

Hiking Tips

- Some destinations will require you to drive on stretches of forest roads. These roads are narrow, unpaved, and not maintained during the winter. Proceed with caution in an appropriate vehicle.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear such as hiking boots or athletic sneakers to protect your feet from rocks and roots along trails.
- Take an adequate supply of water and food.
- Take a map and know how to follow trail blazes.
- Bring other safety items like a 1st aid kit, pocket knife, fire starter, whistle, ect..
- Check the weather before you go.
- Take a friend in case you need help. Cell service is very limited in the forest.
- Watch your step and listen carefully—wild animals and rattlesnakes make their home in the forest.
- Leave no trace, take nothing but pictures.
- Removing historic artifacts is strictly forbidden.



Self Guided Lumber History Hikes Susquehannock State Forest



Directions & travel times in brochure based on departure from the PA Lumber Museum

Dyer Camping Area- CCC Dyer Farm Camp S-135

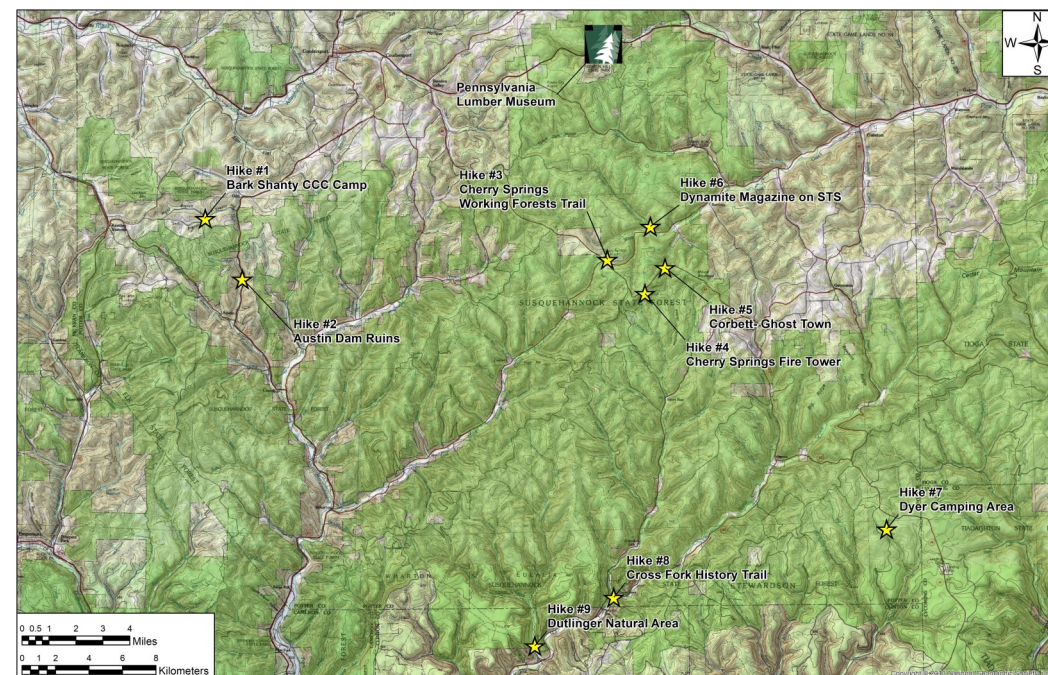
Travel time: 40 min. The former location of CCC Camp S-135, Dyer Farm, and several cabins and other recreational infrastructure built by the enrollees. The camp is now a DCNR equine camping area circled by an interpretive trail about the CCC.

Directions: Go east on Route 6 for 10 miles. At the traffic light in Galeton, turn right onto Route 144 south. In ten miles, Route 144 will merge with Route 44; go left at the stop sign. Follow PA 44 south for 10.5 miles to Robinson Road or 11 miles to Dyer Road. Both are right turns (south) and have points of interest. Robinson Road will lead you to several CCC-built cabins that are now privately leased (companions to the cabin now at the PA Lumber Museum). Dyer Road will lead you to the Dyer Farm CCC Camp and the associated interpretive trail. Robinson Road and Dyer Road also intersect.

Cross Fork History Tour Trail

Travel time: 45 min. Cross Fork was once one of the largest lumber towns in Potter County. A one-mile loop trail highlights the town's history. A companion brochure describing the trail and its historic features is available at the kiosk located near the DCNR maintenance building at the trailhead

Directions: Go east on Route 6 for 10 miles. At the traffic light in Galeton, turn right onto Route 144 south. In ten miles, Route 144 will merge with Route 44; go left at the stop sign. In five miles, Route 144 breaks away from Route 44; turn right at Oleona. Continue on Route 144 south for nine miles to Cross Fork. Turn left onto Main Street at Cross Fork; after crossing the bridge over Kettle Creek turn right into the DCNR maintenance complex. The trailhead is located to the right of the large garage.



Cherry Springs Working Forest Interpretive Trail

Travel time: 22 min. The Working Forest Interpretive Trail at Cherry Springs State Park is an easy, one-mile-long trail for use by hikers, skiers, or snowshoers. Interpretive signs along the trail provide information regarding “working forest” management practices that facilitate multiple uses of PA’s forest for recreation, the environment, and the lumber industry. Cherry Springs State Park is nationally recognized as a Dark Sky park, providing an ideal location to observe the night sky.

Directions: Go west on Route 6 for seven miles. At the community of Sweden Valley, turn left to on PA 44 South. Follow Route 44 for eleven miles to Cherry Springs State Park.

Dynamite Magazine on Susquehannock Trail System

Travel time: 20 min. A brick-walled magazine built by CCC enrollees from Camp S-88, Lyman Run, to store dynamite is today used by hikers and backpackers seeking shelter.

Directions: Go east on Route 6 for 10 miles. In Galeton, turn right (south) onto West Street (becoming West Branch Road out of town) and follow it for eight miles. Turn right (southeast) onto Sunken Branch Road. The orange blazes of the Susquehannock Trail System (STS) will mark the trail crossing the road shortly after the turn. Park and hike the STS east from the right side of the road for about 1/10 of a mile to the dynamite magazine. Retrace your steps to return to your vehicle.

Cherry Springs Fire Tower and S-136 CCC Cabin

Travel time: 30 min. The Cherry Springs Fire Tower was once used to spot forest fires in the Susquehannock State Forest. CCC enrollees from Camp S-136 replaced an earlier 1917 tower at this site with a larger steel tower in 1938. They also built the small stone cabin located near the base of the tower.

Directions: Go west on Route 6 for seven miles. At the community of Sweden Valley, turn left to on PA 44 South. Follow Route 44 for thirteen miles. A sign for the Cherry Springs Fire Tower on the right marks the short driveway leading to the tower.

For a short out-and-back hike near the fire tower, look to the south and find the orange blazes of the Susquehannock Trail System (STS), near the sign that says: “To Short Run Road.” The trail will descend S/SE to the Cherry Springs Hunting Club. Once you reach the club, retrace your steps back the way you came.

Austin Dam Ruins

Travel time: 25 min. Explore the site of the 1911 Austin Dam collapse which catastrophically released a torrent of water into the valley below, killing 78 people, destroying the Bayless paper mill and the town of Austin, and causing severe damage to several other downstream communities.

Directions: Go west on Route 6 for nine miles. Turn left onto Route 872 south. In ten miles, the entrance to Austin Dam Memorial Park will be on the right. Drive 1 mile south along the park road to reach the dam ruins. Rustic camping, hiking, and fishing are available here.

Corbett Ghost Town

Travel time: 30 min. Corbett sprang up around the Hammond and Fish chemical wood factory, built in 1893, about 8 miles SW of Galeton, PA. Best viewed in the fall with no leaves on the trees, only a few hunting camps and a 19th century log cabin remain in the vicinity of this once booming town.

Directions: Go west on Route 6 for seven miles. At the community of Sweden Valley, turn left to on PA 44 South. Follow Route 44 for fifteen miles to the parking area for the Water Tank Vista on the left/east side of the road. The trailhead for the Mount Broadhead Trail is to the right/south of the vista, indicated by a “Switchback Trail” sign. Yellow blazes mark the trail, which follows the wide and level grade of the historic Buffalo & Susquehanna RR. In 1.3 miles, a narrow gap in the forest indicates the location of the abandoned Tidewater Pipeline corridor. Looking north provides a modern view that mirrors a photograph of Corbett taken in the early 20th century. The RR switchbacks are easy enough to follow further down the mountain but remember that you will need to retrace your steps to return to your vehicle.

Bark Shanty CCC Camp

Travel time: 25 min. Several foundations and other structural remains are present at the former location of CCC Camp S-146, Bark Shanty; one of the 31 CCC camps in Pennsylvania staffed by segregated Black enrollees.

Directions: Go west on Route 6 for nine miles. Turn left onto Route 872 south. In nine miles, turn right onto Bark Shanty Road. Turn right (west) on Bark Shanty Road. Stay left at the split between Upper and Lower Bark Shanty Road, then turn left on Gas Well Road. The site of the CCC Camp will be on the left side of the road.

Dutlinger Natural Area, Goodyear Lumber Company, CCC Tamarack Camp S-133

Travel time: 1 hr. Dutlinger Natural Area is home to old growth hemlock and white pine trees. It was never logged due to a boundary dispute between the Lackawanna and Goodyear lumber companies. Remnants of CCC Camp S-133, Tamarack, are also nearby.

Directions: Go east on Route 6 for 10 miles. At the traffic light in Galeton, turn right onto Route 144 south. In ten miles, Route 144 will merge with Route 44; go left at the stop sign. In five miles, Route 144 breaks away from Route 44; turn right at Oleona. Continue on Route 144 south for 13.5 miles. Turn right onto Hammersley Road. This road will dead-end in about a mile, which offers limited parking. Follow the dirt road for about a mile, crossing the Hammersley Fork *. Look for remnants of the Tamarack CCC camp, including a dynamite magazine, chimney, and cabin. The dirt road will end at shallow stream bed. Cross the stream to find the yellow-blazed Beech Bottom Trail to your left. As you ascend the next mile you will start to see old growth hemlock and white pine. Return the way you came. *(Note: The bridge is in disrepair; you may have to wade across the Hammersley Fork.)