Pike Outdoors
A Public Lands Guide for Sportsmen & Outdoor Enthusiasts

PIKE COUNTY, PA
Field Maps • Things to Know • Places to Eat, Stay & Visit
www.pikepa.org/planning.html
We, the Commissioners of Pike County, Pennsylvania, would like to personally invite sportsmen to visit Pike County and take advantage of the hunting and fishing opportunities our public lands and waterways throughout our county have to offer.

The county offers many acres of public land for the enjoyment of hunters during our fall and winter hunting seasons. Access is free to over 120,000 acres of federal and state owned land, including access to disabled hunters with appropriate permits from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. For avid fishermen, the county has Lake Wallenpaupack; the Delaware River, PA 2011 River of the Year; the Lackawaxen River, PA 2010 River of the Year; Promised Land State Park, part of the state park system recently named the best in the nation; and so many other pristine waterways.

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry District 19 manages over 72,000 acres in Pike County. The Pennsylvania Game Commission is responsible for more than 24,000 acres, while the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area provides access to over 17,000 acres. We are fortunate to have large, contiguous tracts of free access forestland (though some areas are hard to get to) which offer lower hunting pressure. These forestlands hold many wetland and bog habitats which provide food and shelter to wildlife such as large populations of black bear, white-tailed deer, and turkey, along with squirrel, grouse, woodcock, coyote, fox, bobcat, and waterfowl.

Tourism is the county’s main industry. You can float or canoe down the Delaware River in the summer; ski downhill or cross-country in the winter; hike on the McDade Trail in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area year round; visit historic Milford, the county seat, and dine in the county’s fine restaurants. Thousands of visitors annually enjoy our county’s recreation and historic, and cultural opportunities. Our fall foliage is breathtaking. Our high quality and exceptional value waters with their many waterfalls are a sight to behold. So, make it a point to visit Pike County, and please visit us often.

Enjoy and Safe Hunting
Pike County Commissioners

Richard A. Caridi
Matthew M. Osterberg
Karl A. Wagner, Jr
Nested in Northeast PA, the Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape covers Pike, Wayne, Monroe, Carbon, Luzerne, and Lackawanna counties.

The Landscape includes the highest concentration of wetlands in the state and large tracts of forested lands, allowing for clean water and air, outdoor recreation, and sporting and vacation opportunities. The benefit to the public provided by the State Forests, Parks, and Game Lands also includes the opportunity to explore and learn about our natural surroundings and their importance.

Gifford Pinchot, the first chief of the US Forest Service and one of the fathers of the conservation movement in the United States, called the region his home. Grey Towers, Pinchot’s former home, is a must see for people interested in history, architecture, and landscaping. Noted author Zane Grey penned some of his popular works in Pike County. His home is now a museum open to the public in Lackawaxen Township.

The vision of the Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape (PFWCL) is to conserve the natural environment and enhance the quality of life by sustaining vital natural resources. The goals cannot be attained without the partnership of residents, tourists, business owners, and local and state government agencies. Development over the past several decades in the region has led to a sense of urgency when it comes to conserving open space and protecting natural resources. Seeking to protect the environmental integrity and the corresponding public benefits of the region’s natural resources, PA DCNR and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council as Coordinator of the PFWCL are working to facilitate the crucial partnerships needed to add value to our communities by connecting people with the region’s natural resources.

The Landscape is home to 115,000 acres of State Forests, over 54,000 acres of State Parks, 4,700 miles of streams, 74 square miles of lakes and ponds, along with miles and miles of trails for hours (or days) of hiking! Included in the State Forest Land and State Parks are 2,754 acres designated as Wild Areas, in addition to 7,947 acres designated as Natural Areas.

Pike County is home to the Bruce Lake, Pine Lake, Pennel Run, Stillwater, Little Mud Pond Swamp, and Buckhorn Natural Areas. The Stairway Wild Area surrounding Stairway Lake and home to a breathtaking view (well worth the hike) is also in Pike County. The county also holds 17,860 acres of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

This project was funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Growing Greener Environmental Stewardship Fund, under the Pocono Forest and Waters Conservation Landscape. The grant is administered by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

Visitors and residents target the Landscape for hiking, hunting and fishing, birding, photography, canoeing, cross-country skiing, and many other nature-based recreational experiences.
Hunters scouring the woods and wetlands of Pike County will find a mixed bag of species available to them.

White-tailed deer get a fair amount of attention in the hunting world, and Pike County has plenty. Our habitat offers a variety of factors that deer love. From oak covered ridges to open fields and plenty of edge cover, deer find places to feed and hide. The county is also riddled with housing communities where deer have learned to gather and find sanctity and often a free hand-out. Hunting the state forest lands and game lands adjacent to these communities has become a good bet for bringing home some venison.

Within our public lands system exist some of the largest, most snarled tangle of thickly vegetated wetland complexes. Some of these “swamps” are a mile long and wide, offering the much needed seclusion that black bears need. Pike County is home to record breaking bruins and hunters willing to put in the labor can find themselves face to face with some of the largest black bears to be found anywhere.

Wild turkeys abound across the county, and hunters can take part in a spring hunting season for bearded birds only, or roust a flock for the either-sex fall hunting season. Wild turkey populations depend on good habitat to hide their nests and young broods, and open areas rich with plenty of insects to ensure the brood’s survival. Dry weather during the spring helps bolster the flock’s future and these conditions, coupled with plenty of available food sources such as acorns, has the wild turkey population strong in Pike County.

America’s number one game animal, the gray squirrel, can be found throughout the county in good numbers. In fact, two color phases are available to hunters with the southern part of the county housing a good population of the melanistic, or black phase of this popular rodent. Squirrels can be found along the river flats where corn is grown or among the hills where acorns and hickory nuts are plentiful.

Our mixed habitat can offer good populations of beaver, muskrat, mink, skunks, opossums, both red and gray foxes, coyotes, and bobcats.

Waterfowl hunters can enjoy seeking a multitude of species found among Pike County’s many wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes and ponds. Wood ducks and Canada geese top the list of resident waterfowl, with a fair number of mallards, black ducks, and even teal in the mix. Hunters can enjoy combination hunting and fishing trips throughout the fall while floating local waterways or sitting in a boat or blind.

Those seeking predators or furbearers will do well across Pike County. Our mixed habitat can offer good populations of beaver, muskrat, mink, skunks, opossums, both red and gray foxes, coyotes, and bobcats.
season has been established for Pike County just yet, the future should see fishers added to the list of available furbearers as their populations across the county continue to rise.

Among the edges of field and forest and within the cover of the wetlands exists one of the toughest game birds of all to hunt. Our state bird, the ruffed grouse, can be found in pockets around Pike County. Their populations are cyclical, and some years are better than others for finding them in any concentrations. Grouse need cover so look for them in overgrown farmland, old apple orchards, and the edges of cover thick with thornapples and grape tangles. Often while seeking grouse, hunters will hear the whistling wings of a more secretive and elusive game bird found among some of the grouse’s favored haunts. Woodcock exist in limited numbers across the county, with populations rising during the annual fall migration. With earthworms tops on their favored food lists, hunters should look for them among the moist lowlands.

Ringneck pheasants are available through a stocking program provided by the Pennsylvania Game Commission. Pheasants are stocked throughout the county and hunters can enjoy hunting them along with cottontail rabbits in many areas. Both species love brier tangles, overgrown hedgerows and similar cover and can be found in many of the public lands across the county.

**Ron Tussel** is a local outdoor writer. Mr. Tussel carries years of field experience into his writings. Tussel’s credits include: The Pennsylvania Sportsman TV Series, Wrangler Outdoor Advisory Team, Hunter’s Specialties Field Staff, Past President of the PA Outdoor Writer’s Assoc. Tussel is an active member OWAA-MDOWA-NYOW. Visit: pennsylvaniasportsman.com
State Game Lands

State Game Land (SGL) 116: Lackawaxen, contains 3,089 acres of forested terrain. Deer, bear, turkey, and grouse are the most prevalent game species. (Page 9)

SGL 180: Shohola, contains 11,493 acres of mostly flat, wooded land. The Shohola Waterfowl Management Area, comprising of nearly 1,200 acres of water, is located on this tract. Other wetlands are scattered throughout the game lands. In addition to waterfowl, other game species include bear, deer, turkey, grouse, and woodcock. Bald eagles and ospreys also nest in the management area and an eagle viewing area has been established on the east side and on the west side is an observation tower for viewing the lake. Numerous other water oriented birds also inhabit the wetlands. Two boat launches provide fishing access for warm water species. The Shohola Creek above and below the impoundment is stocked with trout. There are two wildlife propagation areas on the wetlands to protect nesting and resting waterfowl. (Pages 12-13 and 20-21)

SGL 183: Tafton, contains 2,778 acres of forested terrain including several large wetlands. The most prevalent game species are deer, waterfowl, bear, and grouse. A rifle range is located east of Decker Pond on Route 6. Fishing is available in the pond for warm water species. The Decker Creek is stocked with trout. (Page 10-11)

SGL 209: Shohola, contains 4,391 acres of wooded terrain where deer, bear, turkey, grouse, and rabbits can be found. Limited historic remains of bluestone quarrying exist throughout the game lands. (Pages 14-15)

SGL 316: Masthope, contains 2,715 forested acres. Deer, bear, turkey, and grouse are the most prevalent game species found on this tract. Fishing is available in Cobey Pond for warm water species, while the Masthope Creek is stocked with trout. A portion of the game lands adjoins the Delaware River which is designated a National Scenic and Recreational River by the US Department of the Interior. (Page 9)

**The rattlesnake, a protected species, can be found in limited numbers on any of these game lands.**

Delaware State Forest

Bruce Lake Natural Area, northeast of Promised Land State Park, contains 4,300 acres. Bruce Lake was glacier formed and is completely spring-fed. Virgin stands of pine and hemlock were cut in the late 1880’s before the Commonwealth acquired the land. Fires ravaged the area after lumbering, destroying the rich humus soil layer and exposing the rocks. Egypt Meadow Lake was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1935. (Pages 16-17)

Buckhorn Natural Area, 1 mile east of Pond Eddy on the headwaters of the Bush Kill (Mill Rift) Creek, contains 559 acres. The area includes mixed oak, a high mountain swamp, and rock ledges. This area provides a beautiful view of the Delaware River and the opportunity to explore an old bluestone quarry site. (Page 14)

Little Mud Pond Swamp Natural Area, contains 182 acres. Various emergent plants grow within the glacial bog. Species normally found at more northern latitudes can be found on this tract. (Page 11)

Pennel Run Natural Area, 2 miles west off S.R. 402 in southern Pike County, contains 888 acres. Stands of scrub oak, aspen, grey birch, and mixed oak can be found within the natural area. A portion of Utts swamp is also within the natural area. (Pages 24-25)

Pine Lake Natural Area, 2 miles northeast of Greentown, contains 53 acres. The area features a 10 acre bog which exhibits plant zonation from open water to tree cover. (Page 16)

Promised Land State Park is a 2,971 acre park offering 29 miles of trails for hiking, with 17 miles of those trails available for winter activities. The park boasts 506 campsites, boat rental, Promised Land Lake (422 acres), and Lower Lake (173 acres) — both available for fishing. (Pages 16-17)

Stairway Wild Area, contains 2,754 acres and is surrounded by the Buckhorn Natural Area. This area, while remote, is evidence to the region’s history of bluestone mining and its diverse natural beauty. The natural area is home to awe-inspiring vistas and rugged terrain. (Pages 14-15)

Stillwater Natural Area, located in Delaware and Porter Townships, contains 1,868 acres. The area was logged and burned before it was acquired by the state. The area has regenerated to mixed hardwoods. Numerous and expansive wetlands support stands of black and red spruce. Ideal for canoeing, a mile of the Little Bushkill Stream meanders through the natural area. During the Civil War, army deserters would hide out in this section of Pike County. Some of the foundations of their cabins can be seen today on the islands in the swamps or in the dense growth at the edge of the swamps. (Pages 22-23)

**Information from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**
Visit the PA Game Commission: www.pgc.state.pa.us

Visit PA DCNR: www.dcnr.state.pa.us/hunting.html

Visit the National Park Service: www.nps.gov/DEWA

There are many private lands held as in-holdings within the public lands in Pike County. Please respect our private property owners’ rights by not trespassing.

Please note the public boat access areas denoted on the maps. For more information on fishing in Pike County, please visit: www.fish.state.pa.us/county.htm and select “Pike County”

Mapping on the following pages was created through data sharing and field collection by Planning staff. Special thanks to PA DCNR, PA Game Commission, and the USDI National Park Service. Our goal in developing the maps was to provide all the information on Pike County Public Lands in one source to allow sportsmen and visitors the opportunity to enjoy our public lands. Mapping was created by the Pike County Office of Community Planning - SB, 2010

The maps include the deer exclusion fences in Pike County. These temporary structures only remain in place until regeneration is established, frequently 5-10 years. Hunting is permitted within the deer fences, but caution is required if using a hunting dog inside a deer fence, as dogs have trouble seeing the fence and can be injured. These areas provide excellent habitat for brush loving wildlife species such as grouse, woodcock, and rabbits.
The Following Activities are Prohibited

- Camp or use campsites.
- Contaminate, pollute or degrade groundwater or surface waters or any waterways.
- Graze or permit the grazing of domestic livestock; place or maintain beehives or beehive apparatus.
- Solicit or place private advertisements, signs, or posters.
- Plant, gather, cut, dig, remove or otherwise injure any plants or parts thereof, including trees, shrubs, vines, flowering plants and cultivated crops. (Mushrooms and fruits of berry-producing plants may be picked.)
- Travel on lands by means of any vehicle or conveyance propelled by motorized power. (Exemption for individuals with Disabled Person Permit for battery-powered motorized wheelchair.)
- Ride a non-motorized vehicle, conveyance or animal, except on roads normally open to public travel, or designated routes as posted, or while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.
- Ride a non-motorized vehicle, conveyance or animal from the last Saturday in September until the third Saturday in January, and prior to one hour after close of lawful shooting hours for spring turkey season from the second Saturday in April through the last Saturday in May, inclusive, except on Sundays or while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.
- Ride a non-motorized vehicle, conveyance or animal on roads open to foot travel only.
- Drive motor vehicles with or without attachments having a registered gross vehicle weight in excess of 12,000 pounds.
- Use boats propelled by a motor. Battery-powered electric motors may be used on waterways unless otherwise posted.
- Fish from dam breasts posted against fishing.
- Swim in any dam, pond, lake or stream.
- Injure, destroy or cause damage to property, real, personal or mixed.
- Remove or attempt to remove any manmade or natural object, except wildlife and fish lawfully taken. Objects that may not be removed include animals, rocks, minerals, sand and historical or archaeological artifacts.
- Participate in, become part of, contribute to or engage in disorderly conduct.
- Travel on roads open to vehicular travel with vehicle or conveyance propelled by motorized power that is not licensed or authorized for operation on a public highway.
- Violate, fail or neglect to follow instructions posted on signs authorized by the director.
- Destroy, mutilate or remove any sign or placard.
- Travel by mechanical or motorized conveyance or ride animals on newly constructed, seed or planted roads, or other areas, when posted against travel.
- Consume, possess or transport any alcohol, liquor, beer, malt or brewed alcoholic beverage.
- Use or possess any controlled substance or drug paraphernalia.
- Occupy, use or construct, place or maintain structures or other tangible property, except that portable hunting blinds and stands may be used, provided no damage is caused to trees.
- Feed wildlife or place any food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals.
- Release any domestic animals, captive bred or captive raised game or wildlife.
- Operate a motor vehicle in willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property in excess of posted speed limits, or where no speed limit is posted, in excess of 25 mph.
- Target shoot with firearms that is not a lawful device to hunt game or wildlife. Shoot clay birds anywhere except areas designated by the Executive Director by signs stating that clay bird shooting is permitted.
- Except as provided on established shooting ranges, discharge any firearm, bow and arrow or device capable of launching projectiles that is not a lawful device to hunt game or wildlife. Shoot clay birds anywhere except areas designated by the Executive Director by signs stating that clay bird shooting is permitted.
- Engage in any activity or event involving more than 10 persons which may conflict with the intended purposes or uses of property, or poses a potential environmental or safety problem.
- Sell, distribute, deliver, service, guide or rent any equipment, material or commodity or otherwise transact or engage in any commercial activity. Such activity is when a person directly or indirectly accepts consideration of value as compensation for the provision of goods or services, including transportation.
- Use game lands for any personal, organizational or commercial purpose other than the intended use of the property.
- Operate under authority of a contract, lease, agreement or permit and fail to abide by the terms and conditions set forth.
- Except on Sundays, to be present on state game lands from Nov. 15 through Dec. 15 inclusive when not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping and fail to wear a minimum of 250 square inches of fluorescent orange material on the head, chest and back combined, or, in lieu thereof, a hat of the same colored material. Orange material must be visible 360 degrees. Persons using shooting ranges are exempted.
- Small open fires for cooking or warming purposes are permitted, except when the Fire Index Rating used by the Bureau of Forestry, DCNR, is high, very high or extreme. Fires must be contained and attended at all times.
- Snowmobiles, as defined in the All Terrain Vehicle Act of 1985, may be driven beginning the third Sunday in January through April 1, only on designated areas, roads, and trails marked with appropriate signs. Snowmobiles must display a valid registration decal.

*State Game Land Regulations as of this 2011 Publication.
State Game Land 183-180 & White Deer Lake Area

Shooting Range Regulations:

Ranges are open 8 am - sunset Monday through Saturday, and from noon to sunset Sundays.

A range can be reserved by an organized group from January 1 through October 1. Arrangements must be made with the PGC regional office at least 20 days in advance.

An individual or group using a range is responsible for keeping the area clean and free of debris. Users shall remove targets from backboards.

The Game Commission is not responsible for anyone injured on a range.

Individuals under the age of 16 may not use a range unless accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older.

PGC regional director may close a range by the posting of signs.

Please remember shooting ranges are offered by the Game Commission free of charge. Please use good shooting etiquette, wear proper safety equipment, and do not shoot the framework holding the backstop material. Keep the range clean by picking up your spent cases and remove your targets.

The shooting range on SGL 183 offers 11 benches with ranges of 25, 50, and 100 yards for your enjoyment. For more information, visit www.pgc.state.pa.us

www.pikepa.org/planning.html
State Game Land 209 & Stairway Lake Wild Area

Pike County Park is leased from PA DCNR. The area is closed to hunting, but the Park is open for fishing. The Pike County Commissioners have approved the use of Pike County Park for the purpose of outdoor recreation. The Park also serves as an outdoor education point for the surrounding state forest.
Bruce Lake Natural Area & Promised Land State Park

Bruce Lake Natural Area & Promised Land State Park: Pike County, PA
The Tarkil Forest Demonstration Area was established in 1948. The area, containing 82 acres north of Pecks Pond, allows for the viewing of forest management practices and technologies that support the health and productivity of multiple-use forests that support a healthy and diverse wildlife population. By protecting and maintaining the Tarkil Creek watershed, this creates recreation for humans and nature while supporting a quality stand of timber. - PA DOC
Stillwater Natural Area: Pike County, PA
Pennel Run Natural Area

Thunder Swamp Trail System traverses 26 miles of southern Pike County. The trail is highlighted by mountain streams, swamps, diverse forests, assorted forest management practices and has other natural features typically found on the Pocono Plateau. This trail system consists of short loop trails for day use and longer loops for overnight backpack camping. Permits are required if campers “car camp” or stay at the same location for more than one night. Camping permits, maps, and more information are available at the PA Bureau of Forestry Delaware State Forest office. - PA DCNR

Any trails in the Delaware State Forest open to Snowmobile use are also open to Horse Riding and Biking. All trails are open to Hiking.

Please visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/snowmobile/index.aspx or call 570-595-4000, for more information on Snowmobile use on Delaware State Forest trails, including maps for Promised Land State Park and the Pecks Pond area.
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (North of Route 739)
Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is a unit of the National Park system. Hunting is permitted throughout most of the park. There are National Park Service (NPS) park specific regulations which are briefly outlined in this brochure. It is the responsibility of the hunter to be aware of the latest regulations and closures which can change. Additionally, all applicable state regulations apply. Please be considerate of other outdoor enthusiasts using the same area in which you are hunting.

The following are prohibited:
- Hunting in plowed, planted fields, or in fields with unharvested crops;
- hunting from, along, or across roads, or any kind of motorized vehicle;
- trapping, baiting, target practicing or spotlighting;
- driving or pursuing an animal through closed areas with intention of killing it or possessing any method of taking;
- using screw-in foot pegs or permanently attaching a stand to a tree;
- releasing any animal or bird into the park for the purpose of hunting or dog training;
- off-road driving and "four-wheeling";
- backcountry camping or campfires;
- blocking gates or access roads; and
- driving on the McCade Recreational Trail.

All areas within 450 feet of any structure are closed to hunting. Please observe no hunting zones surrounding specified sites. Islands within the park in the Delaware River bordering Pike County are within the jurisdiction of New Jersey. For more information see: www.nps.gov/DEWA
The forests of Pennsylvania provide food, cover and shelter to a diverse group of wildlife species. In order to fully support these habitat conditions, the forest must be in balance and display all types of layers.

Herbaceous plants and flowers, tree and shrub seedlings, saplings, pole timber and old growth must all be present. Unfortunately, over the past twenty years or so, the over population of deer has thrown the forest out of balance. Due to severe over-browsing, deer have drastically decreased the amount of tree/shrub seedlings, herbaceous plants and wildflowers. Without tree seedlings to develop into saplings, the forests lose the sapling stage. This imbalance in nature poses a threat to the habitat of many wildlife species including the deer themselves, and also takes a toll on the forest’s ability to regenerate and become sustainable. Without the presence of native seedlings and plants, there is an increased opportunity for invasive plants to move in, making it more difficult to establish desirable tree seedlings.

Recognizing the problem, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) — Bureau of Forestry has erected 81 woven wire deer fences, 68 of which are in Pike County. The fences are typically constructed out of eight foot high woven wire fence, and are designed to keep only the deer out, while turkey, grouse, bear and other wildlife can easily find their way in. The idea behind the fences is to regenerate the forest with desirable tree seedlings, especially commercial species, thus increasing diversity of the stand while the deer browsing component is eliminated. Once the majority of seedlings grow beyond the browse line (about six feet) the fence may be taken down, as the deer are no longer a threat.

Locations of these fences are often where some seedlings are present but keep getting browsed off. Also, within the fenced areas, some larger trees of poor quality are removed to increase sunlight to the forest floor, which seedlings need to thrive. The results are astonishing. Often times, by simply taking away the deer pressure, all of the forest layers return. Wildflowers that haven’t been seen in this area in years begin to reappear, regeneration of desirable tree seedlings become abundant and wildlife habitat is replenished. Seeing the benefit, a number of private forest landowners have also decided to erect exclosure fences in an attempt to gain regeneration.

One downside to these fences is maintenance. When a tree comes down on the fence, leaving a hole for the deer to move freely in and out, they jump on the opportunity.

In September of 2010, DCNR added another important tract of land by acquiring the 664 acre Camp William Penn tract. This parcel provides a vital connection between separate tracts of the Delaware State Forest in Monroe and Pike counties in Pike County. These acquisitions bring the Delaware State Forest acreage to almost 85,000 acres (the tract falls in Porter Township).
Wildflowers that haven’t been seen in this area in years begin to reappear, regeneration of desirable tree seedlings become abundant and wildlife habitat is replenished.

DCNR monitors these fences by walking them and fixing any problems. If a deer is seen inside a fence, it is usually easy to drive them out and then secure the fence before any more can get in. However, there are times when the forest inside the fence is simply too thick to drive them out, which is why hunting inside the fences is encouraged.

A demonstration deer exclosure fence has been placed on a tract of the Delaware State Forest on Route 390, across from the Promised Land State Park Office. This area shows different types of forestry practices completed inside and outside the fence.

Everyone is welcome to visit the demonstration area as proof that these fences can be used as a tool to regenerate forests. For more information, please visit http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/index.aspx, or call 570-895-4039 and ask for Mike Roche, Service Forester.
You’ve just finished an exciting day in the field hunting, fishing, boating, or exploring and are now looking for a great meal or a warm bed to recover to start anew tomorrow.

Please use the listing below to enjoy any of Pike County’s many local restaurants and lodging facilities. Our deli’s are perfect for a great tasting packed lunch when you’re enjoying the natural world in Pike County. If you’ve unfortunately forgot something, we’ve got you covered there as well. Pike County is home to many outfitters, licensing agents, and hardware stores. Take a few moments to read over our business listing; and you’ll be sure to find what you are looking for.

We thank you for your visit and patronage.

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We thank you for your visit and patronage.
Pike County is fortunate to have eighty percent of the county’s land area covered by forest as well as 1,750 miles of some of the cleanest streams in the state. Either of these characteristics would be a great “claim to fame” but the fact that Pike County has both is no accident.

Forested land is one of the greatest benefactors to water quantity and quality. Forests help slow storm water and precipitation thereby facilitating groundwater recharge. This is especially important for aquatic habitats due in large part to the fact that the vast majority of stream flow is provided by groundwater. Forest land also helps to take up excess pollutants, provide nutrients to the food chain, and regulate water temperature — helping to maintain the fantastic trout streams and ecosystems for which Pike County is so well known. It’s these vast forested lands that make Pike County such a wonderful place for fish, game, fowl—and Sportsmen!

~ Nick Spinelli, former Watershed Manager for the Pike County Conservation District and the current Executive Director of the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District.

Don’t forget to visit these historical sites:

**The Charles Peirce House** (G5)
The noted philosopher, logician, scientist and founder of pragmatism lived in this house from 1887 until his death in 1914. Located in Milford on Route 6.

**Grey Towers** (G5)
The ancestral home of Gifford Pinchot, first chief of the US Forest Service, is a Historic National Landmark. The house and grounds are open to the public. Located in Milford on Owego Turnpike.

**Zane Grey Museum** (E2)
The home of renowned Western novelist Zane Grey from 1905 to 1918 is open to the public. Located in Lackawaxen.

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**Food continues**

**The Historic Greeley Inn**
Greeley—E3
570.685.997
thelhistoricgreeleyinn.com

**Hoagie Hut**
Hawley—C3
570.226.0600

**Hunts Landing at Best Western**
Matamoras—H5
570.491.2400
bwinnhuntslanding.com

**The Inn at Lackawaxen**
Lackawaxen—E2
570.685.7061
lackawaxenhouse.com

**The Inn at Peck’s Pond**
Dingmans Ferry—D5
570.775.7336
peckspondinn.com

**Joey’s Pizza**
Milford—Inset
570.296.2330

**John’s Italian Restaurant**
Greentown—A5
570.676.9830
johnsitaliangreentown.com

**Jorgensen’s Deli**
Milford—Inset
570.409.0400

**Just Rumors Bar and Grill**
Tafton—C4
570.226.4888
justrumorsbarandgrill.com

**Karen’s Kitchen**
Dingmans Ferry—D5
570.775.7336

**Knotty Pine Pub**
Greentown—B5
570.676.3362

**L.G.’s Saloon**
Greentown—B5
570.676.9989

**Lake Wallenpaupack Cafe & Restaurant**
Hawley—C3
570.226.5850

**Lakeview Plaza**
Dingmans Ferry—F6
570.828.6236

**Last Dollar Saloon**
Greentown—A4
570.857.1776

**Laurel Villa Country Inn & Restaurant**
Milford—Inset
570.296.9940
laurelvilla.com

**Log Cabin Bar and Restaurant**
Bushkill—E8
570.588.6398

**Lumberyard Pizza**
Milford—Inset
570.296.6069

**McDonald’s**
Lords Valley—D4
570.676.3362

**Muir House**
Milford—G5
570.296.6372
muirhouse.com

**Mount Haven Resort and Restaurant**
Milford—F5
570.296.8502
mthavenresort.com

**Mugs Country Kitchen**
Hawley—C3
570.226.2827

**Muir House**
Milford—G5
570.296.6372
muirhouse.com

**Nanny’s Place**
Shohola—E4
570.296.3800

**Old Rangers Inn**
Greentown—B5
570.676.3905

**PA Wine and Spirits**
Milford—Inset
570.296.3900

**Panda Garden**
Lords Valley—D5
570.775.0414

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Hunters looking for a hearty breakfast would do well to contact the Shohola Fire Department, which offers an All You Can Eat pancake breakfast during the late fall. The fire department is located on Route 434 in Shohola. So come out and enjoy the Hunter’s Pancake Breakfast while supporting one of Pike County’s local volunteer fire departments. The Fire Department can be reached at 570.296.7700.
LAUNDRY
Lakeview Plaza
Dingmans Ferry—F6
570.828.6236

LODGING
Apple Inn
Matamoras—Inset
570.491.9000
AppleInn.com

Babbling Brook Cottages
Dingmans Ferry—F6
570.828.9175
babblingbrookcottages.com

Best Western
Matamoras—H5
570.491.2400
bwinn.com

Black Walnut Inn & Guest Ranch
Milford—G4
570.296.6322
blackwalnutinn.com

Cliff Park Inn
Milford—G5
570.296.6491
cliffparkinn.com

Dimmick Inn
Milford—Inset
570.296.4021
dimmickinn.com

Dingmans Ferry Bed & Breakfast
Dingmans Ferry—F6
570.828.1441
dingmansbedandbreakfast.com

East Shore Lodging
Hawley—C3
570.226.3293
www.eastshorelodging.com

Ehrhardt’s Waterfront Resort
Hawley—C3
570.226.7355
ehrhardts.com

Gresham’s Lakeview Motel
Hawley—C3
570.226.4621
greshams.net

Hampton Inn
Matamoras—H4
570.491.5280
hamptoninn.com

Harrington House
Milford—Inset
570.296.2661
harringtonhouse.com

High Country Motel and Cottages
Greentown—B5
570.676.3838

The Historic Greeley Inn
Greeley—E3
570.685.997
thehistoricgreeleyinn.com

Hotel Fauchere
Milford—Inset
570.409.1212
hotelfauchere.com

Hunts Landing at Best Western
Matamoras—H5
570.491.2400
bwinhuntslanding.com

The Inn at Lackawaxen
Lackawaxen—E2
570.685.7061
lackawaxenhouse.com

The Inn at Peck’s Pond
Dingmans Ferry—D5
570.775.7336
peckspondinn.com

Laurel Villa Country Inn & Restaurant
Milford—Inset
570.296.9940
laurelvilla.com

Malibu Dude Ranch
Milford—G4
570.296.7281
malibududeranch.com

Milford Motel
Milford—Inset
570.296.6411
milfordmotel.com

Mount Haven Resort and Restaurant
Milford—F5
570.296.8502
mthavenresort.com

Myer Motel
Milford—Inset
570.296.7223
myermotel.com

The Nest Bed & Breakfast
Dingmans Ferry—E5
570.686.4950
nestbed.com

Panther Lodging
Dingmans Ferry—D6
570.775.7737
pantherlodging.com

Pike Creek Inns
Dingmans Ferry—D6
570.775.7737
 PikeCreekInns.com

Red Carpet Inn
Milford—G5
570.296.9444
redcarpetinnpa.com

Roebling Inn on the Delaware
Lackawaxen—E2
570.685.7900
roeblinginn.com

Sandy Beach Motel
Hawley—C3
570.226.3858
sandybeachmotel.net

Scottish Inn
Milford—H4
570.491.4414
bookroomsnow.com

Shohola Falls Cabins
Shohola—E4
570.296.7396
shoholafalls.com

Sylvania Tree Farm
Lackawaxen—D2
570.685.7001
sylvianiatreefarm.com

Tangwood Resorts
Hawley—C3
570.226.6161
tangwoodresorts.com

Tauschman’s Motel
Greentown—B5
570.676.3282

Tom Quick Inn
Milford—Inset
570.409.1000
tomquinckinn.com

Tuck-em Inn Motel
Hawley—C3
570.226.6460
tuckeminn.com

Woodloch Pines Resort
Lackawaxen—D2
570.685.7121
woodloch.com

OUTFITTER
Action Bikes and Outdoor
Milford—H4
570.491.4000
actionbikesandoutdoor.com

Alice’s Wonderland
Greeley—D4
570.226.4251
aliceswonderland.com

Archery Adventures
Milford—Inset
570.296.1152

Hagerman Bait and Tackle
Shohola—F3
570.559.7589

Keystone Arms
Matamoras—Matamoras
570.491.4867

Olympia Sports
Milford—H4
570.491.2535
olympiasports.net

Pike County Outfitters
Milford—G5
570.296.9492
pikecountyoutfitters.net

Two River Junction
Lackawaxen—E2
570.685.2010

Wallenpaupack Sports Shop
Hawley—C3
570.226.4797

TAXIDERMY
All-Game Taxidermy
Shohola—E4
570.296.5887

Delaware & Hudson Taxidermy
Matamoras—Inset
570.491.5083
dandhtaxidermy.net

Lewis Wildlife Arts
Lackawaxen—D2
570.685.4743
lewiswildlifearts.com
As we learned more about wild turkeys and as the birds were reintroduced to areas from which they disappeared, they taught the experts some important lessons. Wild turkeys do well in unbroken forests, but good turkey habitat consists of forests interspersed with openings. Perhaps the ideal wild turkey habitat is 60 percent forest and 40 percent fields. Making heavily forested areas into better turkey habitat actually involves creating and maintaining forest openings.

Forest openings, especially those with grass and clover ground cover are important improvements to wild turkey habitat. Hen turkeys bring their broods of young to these openings because insects are abundant in association with grasses and clover. Insects are the primary food for young wild turkeys for much of the summer and early fall. In addition, these openings provide dusting sites where turkeys and other birds can take dust baths to rid themselves of ticks and other external parasites. Permanent openings in the forest increase the productivity of wild turkeys and other forest birds. The edges of forest openings often have blackberries and other food producing plants growing naturally or having been planted by conservationists. The shrubs provide additional sources of summer and early fall foods for wildlife.

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and its local chapters in the Pike County area have helped immensely to improve turkey habitat in the Pocono region. The Chapters have financed the creation of forest openings and have helped to maintain the openings by providing funds for planting and soil improvements. The chapters have purchased lime, seed and fertilizer and even equipment for forestry crews with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to use. Their fund-raising efforts happen through their Hunting Heritage Super Fund banquets. If you are a wild turkey enthusiast, you are urged to attend a banquet and contribute to conservation.

Habitat enhancement projects have been completed on Delaware State Forest and State Game Lands 180, 183, and 209. The projects consist of improving brood habitat to increase survival of young turkeys and planting fruit bearing trees and shrubs to provide winter foods when times are tough. The openings on these public lands are a good place to start if a hunter is scouting for the fall and spring turkey seasons. In the fall, turkey flocks will continue to use the openings to forage for insects and grass seeds. Early in the spring, the openings green up and attract hen turkeys seeking succulent vegetation. Hens often nest within a few hundred yards of forest openings and regularly visit the openings to meet with gobblers. Gobblers use the openings as displaying locations and often roost near them. Spring and fall hunters would do well to scout the openings, hunt near them, and take advantage of the habitat improvements completed by the Game Commission and DCNR with help from local NWTF chapters.
Why Pike County?

That is the question you are asking yourself as you find yourself hunting a food plot on State Game Lands.

During the past week, you’ve seen countless deer, bear, and turkeys, and even a bobcat, but you are waiting for that longbeard to show himself. The spring gobbler season in Pike County has offered you a fantastic week of hunting while allowing time for world class fly fishing on the Lackawaxen and Delaware Rivers. You’ve seen Shohola Falls, Stairway Lake Vista, enjoyed local dining, the whole time thinking how much your family would enjoy visiting Pike County. Besides, you need another excuse to come up for archery or small game season in the fall and deer and bear seasons later in the year. Exploring Pike County’s public lands in the summer during a family vacation can also serve as a scouting trip for later in the year.

Why Pike County?
The answer may just be, why not?

But, enough about Pike County, that gobbler has broken his silence and is closing fast. He’s on his way in — will you be here?

What’s Inside?

This guide, including the mapping, and other helpful links can be found on the Pike County Planning Office’s website. Please visit www.pikepa.org/planning.html for more information.

This publication was created by the Pike County Office of Community Planning with the help of the following partners: Pike County Board of Commissioners, USDI National Park Service, Pike County Conservation District, the Pike County Hotel Tax Board, PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Game Commission, NWTF, and PEC. Mr. David B. Soete, Mr. Ron Tussel, and the PA Game Commission shared many of the wonderful photos seen within these pages.