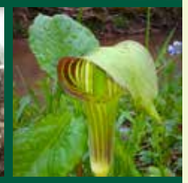
A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for

Nescopeck State Park









pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Nescopeck State Park
1137 Honey Hole Road
Drums, PA 18222
570-403-2006
NescopeckSP@pa.gov

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

www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks visitPAparks

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2022



Nescopeck State Park

Bordered on the south by steep Mount Yeager and on the north by Nescopeck Mountain, the 3,550-acre Nescopeck State Park encompasses wetlands and rich forests, along with many other habitats. Nescopeck Creek, a favorite of anglers, meanders through the park. Hiking trails follow the creek, pass through quiet forests, and skirt wetlands. A visitors and environmental education center provides year-round educational programs on the park's diverse resources.

Directions

GPS DD: Lat. 41.09074 Long. -75.88055

Traveling East on I-80: Take exit 262 (Hazleton, Mountain Top - PA 309). Follow PA 309 south about 0.75 mile. Turn left onto Honey Hole Road. Travel 5.7 miles to the Lake Frances Day Use Area. Turn right into the day use area.

Traveling West on I-80: Take exit 273 (White Haven, Freeland). Turn right onto PA 940. At the stop sign, go straight onto PA 437 for about 4.5 miles. Directly after the power lines, turn left onto Honey Hole Road. To access the Lake Frances Day Use Area, travel 2.5 miles, then turn left.

From Wilkes-Barre: Take PA 309 south. After passing under I-80, travel about 0.75 mile and turn left onto Honey Hole Road. Travel 5.7 miles to the Lake Frances Day Use Area. Turn right into the day use area.

Recreational Opportunities

FISHING: The 9-acre Lake Frances has multiple species of trout, bass, and panfish. Lake Trail circles Lake Frances and provides fishing access throughout the year. Six miles of Nescopeck Creek are designated as a high quality, coldwater fishery and contain brown trout and native brook trout. Several miles of the creek are designated as delayed harvest, artificial lure only. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocks Lake Frances and Nescopeck Creek. Fishing poles and limited tackle are available for use at the visitors center as part of a loaner program. Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.



HIKING: 19 miles
Many trails begin along Honey Hole Road. Visitors can discover the park's diverse habitats by traveling through forests, fields, and wetlands. Several trails lead to, and parallel, the beautiful Nescopeck Creek. Trails can be combined to make longer loops.

Due to the sensitivity of the natural resources in the park, biking is prohibited on park trails. Pets must be kept on a leash.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING: These popular winter sports are recommended throughout the park. Cross-country ski trails are not groomed, but are relatively flat or have slight grades making them a great way to explore the park. Snowshoeing can be done on most trails when there is adequate snow cover. Inquire at the park office about the snowshoe loaner program.



HUNTING AND FIREARMS: Most of the park is open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common game species are white-tailed deer, turkey, black bear, rabbit, and gray squirrel. Nescopeck State Park has traditionally been managed for American woodcock, which can also be found in the park. State Game Lands 187, which adjoins the park, provides additional hunting opportunities.

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 vehicle or enclosed trailer. 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.

Learn, Experience, Connect

Nescopeck State Park offers a wide variety of programs year round. Gain a better understanding of the park's natural, cultural, and historical resources through guided outdoor recreation, hands-on activities, walks, special events, and other programs. Exhibits highlighting the park's natural history can be seen inside the visitors center.

Curriculum-based environmental education programs are available to schools and organized groups. The park's education program strives to teach about the natural world and critical environmental issues facing society. Special emphasis is placed on Nescopeck's unique natural biodiversity. School students engage in hands-on activities, exploring and learning about ecosystems within the park to further their awareness, appreciation, and knowledge of the natural environment. Education staff offer Watershed Education programming to area high schools, teachers, and other groups interested in learning about complex issues within their watersheds. Call the park to schedule a group program. A variety of professional development workshops are offered for teachers.

Contact the park or explore the online calendar of events, https://events.dcnr.pa.gov, for more information on programs and other learning experiences.

In addition to offering quality educational and public programs, the park is an outdoor natural laboratory for visiting biologists, colleges, universities, and resource professionals involved in an array of research projects.

NATURE DISCOVERY AREA: Visit the Nature Discovery Area located by the butterfly garden near the visitors center. This area has been designed to nurture a child's sense of wonder by encouraging nature play.

Wildlife Watching

The park is home to a rich diversity of wildlife. Vernal pools teem with frogs and salamanders, while beavers and the occasional river otter can be spotted throughout the creek valley. Red foxes, black bears, white-tailed deer, and fishers make their home in the forest and fields within the park. Seasonally, American woodcocks, osprey, and a variety of wood warblers are commonly seen. A wide variety of wildflowers appear in spring and summer. Inquire at the office for more information about the variety of species that can be found in the park.



Snapping turtle

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from Visit Luzerne County. 888-905-2872. www.visitluzernecounty.com

Two nearby state parks, **Hickory Run** and **Frances Slocum**, feature camping, hiking, and other attractions. **Lehigh Gorge State Park** features whitewater boating, biking, and hiking. Call 888-PA-PARKS for information and camping reservations.

State Game Lands 187 borders Nescopeck State Park on three sides and is open to public hunting. 570-675-1143

The Black Diamond section of the **Delaware & Lehigh Trail**, within **Pinchot State Forest**, allows biking and can be accessed off PA 437, just 4 miles from the park.

Delaware & Lehigh Trail. 610-923-3548. www.delawareandlehigh.org

Pinchot State Forest. 570-945-7133. www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateForests/FindAForest/Pinchot

Get Involved

Nescopeck State Park is always looking for enthusiastic individuals to lend their talents and skills to enhance and preserve the park. Volunteers are needed to assist in trail maintenance, nest box monitoring, help with special events and projects, and participate in park cleanups. For more information, contact the park.

Sustainable Features

The park was designed for long-term sustainability. The visitors and environmental education center incorporates sustainable materials and energy conservation features. The parking lots promote stormwater infiltration to alleviate runoff. Invasive plants and shrubs were removed and replaced with warm season grasses, which provide important habitat for native wildlife. For more information, ask for a brochure at the visitors center.

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.

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
Lehigh Valley Hospital - Hazleton
700 East Broad Street
Hazleton, PA 18201
570-501-4000

NESCOPECK STATE PARK

LUZERNE COUNTY

STATE GAME LANDS 187

MOUNTAIN

STATE GAME LANDS 187

To Mountain Top, 5.1 Mi.

309

Power Line

Pipeline

Lake Frances Road (Road Closed—No Vehicle Access)

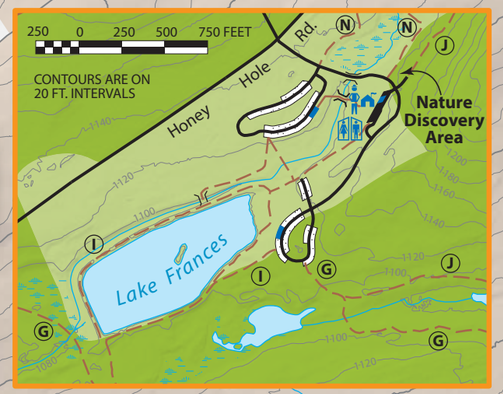
To Black Diamond Trailhead, 1.3 Mi., Wilkes-Barre, 12.8 Mi.

437

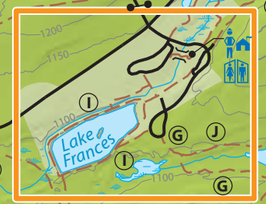
To White Haven, 5.1 Mi.

N





Visitors Center & Lake Frances Day Use Area



Visitors Center & Lake Frances Day Use Area

Honey Hole Road

Nescopeck Creek

Delayed Harvest — Artificial Lure Only

STATE GAME LANDS 187

NESCOPECK

STATE GAME LANDS 187

MOUNT YEAGER

STATE GAME LANDS 187

Silo

To PA 309, 1.0 Mi. & Hazleton, 9.0 Mi.

Honey Hole Road

80

To Exit 273 PA 940 & White Haven, 5.7 Mi.

80

Rev. 12/14/21

¼ 0 ¼ ½ KILOMETER

¼ 0 ¼ ½ MILE

TRAIL INFORMATION

	TRAIL	LENGTH	DIFFICULTY
A	Lupine Loop	0.7 Mile	More Difficult
B	Farmstead Trail	1.4 Miles	Easiest
C	Wood Frog Loop	1.1 Miles	Easiest
D	Swamp Trail	0.1 Mile	Easiest
E	Creekside Trail	1.6 Miles	Easiest
F	Fern Trail	0.3 Mile	Easiest
G	Nescopeck Trail	1.6 Miles	More Difficult
H	Hill Trail	0.2 Mile	Easiest
I	Lake Trail	0.6 Mile	Easiest
J	Woodland Way	1.8 Miles	Easiest
K	Grouse Trail	1.4 Miles	Easiest
L	Mountain Loop	3.0 Miles	Most Difficult
M	Oak Trail	1.3 Miles	More Difficult
N	Reilly Loop	0.3 Mile	Easiest
O	Red Rock Trail	1.1 Miles	Easiest

- Visitors and Environmental Education Center
- Blue Symbols Mean ADA Accessible
- Modern Restrooms
- Hiking Trail
- Cross-country Skiing Recommended
- Parking ADA Accessible
- Parking Paved
- Parking Unpaved
- Gate
- State Park No Hunting
- State Park Hunting
- Delayed Harvest Artificial Lure Only
- Pinchot State Forest
- State Game Lands Hunting
- Wetlands

CONTOURS ARE ON 50 FT. INTERVALS