, but its buildings and facilities are still in use as the Moshannon State Forest maintenance headquarters and the seed orchards still supply seeds for the other state nurseries.

In 1933, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established Camp S-116 on land along the edge of the nursery and built the cabins, pavilions, roads, trails and many of the other buildings that exist today in the park.

In that same year, 1933, the former Department of Forests and Waters erected a plaque dedicating Simon B. Elliott State Park. The plaque is on a stone in the pines along the northern edge of the park.

Annual High Country Arts and Crafts Fair



Annual event for all ages sponsored by the Clearfield Elks featuring arts and crafts vendors, demonstrations, entertainment, food, shuttles to and from the parking area, and much more. This event began in 1988 with just a handful of vendors, and has grown to almost 200 vendors, drawing 10,000-15,000 visitors from Pennsylvania and surrounding states every year. The festival is held on the Sunday after the 4th of July.

Nearby Attractions

Services available in towns surrounding the park include grocery stores, restaurants, mechanics, gasoline stations, post office and car wash in Penfield, nine miles north; Clearfield offers these services in addition to shopping centers and a hospital nine miles south. For additional information, please contact the Northwest Pennsylvania's Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau, 814-849-5197.
 www.visitpago.com

Clearfield County Recreation and Tourism Authority, 866-GO WILDS (469-4537). www.visitclearfieldcounty.org

PARKER DAM STATE PARK: A leisurely 15-minute drive will take visitors to nearby Parker Dam State Park. The park offers beach swimming, camping, year-round cabins, nature programs, boating and many other activities.

MOSHANNON STATE FOREST: For detailed information contact the Moshannon State Forest, 814-765-0821.

Explore Pennsylvania Wilds

Pennsylvania Wilds is two million acres of public lands for hiking, biking, fishing, boating, hunting and exploration in northcentral Pennsylvania.

Highlights of the area are: elk watching, scenic PA 6, Pine Creek Gorge (PA Grand Canyon), the darkest skies in the east at Cherry Springs State Park, and hundreds of miles of backpacking trails, bike paths and trout fishing streams.

Protect and Preserve Our Parks

Please make your visit safe and enjoyable. Obey all posted rules and regulations and respect fellow visitors and the resources of the park.

- Be prepared and bring the proper equipment. Natural areas may possess hazards. Your personal safety and that of your family are your responsibility.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Because uncontrolled pets may chase wildlife or frighten visitors, pets must be controlled and attended at all times and on a leash, caged or crated.
- Do your part to keep wildlife wild! Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance and do not feed or approach wild animals.
- Prevent forest fires by having a fire in proper facilities and properly disposing of hot coals. Do not leave a fire unattended.
- Please park only in designated areas and obey all traffic regulations.

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
 Clearfield Hospital
 809 Turnpike Avenue
 Clearfield PA, 16830
 814-765-5341