

## Blue Knob Trail Info Only

### Hiking

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#### 18 miles of trails

Please be sure to wear appropriate foot wear when hiking at Blue Knob State Park. Trails are closed for nighttime use.

When you go down, you must climb up to return. A well planned hiking trip utilizes different trails to provide an extended hiking experience that covers many miles and avoids a steep return climb.

**Crist Ridge Trail:** 1.9-mile, **orange blaze**, easy hiking

This multi-use trail starts at an intersection of Chappell's Field Trail and extends to below the pool. This is an easy downhill hike for the entire family. Park at the lowest intersection of Chappell's Field Trail and Knob Road, or at the second curve above the pool.

**Chappell's Field Trail:** 2.5 miles, inverted **orange V blaze**, easy hiking

This multi-use trail is a gentle sloping loop trail with little gradient change. It is ideal for the family and cross-country skiing. This trail follows the back end of Chappell's Field through wildlife management areas, passes across the Blue Knob Park Road, travels to the bottom loop of the campground and returns through a forested section to the starting point. Park at the upper end of Chappell's Field .

**Lost Turkey Trail:** 26 miles, **red blaze**, difficult hiking

Beginning at the tower and ending at the Babcock State Forest Ranger Station on PA 56, this 26-mile trail is a favorite of backpackers, cross-country skiers, and day hikers. This trail uses a combination of public and private lands. The trail follows many of the narrow-gauge railroad beds from the logging activities of the 1930s. This trail covers a wide variety of terrain contained in the ridge and valley section of the park, including Blue Knob Mountain and the Allegheny Front.

Unnamed connecting trails are blazed in a **double blue blaze**. Proper hiking boots are recommended. This trail is not recommended for small children. A separate topographical trail map is available for the entire Lost Turkey Trail and the Bureau of Forestry's John P. Saylor Trail. Safe overnight parking is at the Babcock Ranger Station or the Blue Knob park office. Overnight camping by backpackers is allowed only on forestry lands by permit.

**Homestead Trail:** 1.8-mile, **orange blaze**, easy hiking

A loop trail off of the second major curve along Whysong Road to Willow Springs Picnic Area, this trail winds through old homestead sites in a rolling valley section of the park. A wide, gentle trail with some uphill travel, this trail is suitable for the whole family. Good birding opportunities are in the old fields. Park along Willow Spring Road at the second curve.

**Mountain View Trail:** 5 miles, **double red blaze**, difficult hiking

This multi-use trail is in a wilderness part of the park. The trail begins a short distance from the electric substation on Three Springs Trail. The trail makes a short, 0.9-mile Look Out loop before crossing the Three Springs Trail again. The trail then descends along Beaverdam Creek before extending along the eastern slope of the mountain to Willow Springs Picnic Area. The trail then proceeds north along an old waterline to Deep Hollow Run and climbs the mountain to the trailhead. The Look Out loop is suitable for the whole family, **but the remainder of the trail is recommended only for adults in good hiking condition**. Proper footgear (boots) is a must because terrain is steep and rugged. Access points to different sections of the trail are limited. This trail should not be used during inclement weather because fog is dense due to the higher elevation. Park along the electric substation approaching the ski resort along Tower Road.

**Sawmill Trail:** 3 miles, **yellow blaze**, moderate hiking

This trail bisects the park and uses openings created by waterlines and service roads. Beginning on Ickes Hill on SR 4031, this trail passes Willow Springs Picnic Area, Group Camp #1, the campground and Chappell's Field, then connects to the lower section of Rock 'N' Ridge Trail leading to the pool complex. Park at Chappell's Field across from the campground.

**Rock "N" Ridge Trail:** 2.8 miles, inverted **blue T blaze**, moderate hiking

This multi-use trail starts at the picnic pavilion above the pool, then follows a homestead road weaving through the center of the park near a mountain brook. The trail is a steady uphill climb until it peaks near the mountain slopes and returns along the high ground connecting the ridge top east of the pool complex. This is a ridge and valley trail suitable for the whole family. Park at Mowry Hollow Picnic Area.

**Three Springs Trail:** 2 miles, **orange blaze**, easy hiking

This multi-use trail is a very wide, gentle mountain trail using service roads and waterlines, this trail begins at the electric substation below the ski slope and extends along the eastern slope of the mountain to the Willow Springs Picnic Area. Enjoy the mountain forest setting with views of the lowlands from about 2,000 feet. Park at the electric substation approaching ski resort along Tower Road.

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