



# Guide to the Gap

## Beaches and Beyond

Turtle Beach in New Jersey and Milford and Smithfield Beaches in Pennsylvania are the park's major riverside recreation complexes. Open grassy areas along the edge of the Delaware River, they offer a mix of facilities, services and activities: lifeguarded summer beaches, picnic areas, playing fields, boat and canoe launches on-site or nearby, and trails.

Trails?

Yes, a park beach can be a place to relax and stay put for the day, but it can also be a starting point for exploring the park for a few hours — without having to move your car. You can even take a free bus to a nearby trailhead.

Turtle Beach offers glimpses of the park's history and habitats, as well as a trailhead for fairly adventurous hiking. Milford and Smithfield Beaches are both on McDade Recreational Trail, a planned trail ideal for a family stroll or even an excursion on bikes.

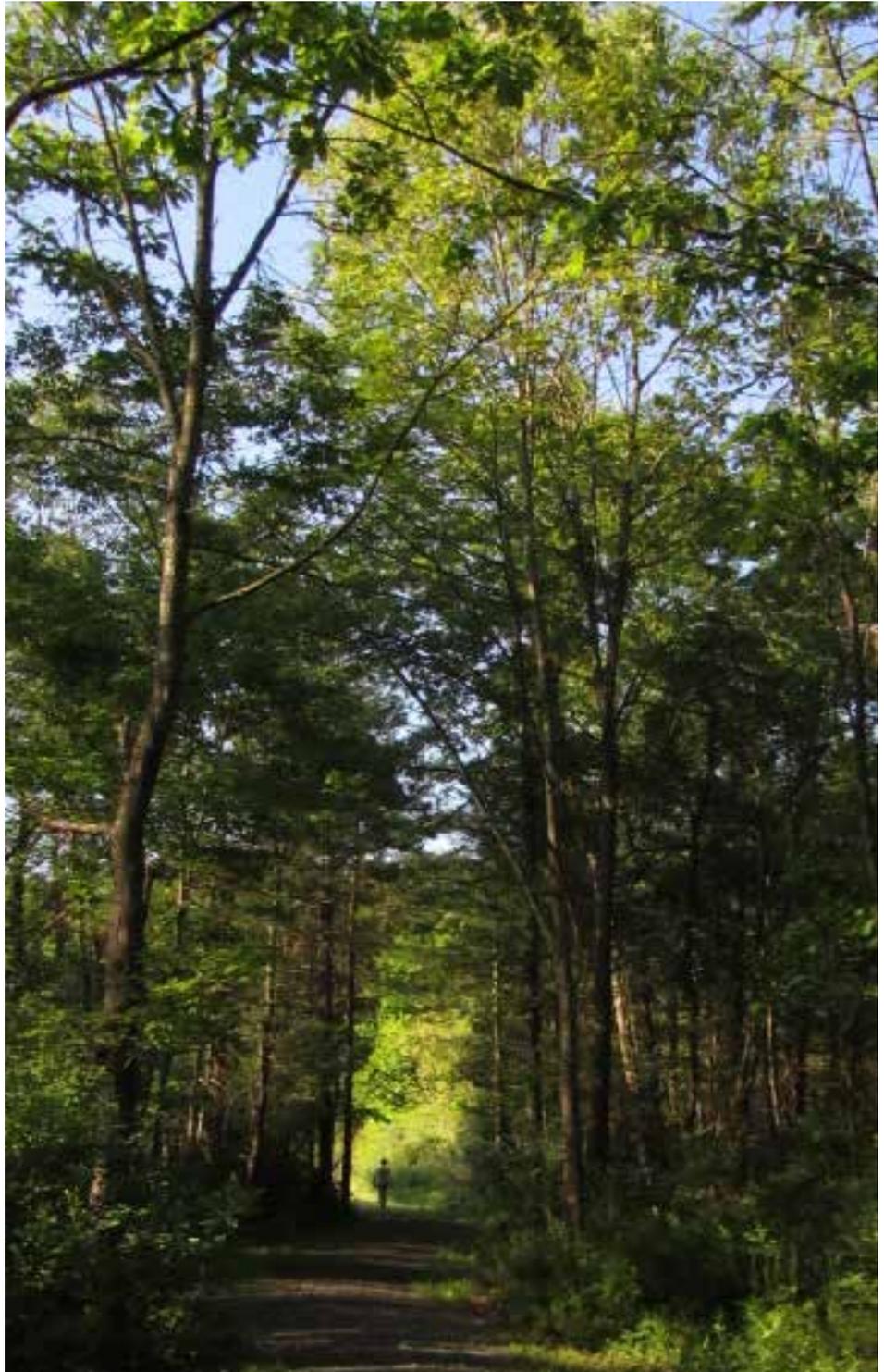
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**... a beach can be a starting point for exploring the park — without moving your car.**

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Use this Guide to the Gap to find out about history, nature, hiking, and biking near the park's beaches. From a stroll around Turtle Beach to a vigorous hike up to the Appalachian Trail, there are activities to round out your day at the beach and expand your enjoyment of the park.

Continued on page 12





**National Park Service**  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area protects 40 miles of the Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River between Delaware Water Gap and Milford, PA, and more than 60,000 acres of valley in Pennsylvania and New Jersey along the river's banks.

**Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area**

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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**800 543-4295**

**24-hour toll-free number to report crimes or emergencies in Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area**

# Fees

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area collects an Expanded Amenity Fee in season at Milford Beach, Dingmans Ferry Access, Bushkill Access, and Smithfield Beach in Pennsylvania, and at Turtle Beach and Watergate Recreation Site in New Jersey. The fees are used at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to enhance visitor services and reduce the backlog of maintenance for recreation facilities. A portion of the fees that are collected pays for park repairs and for resource management.

## 2012 Fee Schedule

Private vehicle (1-7 occupants)	\$7.00 Weekdays
	\$10.00 Saturday/Sunday/holiday
Private vehicle (8+ occupants)	\$1.00 per person
Pedestrian/bike	\$1.00 person/day
Year Walk-in Pass	\$10.00 person/year
Annual Park Pass	\$45.00 vehicle/year

Because this park collects an expanded amenity fee rather than an entrance fee, the America the Beautiful (ATB) Annual Pass and ATB Annual Pass for (Active) Military are not accepted here. However, holders of the ATB Senior (formerly, "Golden Age") or ATB Access Pass do receive a 50% discount on the expanded amenity fee.

# Park Repair

Since the damage inflicted on the park by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in August and September of 2011, the park has completed a number of important repairs. Most of the park is open to the public, although some popular recreation sites, roads and trails remain closed pending repairs. "We have prioritized a long list of recovery projects; the estimated cost of necessary repairs exceeds \$7 million," says Superintendent John Donahue. "As always our main concern is for the health and safety of the public."

"Repairing the damaged infrastructure and facilities requires proper planning, as well as coordination with state and federal agencies, local communities, and park partners," continued the Superintendent. "We hope we can count on everyone's patience and support."

## What's Open

- Kittatinny Point Visitor Center (page 3)
- Information Station in Bushkill Meeting Center and most of McDade Trail (page 4)
- Millbrook Village (page 5)
- Milford, Smithfield, and Turtle Beaches (page 1)
- Dingmans Falls Boardwalk Trail, but visitors must hike in to the boardwalk (page 9)
- Raymondskill Falls and Hackers Falls Trails, but northbound visitors must approach via the Rt. 209 detour on Rt. 2001 (page 9)
- Tumbling Waters Trail (waterfalls) and all trails and facilities at PEEC (pages 9 and 14)
- Hackers Falls and Cliff Park Trails, PA (pages 9 & 10)
- Buttermilk Falls, NJ. Approach from north. (page 9)
- The Appalachian Trail and all spur trails (page 10)
- Mt. Tammany Trail and Mt. Minsi Trail (page 10)
- Trails in Worthington State Forest (pages 10 and 11)
- Watergate Recreation Site, NJ
- Toms Creek, Hialeah, and Hidden Lake Sites, PA
- Coventry Pond and Hamilton Ridge Trails, NJ
- Van Campen Inn, NJ, but visitors must approach from the north via Peters Valley (page 14)
- Peters Valley (page 14)
- Historic houses run by M.A.R.C.H. (page 14)
- Mohican Outdoor Center (page 14)
- Dingmans Campground, PA (page 11)

## What's Closed

- Dingmans Falls Visitor Center
- Van Campen's Glen Recreation Site and Upper Glen parking. As an alternative visitors can picnic at Watergate Recreation Site, NJ.
- The trail from Watergate Recreation Site to Millbrook Village NJ
- Hornbecks (Indian Ladders), Adams, and Conashaugh View Trails, PA
- Rt. 209 from milepost 14.8 to mile 18 due to a slump in the road at mile 15 and repair to a bridge at Raymondskill Road at mile 18
- McDade Trail from Pittman Orchard Trailhead to White Pines Trailhead
- Johnny Bee and Dingmans Falls Access Roads
- Visitors may hike in to the boardwalk trail to the falls. (page 9)
- Zimmermann, Conashaugh and Broadhead Roads, PA
- Blue Mt. Lakes and Crater Lake Access Roads, NJ
- Old Mine Road unpaved section from Van Campen Inn south to Pompey Ridge Road. Visitors can reach Van Campen Inn from the north via Peters Valley.
- Childs Park is closed for ongoing rehabilitation
- As an alternative, visitors can picnic at Toms Creek off Rt. 209 or Loch Lomond on Wilson Hill Road, PA, 1.7 miles west of Rt. 209

# Explore the Water Gap at Kittatinny Point, N.J.

## LOCATION and DIRECTIONS

Interstate 80 at the Water Gap, Columbia, NJ  
908 496-4458

*Westbound* in New Jersey on Interstate 80, take NJ Exit 1; bear left under the highway, and continue 0.5 miles to the visitor center on the right.

*Eastbound* from Pennsylvania on Interstate 80, take the first exit ramp after crossing the Delaware River into New Jersey (small sign for Worthington State Forest); bear left (straight) 0.2 miles to the visitor center on the right.

## HOURS

### Summer

Visitor Center: Open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through Monday, September 3, 2012.

Grounds: Open daily during daylight hours.

**The boat ramp is closed.**

### Fall

Visitor Center: Open Thursday through Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Thursday, September 6, through Sunday, October 28, 2012.

Grounds: Open daily during daylight hours.

### Winter

Visitor Center: Closed

Grounds: Open daily during daylight hours.

## SERVICES

- accessible visitor center and exhibits
- senior and access national park passes
- free park maps and brochures
- various ranger programs
- Eastern National bookstore
- restrooms
- picnic area, water
- canoe launch
- views of the river and Gap
- hiking trails nearby

Food services and gas two miles west in Delaware Water Gap (\$1.00 toll or EZPass) at PA Exit 310, or four miles east at NJ Exit 4A or 4C rest stop.

## Programs

### Porch Talks

Rangers present informal talks starting from the visitor center porch. Inquire at the visitor center desk for times and topics.

### A Postcard History of the Park

Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC)  
Saturday, September 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

The village of Delaware Water Gap was once the centerpiece of an extensive resort industry which included establishments along the river and in the countryside of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Idyllic images such as the one at the left appeared on postcards for the tourist trade. Ranger Kathleen Sandt will show gems from her collection of historic postcards and take listeners on an armchair tour of places in the park as they were in their heyday.

This presentation is part of the Park Lecture Series sponsored by the Friends of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.



(Above) Floating through the Gap around 1900. (Courtesy: Kathleen Sandt)

## A Closer Look at the Gap

A gap is a break or pass through the mountains; a water gap is a pass that a river runs through.

In the human frame of time, the Water Gap seems finished. In the vastness of geologic time, however, the river is still forming the Gap today. As you swim in it, paddle down it, and hike along it, the river is carving the Gap even now.

What made the Gap? In a word, erosion.

Mt. Minsi in Pennsylvania and Mt. Tammany in New Jersey once formed a continuous surface composed of different layers of rocks. Although they now tilt upwards at precarious angles, these layers were once a horizontal plain across which the ancient Delaware River meandered.

Thus, the river was here before the Gap, and as the mountains slowly rose, the running water of the river eroded an ever-deepening channel through them.

The Gap is best viewed from Kittatinny Point, from the overlooks on Rt. 611 south of Delaware Water Gap village, and from the footbridge across the river four miles downstream in Portland, PA.

# Explore McDade Trail from Bushkill, PA.

## LOCATION and DIRECTIONS

### Bushkill Meeting Center

Rt. 209, Bushkill, PA  
570 588-7213

Located at milepost 1.0 on Rt. 209 just north of Fernwood Resort in Bushkill, PA, and south of the blinking light at Bushkill Falls Road.

### McDade Trail

McDade Trail is a planned recreational trail along the Pennsylvania side of the park. Trailheads provide parking and access every 0.5 to 5.3 miles.

## HOURS

### Information Station in Bushkill Meeting Center

#### Summer

Open daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through Monday, September 3, 2012

#### Fall

Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekends from Saturday, September 8 to Sunday, October 7, 2012. Also open Monday, October 8, 2012.

### McDade Trail

Open year-round dawn to dusk for hiking, biking, crosscountry skiing, and pet-walking, with some restrictions. Consult the trail brochure for details.

## SERVICES

- accessible information desk
- senior and access national park passes
- free park maps and brochures
- Eastern National bookstore
- indoor toilets, water
- trailhead and parking for McDade Trail
- accessible parking, restrooms

Restaurants and gas 1.5 miles south in Bushkill along Rt. 209.



(Above) Randalls Creek at Bushkill Access. (Left, top) The Flats. (Bottom) Schoonover Barns.

## Bushkill from McDade Trail

In distance, history, and geology, Bushkill lies near the center of the park. An outdoor exhibit at Bushkill Meeting Center explains the formation of the village. Short hikes north and south of the Meeting Center will provide glimpses of the area's natural and cultural history.

A hike south climbs an old remote roadway up the "Hog Back"—the continuation of Walpack Ridge into Pennsylvania.

The trail then cuts to the right through a few clearings and rolls up and down to a footbridge at the 1850s Schoonover Mt. House, once a small resort. The fen, a low marshy land, feeds the stream across the yard. The trail passes a red barn and a swampy patch to reach Headquarters. The trail turns left on the driveway, then right alongside a stream up to HQ parking (1.8 miles one way; water and restrooms at HQ; rolls, one hill, moderate)

A hike north follows the edge of the Bushkill Flats, a fertile farm plain. The white buildings along Rt. 209 are the 1874 Dutch Reformed Church, now an outreach center. In the distance to the east is Walpack Ridge in New Jersey, where the river carves Walpack Bend. At Bushkill Access, the site of the last ferry on the Middle Delaware, are 3 outdoor exhibits. (1.7 miles one way; water and restrooms at Bushkill Access; flat, easy).

# Explore History at Millbrook Village, N.J.

## LOCATION and DIRECTIONS

Old Mine Road at Rt. 602, Millbrook, NJ  
908 841-9531

*Westbound* on Interstate 80 take NJ Exit 1; bear right to the light on Old Mine Road and continue 13 miles. Or take NJ Exit 4C; follow Rt. 94 North nine miles to a traffic light in Blairstown, NJ. Turn hard left toward the church steeple for Rt. 602 (Millbrook-Blairstown Road). Continue six miles northwest on Rt. 602 to Millbrook Village at Old Mine Road.

*Eastbound* on Interstate 80 cross the Delaware River bridge (no toll eastbound) and take the first exit ramp on the right (small sign for Worthington State Forest). Turn hard right at the end of the ramp. At the light on Old Mine Road, continue 13 miles.

## HOURS

### Summer

Selected buildings: Open Friday through Sunday  
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. through Sunday,  
September 2, 2012.

Grounds: Open daily during daylight hours.

### Fall

Grounds: Open daily during daylight hours.

Buildings: Closed except for special events.

Millbrook Days takes place on Saturday and Sunday,  
October 6 and 7, 2012.

## SERVICES:

- free park maps
- restrooms
- picnic area, water
- hiking trails nearby
- The village "street" is a level dirt road; some buildings have ramps for wheelchair access.

Food services and gas six miles southeast in  
Blairstown, NJ, via Rt. 602.



Blacksmithing demonstration at Millbrook Days.

## Weekly Programs

### A Walk through Millbrook Village

Sundays at 2:00 p.m.  
through September 2.

Join a costumed interpreter for a trip back in time  
to a valley village around 1900.

### Once Upon a Time in Millbrook

Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. (children's program)  
through September 1.

What did children do in the village? What did they  
learn in school? What chores did they do at home?  
Through games and activities, children see what it  
was like to live 100 years ago, before cars, comput-  
ers, cell phones, and TVs.

## The Village of Millbrook

Millbrook grew up around a grist mill built on the creek here in 1832. The number of buildings today is approximately the same as it was in Millbrook's heyday, and some of the buildings are original to that time. Until factories drew labor to the cities in the mid-1800s, most Americans lived their entire lives on farms or in rural villages like this.

Today's Millbrook, however, does not replicate the Millbrook of 1832 or 1900. Rather, it evokes the feeling of countryside hamlets in the young nation. Millbrook Village provides a landscape for demonstrating folkways of the 19th century to the public and for introducing schoolchildren to the appreciation and stewardship of historic resources.

On summer weekends costumed rangers and volunteers give tours and demonstrate period skills of rural life. On the first weekend fully in October, dozens of volunteer "villagers" bring the community to life for Millbrook Days.

At other times, you are welcome to stroll through, photograph the village, and envision life here in the 1800s.

# Free Bus Service through the Park



Pick up a map and detailed schedule at any visitor center or at Park Headquarters.

The Pony swings through Bushkill Access.

Getting around the Pennsylvania side of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area has never been easier. In 2012, Monroe County Transit Authority (MCTA) will provide free weekend bus service to the park's Pennsylvania

beaches and boat launches and McDade Trail on their "Pocono Pony" bus routes. Each bus can take 18 passengers and 8 canoes or kayaks and 8 bicycles. All Pocono Pony buses are accessible, and the bus is FREE.

Routes connect with regional Pocono Pony routes and with Delaware Water Gap (DWG) Park & Ride, and Martz DWG Terminal on Rt. 611 in Smithfield Township, servicing Port Authority Bus Terminal in New York City.



## River Runner

This bus leaves Delaware Water Gap (DWG) Park & Ride **northbound through the park** five times in the morning and at 12:25 in the afternoon. The route travels through the park via River Road and Routes 209, 739, and 2001, stopping at Shawnee Inn, Smithfield Beach, Fernwood Resort, Bushkill Access, Toms Creek, Dingmans Campground, Rt. 739 Park & Ride, downtown Milford, and Milford Beach.

Buses leaving DWG Park & Ride at 7:48 and 10:45 a.m. and at 12:25 p.m. will also detour off Route 209 to **PEEC (Pocono Environmental Education Center)** which offers a variety of weekend programs for families. Running time from DWG Park & Ride to PEEC is about 50 minutes. Running time from DWG Park & Ride to Milford is about 90 minutes.

**Southbound trips** leave Milford Beach at 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 1:00, 1:30, 4:30, and 6:00 p.m. stopping at Milford downtown, Rt. 739 Park & Ride, Dingmans Campground, Toms Creek, Bushkill Access, Fernwood Resort, Smithfield Beach, Shawnee Inn, and both DWG Park & Ride and Martz Terminal DWG. All trips except the 1:00 p.m. will stop at PEEC. Running time from Milford to PEEC is about 40 minutes.



## Lower River Runner Upper River Runner

The Lower River Runner Route will provide extra runs from DWG Park & Ride and Martz Terminal DWG to Bushkill Access and back. The Upper River Runner Route will provide extra runs from Bushkill Access to Milford Beach and back. These extra runs will insure peak service roughly every half hour.



## Dingmans Falls Bus Service

Due to damage to Johnny Bee Road and the access road to **Dingmans Falls**, no vehicle traffic is permitted to the Falls parking area. All visitors must walk 1.5 miles from the gate on Rt. 209 to the boardwalk trail to the falls.

Visitors are encouraged to park at the Rt. 739 Park & Ride (free) and to take the bus to and from the gate on Johnny Bee Road at Rt. 209. Buses run between Rt. 739 Park & Ride and Johnny Bee Road at Rt. 209 every 30 minutes between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., with additional late afternoon runs.

**Johnny Bee Road is a flag stop in both directions.** Going to the Falls, tell your driver that you wish to get off there. Returning from the Falls, wait on the northbound (east) side of Rt. 209 where the driver can see you and wave to the bus as it approaches.

# On the River



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**WOW! The Women on the Water Program offers promising inner-city students the fun and confidence of handling themselves on the river.**

Local liveries rent out canoes, kayaks, tubes, rafts, paddles, and lifejackets, and provide transportation to and from launches. Visitors may also bring their own equipment. Some transportation by bus is available for small canoes and kayaks.

A list of liveries licensed to operate in this park is available at visitor centers, at [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa) or by calling 570 426-2452. This material has important regulations and safety instructions for canoeists and river campers.

## Suggested equipment for a day trip

- food and lots of water, trash bags
- water bailer, kneeling pads
- waterproof bags/pouches
- raingear, windbreaker
- insect repellent, flashlight, spare car keys
- river map

## Suggested canoe/kayak day trips

This section of the river is not a whitewater area. Figure about two miles an hour for a non-strenuous pace downstream.

- For a few bumps and “riffles” (Class I), put in at Eshback or Bushkill Access and paddle 10 miles through Wallpack Bend to Smithfield.
- For a quiet 8-mile ride passing under bridges, around islands, and past cliffs, put in at Milford Beach and take out at Dingmans Access.
- For an easy ride that finishes with a view of the Gap, put in at Smithfield Beach and take out 6 miles downstream at Kittatinny Point.

## Additional equipment for an overnight trip

- change of clothes, extra socks (wool or high-performance synthetic)
- sleeping bags (nights on the river can be cool)
- tent and ground cloth, portable cook stove

## Overnight Trips

Primitive river campsites are available for canoeists without reservation. Ask for the park’s River Map and Guide or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa) for details. Paddlers must travel a minimum distance in order to use these campsites. Two park-operated group campsites along the river are available by prior permit for a fee. (call 570 588-6344 for details). Plan to stop in early afternoon to get the best campsite, and to be off the river by dark.

## Sample minimum overnight canoe trips

- Put in at Milford Beach (fee to park); overnight at Dingmans Campground; take out at Eshback or farther downstream.
- Put in at Dingmans Access (fee to park); overnight in Wallpack Bend at Peters or Quinn campsites; take out at Smithfield Beach or Kittatinny Point.

## SAFETY ON AND IN THE WATER

### Swimming

Wear a PFD (lifejacket) when swimming in the river or in lakes and ponds. Water shoes or old sneakers are recommended as well, especially at Turtle Beach.

Swimming outside of the lifeguarded beaches is unsafe due to strong currents, sharp drop-offs, and changing river conditions. **Never try to swim across the river.**

Swimming and wading are NOT allowed at Dingmans Falls, PA or within 50 feet of a boat or canoe launch, or at the top of any waterfall. **Don’t swim alone.**

### Paddling

Always wear a PFD (lifejacket) when on the river canoeing, kayaking, rafting, or tubing.

#### If you take a spill:

- Stay with your capsized canoe. Even a swamped canoe can support you.
- Keep upstream of your canoe to avoid being pinned against a rock or obstacle.
- If you lose your canoe, float on your back, feet first and pointed downstream.
- Hang on to your paddle; use it as a rudder or to push away from rocks.
- Don’t stand in rapids. Your feet and legs can get trapped; the current can pull you under.
- Save people first. Retrieve equipment only if it can be done safely.

### Boating

Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved lifejacket (PFD) while boating. Children less than 12 years old **must** wear an approved PFD in a vessel that is less than 20 feet long.

No-wake zones are enforced within 500 feet of designated swimming areas at Smithfield Beach, PA, and Turtle Beach, NJ. A limit of 10 miles per hour is enforced elsewhere on the river within the park from April 1 to September 30.

Ask for the park’s Fishing and Boating brochure at visitor centers, or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).

# Park Events



## Sundays at M.A.R.C.H.

Sundays through August 26, 2012  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Foster-Armstrong House, Montague NJ  
Neldon-Roberts House, Montague NJ

Tours of two historic houses; demonstrations and displays: 7/15-Nature Photography and song; 7/22-Chair caning; 7/29-Model bridges and trains; 8/5-Montague; 8/12-The Lenape; 8/19-Lost Art Lacers; 8/26-Quilting exhibit.

## Lecture: A Postcard History of the Park

Saturday, September 22  
7:00 p.m.  
Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC)

Ranger Kathleen Sandt shows gems from her collection of historic postcards. Come take an arm-chair tour of familiar places as they once were.

## Millbrook Days

Saturday and Sunday, October 6 & 7  
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Millbrook Village, NJ

A celebration of rural life around the year 1900. Programs, activities, free parking and admission. Held rain or shine.

## Van Campen Day

Sunday, October 21  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Van Campen Inn, Old Mine Road, Walpack, NJ

Period craft demonstrations and encampment. Tours of Van Campen Inn and one-mile Military Trail.



## Activities

Saturday, October 27  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Millbrook Village, NJ

Period autumn activities for children, including games and making corn husk dolls.

## Holiday Weekends at M.A.R.C.H.

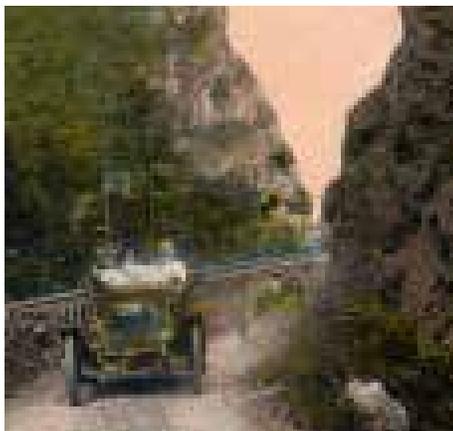
November 24 & 25; December 2, 8 & 9  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m., weather permitting.  
Foster-Armstrong House, Montague, NJ

Historic home decorated for the holidays. Docent tours, craft sale; candlelight tours on Saturday December 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

## Victorian Holidays

Saturday, December 1 from 11:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 2 at 5:00 p.m.  
Millbrook Village, NJ

Saturday: Houses decorated for the holidays, children's games and activities. Sunday: Service of Carols in Millbrook Church. All are welcome. Free.



## Amphibian Migration

Evening in early March 2013 (weather dependent)  
For exact date and time visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa)  
Park Headquarters, River Road, Bushkill, PA

A warm evening in March, salamanders, newts, and frogs will cross River Road to nearby wetlands. Join park staff to get close look at these small creatures.

## Maple Sugaring

Saturday in early March 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
(For exact date visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa))  
Millbrook Village, NJ

The maple sap has been gathered; the syrup kettle is boiling. Join rangers and volunteers in this truly American activity that heralds the coming Spring.

All events listed are free. Details and directions at [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa) "Events"



# Where are the Waterfalls?

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## Dingmans Falls

A 1/4-mile boardwalk through rhododendron groves to the base of the Falls.

Please see page 6 for access, parking and shuttle bus information.

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## Raymondskill and Hackers Falls

Three-tiered Raymondskill Falls is the highest waterfall in Pennsylvania, higher even than Dingmans Falls. A 0.5 mile round trip hike leads through a hemlock forest to the 70-foot Upper Falls. The final 100 ft. of trail are steep and can be slippery: use the fence handrail. From there the Middle Falls are 0.25 round trip using steep rocky stairs. Check the bulletin board (GPS 41.290117 -74.840267) and map on the restroom building to plan your hike.

From the south, follow the Rt. 209 north detour in Dingmans Ferry 2.5 miles to the traffic light at Rt. 2001. As you turn right onto Rt. 2001, Raymondskill Road is 4.4 miles ahead on the right. Turn right onto Raymondskill Road, and continue 1.5 miles to the first parking area on the right for Raymondskill Falls. For Hackers Falls, use the second parking area on the right, and cross Raymondskill Road carefully to the bulletin board at the grassy roadway.

Hackers Falls is a low, wide, strong waterfall pouring into a shaded pool. A moderate 1.1 mile one-way hike reaches the falls; a 3.3 mile round-trip hike can include a beautiful overlook of the river and valley from atop Raymondskill Cliff. Check the trailhead bulletin board (GPS 41.290300 -74.840100) to plan your hike.

From the north, take Rt. 209 south to milepost 18. Drive carefully past construction. Turn right onto Raymondskill Road. For Raymondskill Falls, turn into the second parking area on the left; for Hackers Falls turn into the first parking area on the left, and cross Raymondskill Road carefully to the bulletin board at the grassy roadway.

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## Tumbling Waters Trail, PEEC

This 3 mile trail includes hemlock, pine, and oak forests; waterfalls; a pond; and a scenic valley view. Stop at PEEC's visitor center for details of this and other PEEC trails open to the public, or visit [www.peec.org/hiking-trails.html](http://www.peec.org/hiking-trails.html).

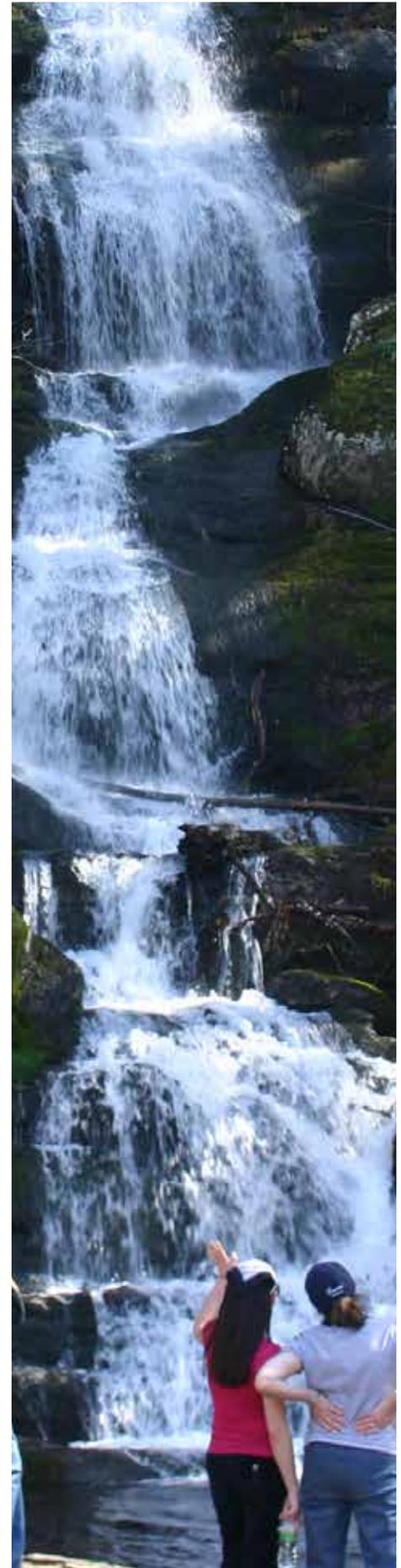
To reach PEEC (Pocono Environmental Education Center), turn west at the sign at mile 8.5 on Rt. 209 and continue 0.9 miles to the stop sign. Bear right to PEEC. Free shuttle bus trips each weekend will serve PEEC this summer.

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## Buttermilk Falls, New Jersey

Falling 75 feet off Kittatinny Ridge, Buttermilk Falls (*right*) is the highest waterfall in New Jersey. Though not the simplest waterfall for motorists to find, Buttermilk is the easiest waterfall in the park to see—it is only steps from the parking area to the foot of the falls and its cool, shaded spray. For the hardy, Buttermilk Falls Trail starts with a staircase and then climbs 1,000 feet in its next 1.9 miles; the trail is a gateway to challenging, rewarding hiking along the Appalachian Trail (AT).

**Due to potholes and loose dirt, this excursion is not recommended for sedans, vans, or other low-clearance vehicles.** To reach the falls, turn east at mile 6.5 on NPS 615 for 1.6 miles down Main Street in the village of Walpack Center, crossing a one-lane bridge over Flat Brook. At an intersection with a cemetery on the right, turn right (south) onto Mountain Road, a dirt road, for 2.0 miles to the falls. NOTE: Do not follow a sign near mile 3.2 on NPS 615. The route described above is safer, more scenic, and in the end, faster.



# Quick Guide to Popular Trails



A view into the Water Gap rewards the climb up the Red Dot Trail to the top of Mt. Tammany, NJ.

Trail	Trailhead	Round Trip (miles/hours)	Feet of Climb	Description
<b>THE WATER GAP, New Jersey/Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Mt. Tammany Loop</b> (Red Dot/Blue-blazed)	Dunnfield parking GPS 40.971977 -75.125812	4.0 mile loop/4 hours	1,250 ft.	<b>Difficult</b> Steep with some scramble over boulders. View into Gap from top (above.) The park's most challenging hike.
<b>Sunfish Pond/AT</b> <b>(Appalachian Trail)</b>	Dunnfield parking GPS 40.971977 -75.125812	7.4 miles/5 hours	700 ft.	<b>Moderate</b> Very popular summer hike ending at a beautiful glacial lake in Worthington State Forest. Partly rocky loop around lake is 2 miles more.
<b>Mt. Minsi Loop via</b> <b>AT/Minsi Fire Road</b>	Minsi/Mt. Rd. Trailhead GPS 40.979754 -75.142189	4.0 mile loop/4 hours	1,100 ft.	<b>Difficult</b> View of Gap via short spur from AT; view of Mt. Tammany at top. Fewer users than the Tammany trails.
<b>KITTATINNY RIDGE, New Jersey</b>				
<b>Mt. Mohican</b> <b>Raccoon Ridge/AT</b> via Kaiser/Coppermine	Kaiser Trailhead GPS 41.030333 -75.039200	6.0 miles/5 hours	1,100 ft.	<b>Difficult</b> A 360-degree panorama from ridge along the AT. Connectors join Kaiser and Coppermine Trails. Other approach routes vary in length and steepness.
<b>Rattlesnake Swamp</b> <b>Loop</b> via AT/Catfish Fire Tower/AMC/swamp	Fire Road Gate Rt. 602 GPS 41.057917 -74.964383	4.0 mile loop/4 hours	200 ft.	<b>Moderate</b> Views over New Jersey along the AT, descent to Mohican Outdoor Center, an Appalachian Mt. Club (AMC) facility on Catfish Pond, and return via a swampside trail. Varied, satisfying hike
<b>WOODS and WATERFALLS in Pennsylvania</b>				
<b>Dingmans Falls</b> (Access road closed; visitors must hike in.)	Rt. 209 & Johnny Bee Rd. GPS 41.220667 -74.872667	3.6 miles/ 2-3 hours	Paved road rises 160 ft. Boardwalk is level Stairs climb 150 ft.	<b>Moderate</b> Visitors must hike in 1.5 miles on paved road to start of boardwalk trail, and hike out again. Boardwalk Trail is 0.6 mile round-trip. Optional 240-step staircase trail goes to top of falls.
<b>Raymondskill Falls</b>	Restroom Parking GPS 41.290229 -74.841310	0.6 mile/1 hour	200 ft.	<b>Moderate</b> Short, uneven hike to Upper Falls; steep stone staircase down from Upper to Middle Falls.
<b>Cliff Park Trails</b>	Hackers Trailhead GPS 41.290150 -74.839967	3.0-9.0 miles/2-6 hours	100 ft. (Hackers Falls) to 400 ft. (Milford Knob)	<b>Easy to difficult</b> Interconnected trails from three different trailheads offer an overlook of Milford, three vistas of the valley, and/or a waterfall.
<b>McDade Trail</b>	Trailheads every 0.5 to 5.3 miles on River Road and Rt. 209	1.0 to 20.4 miles hiker/biker choice	Slight climb northbound, some rolling sections, and a few steep hills.	<b>Easy to moderate</b> 32-mile trail for hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing. Miles 24.5-28.7 are closed; mile 6.0 at park HQ is under construction.

# Planning Your Visit



## Biking

McDade Trail offers stretches of up to 18 miles one-way for dirt biking. Road bikers can enjoy up to 50 miles of biking on Old Mine Road in New Jersey, which has little traffic and passes exceptional rural scenery. Ask for the park's McDade Trail or Road Biking bulletins, or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).

## Backpacking

Camping along the Appalachian Trail (AT) is permitted for hikers on an extended trip. A list of regulations and a map of the AT within the park is available from visitor centers, or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).

## Ranger Programs

Groups interested in a program should call 570 426-2452 to inquire about availability. For programs at Millbrook Village, check the schedule of weekly programs on page 5, or call 908 841-9531 at least two weeks in advance.



## Fishing and Hunting

Fishing and hunting are permitted in most parts of the recreation area, with appropriate state licenses and in accordance with state regulations and additional specific park regulations. Ask for the park's Hunting and/or Fishing Bulletins, or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).

## Restrictions

**Alcohol** is not permitted in most parts of the park, including beaches, campgrounds/group campsites, and most sites in Pennsylvania. Visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa) for details. **Never drink-then-swim.**

## Pets

Pets are allowed on trails in New Jersey, but not at the picnic area at Kittatinny Point or at Watergate Recreation Site. Pets are not permitted at beaches or on most waterfall trails in Pennsylvania. Pets are not permitted on McDade Trail near Smithfield Beach.

**Pets must be on a 6-ft. leash.** Ask at a visitor center for details of where you can take your pet, or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa). Please clean up after your pet.



## Camping/Backpacking

### Dingmans Campground (on river)

1006 Route 209, Dingmans Ferry PA 18328  
877 828-1551, 570 828-1551

Tent and RV sites with hook-ups, rental canoes; no alcohol; pets allowed.

Season: Year-round. Call for winter hours  
[www.dingmancampground.com](http://www.dingmancampground.com)

### Worthington State Forest (on river)

HC 2 Box 2, Old Mine Rd., Columbia NJ 07823  
908 841-9575

Tent and RV sites (no hookups); no alcohol; no pets.

Season: April through December  
[www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests)

### Group Campsites

Park-operated group campsites are available at Rivers Bend near Millbrook Village, New Jersey, and at Valley View, on McDade Trail in Pennsylvania, by advance permit for a modest fee. Call 570 588-6344 or visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa) for details.

## OUTDOOR SAFETY

### Snakes and Sense

The recreation area has two species of venomous snakes. Timber rattlesnakes are found in high rocky ridges along the Appalachian Trail and in low areas along the river. Copperheads make their dens near streams, ponds, and bogs. Venomous snake bites are painful but need not be fatal.

- Be alert when you are in snake habitat.
- Stay on trails. Keep your dog leashed.
- When scrambling, don't poke your hands and feet into places you can't see.
- If bitten, stay calm. Send for help.

### Tick Talk

The recreation area has a high percentage of ticks bearing Lyme Disease, a serious illness that can go undiagnosed if the affected person is not alert to its causes and symptoms.

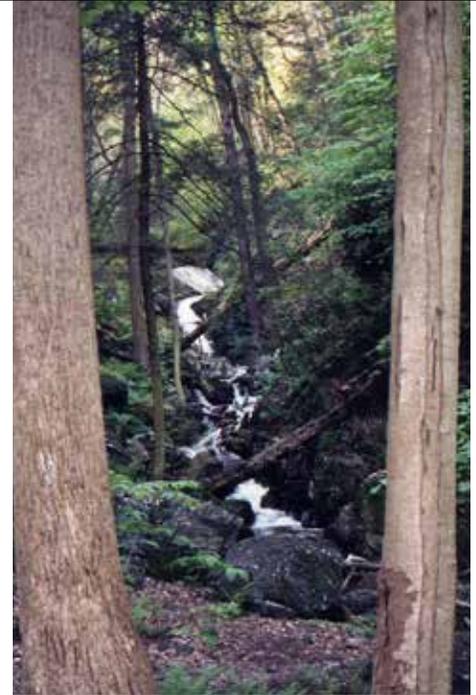
- Wear light-colored clothing while hiking in order to spot ticks more easily.
- Wear trousers, not shorts, and tuck trouser legs into socks.
- Use insect repellent.
- Check for ticks after you hike or bike.
- Remove ticks that you find attached to you. Save the tick and seek medical advice.

### Bear Facts

The recreation area is home to hundreds of black bears. These animals are generally peaceful, but bears have seriously injured people who have tried to feed them.

- Don't leave food at camp or picnic sites; store it in the trunk of your car.
- Clean up all food scraps; don't leave garbage outside over-filled cans.
- Never approach a bear, even a cub.
- Leash your dog so it can't bother a bear.
- If a bear approaches, **don't run**. Make noise, wave your arms, and look large.
- **Never feed a bear.**

## Beaches and Beyond: Turtle Beach



Turtle Beach opened in 2010 and is the newest of the park's developed recreation sites. The facilities were designed to preserve important natural and historic features and to withstand periodic inundation, as they are built on a river floodplain which can be expected to go under at high water.

Your walk from the parking area to the beach and picnic area takes you around a wetland bordered by shrubs. The wetland provides many species with a home,

food, a place to reproduce, and a corridor for migration. Keep your eyes open for birds, turtles, amphibians like frogs and newts, and other wildlife.

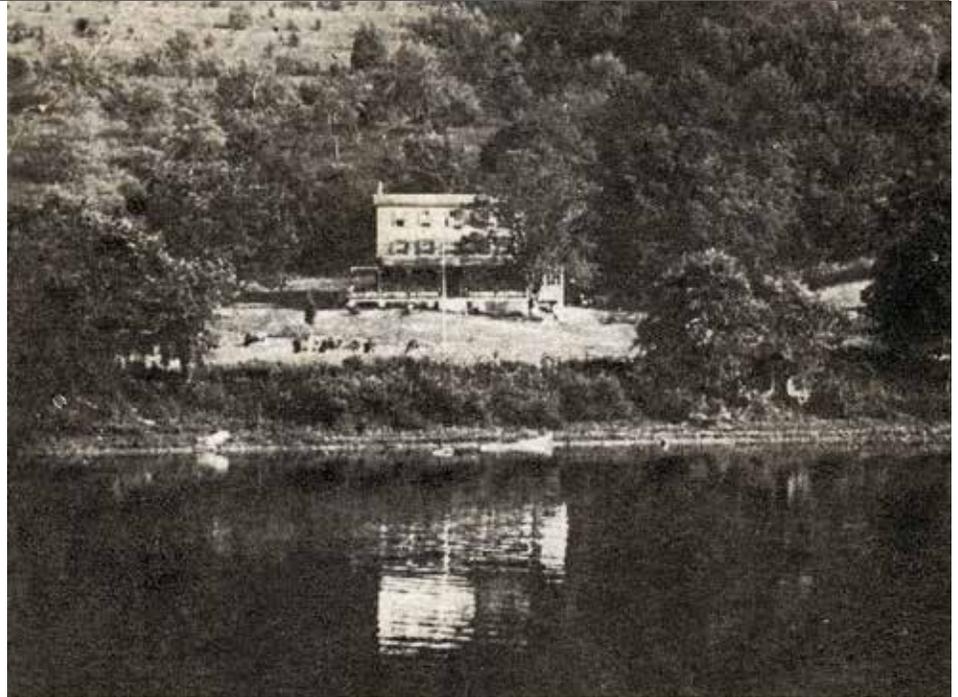
The dirt roads behind Coppermine Inn lead to Kaiser Trailhead on Old Mine Road. This trail follows an old grassy road two miles to the Appalachian Trail (AT) atop Kittatinny Ridge and a fine view east over New Jersey. Two connector trails branch north from Kaiser Trail to Coppermine Trail, which climbs past

a waterfall to the AT at a point 2 miles north of the Kaiser junction. A round-trip across the lower connector and up Coppermine Trail to the waterfall is moderate at 2 miles and 400 ft. of climb. Kaiser Trail to the AT at Mt. Mohican is strenuous at 6 miles and 1,100 ft. of climb.

Don't hike along Old Mine Road; there can be a lot of traffic near the entrance to Turtle Beach. Use the connectors to loop back to the trailhead.



*(This page, top left)* View east from the top of Kaiser Trail. *(Right)* Along Coppermine Trail. *(Bottom)* Wetland dwellers. *(Facing page, top left)* Log raft tied up on the bank of the Delaware. *(Right)* Coppermine Inn in its resort days, seen from the Pennsylvania side. *(Facing page, bottom left)* Shattered cooking jar unearthed at the Coppermine/Turtle Beach site in 2004. *(Facing page, bottom right)* A Lenape village along the Delaware, showing longhouse dwellings.



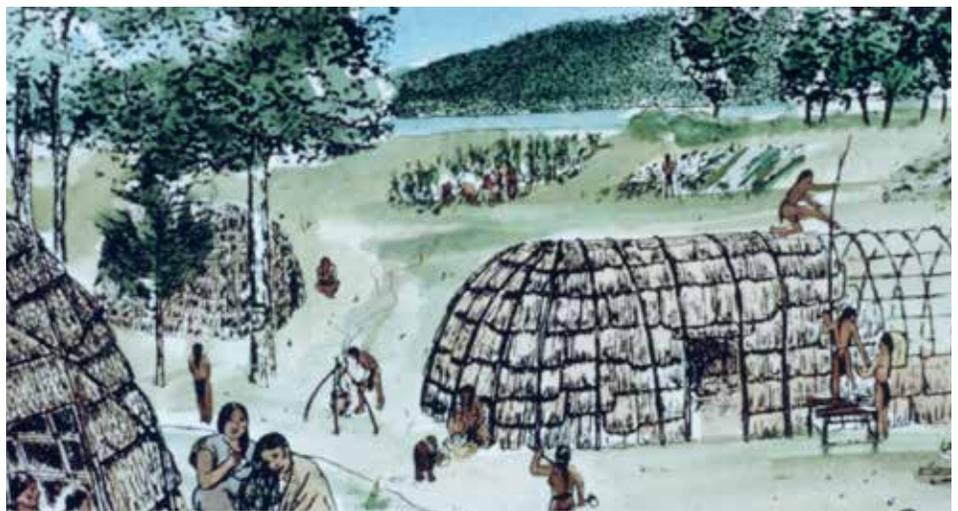
More than 12,000 years ago, native people knew the site of Turtle Beach as home. Prior to construction of the beach, archeological investigation revealed that Native Americans lived along the river here. Patterns in the soil defined the locations of several typical longhouse homes, and the earth yielded up remnants of clay pots, stone tools, and fishing weights. The site of Turtle Beach may have been a warm-weather fishing village, with some farming of the fertile floodplain.

As you look inland from the beachfront, you can't miss Coppermine Inn – a remnant of European settlement along the river. In 1792, Henry Shoemaker, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, purchased land for a farm here and built a home. His descendants ran the expanded farmhouse as the Union Hotel, where river raftsmen could overnight as they floated huge rafts of freshly-cut timbers downriver to market. The family also ran a ferry to the Pennsylvania side until 1927. Though the inn was on Old Mine Road,

ferrying to the Pennsylvania side avoided travel on New Jersey's rougher roads.

Eventually renamed Coppermine Inn, the hotel operated as a boarding house, resort, and restaurant, featuring spring water and farm-fresh produce from the family's fields. After World War II, a campground catering to automobile tourists developed on land adjacent to the inn. Boaters could tie up at the campground's shorefront; today the closest boat ramp is Poxono, 0.75 miles north.

Continued on page 16



# Partners



## HISTORY

### Millbrook Village Society

[www.millbrooknj.com](http://www.millbrooknj.com)

The Society supports the park at Millbrook Village through volunteer staffing and maintenance projects. Volunteers also demonstrate traditional crafts on weekends during the summer and at special events like Millbrook Days each October. Visit their website for information on programs and opportunities.

### M.A.R.C.H.

P.O. Box 1011, Montague, NJ 07827  
973 293-3106

[www.montaguehistory.org](http://www.montaguehistory.org)

M.A.R.C.H. (Montague Association for the Restoration of Community History) operates two historic park houses: Foster-Armstrong House at 320 River Rd./Rt. 521, and Nelden-Roberts Stonehouse at 501 Rt. 206, both in Montague, NJ. Docents offer tours of both houses from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays from June 24 to August 26. Foster-Armstrong House also hosts displays and demonstrations on these Sundays, and holiday house tours in late November/early December.

### Walpack Historical Society

P.O. Box 212, Layton, NJ 08751

Society members give tours of Van Campen Inn, one of the oldest structures in the park, on selected Sundays and occasional other days in summer. The Inn is on the original dirt roadbed of historic Old Mine Road. The society also maintains a small museum in the historic village of Walpack Center, NJ on Rt. NPS 615. The Inn and the village are both trailheads for one-mile Military Trail, dating from the French and Indian War. For a guide to Military Trail, visit [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa). To confirm days of opening, call 973 948-4903.

## NATURE and RECREATION

### Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC)

RD 2, Box 1010, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328  
570 828-2319  
[www.pec.org](http://www.pec.org)

PEEC provides day programs and residential weekend workshops for groups and families. Park hiking trails surround the center. Many weekend programs are accessible this summer by the park's free shuttle bus. Some programs have fees; visit the PEEC website for a complete list of programs offered.

### Mohican Outdoor Center Appalachian Mountain Club

50 Camp Road, Blirstown, NJ 07825  
908 362-5670; Reservations: 603-466-2727  
[www.outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org)

Mohican has year-round programs and facilities for outdoor enthusiasts. For hikers there are individual, group, private, and lake view campsites. Mohican rents canoes and kayaks in season (for use on the pond), year-round heated cabins and lodges, and a boathouse with lake views for events. The Center is located on Catfish Pond, 1/4 mile off Rattlesnake Swamp Trail and the Appalachian Trail.

### Peters Valley Craft Center

19 Kuhn Road at Rt. NPS 615, Layton, NJ 07851  
Gallery and Store: 973 948-5202  
Information: 973 948-5200  
[www.petersvalley.org](http://www.petersvalley.org)

Peters Valley Craft Center serves as an art center for contemporary crafts and offers residencies, educational programs, public activities and events, and retail sales. Slide show of current work are offered on Friday evenings; self-guided tours of craft studios are available on weekends. Art shows take place on the second floor of the Craft Store and Gallery, open year round. Summer hours for the store and gallery are daily except Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

## HELPING HANDS

### Friends of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

570 426-2418  
[www.friendsofdewa.org](http://www.friendsofdewa.org)

The Friends support, promote, and raise funds for the recreation area, and sponsor the Lecture Series and Family Fun Days.

### Eastern National

984 Rt. 209, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328  
570 828-7055  
[www.eparks.com](http://www.eparks.com)

Eastern National supports the bookstores at Bushkill Meeting Center, PA, and Kittatinny Point Visitor Center, NJ. A portion of proceeds from purchases assists the park's educational programs.

### Want to help?

The park's work is accomplished with the help of many individuals and organizations doing a variety of tasks. To find out where you could fit in, call 570 426-2417.

*(Top of page, left to right) "Fungus Among Us," a program at PEEC; Rooftops at M.A.R.C.H.; Peters Valley crafts.*

# Focus on Nature: Bats in Peril

Can you imagine eating a 375 pound hamburger for lunch? That's a lot of food! Even the competitive eaters we see on television couldn't finish a meal like that. But a *bat* could, if it were the size of a 150-pound human.

Most bats in the park weigh less than half an ounce, so they won't be much help eating that burger. But for their size they are voracious eaters — some bats can consume up to 25% of their body weight in insects at each meal. Like us, most bats like to eat two to three times a day (or night, since bats are nocturnal). While some species of bats feed on fruit and nectar, all bat species found in the park eat insects, and lots of them!

Insect-eating bats in the United States save agriculture at least \$3 billion a year in pest control services; they gobble up tons of insects that eat or damage our crops and so reduce the need for insecticides to protect harvests. So if we didn't have bats, our food prices would certainly rise, and that burger would be a lot more expensive! Without bats, too, our forests would suffer much more from insect damage, and hikers would suffer a lot more from the bites of mosquitoes and other insects — bites that can cause discomfort and illness.



MARVIN MORIARITY/USEFWS

Today, a contagious disease threatens bats throughout the Northeast and is spreading to the Southeast and Midwest as well. White-nose Syndrome (WNS) is named for the visible white patches on the muzzles, skin and wing membranes of affected bats. It was first detected in a cave in upstate New York in 2006. Since then, it has spread to 16 states and four Canadian provinces. Delaware Water

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**... more than 5.7 million bats have died — nearly 80 percent of some species**

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Gap National Recreation Area documented several cases of WNS on the New Jersey side of the park in 2008.

In the Northeast, more than 5.7 million bats have already died from this disease, amounting to nearly 80 percent of the entire population of some species, and 100 percent of the bats at certain sites. Those bats would have eaten up to 7,000 metric tons of insects had they not perished. Noticeable economic losses could occur within the next four to five years as a result of this disease.

We now know that WNS is caused by the cold-loving fungus *Geomyces destructans*, and is transmitted from one bat to another by contact. (WNS presents no health risk to humans.) All the bat species in the park hibernate for the winter, and as hundreds of bats cluster closely together, it very easy for the fungus to spread.

Researchers believe that because WNS causes irritating skin lesions on bats, the bats “wake up” and move around during hibernation, sometimes even flying outside of their caves. This activity quickly depletes the bats' stored energy, and they freeze to death or starve because food is so scarce in winter.

Having at last found the cause of the problem, researchers now work toward controlling the disease and its devastating effect on our only flying mammals.

## What You Can Do

The National Park Service has closed or limited access to all park caves to check the spread of WNS. In this park, gates have been placed at the caves in Coppermine hiking area to prevent access. Do your part by obeying cave closures and following decontamination procedures where they have been established in some national parks.

If you see bats in your neighborhood displaying unusual behavior like flying around in winter, or if you see dead bats or bats with white patches or sores, notify your state wildlife management agency. To learn more visit [www.fws.gov/WhiteNoseSyndrome](http://www.fws.gov/WhiteNoseSyndrome) or [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) (Search “WNS”).



(Above) WNS in Vermont 2009.  
(Right) WNS in New York 2008.

RYAN VAN LINDEN/N.Y. DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

## Beaches and Beyond: Milford and Smithfield Beaches



On the Pennsylvania side of the river, beach developments from the 1940s and 1950s grew into the modern bathhouses and river access facilities you see at Milford and Smithfield Beaches today.

Within walking distance of town, Milford Beach was once a family-run business known as “Bob’s Beach.” The family farmhouse still stands at the beach and is used as a residence for summer staff. The National Park Service built the present beach facilities in the late 1980s.

The concrete tower at the beach is a river gage (gauge) providing data on the river’s height and rate of flow. This gage has been recording the Delaware since 1936.

Smithfield Beach, on River Road in Smithfield Township a few miles north of Shawnee-on-Delaware, was known from the 1950s to the 1970s as Pardee Beach. You can read about some of the history of the area in the exhibits at the bathhouse. The National Park Service built the present facilities in the early 1990s.

Both Milford and Smithfield Beaches are on McDade Recreational Trail, a 32-mile trail for hiking, biking and cross-country skiing. From Milford Beach, a hike of 1.5 miles (one steep hill southbound) leads to a view of Raymondskill Cliff, 450 ft. above the valley floor. The trail passes the Flying Hawks Model Plane Airfield, and if the Hawks are taking off that day,

you may get to see their planes in action. From Smithfield Beach, hikers can go 2.0 miles south to Hialeah Picnic Area (one steep hill southbound near Hialeah), or north 2.6-3.2 miles to Riverview or Turn Farm Trailheads (mostly flat). Both directions offer wooded sections, footbridges over streams, views of the river, and a variety of wildflowers alongside fields of corn and other crops. Even a short stroll is worthwhile.

Don’t forget that if you bring your dirt bikes, you can bike McDade, even taking a free bus to another trailhead to explore more trail. For more information on the trail, visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/dewa](http://www.nps.gov/dewa).



*(Top)* Along McDade Trail. *(Bottom, left)* Raymondskill Cliff from McDade Trail south of Milford Beach. *(Right)* The gage at Milford Beach and Bob’s Farmhouse seen from an old ferry road across the river in Montague, NJ.