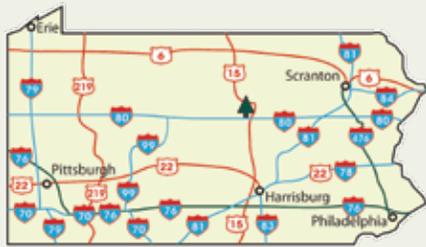




Milton State Park

A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide

12/2015



More Information

Milton State Park
c/o Shikellamy State Park
Bridge Avenue
Sunbury, PA 17801-1005
570-988-5557
email: shikellamysp@pa.gov
GPS DD: Lat. 41.01793 Long. -76.86153

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www.visitPAparks.com

Information and Reservations
Make online reservations at
www.visitPAparks.com or call toll-free
888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757),
7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday,
for state park information and reservations.

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Milton State Park is an 82-acre island on the West Branch Susquehanna River, between the boroughs of Milton and West Milton. The northern half of the park has day use facilities and the southern half remains in a wooded state for hiking and nature study.

Directions

Access the park via PA 642 off PA 147 on the east, and from US 15 at West Milton.

Recreational Opportunities

BOATING: unlimited hp motors permitted
A boat launch is on the east side of the island. River elevations vary with the seasons and generally are not deep enough for large watercraft.

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.

FISHING: The Susquehanna River has warmwater and coldwater fishing. Common species are smallmouth bass, panfish, and catfish.

PICNICKING: There are picnic tables, drinking water, charcoal grills, and restrooms. Please dispose of charcoal in the proper facilities.

RECREATION FIELDS: Soccer fields are popular attractions for local clubs and the public.

HIKING: 3.5 miles of trails

The trails explore the riverine habitats of the south side of the river island.

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

History

In 1762, Marcus Huling Jr. claimed the big island, which eventually came to be called Montgomery Island. Within a decade, he planted an apple orchard. At this time, this part of the state was claimed by Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Eventually the land came to be controlled by the Straub Brothers, who built a dam across part of the river and erected a sawmill and

gristmill in 1824. The brothers won the contract to build a bridge across the river between the three islands.

The mills eventually became unprofitable and the island was only used as farmland. Floods continually washed away parts of the bridge, which were rebuilt. By the early 1900s, farming ceased and there were now two islands, one of the smaller islands having joined the big island, making it even larger. The island was subdivided to many owners and part became athletic fields. The Milton Rotary Club worked to consolidate the deeds to one title for Milton Borough, which then transferred the title to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1966.

The floodwaters of Hurricane Agnes completely covered the island in 1972. Federal relief money helped rebuild the facilities. In 1987, PA 624 was relocated across the island, providing a new boat launch and transferring the final piece of property to state park control.

Natural Resources

The rich soil of the floodplain supports a diversity of vegetation. The southern part of the island is undeveloped and covered in a forest of predominantly silver maple, river birch, and sycamore. The island is a rest area for migrating songbirds and waterfowl.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Susquehanna River Valley Visitors Bureau, 800-525-7320.
www.visitcentralpa.org



Access for People with Disabilities

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit. This publication text is available in alternative formats.



In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee. For directions to the nearest hospital, look on bulletin boards.

NEAREST HOSPITAL

Evangelical Community Hospital
One Hospital Drive
Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-522-2000