

Explore the Outdoors

Near Philadelphia, PA

- **Ridley Creek State Park**— Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the park is only 16 miles from center city Philadelphia. Enjoy strolling in the historic gardens, hiking and riding on multi-use trails, and picnicking.
- **Marsh Creek State Park**—Picnicking, boating and horseback riding are just a few of the things you can do at this park which contains the 535-acre Marsh Creek Lake, a rest stop for migrating waterfowl!
- **French Creek State Park** – An oasis for visitors to hike, fish, camp, and bike in the forests, lakes, wetlands and fields.
- **William Penn State Forest**—This 901-acre forest district includes five separate tracts across southeastern PA, such as the Goat Hill Serpentine Barrens and Little Tinicum Island on the Delaware River. Visitors can enjoy hunting, fishing and sight-seeing on these protected lands!
- **Benjamin Rush State Park**—Located in Northeast Philly, it's the only State Park within city boundaries. The park features a large community garden, multi-use trails that meander through open meadows and shady wooded areas.
- **Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center**—The center offers year-round educational programs. Plenty of hiking trails to explore!
- **Evansburg State Park**—Open play fields, picnic areas, trails, a golf course and tranquil, natural environs.
- **Norristown Farm Park**—A working farm in continuous use since colonial times, this 690-acre park is home to 71 species of wildlife, fish, reptiles and amphibians; 173 species of birds; 89 species of trees; and 216 species of wildflowers.
- **Fort Washington State Park**—Taking its name from the temporary fort built by George Washington's troops in the fall of 1777, before heading to Valley Forge, the park is popular with hikers and picnickers.
- **Delaware Canal State Park**—Paralleling the Delaware River between Easton and Bristol, this diverse park contains an historic canal and towpath, a 90-acre pond, many miles of river shoreline and 11 river islands.
- **Ralph Stover State Park**—White water boating on Tohickon Creek and rock climbing are just two attractions at this park, and the High Rocks section of the park offers a lovely overlook of the creek.
- **Nockamixon State Park**—Seated in the rolling hills of scenic Bucks County, Tohickon Creek, Three Mile Run and Haycock Run feed Lake Nockamixon, a rest stop for migrating waterfowl and a destination for boaters and anglers.
- **White Clay Creek Preserve** – Hike and bike the park's varied steep to rolling terrain. View the Catalpa trees.
- **Washington Crossing Historic Park** – Stroll the historic village or attend an event at the visitors center.
- **Neshaminy State Park** – The park provide boating access to the Delaware River, picnicking, and a pool.
- **Tyler State Park** – The park features 10 miles of paved trails, several play areas, and perfect canoeing and fishing spots.

Explore the Outdoors

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer

Volunteers - they're the lifeblood of our parks and forests. The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation offers a wide variety of opportunities to put a volunteer's special skills to work. Whether you're a trail-builder, a wildlife expert, an event organizer or one of those special people who always say, "Just put me to work wherever you need me," Pennsylvania's state parks and forests have a role for you.

Foundation Volunteers

Volunteers are welcome to assist with mailings, events, photography, videography, media editing, and more.

Volunteer in State Parks and Forests with Friends Groups

Friends Groups are local groups who volunteer their time, services and support to enhance our state park and forest systems.

What Do Friends Groups Do?

They work in partnership with the park to:

- Raise money for park playgrounds, equipment, and material
- Organize annual park cleanups and regular trail work days
- Plan and execute special events including craft shows, concerts and festivals
- Construct park and forest amenities like trails, visitor centers and gift shops
- Serve as campground hosts, visitor center hosts, and docents
- Create awareness about the value of their state park or forest

South Eastern Pennsylvania Friends Groups

- Friends of Ridley Creek State Park
- Friends of Nockamixon State Park
- Friends of Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center
- Friends of White Clay Creek Preserve

Conservation Volunteers

Volunteer opportunities in state parks and forests are also available through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Learn more at www.paparksandforests.org and <https://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/index.aspx>