

Parker Dam State Park Trail Information Only

Hiking

Many hiking trails begin or pass through Parker Dam State Park and continue into the surrounding Moshannon State Forest. Some trails travel through the tornado blowdown, while others follow along streams or through hardwood forests. Hike the Trail of New Giants and then Souder's Trail to compare a young forest to a mature forest.

Abbot Hollow Trail: 1.7 mile, easy hiking, **no blazes**

Explore a wilderness valley ravished by a tornado in 1985, then salvage-logged in 1986. Varying habitats caused by the blowdown, the logging roads, gas well sites and beaver dams give the hiker many opportunities to view wildlife.

Beaver Dam Trail: 2.3 miles, easy hiking, **no blazes**

This trail along Mud Run traverses good beaver habitat. Be on the lookout for signs of this amazing creature. Cuttings, tracks, lodges and dams are clues to its presence.

Laurel Run Trail: 1 mile, moderate hiking, **blue** diamonds

Long used by fishermen and more recently by loggers, this trail starts near the campground bridge, follows Laurel Run and winds through the tornado blowdown area.

Logslide Trail: 0.5 mile, easy hiking, **orange** blazes

By the trailhead is an authentic reproduction of a logslide, used at the turn of the 20th century to haul logs out of the forest. A display shows other logging tools. Look along the trail for places where the Civilian Conservation Corps cut stone in the 1930s to build Parker Dam. The trail connects with the Stumpfield Trail via a gas line and is part of the Quehanna Trail - blazed in orange and blue.

Skunk Trail: 1.4 mile, easy hiking, **no blazes**

This trail winds through hardwood trees. It connects Souder's Trail with Mud Run Road.

Snow Trail: 1.6 mile, easy hiking, **no blazes**

The trail starts on Beaver Dam Trail and connects with Moose Grade Road. Popular with snowmobilers, hunters and cross-country skiers, it offers a pleasant hike in the wilderness.

Souder's Trail: 0.75 mile, easy hiking, **no blazes**

This scenic loop trail features Laurel Run, lush meadows and large hardwood and evergreen trees.

Spurline Trail: 3.5 miles, moderate hiking, **orange** or **blue** blazes and blue diamonds

Start at Montgomery Field on the Fairview Road and follow the old railroad spur used from 1910 to 1913 to log the area.

Stumpfield Trail: 0.5 mile, easy hiking, **no blazes**

Begin at the campground amphitheater and traverse a meadow that was once a forest of pine and hemlock. Look for large stumps left from logging at the turn of the 20th century. Stunted trees and thick shrubs are evidence of repeated wildfires that destroyed topsoil and slowed forest regrowth. This trail connects with Logslide Trail via a gas line.

Sullivan Ridge Trail: 1.4 mile, moderate hiking, **blue** diamonds

This trail follows logging roads along the top of Sullivan Mountain, offering scenic overlooks of Moose Run Valley. Sullivan Ridge Trail connects Snow Trail with Abbot Hollow Trail.

Tornado Alley Trail: 0.5 mile, easy hiking, **blue** diamonds

This logging road connects Sullivan Ridge Trail with the cabin area. It offers a panoramic view of the tornado damage in Abbot Hollow.

Trail of New Giants: 1 mile, moderate hiking, **no blazes**

On May 31, 1985, one of Pennsylvania's largest and strongest tornadoes roared through the park and destroyed the towering forest of ash, oak, beech and sugar maple trees. The Trail of New Giants cuts through the blowdown and the 250-acre Windstorm Preserve. Walk the trail and see the forest regenerating. A spur trail leads to a beautiful vista of the park and surrounding forest.

Quehanna Trail: 73 miles, difficult hiking, [blue](#) and/or [orange](#) blazes

This trail travels from the park to the [Susquehannock Trail](#). The backpack trail loops range from one to seven days. Only experienced hikers should use these wilderness trails.

Backpacking: The park is the western trailhead of the Quehanna Trail System. Through a series of loops and connecting trails, this system offers over 73 miles of hiking opportunities of one to five nights in duration. This trail connects with the [Susquehannock Trail System](#) near Sinnamahoning PA. There is no backpack camping in the park. Trail maps are available at the park office.

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