



Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center

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The 1,168-acre Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center offers programs for pre-school aged children through college students. Center staff also provides community programs focusing on the natural and cultural history of the park, as well as outdoor recreation.

The famous Henry Rifle was once made here. The Jacobsburg National Historic District lies almost entirely within the center property and gives visitors insight into a colonial gun manufactory.

Visitors also enjoy Henrys Woods, an old growth forest surrounding Bushkill Creek that is laced with hiking trails.

Jacobsburg is a partner in the Lehigh Valley Greenway, which seeks to engage state and local governments and non-profit conservation groups to promote land conservation and education.

Directions

At the foot of Blue Mountain in Northampton County, Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center is reached from PA 33 at the Belfast Exit, near Nazareth, PA.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Discover Lehigh Valley. www.discoverlehighvalley.com

Environmental Education Program

Jacobsburg was dedicated as an environmental education center in October of 1985, and is one of four environmental education centers operated by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of State Parks. Programming is offered year-round to visiting school groups and citizens in the local community. School students engage in hands-on activities, exploring and learning about the unique ecosystems of the park to further their awareness, appreciation and knowledge of the natural environment.

A variety of workshops are available for teachers seeking professional development related to the natural environment. The workshops provide curriculum instruction and resources for various education and recreation topics. Workshops are based on state and national environmental education curricula and Act 48 hours are available for most.

Our public offerings provide opportunities for visitors to connect to the resources found at Jacobsburg through guided recreation and interpretive programs. These programs focus on the natural, historical and cultural features of the park

Heritage Education Program

The Jacobsburg Historical Society offers a wide range of exciting historical programs throughout the year. Programs include displays and demonstrations of early gun making at the Pennsylvania Longrifle Heritage Museum, located within the Henry Homestead. Living history programs

Recreational Opportunities

The park is open 7 days a week, year-round from Sunrise to Sunset. The office is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

TRAILS: Approximately 19 miles of trails

The network of trails makes the center's fields, woodlands and streams accessible to both students and the casual visitor. These facilities are for use by hikers, all-terrain bikers, horseback riders and cross-country skiers. Non-hunters are encouraged to wear blaze orange during hunting seasons.

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

PICNICKING: The picnic area along Belfast Road is available for use by visitors and school groups. An additional picnic area is located in front of the J. J. Henry House at 402 Henry Road.

FISHING: The Bushkill Creek, which is regularly stocked by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, provides excellent trout fishing. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission laws apply.

HUNTING AND FIREARMS: About 937 acres are open to hunting, trapping and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are deer, rabbit and squirrel.

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

and region. The center also participates in the Bureau's DiscoverE program, which are week-long summer day camps for various age children. In addition to offering quality educational programs, the center serves as an outdoor laboratory for visiting biologists, college interns and resource professionals involved in a variety of research projects.



A gray catbird is one of many species that can be seen within the park.

include mid-1840s rendezvous, period encampments, as well as historical crafts. Gun making and related classes are offered and historic buildings are open for tours. Please contact the historical society for information, 610-759-9029.

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. 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.

Watching Wildlife

The portion of the center's woodlands known as Henrys Woods is one of the most beautiful natural resources in the Lehigh Valley. Visitors enjoy hiking its 1.9-mile trail loop in order to experience the sights, sounds and coolness of the Bushkill Creek as it meanders past dramatic slate outcroppings and old growth stands of hemlock and white oak. Because of the wide variety of habitat found in and around Henrys Woods, many birds and wildflowers may be seen, especially during the spring months.

The Wildlife Watching Area, near the Henrys Forge Historic Area, has many opportunities for close-up viewing of birds, butterflies and small mammals found in the area.

Natural Resources

On the northern edge of the Lehigh Valley, the rolling terrain of Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center is near the foothills of the Kittatinny Ridge. Habitats range from fields in various stages of successional growth to mature forests dominated by oak trees. Approximately 2.5 miles of the beautiful Bushkill Creek and its tributary, Sobers Run, wind through the park property.

Jacobsburg's natural resources are not only an excellent outdoor laboratory for environmental education and interpretation, but are also important to many visitors for healthy outdoor exercise and recreation. The natural areas and open spaces provided by this public resource are becoming increasingly important in a continually expanding urban setting.

Jacobsburg National Historic District

The Jacobsburg National Historic District encompasses the eastern side of the park property and lies almost entirely within the boundaries of Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center. The district is on the National Register of Historic Places and its story is intertwined throughout the early development and growth of our nation. The history of Jacobsburg focuses on the Henry Family and their small arms industry, which played a key role in the American Industrial Revolution.

The first of the Henry gun makers, William Henry I, opened his gun factory in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1750. He became Armorer for the Braddock Campaign of 1755 and for the Forbes Expedition of 1758.

William Henry II established a small gun making shop in Christian Springs near Nazareth in 1778. In 1792, Henry II purchased land at Jacobsburg and built a gun manufactory. Henry II acquired the land from the heirs of Jacob Hubler, who in 1740 founded the community from which Jacobsburg draws its name. Only foundations remain at the colonial village of Jacobsburg and at the Henry's Forge historic site.

Henry II erected a forge (bloomery) to supply the gun factory with iron to manufacture guns. In 1812, a larger manufactory was built in nearby Boulton in order to accommodate large government firearms contracts.

Three succeeding generations of Henrys produced small arms at Boulton until the late 1800s. Competition from arms companies using mass production techniques made the Henry's handcraft technology obsolete.

The Henrys not only produced firearms for all of our nation's major conflicts from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War, but they also were the primary suppliers of rifles for the largest American business enterprise of the early 19th century, John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company. The Henry firearm became the most prominent weapon of the western frontier due to its durability, accuracy and relatively low cost.

BOULTON HISTORIC SITE

In the southern portion of the Jacobsburg Historic District is the Boulton Historic Site, which is administered by the Jacobsburg Historical Society.

Visitors can explore historic buildings and take a self-guided trail that interprets the life of the Henry Family and the Boulton Gun Works. The Henry Homestead, which was built in 1812, houses the Pennsylvania Longrifle Museum. The nearby John Joseph Henry House was built in 1832.

More information on the historic district, including a schedule of programs, is available from the Jacobsburg Historical Society, 610-759-9029. www.jacobsburghistory.com

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

St. Luke's Anderson Campus
1872 Riverside Circle
Easton, PA 18045
484-503-3000



For More Information Contact:

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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.