

Pennsylvania State Parks Mission

The primary purpose of Pennsylvania state parks is to provide opportunities for enjoying healthful outdoor recreation and serve as outdoor classrooms for environmental education. In meeting these purposes, the conservation of the natural, scenic, aesthetic and historical values of parks should be given first consideration. Stewardship responsibilities should be carried out in a way that protects the natural outdoor experience for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

Cover photo: Scott Moyer

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2014



Ren Helen

WELCOME



Top 10 Activities to do at Promised Land

1. Paddle your kayak on Promised Land Lake.
2. View the eagles' nest from the Wildlife Observation Station.
3. Visit the Masker Museum.
4. Stay in a rustic cabin at Bear Wallows.
5. Attend an environmental education program.
6. Take a hike on Little Falls Trail.
7. Plan a weekend stay at Pickerel Point Campground
8. Cool off during those hot summer days at the beach.
9. Try your luck fishing either of the park's lakes.
10. Explore Delaware State Forest.

Photo: Ann Foster

PROMISED LAND STATE PARK



Promised Land State Park is on the Pocono Plateau, 1,800 feet above sea level. Almost 3,000 acres in size, the park is surrounded by 12,464 acres of Pennsylvania's Delaware State Forest.

Directions

Promised Land State Park is in Pike County, 10 miles north of Canadensis, along PA Route 390. The park is easily accessed from interstate highways 80 and 84. It is within a one to three hour drive from Allentown, Easton, Bethlehem, Reading, Harrisburg, Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. The park is about 100 miles north of Philadelphia and 35 miles from the New York and New Jersey state borders.

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.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Environmental Education programming is offered from April through October at both Promised Land State Park and Varden Conservation Area. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, interpretive and recreational programming is offered on Fridays and Saturdays. From late June through early September, the park offers a weekly nature arts and crafts program for children of all ages that is organized by Conservation Volunteers. The park also offers a family fishing program which builds fishing skills and includes loaner poles, bait and tackle. Loaner poles can also be borrowed at the park office and the museum.

Look for the current program schedule on park bulletin boards, pick up a schedule at the park office or check out the DCNR calendar of events at www.visitPAparks.com. Spring through fall, school and group programs can be scheduled. These programs cover a wide variety of standards-based topics and levels. Please contact the park office to book a school or group program.



Teacher workshops are also typically offered in spring and fall each year

Make sure to take the time to visit the Masker Museum. The Masker Museum is located off of Pickerel Point Road by the outdoor amphitheater and Pickerel Point Campground. The museum has two themes - the natural history of Promised Land and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) history in the park. The natural history section features mounted animals (including a large

black bear), interactive displays of natural features found in the area, children's books, field guides and a bird observation area. The museum also has a native plant garden and bird feeding stations.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) section features interactive stories, displays and artifacts that tell the story of the CCC in Promised Land. It is the largest state park museum in Pennsylvania. The museum is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. It is staffed completely by volunteers, or docents. Please check with the park office to confirm hours. Admission to the museum is free. The Masker Museum is ADA accessible. For more information on becoming a museum docent, please contact the park office.

HISTORY

The land that became Promised Land State Park was once hunting grounds for the Minis Tribe of the Wolf Clan of the Leni Lenape American Indians (Delaware).

The Shakers, a religious group, purchased land in the area. They tried to farm and build a life on the rocky land. Their attempt to build a partnership to log the land was unsuccessful. After finally contracting the forests to be timbered, the Shakers left the area. According to legend, the Shakers sarcastically named the area "the Promised Land."

The Shakers and other early settlers of the area erected sawmills to process the large stands of conifer and hardwood trees. The land was repeatedly clear-cut. By 1903, the area was almost completely bare of trees. With the loss of trees came erosion, forest fires and migration of wildlife from the area.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the land from 1902-1904. The purchase price ranged from \$0.18 to \$2.00 per acre. In 1905, Promised Land became the fourth Pennsylvania state park. Between

1902 and 1933, the Commonwealth planted over 370,000 trees. In 1905, the first campground was established in the pine plantation between Bear Wallow Road and the stream flowing into Lower Lake; however, it closed in 1925 and a new one was built in what is now the main beach picnic area. In 1911, the original (1890) earthen crib dam on Promised Land Lake was re-built for \$1000.

In 1933, to relieve the rampant unemployment of the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The young men in the CCC received food, clothes and a small paycheck, in return for building roads, trails, recreational facilities, fighting fires, planting trees, and performing many other conservation activities. CCC camps were built throughout the United States, with Pennsylvania's 151 camps coming in second only to California.

Promised Land's Camp S-139 opened in May 1933 and closed in July 1941. It

was located in what is now Deerfield and Pickerel Point Campgrounds. The hard working young men transformed the land in and around Promised Land State Park. CCC boys built Pickerel Point Campground, the Bear Wallow Cabins, most of North Shore Road by hand, Egypt Meadow Dam, planted over one million trees, fought forest fires and much more. Each August the park celebrates this legacy with a CCC festival.

On Sunday evening, May 31, 1998, an F-2 tornado with winds of 113 -157 mph passed through Promised Land State Park. It cut a northeasterly path through the park and crossed Lower Lake Road, PA 390 and North Shore Road near Sucker Brook. Over 500 people were trapped overnight in the park, but no one was seriously hurt. The park office has copies of "After the Wind Died Down," a booklet about the tornado and its aftermath.



RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Spend the Day



FISHING: Promised Land Lake and Lower Lake offer great opportunities for year-round fishing. Common fish species are largemouth and smallmouth bass, pickerel, muskellunge, yellow perch, sunfish and catfish.

Lower Lake is an approved trout waters and is stocked with brook, brown and rainbow trout. A trout stamp is required to fish in these waters. Fishing is not permitted prior to the start of the trout season. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission laws apply.

TRAIL SIGNING SYSTEM: Designated recreational trails are all marked with vertical blue blazes. At each trail intersection, a sign designates the trail name, intersection number, trail uses, emergency route, distances, directions and other pertinent information. Permitted trail usage is designated by international symbols. Any other markings are NOT relevant to this trail system. Additional trail information and descriptions are available at the park office.

HIKING: There are approximately 50 miles of hiking trails in Promised Land State Park and the surrounding Delaware State Forest. Splendid opportunities exist for nature study, relaxation and exploration. Hike Bruce Lake Trail to a natural glacial lake, see the small waterfalls along Little Falls Trail or walk a loop around Conservation Island. A self-guided trail guide to Conservation Island can be obtained at the park office.

The trails lead through areas rich in historic and scenic interest. This is especially true from mid-May until mid-June when the native mountain laurel and rhododendron are in bloom. Lowbush and highbush blueberries usually ripen in late July. Fall foliage usually peaks in early October.

Motorized vehicles are prohibited on all hiking trails; except snowmobiles, which are allowed only on designated snowmobile trails. Pets are permitted on trails, but must be on a leash of 6' or less at all times. Before hiking, let someone know where you are going and when you will return. Take a map, stay on established trails and plan to return before dusk. Wear proper attire and footwear when hiking. Be aware of hunting seasons and hunting areas within the park and wear fluorescent orange clothing during hunting seasons.

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

HORSEBACK RIDING: Promised Land State Park provides access to selected equestrian trails in Delaware State Forest. Horseback riding is allowed on park roads and in designated trails in Promised Land State Park. Rentals are not available. Check with the park office for equestrian camping options.

BICYCLING: Riders share the road on the 6.5-mile paved road around Promised Land Lake, Lower Lake Road and in the park's six campgrounds. Children age 12 and under MUST wear a helmet, and others are encouraged to wear a helmet. Please ride single file on all park roads. All *Pennsylvania Vehicle Code Statutes* apply when riding on state park roads. Please avoid riding PA 390 when possible; use Rhododendron Trail instead.

MOUNTAIN BIKING: Mountain biking is permitted on designated trails only within Delaware State Forest.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: Approximately 1,528 acres are open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer, bear and turkey. Adjacent forestry land has additional areas open to 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 unceased 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. Exceptions include: law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid *Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms* are authorized to carry a firearm concealed on their person while they are within a state park.

ORIENTEERING AND GEOCACHING: Beginner and intermediate orienteering courses are located at the Rock Oak Ridge Trailhead, near the Pines Campground. Orienteering course brochures can be obtained at the park office. Loaner compasses can be borrowed at the park office and the Masker Museum.

Two GPS multicaches have also been placed. They tell the tale of CCC history in the park. One is a walking multicache and the other is a driving tour that starts at the museum. Brochures can be obtained at the park office and the museum. The coordinates can also be found at www.geocaching.com.

REFRESHMENT STAND: Located in the Day Use Picnic Area, near the main beach, the stand offers food and beverages. It is open each season from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

PICNICKING: The Day Use Picnic Area is next to Promised Land Lake, in a scenic woodland setting. The picnic area has parking, a playground, water, trash containers, a sand volleyball court, a basketball hoop and restrooms. The main beach, boat rental and refreshment stand are all within a short walk.



Two 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.

Prior to arrival, buses must get a permit from the park office to utilize the picnic area. Buses must park in the overflow parking lot. **SWIMMING:** Two sand beaches are open daily from late-May to mid-September, 8 a.m. to sunset. The main beach is in the Day Use Picnic Area. The Pickerel Point Beach is on the end of Pickerel Point. Swim at your own risk. Please read and follow posted rules for swimming. There are no lifeguards.

All children 10 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a person at least 14 years of age. All groups at the beach must meet the state park adult-to-child ratio requirements for supervision.



BOATING: electric motors only The 422-acre Promised Land Lake offers approximately 9 miles of shoreline, while the 173-acre Lower Lake has almost 4 miles. There are five boat launching areas. Five boat mooring areas offer a total of 170 mooring spaces, which may be rented from April through October each year. A boat rental is located on Promised Land Lake across from the main beach. The concession rents rowboats, canoes, kayaks and paddleboards from Memorial Day to Labor Day each year. Boats are also available at Pickerel Point and Lower Lake, and can be rented through the boat concession at the beach.

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.

Stay the Night

CAMPING: modern and rustic campsites, some with electricity There are six camping areas. Campgrounds vary from rustic (flush toilets, no showers and no electricity) to full hookup (sewer, electric and water hookup on site). Pets are permitted on designated sites in some campgrounds, must be on a leash of 6' or less at all times and are prohibited in park buildings. All campgrounds are near swimming, boating, fishing and hiking.

The maximum stay in all camping areas is 14 days during the summer season and 21 days during the off-season. Campers must vacate the park for 48 hours before setting up again. Campers are allowed one vehicle per site. Extra car passes may be purchased for a fee. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Campground facilities are ONLY open to those staying at that campground.



Lower Lake Campground is located on the western edge of Lower Lake. The area includes Beechwood, Northwoods and Rhododendron areas. There is a dump station at the entrance of Lower Lake Campground.

Beechwood is open from early April through mid-October. Modern facilities are available Memorial Day through Columbus Day. Best suited to RVs, this modern campground offers warm showers, flush toilets, electricity and laundry facilities. The campground offers 106 campsites, some of which allow pets.

Northwoods has 48 sites and is open early May through mid-October. It offers warm showers, flush toilets, electricity and laundry facilities. Pets are allowed in this campground on designated sites.

Rhododendron is located near Lower Lake and contains 63 campsites that are open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Please contact the park office for specific dates. It offers warm showers, flush toilets and electricity on some sites. The area is not open to pets.

Pickerel Point Campground is on a peninsula on the southern side of Promised Land Lake. The area has 75 campsites and three camping cottages. Limited sites and the camping cottages are open year-round. An unguarded swimming area is at the end of the peninsula. The campground offers rustic walk-in sites, electric sites and full hook up sites with sewer, water and electric on site. An ADA accessible campsite is available. The entire area has two shower houses with laundry facilities and one restroom. Designated sites are open to pets.

Camping cottages have electric heat, bunk beds, a table and benches, a grill and a fire ring. Linens are not provided. The cottages

Enjoy the Winter

SNOWMOBILING: Registered snowmobiles may be used on more than 23 miles of groomed, designated trails. The trails, which are on both state park and state forest lands, are open daily after the end of deer season in late December; weather permitting. Snowmobile maps are available at the park office and at the Delaware State Forest office. Snowmobile trails are marked with orange diamonds.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING: Skiing and snowshoeing are permitted on all trails. Bruce Lake Natural Area and Conservation

Island have the best trails for skiing and snowshoeing. During the winter season, snowshoes are available for loan from the park office with a photo ID, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Friday. Six inches or more of snow is required in order to borrow snowshoes.

ICE FISHING: Conditions permitting, ice fishing is popular on both lakes. Bass, pickerel and panfish can be caught in both lakes. Lower Lake is a designated trout waters.

Ice thickness is not monitored. For your safety, be sure the ice is four inches thick and carry safety equipment.

THE BEAR TRUTHS

Many Pennsylvania state parks have healthy forests. These forests are perfect habitat for black bears. Although they appear cute and cuddly, black bears are wild animals.

A black bear can scramble up a tree like a raccoon and sprint as fast as a race horse, up to 35 mph. Bears use their claws to tear apart rotting logs to find food, and those claws also work well to open trash cans and coolers. The size and strength of a black bear are astonishing. Pennsylvania has the largest black bears in the United States with the majority concentrated in the Poconos. Black bears in Pike County can grow to weigh over 800 pounds.

Black bears have poor eyesight and fair hearing, but they have an excellent sense of smell. Aromatic scents coming from your food, citronella candles and toiletries can

attract a curious and hungry bear from a great distance.

Keep a clean campsite. Clean up quickly after meals and store all food and scented items inside a locked vehicle. This practice will not only prevent bears from visiting your campsite, but it will discourage raccoons, skunks and opossums from late night visits. The poles provided at each site are meant to be used for lanterns. Do not hang garbage from the hooks. Feeding bears is illegal.

Black bears normally avoid people, but bears dependent on eating human food can become aggressive when people get between them and food.

If you come in contact with a black bear, do not run. Walk slowly away while facing the bear. Do not make direct eye contact

with the bear. If the bear is not leaving the area, make loud noises, blow a whistle, honk a car horn or bang a pot. Notify a park employee if you have difficulties with bears. Never approach a bear and be especially wary of mother bears and cubs.



Masker Museum

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Pocono Mountains Vacation Bureau, 1-800-POCONOS. www.800poconos.com

VARDEEN CONSERVATION AREA: Promised Land State Park serves as the headquarters for Varden Conservation Area. It is located about 25 miles northwest of Promised Land in Wayne County on PA 296, between Waymart and Hamlin, Pennsylvania.

The 420-acre conservation area was a donation from veterinarian Dr. Mead Shaffer. There are over 3 miles of trails that navigate through old farm fields, forests, tree plantations and nearby wetlands.

Scattered around Promised Land State Park are 224 privately owned cabins on leased state park land. Please respect the property rights of these cabin owners.

PENNSYLVANIA'S DELAWARE STATE FOREST: Promised Land State Park is surrounded by 12,464 acres of Delaware State Forest. It includes two natural areas and numerous recreational opportunities such as, hiking, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. Camping is prohibited in the state forest area surrounding the park. 570-895-4000. www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/stateforests/delaware/

Bruce Lake Natural Area: The 2,845-acre natural area contains two lakes, wetlands and unique plants. Bruce Lake is a natural glacier lake.

Pine Lake Natural Area: This small natural area has a ten-acre glacial bog.

DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA: Comprising 70,000 acres of the Delaware River shoreline in PA and NJ, this area offers canoeing, fishing, swimming, hiking, wildlife viewing, waterfalls and historic areas. Visitors can see Dingmans Falls, Zane Grey's Home, Roebling Bridge and the Appalachian Trail. 570-426-2451. www.nps.gov/dewa/

LAKE WALLENPAUPACK: This 5,700-acre lake is owned by PPL Electric Utilities and is open to public fishing and boating. The lake contains many species of warmwater fish in addition to trout. It is located 25 minutes north of the park. 1-877-PPL-LAKE (1-877-775-5253). www.pplweb.com/ppl-generation/ppl-wallenpaupack

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

Call 911 and contact a park employee. Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL
Wayne County Memorial Hospital
601 Park Street
Honesdale, PA 18431
570-253-8100
www.wmnh.org

Information and Reservations

For More Information Contact
Promised Land State Park
100 Lower Lake Road
Greentown, PA 18426
570-676-3428
email: promisedlandsp@pa.gov
GPS DD: Lat. 41.29942 Long. -75.21412
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.

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THE OFFICIAL PENNSYLVANIA STATE PARKS & FORESTS Pocket Ranger®

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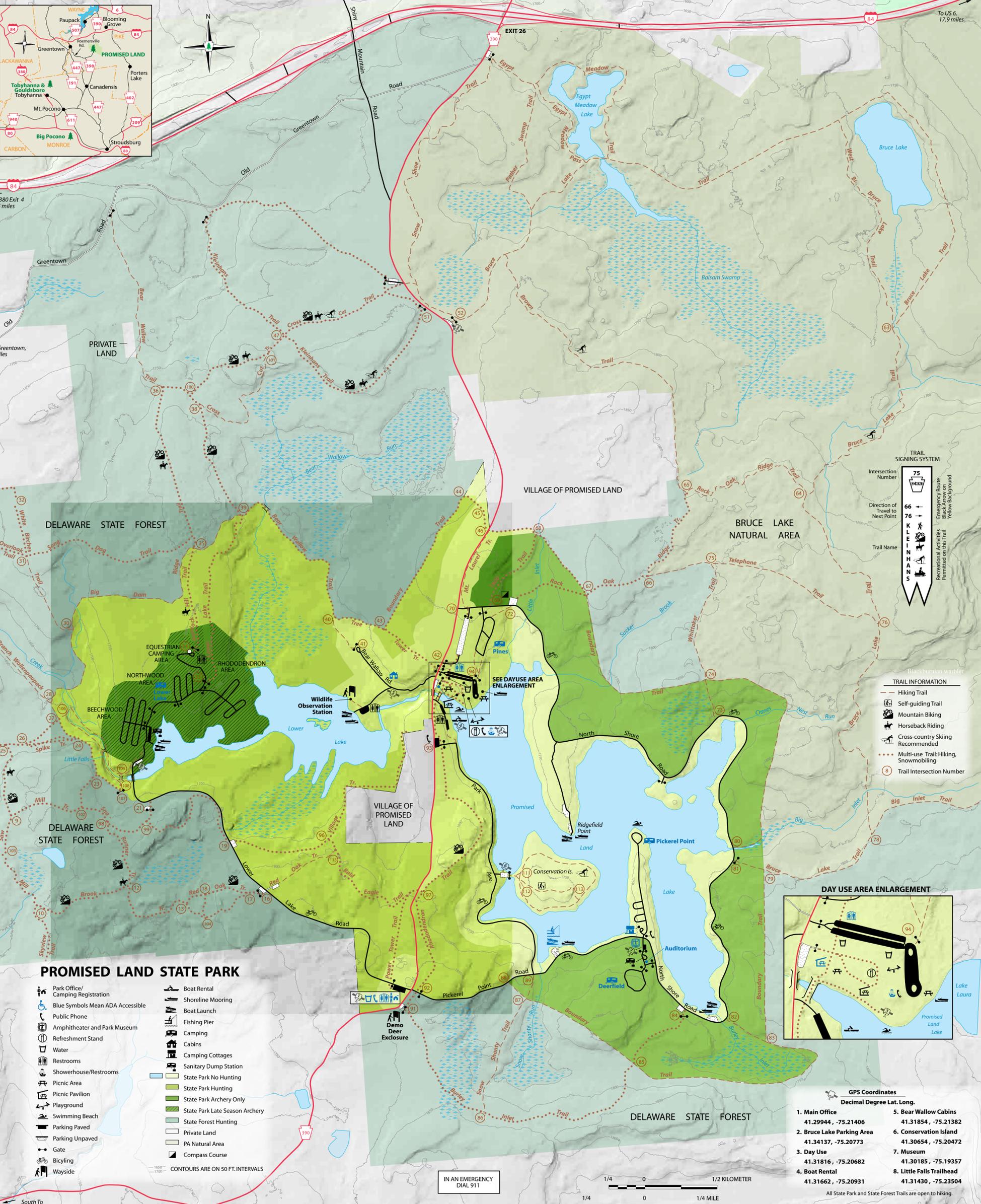
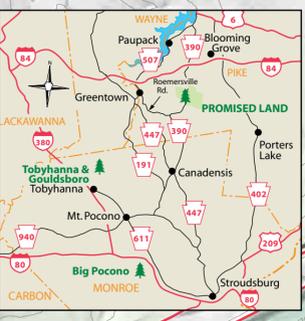
GET ALL OF OUR MAPS!

Help preserve DCNR's print resources by going mobile!

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.
- Soliciting and posting signs are prohibited without approval from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- 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 recycle. Place trash accumulated during your stay in proper receptacles or take it home with you.
- 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. Pets are prohibited in swimming areas.
- Do your part to keep wildlife wild! Enjoy wildlife from a safe distance and do not feed or approach wild animals.
- Please park only in designated areas and obey all traffic regulations.
- Please recycle. Place trash accumulated during your stay in proper receptacles or take it home with you.

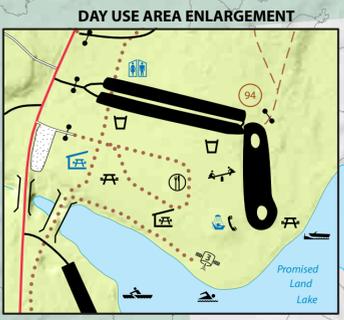
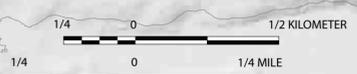


PROMISED LAND STATE PARK

- Park Office/Camping Registration
- Blue Symbols Mean ADA Accessible
- Public Phone
- Amphitheater and Park Museum
- Refreshment Stand
- Water
- Restrooms
- Showerhouse/Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Pavilion
- Playground
- Swimming Beach
- Parking Paved
- Parking Unpaved
- Gate
- Bicycling
- Wayside
- Boat Rental
- Shoreline Mooring
- Boat Launch
- Fishing Pier
- Camping
- Cabins
- Camping Cottages
- Sanitary Dump Station
- State Park No Hunting
- State Park Hunting
- State Park Archery Only
- State Park Late Season Archery
- State Forest Hunting
- Private Land
- PA Natural Area
- Compass Course

CONTOURS ARE ON 50 FT. INTERVALS

IN AN EMERGENCY
DIAL 911



GPS Coordinates
Decimal Degree Lat. Long.

1. Main Office 41.29944, -75.21406	5. Bear Wallow Cabins 41.31854, -75.21382
2. Bruce Lake Parking Area 41.34137, -75.20773	6. Conservation Island 41.30654, -75.20472
3. Day Use 41.31816, -75.20682	7. Museum 41.30185, -75.19357
4. Boat Rental 41.31662, -75.20931	8. Little Falls Trailhead 41.31430, -75.23504

All State Park and State Forest Trails are open to hiking.

WILDLIFE WATCHING



Mink

Promised Land State Park is located within the Pocono Plateau; a rugged highland with rocky soil, nutrient-poor bogs, dark evergreen forests and a diversity of wildlife and plants.

About 20,000 years ago, a giant sheet of ice about 1 mile thick covered Promised Land. The park's rocky soil is comprised of glacial till, providing direct evidence of the glacier. Much of the park is characterized by sphagnum moss bogs, evergreen trees and thin, rocky soil. Blackburnian warblers, red-breasted nuthatches and timber rattlesnakes are common to this habitat. In the spring, spotted and Jefferson salamanders and wood frogs flock to the bogs and seasonal pools to breed.

Due to logging of the forests in the early 1900s, large portions of the forest have re-grown with a mix of deciduous trees such as beech, oak and maple. American redstarts, red-eyed vireos and Blackburnian warblers (below) are common migratory songbirds that visit these forests. The National Audubon Society has designated Promised Land State Park as an Important Bird Area.

In early May, before any trees leaf out, serviceberry trees flower with a beautiful display of white. In mid- to late-May, the plentiful mountain laurel blooms, followed in mid-June by the rhododendron. In mid- to late-July, the lowbush and highbush blueberries bear fruit, providing a feast for bears, birds and people.

Black bear are common in the park. This omnivore eats plants, grasses, berries and occasionally meat. Unfortunately, bears find human food to be nearly irresistible. Please observe wildlife from a safe distance and do not feed wildlife.

A wildlife observation station is located on Lower Lake by the Bear Wallow Boat Launch. Approach the area quietly for the best chance to see waterfowl and other animals.

Plants and animals are protected at the park. Take only pictures and leave only footprints when you leave Promised Land. It is illegal to remove natural items such as flowers, feathers and pine cones from Pennsylvania State Park and State Forest land.

Feeding Canada geese and other waterfowl at the swimming areas results in large quantities of fecal droppings, which is offensive to park visitors and a potential health hazard. It is also against Pennsylvania State Park regulations.



Gerard Dewaghe

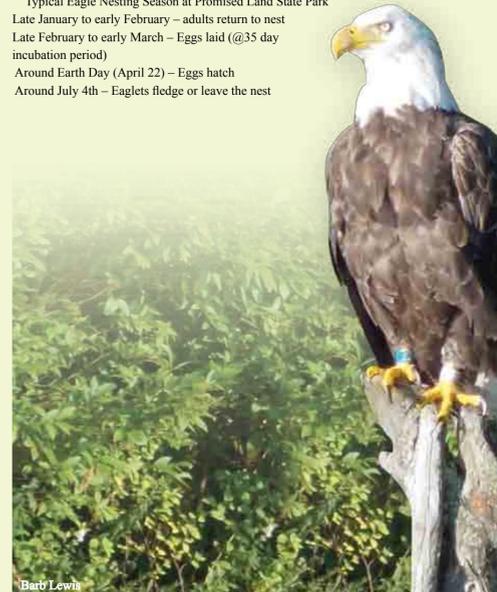
Bald Eagle

A pair of bald eagles began visiting the park in 1995. However, it wasn't until 1999 when they reached sexual maturity that they built their first nest along Lower Lake in a large white pine tree. The first pair of eggs were laid and fledged in 2000. The nest continued to be successful until October 2008, the combined weight of the nest and a heavy snowstorm caused both the tree and the nest to fall to the ground. Luckily, the eagles were not in the park at the time. In early spring of 2009, the pair built a new nest in a maple tree directly across from the Wildlife Observation Station, but no young were hatched. Since 2010, the eagles have fledged at least one eaglet per year.

Before leaf-out in May, the nest can be seen with the naked eye, although binoculars or a spotting scope offer a better view. There are few sights more thrilling than a bald eagle at its nest or in action along a shoreline. Responsibilities come with this enjoyment. You must ensure your presence and behavior do not have a detrimental effect on the eagles or their future use of the area. Eagle nests and young eagles are easily disturbed. Premature fledging can inadvertently cause injury or death of an eaglet that cannot yet fly or defend itself. In the cold winter, energy is a very valuable commodity for eagles. Flushing eagles from a roost site or a feeding ground causes unnecessary stress and may expose the eagle to additional predators. Please keep your distance from eagle nests and roosts. Respect their space. Enjoy their presence at a distance with good optics. Federal and state laws prohibit human activity, including camping, fishing, boating, hiking, etc., within 330 feet of a nest. Do not cross the buoy boundary in Lower Lake or disturb the nest on land.

During the nesting season, volunteers monitor the nest weekly from the observation station. Volunteers are always needed. Contact the park office for more information.

Typical Eagle Nesting Season at Promised Land State Park
Late January to early February – adults return to nest
Late February to early March – Eggs laid (@.35 day incubation period)
Around Earth Day (April 22) – Eggs hatch
Around July 4th – Eaglets fledge or leave the nest



Barb Lewis