

## Quick Guide to Indiana County Parks & Trails



**Blue Spruce Park** - the headquarters of Indiana County Parks & Trails, Blue Spruce Park is a 650-acre park which includes six miles of hiking trails, pavilions and lodges, playgrounds and a 12-acre lake open to trout fishing year-round. The park also includes gardens maintained by Penn State Master Gardeners.



**Pine Ridge Park** - Located in southern Indiana County near Blairsville, Pine Ridge Park is a scenic and diverse park. Its 660 acres include hiking trails, pavilions and a lodge, playgrounds, and fishing along Tom's Run, a small mountain stream.

**Hemlock Lake** - Leased from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, Hemlock Lake features two boat launches, and areas for picnicking, hunting and hiking. A 62-acre lake provides fishing for bass, catfish, and other warm water fish.



**Memorial Park** – this 2-acre park is smallest of the county parks, Memorial Park is located in Indiana Borough. At one time, the site was a cemetery. Summer concerts are held at the park bandstand.

**Old Smicksburg Park** - Old Smicksburg Park is located in the northwestern Indiana County community of Smicksburg. Its 33 acres offer a number of trails suited for hiking, birding, wildflower study and historic interpretation.



**Buena Vista Furnace** - Built in 1847, the 30-ft. high furnace used local iron ore, limestone and charcoal to produce around 400 tons of pig iron per year.

Buena Vista Furnace is located along the Ghost Town Trail, and is leased from the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County.



**Eliza Furnace** - Located along the Ghost Town Trail near Vintondale, the Eliza Furnace is a National Register site that dates to 1846. During its peak, the furnace employed over 90 people and produced around 1,080 tons of iron a year. Eliza Furnace is leased from the Cambria County Historical Society.



**Tunnelview Historic Site** - Tunnelview is a 16-acre park adjacent to the Conemaugh Dam, located in southwestern Indiana County. Interpretive exhibits highlight the 900-ft. section of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal visible at Tunnelview. This area provides a popular canoe/kayak launch along the Conemaugh River.

### **Blacklick Valley Natural Area -**

Blacklick Valley Natural Area is one of two natural areas within the county parks system. Located in southeastern Indiana County, this 719-acre site has limited site development that includes a parking area off McFeater's Road and 6 miles of hiking trails and a trail shelter.





**Buttermilk Falls** - Nestled in the woods, Buttermilk Falls features a 45-ft. waterfall and scenic woodland. It is most notable for being owned at one time by Fred McFeely, the grandfather of Fred Rogers (Mister Roger's Neighborhood).

The site also includes a small picnic shelter and a half-mile loop trail and falls observation deck. Steps and platforms guide visitors to the lower falls area.

**Waterworks Conservation Area** - the 10-acre Waterworks Conservation Area combines environmental restoration with recreational opportunities. Located at the site is an acid mine discharge (AMD) lime dosing silo and an artificial wetland. The site includes a pavilion, restroom, canoe/kayak launch, fishing area, interpretive signage and short trail circuit.



**Covered Bridges** - Indiana County Parks & Trails maintains four remaining covered bridges in the county. All are located in north-central Indiana County. The four covered bridges are Kintersburg, Thomas, Harmon and Trusal.

All four bridges are an easy drive from one another. Only the Thomas Bridge remains open to traffic.



**Ghost Town Trail** - Designated by the U.S. National Park Service as a National Recreation Trail, the Ghost Town Trail is a 46-mile rail-trail in Cambria and Indiana Counties. The main stem of the trail runs between Ebensburg and Black Lick (Saylor Park) for 32 miles, with a northern extension near Vintondale that reaches Route 422 and further north on the C&I Extension.



**Hoodlebug Trail** - The Hoodlebug Trail is a 10-mile recreation and commuter trail running from Black Lick (Saylor Park) to Indiana, PA. It follows the abandoned Indiana Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which at one time used a battery-operated self-propelled passenger coach known locally as a Hoodlebug. The Hoodlebug Trail links to the Ghost Town Trail at Saylor Park.

**Blairsville Riverfront Trail** – the 1.7-mile-long trail follows the loop of the Conemaugh River around Blairsville.

The trail is located within the flood control area of Conemaugh Dam and is subject to periodic flooding.

Conemaugh Dam is located seven miles downstream of the trail. Before the property was condemned for flood control purposes this area was an important residential and industrial area of Blairsville and southern Indiana County.



**Contact:**

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