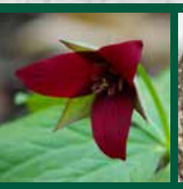
A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for

Hills Creek State Park

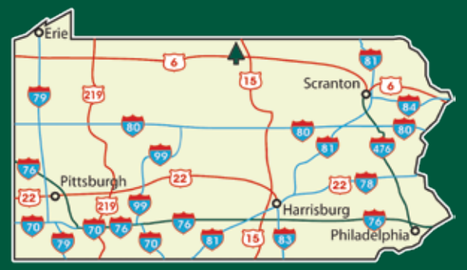








Pennsylvania
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources



Hills Creek State Park
111 Spillway Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901-9676
570-724-4246
HillsCreekSP@pa.gov

Make online reservations at
www.pa.gov/state-parks or
call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS
(888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to
5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday.

www.pa.gov/state-parks

PAStateParks

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2025

Hills Creek State Park

Located in scenic Tioga County, the 407-acre Hills Creek State Park abounds with wildlife. The focal point of the park is a 137-acre lake that supports an excellent warmwater fishery and is among the best lakes in the area to explore by kayak, canoe, or stand-up paddleboard. Additionally, camping, cabins, swimming, and picnicking make this park an ideal spot for a family vacation.

Directions

GPS DD: Lat. 41.80422 Long. -77.19086

Hills Creek State Park, in northcentral Tioga County, is just north of US 6 and midway between Wellsboro and Mansfield. The park is also reached from PA 287 between the towns of Tioga and Wellsboro.

Reservations

Make online reservations at www.pa.gov/state-parks or call toll-free 888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday.

Stay the Night

CAMPING: The 82-site modern campground is at the north end of the park and can be reached by the main park road. The campground opens in mid-April and closes in late October.

Modern shower houses, restrooms, and potable water are in central locations throughout the camping area. A sanitary dump station is just outside the camping area. Pet-friendly and ADA-accessible sites are available.

Glamping sites are available in partnership with Timberline Glamping.
www.timberlineglamping.com

CAMPING COTTAGES: Three cottages each sleep five people in a set of single bunk beds and a set of double/single bunk beds. Amenities include a dining table and chairs, covered porch/deck, picnic table, fire ring, electric heat, lights, and outlets. Camping cottages do not have running water. Potable water and a modern shower house are nearby.

YURTS: These round, canvas and wood-walled tents have a wooden deck and sleep five people in single bunk beds and double/single bunk beds. Yurts have a stovetop, refrigerator, dining table and chairs, porch/deck, picnic table, fire ring, electric heat, lights, and outlets. Potable water and a modern shower house are nearby. Weekly reservations are required during the summer.

CABINS: Ten modern cabins can be rented year-round. Cabins are furnished and have a living area, kitchen/dining area, bathroom with shower, and two bedrooms. Dog-friendly cabins are available. Cabin renters should bring their own linens and kitchen utensils. Weekly reservations are required during the summer.

ORANIZED GROUP TENTING: Qualified adult and youth groups may reserve this 40-person-capacity area equipped with picnic tables, a pavilion, fire rings, water, and flush toilets. Campers may shower in the campground. This area is open seasonally.

Recreational Opportunities

PICNICKING: There are two picnic pavilions adjacent to the swimming area. The day use area has picnic tables, charcoal grills, centrally located drinking fountains, and modern restrooms. The picnic area is open year-round; however, restrooms are closed seasonally. 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.

BOATING: electric trolling motors only; slow, no-wake speed
The 137-acre Hills Creek Lake has two boat mooring areas, Beaverhut and Pines. Both areas have concrete boat launching ramps and a total of 30 boat mooring spaces. Boat rentals from the concession are available seasonally.

Life jackets must be worn in accordance with Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws.

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

FISHING: Hills Creek Lake provides excellent year-round warmwater fishing and is popular for ice fishing. **Ice thickness is not monitored.** For your safety, make sure ice is at least 4" thick for a single angler and 7" thick for a small group. Always carry safety equipment. An ADA-accessible fishing pier is available at the Pines Boat Launch.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.

SWIMMING: A sand beach is open seasonally, 8:00 AM to sunset. Swim at your own risk. Please read and follow posted rules for swimming. The beach area has modern restrooms with flush toilets and changing rooms. A snack bar and boat rental are nearby. Pets are prohibited on the sand beach and in the swimming area.

HUNTING: Hunting is prohibited in Hills Creek State Park, but many acres of nearby public lands are available for this popular recreation.

HIKING: 5.7 miles
All trails are hiking only and marked with yellow blazes, unless noted below.

Lakeside Trail

3.0 miles | More difficult hiking | Loop trail
Trailhead amenities: modern restroom, picnic tables

Following the shoreline of Hills Creek Lake, Lakeside Trail is a local favorite that affords many inspiring views of the lake, as well as the wildlife that live in and around its waters.

Mid State Trail

1.5 miles in the park, 327 miles total | More difficult hiking | Point-to-point trail | Orange blazes

The Mid State Trail is a 327-mile backpacking trail in central Pennsylvania which passes through the park, following the Lakeside Trail for nearly half its length.

Tauschers Spur

0.7 mile | Easiest hiking | Out-and-back trail

This trail creates a short loop hike when combined with the Lakeside Trail, following the cabin roadway for a short distance. Most users access it from the Tauscher trailhead (near the park entrance) or the beach parking lot.

Yellow Birch Trail

0.5 mile | More difficult hiking | Loop trail

This trail starts near the entrance to the camping area and offers a remote vista of Tauscher's Pond. Suggested parking: Group Tenting parking lot.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Potter-Tioga Pennsylvania.
570-724-0635. https://visitpottertioga.com

Leonard Harrison and Colton Point state parks (Pine Creek Gorge) are 18 miles and 21 miles west of Hills Creek State Park, respectively. 570-724-3061

Learn, Experience, Connect

Hills Creek State Park offers a wide variety of educational and recreational programs year-round. A nature center is open seasonally in the campground.

Find out more by contacting the park or explore the calendar of events.
https://events.dcnr.pa.gov



Wildlife Watching

Wildlife is plentiful at Hills Creek State Park. Beavers, great blue herons, bald eagles, osprey, painted turtles, black bears, wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, and a variety of songbirds are just a few highlights you might see while visiting. During spring and fall, Hills Creek is a temporary home to many species of migrating songbirds and waterfowl.

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 to summon medical, fire, or safety professionals.

Call or text 988 to contact a crisis center counselor during a mental health or substance abuse crisis.

Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

Nearest Hospital
UPMC Wellsboro Soldiers and Sailors
32-36 Central Avenue
Wellsboro, PA 16901
570-723-7764

HILLS CREEK STATE PARK

STATE GAME LANDS 37

Carpenter Road

Mid State Trail

Park Road

To PA 287, 4 Mi.

Beaverhut

Hickey Rd.

Hills Creek Lake Road

Lakeside Trail

Birch Trail

Yellow Trail

Tauschers Lakeside Spur Trail

Kellys Swamp Trail

Lane

Spillway Road

Dam

Hills Creek

Mid State Trail

HILLS CREEK LAKE

TAUSCHER POND

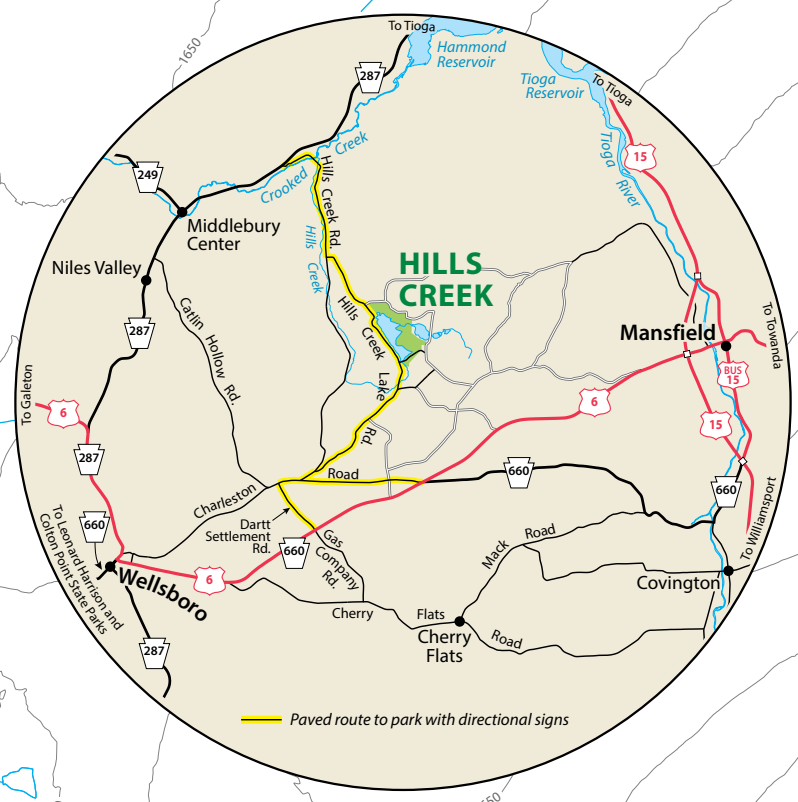
Lakeview

Sugarbush

No. 2

Pines

N



- Park Office
- Blue Symbols Mean ADA Accessible
- Emergency Phone
- Information Kiosk
- Restrooms - Modern
- Restrooms - Non-flush
- Amphitheater
- Nature Center
- Food Concession
- Picnicking
- Picnic Pavilion
- Playground
- Sledding
- Swimming Beach
- Fishing Pier
- Boat Rental
- Boat Launch & Mooring
- Boat Mooring
- Recycling
- Camping
- Organized Group Tenting Area
- Modern Cabins
- Camping Cottages
- Yurts
- Glamping
- Sanitary Dump Station
- Scenic View
- Trail - Hiking
- Mid State Trail - Hiking only
- Parking - Unpaved
- Parking - Paved
- Parking - ADA-accessible
- Road - Unpaved
- Road - Paved
- State Park - No Hunting
- State Park - Boundary
- State Game Lands

1400 / 1450 CONTOURS ARE ON 50 FT. INTERVALS

100 0 100 200 300 METERS

0.2 0 0.2 MILES

To US 6 & Wellsboro, 7 Mi.

Rev. 2/9/2026