

Trails and Wildlife Watching near Laurel Lake

Many animals call Pine Grove Furnace State Park and the surrounding Michaux State Forest home. As you look for wildlife along the trail, “take only pictures and leave only footprints.”

- ✚ On **Mountain Creek Trail**, watch for deer, squirrels, raccoons and chipmunks. *How many mammal footprints can you find in the mud?*
- ✚ The **Appalachian Trail** runs the length of the park and continues south to Georgia and north to Maine. The half-way point of the 2,190-mile Appalachian Trail is near Pine Grove Furnace. Experience a small portion of the legendary “A.T.” in the park or hike a few miles into Michaux State Forest. *Look for deer, bears, foxes, snakes and other animals.*
- ✚ Along **Pole Steeple Trail**, the rocky habitat makes a great home for venomous and non-venomous snakes and upland turtles. *If you find a carnivorous reptile along the trail, encourage other hikers not to disturb it!*
- ✚ Stroll along the flat **Biker Hiker Trail**, looking for birds of all sizes. The park is home to songbirds, raptors, waterfowl and many others. *Can you find a bird of every color of the rainbow in the park? Watch for ospreys, bald eagles, and wading birds at Laurel Lake.*
- ✚ Walk down **Ice House Road** to look for aquatic park residents such as snapping and painted turtles, frogs and beavers. *How many trees have signs of beaver gnawing?*

Trail Restoration

Volunteers and park staff spent more than 1,000 hours restoring the Mountain Creek Trail in 2016. Improvements included trail rerouting, stepping stones, trail markings and a new 55-foot trail bridge.



The foot bridge over Mountain Creek was financed by the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau, the South Mountain Partnership, Pine Grove Furnace State Park and the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park. For more local activities, go to VisitCumberlandValley.com.



For more information

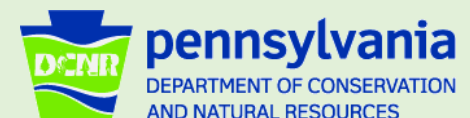
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Laurel Lake Area Hiking Trails



Take a walk and explore the wildlife at Pine Grove Furnace State Park



Laurel Lake Area Hiking Trails

- Mountain Creek Trail** - 1.25 miles, easy, yellow blazes
Uneven terrain and steps at bridge
- Appalachian Trail** - 1.4 miles, moderate, white blazes
Runs near Pole Steeple to yellow gate on Old Railroad Bed Road; uneven terrain
- Pole Steeple Trail** - 0.75 miles, hard, blue blazes
Very steep terrain from parking lot to overlook
- Biker Hiker Trail** - 2.5 miles, easy, not blazed
Handicap accessible from Laurel Lake Area to Furnace Stack Area; overlaps Appalachian Trail in park; shared-use on Old Railroad Bed Road
- Ice House Road** - 0.4 miles, easy, not blazed
Shared-use flat gravel road

