

Hiking

The areas around the lakes and rivers offer interesting and enjoyable hiking terrain. Many of the projects have designated nature and interpretive trails for your pleasure. Stretch your legs and admire what nature has to offer.

To find out more about hiking at a project, pick the project name from the list below:

Berlin Lake (330) 547-3781

- Berlin Lake's Mill Creek Recreation Area has a self-guided nature trail for visitors to enjoy. The "Bay Woods Nature Trail" is a loop trail located on a bend of Mill Creek Bay. This trail has 18 interpretive stations with bulletin boards and plaques, and winds through woods, wet areas, and along the lakeshore.

Conemaugh River Lake (724) 639-9013

- The Woodchuck Trail at Conemaugh Lake is a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long loop trail. This trail is located in the Dam Site Recreation Area and it has 18 interpretive stations. The stations are information stops (plaques) along the trail that provide hikers with information about sights and happenings along the trail.
- The Ridge View Trail is a loop trail for hikers and bikers. This trail is 5 miles long with a $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile long interpretive loop. There are 21 interpretive stops along this trail. The Ridge View Trail takes hikers across the Conemaugh River and then loops around Bow Ridge. Brochures for the interpretive loop are available from the Resource Manager's office.

Crooked Creek Lake (724) 763-3161

There are numerous hiking trails at Crooked Creek Lake.

- The 141 mile long **Baker Trail** passes through the Crooked Creek Lake project area. It enters into Crooked Creek Lake project territory in the south, near Cherry Run Road and Cherry Run Creek and it leaves the project in the north as it follows Crooked Creek. This trail passes in and out of Crooked Creek Lake's eastern boundaries.
- The Laurel Point Trail is a loop trail that returns hikers back to their original starting point.
- The Physical Fitness Trail is designed for the health conscious individual and those who desire physical

challenge. There are 16 work-out stations throughout this one mile loop trail. The trail is located to the west of the Spillway Picnic Area.

- The Fisherman's Trail is a one-half mile gently sloping trail that begins in the small parking lot located below the campground. The trail travels beside an intermittent stream that empties into the lake. About half way from the parking lot to the lake, a short trail branches off across the stream gully by way of a foot bridge. This second trail winds its way through a small picnic grove and ends near the beach road gate.
- The Tailwater Fishing Access Trail leads to the most popular fishing spot on the project - the Outflow. The trailhead is located in the Spillway Recreation Area near the ball field. The trail continues along the fence that encloses the Spillway. The trail then enters a wooded area and winds down the hill to a set of steps leading to the right bank of Crooked Creek.
- The Beach Trail is approximately 3/4 of a mile long. The trailhead is at the entrance of the beach road. The trail slopes down to follow the left bank of the lake; then ascends up the hill and crosses the road to the beach area.
- There are several interpretive trails at Crooked Creek Lake. One focuses on upland plants and animals, while another is designed to give the visitor exposure to a variety of songbirds. There is even a Children's Trail and is comprised of 14 points of interest.

East Branch Clarion River Lake (814) 965-2065

There is one trail at East Branch Lake.

- The Shady Ridge Nature Trail, a self-guided interpretive trail with 12 stations, is located in the Dam Recreation Area. This trail is about 1 mile long and loops through hilly terrain under forest cover. Brochures for this trail are available at the Resource Manager's office.

Kinzua Dam/Allegheny Reservoir (814) 726-0661

There are numerous trails at Allegheny Reservoir, two of which are operated by the Corps of Engineers.

- The Smorgasbord Trail is a short trail that connects the Big Bend Access with the Big Bend Overlook. The Big Bend Access Area is on the south side of the Allegheny River downstream from the dam. The Big Bend Overlook is on the south side of Allegheny Reservoir upstream from the dam.
- The Little Boulder Nature Trail is a short self-guided interpretive trail near the Visitor Center below the dam. This trail winds through the forest and has 12 stations along the way. Brochures for this trail are available at the Big Bend Access Area.

- The North Country National Scenic Trail, which runs from Crown Point, NY to Lake Sakakawea, ND passes through the eastern boundaries of the Allegheny Reservoir project. This trail is administered by the National Park Service. For more information about this trail visit the National Park Service's [Web page about the trail](#), or visit the [North Country Trail Association's](#) home page.
 - There are trails at [Quaker Area](#) and [Red House](#). These areas are administered to by New York's [Allegheny State Park](#).
 - The U.S. Forest Service has many trails along the reservoir in the surrounding [Allegheny National Forest](#).
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Loyalhanna Lake (724) 639-9013

Please refer to neighboring Conemaugh River Lake or www.conemaughvalleyconservancy.org.

Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau

Mahoning Creek Lake (814) 257-8811

There are two hiking trails at this project.

- There is a trail in the Upper Dam Site Area that goes around the Upper Picnic Area to an overlook of the dam.
 - The 141 mile long [Baker Trail](#) passes through the Mahoning Creek Lake project area. It enters into the Mahoning Creek Lake project area on the west side of Mahoning Creek about halfway between the towns of Smicksburg and Milton. This trail crosses Mahoning Creek with Route 839, follows the eastern side of the creek, passes by the dam, and then continues to the north.
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M. J. Kirwan Dam & Reservoir (330) 358-2622

There are two hiking trails at this project - the [Buckeye Trail](#) and the Jewel Run Nature Trail.

- The Jewel Run Nature Trail, operated by the Corps and located below the dam, skirts both sides of the West Branch Mahoning River. This loop trail is approximately one mile in length.
 - The Buckeye Trail, 8.2 miles long and located in the western part of the project, is an Ohio State Trail. The Buckeye Trail at this project is a "sub-loop" of its much larger parent - the Buckeye Trail that loops the entire state of Ohio. Visit the [Buckeye Trail Association's](#) Web page to learn more about this trail.
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Mosquito Creek Lake (330) 637-1961

There are three hiking trails at this project. One is a self-guided nature trail maintained by the Corps of Engineers, and the other two are operated by Ohio's Mosquito Lake State Park.

- The Lakeview Nature Trail, located in the Lakeview Picnic Area, just above the dam and on the eastern shore of the lake, is a self-guided nature trail with 12 interpretive stations. The trail is linear (doesn't loop back to the starting point) and about ¼ mile long. Brochures that guide hikers along the way are available at the Resource Manager's office just below the dam on the east side of Mosquito Creek.

Shenango River Lake (724) 962-7746

There are three hiking trails at Shenango River Lake. The Seth Myers Trail, the Coonie Trail, and the Shenango Trail.

- The Seth Myers Trail is a ½ mile self-guided National Recreation Trail. This trail is located just to the northeast of the dam, in the Mahoney Recreation Area. There are 17 numbered posts along the trail that correspond with numbers in a trail guide pamphlet that is available at the Resource Manager's office. At each one of these stations, hikers can learn about nature by reading from their trail pamphlet.
- The Coonie Trail is also a ½ mile self-guided nature trail with 12 interpretive stations. The trail is located in the Shenango Recreation Area on the north side of the lake and west of Route 18.
- The Shenango Trail is about 8 miles long. It is in the eastern part of the project and runs along the eastern side of the Shenango River from Kidd's Mill Covered Bridge down to the point where Lackawannock Creek flows into the Shenango River. This trail follows the old towpath of the Erie Extension Canal.

Stonewall Jackson Lake (304) 269-4588

The Corps has one maintained hiking trail at Stonewall Jackson Lake and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources has trails at the lake in Stonewall Jackson State Park. In addition, numerous gas well access roads exist on the project and are open for foot travel.

- The Friendship Trail, located just below the dam on the west side of West Fork River, is a ¾ mile long loop trail.
- There are trails for hikers in Stonewall Jackson State Park. To find out more about these trails, visit the **Stonewall Jackson State Park** Web page.

Tionesta Lake (814) 755-3512

By following a series of short trails at Tionesta Lake, it is possible to hike a loop of 3-4 miles. All of the trails are self-guided nature trails.

- The Information Center Loop Trail, located in the Damsite Area, is about ¼ mile long.
- The Summit Trail, located near the dam control tower, is ½ mile long.
- The Plantation Trail, located near the park office winds through a wildlife area.
- The Damsite Trail goes downhill to the Tionesta Recreation Area Campground, and then runs into the Mill Race Trail.
- Mill Race Trail leads through a wooded area adjacent to the Tionesta Recreation Area Campground.
- **The North Country National Scenic Trail** passes close to the Kellettsville Campground, in the eastern part of the project.

Tygart Lake (304) 265-1760

There are two Corps of Engineers maintained hiking trails, and five other trails maintained by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources at Tygart Lake.

- The Corps of Engineers has a trail at the Dam Site, named the Tygart Dam Trail, located just above the dam and on the east side of the lake. This trail is ¾ miles long and meanders through woodlands along the lake between the dam and the State Park Lodge.
- The second trail is an extension of the State Park's Dogwood Trail. The Corps section of the trail starts in the Tygart Dam Picnic Area and is approximately 1/4 miles long and connects with both the Dogwood and Tygart Dam trails. The Dogwood Trail, beginning at the Corps picnic area, follows a ridge through wooded terrain before descending at the State Park lodge. Walking time is approximately 50-75 minutes.
- To find out more about other trails at this lake, visit the **Tygart Lake State Park** Web page.

Union City Dam (814) 763-4477

There are no developed trails at Union City Dam.

Woodcock Creek Lake (814) 763-4477

There are 3 nature trails at this lake.

- There are two trails located in the Bossard Nature Area which is north of the dam and across Route 198.
 - The other trail is under construction.
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Youghiogheny Lake (814) 395-3242

There are no developed hiking trails at this project.

Visit these Web pages for more information on hiking in Pittsburgh District territory:

[Pittsburgh Council, American Youth Hostels] <http://www.hipittsburgh.org/hiking.html>

[Pennsylvania Rails-To-Trails] http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/greenways_trails.aspx