



Gettysburg National Cemetery © Scott Kirkwood/NPCA

FACT SHEET

National Parks in Pennsylvania

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site •
 Appalachian National Scenic Trail • Chesapeake Bay
 Gateways Network • Delaware National Scenic River •
 Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor • Delaware
 Water Gap National Recreation Area • Deshler-Morris House
 • Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site • Eisenhower
 National Historic Site • Flight 93 National Memorial •
 Fort Necessity National Battlefield • Friendship Hill National
 Historic Site • Gettysburg National Cemetery • Gettysburg
 National Military Park • Gloria Dei Church National Historic
 Site • Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site •
 Independence National Historical Park • Johnstown Flood
 National Memorial • North Country National Scenic Trail •
 Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail • Steamtown
 National Historic Site • Thaddeus Kosciuszko National
 Memorial • Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River •
 Valley Forge National Historical Park

Pennsylvania is home to some of America's greatest triumphs and greatest tragedies. It is in this state that both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were created. However, it is also where the gruesome Battle of Gettysburg was fought and where Flight 93 crashed on September 11, 2001. These events, and many more, are remembered and interpreted in Pennsylvania's national parks.

Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site - Authorized in 1964. The Allegheny Portage Railroad was the first railroad constructed over the Allegheny Mountains. This inclined plane railroad operated between 1834-1854 and was considered a technological wonder in its day and played a critical role in opening the interior of the United States to trade and settlement.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail - The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is a 2,167-mile footpath along the ridge crests and across the major valleys of the Appalachian Mountains from Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mountain in north Georgia. Traveling east of the Alleghenies, the trail in Pennsylvania crosses from the Appalachian Mountains to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network - As the largest estuary in North America, the Chesapeake Bay has touched and influenced much of the American story – early settlement, commerce, the military, transportation, recreation and more. The Bay and its surrounding 64,000 square mile watershed hold a treasure trove of historic areas, natural wonders and recreational opportunities. The Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network is a system of over 120 parks, refuges, museums, historic communities and water trails in the Bay watershed.



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Delaware National Scenic River - Established in 1978. The section of the Delaware River that is designated the Middle Delaware River is 40 miles long and is contained completely within Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor - The corridor is a collection of people, places and events that helped shape our great nation. Canals and railroads-remnants of Northeastern Pennsylvania's prosperous coal age-form the spine of this more than 150-mile corridor. Explore quiet canal paths, challenging bike trails and rippling waters of the Delaware and Lehigh Rivers.

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area - Authorized in 1965. This park preserves 40 miles of the middle Delaware River and almost 70,000 acres of land along the river's New Jersey and Pennsylvania shores. At the south end of the park, the river cuts eastward through the Appalachian Mountains at the scenic Delaware Water Gap. A one-day auto tour of the park can include waterfalls, rural scenery, and historic Millbrook Village.

Deshler-Morris House - Built by Quaker merchant, David Deshler before the Revolutionary War, this handsome stone house faces historic Market Square. During the Battle of Germantown in 1777, British Commander Sir William Howe, made the house his headquarters. While the yellow fever epidemic raged in Philadelphia in 1793, business of the new republic continued at the Germantown "White House." Here, President Washington presided over meetings with his divided cabinet: Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Henry Knox and Edmund Randolph. More recently, the Morris family lived here for over more than 100 years, donating it to the National Park Service in 1948.

Edgar Allan Poe National Historic Site - Authorized in 1978. The small brick house now connected to 530 North Seventh Street was Poe's home from 1843-1844. Of his several Philadelphia homes, only this one survives. It serves as a tangible link with Poe and his residency and creativity in Philadelphia. The life and work of Edgar Allan Poe are portrayed in this three building complex.

Eisenhower National Historic Site - Designated in 1967. The farm is the only place President and Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower ever called home. In 1950, the Eisenhower's, looking forward to retirement, purchased the Allen Redding farm adjoining Gettysburg National Military Park. During his presidency, President and Mrs. Eisenhower used the farm as a

weekend retreat, a refuge in time of illness, and a comfortable meeting place for world leaders.

Flight 93 National Memorial - On September 11, 2001, the passengers and crew of Flight 93 courageously gave their lives thwarting a planned attack on our Nation's Capital. Flight 93 National Memorial will be a permanent memorial to the heroes on that plane.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield - Established in 1931. Comprises approximately 900 acres in three separate sites. The main unit contains the visitor center, the battlefield with the reconstructed Fort Necessity, and the Mount Washington Tavern. The Braddock Grave unit is approximately 1.5 miles west of the main unit and the Jumonville Glen unit is approximately seven miles northwest of the main unit.

Friendship Hill National Historic Site - Authorized in 1978. Preserves the country estate of Albert Gallatin, a Swiss emigrant who served his adopted nation during the early years of the republic. Gallatin's accomplishments and contributions to the late 18th and early 19th century American Republic are highlighted through exhibits and programs presented in his restored Friendship Hill House.

Gettysburg National Cemetery - To properly bury the Union soldiers who died at Gettysburg, a "Soldiers Cemetery" was established on the battleground near the center of the Union line. It was here during the dedication ceremony on November 19, 1863, that President Abraham Lincoln spoke of "these honored dead..." and renewed the Union cause to reunite the war-torn nation with his most famous speech, the "Gettysburg Address." The Cemetery was completed by 1872, and turned over to the care of the Federal government. Today, the Gettysburg National Cemetery is the final resting place for American veterans from all of this country's major wars and conflicts.

Gettysburg National Military Park - Established in 1895. Located 50 miles northwest of Baltimore, the small town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania was the site of the largest Civil War battle ever waged in the Western Hemisphere. The Battle of Gettysburg opened on July 1, 1863, and closed two days later with the climactic "Pickett's Charge." The Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg contains more than 7,000 interments including over 3,500 from the Civil War. It was here that President Abraham Lincoln delivered his immortal Gettysburg Address on November 19, 1863.

Gloria Dei Church National Historic Site - Gloria Dei (Old



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Swedes') Church was built between 1698 - 1700 and is the oldest church in Pennsylvania. For nearly two centuries, this church was a mission of the Church of Sweden. As Swedes were absorbed into the general American population, Gloria Dei became English speaking and was admitted into the Episcopal church in 1845. The Church is owned and maintained by its congregation and contains important historic relics and artifacts.

Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site - Designated in 1938. Primarily an area that is significant for its cultural resources, Hopewell Furnace consists of 14 restored structures in the core historic area, 52 features on the List of Classified Structures, and a total of 848 mostly wooded acres. The site is surrounded by French Creek State Park which preserves the lands the furnace utilized for its natural resources.

Independence National Historical Park - Authorized in 1948. Often referred to as the birthplace of our nation, visitors can see the Liberty Bell, an international symbol of freedom, and Independence Hall, a World Heritage Site where both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were created. In addition, the park interprets events and the lives of the diverse population during the years when Philadelphia was the capital of the United States from 1790 to 1800. A section of the park where Benjamin Franklin's home once stood is dedicated to teaching about Franklin's life and accomplishments.

Johnstown Flood National Memorial - Authorized in 1964. A total of 2,209 people died in the Johnstown Flood of 1889, caused by a break in the South Fork Dam. Clara Barton successfully led the Red Cross in its first disaster relief effort.

North Country National Scenic Trail - Links scenic, natural, historic, and cultural areas in seven northern states. The approximately four thousand mile long trail includes a variety of hikes from easy walking to challenging treks. When completed the trail will become the longest continuous hiking trail in the United States.

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail - The designation of a Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail corridor in 1983, an amendment to the National Trails System Act, is being used by communities in Virginia, Maryland, D.C. and Pennsylvania to make connections among trails, historic sites and a range of recreational and educational opportunities. Four trails are currently recognized as segments of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail.

Steamtown National Historic Site - Authorized in 1986. Created to further public understanding and appreciation of the role steam railroading played in the development of the United States. It is the only place in the National Park System where the story of steam railroading, and the people who made it possible, is told.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial - Authorized in 1972. Born of impoverished landed gentry in the eastern Polish province of Polesie on February 4, 1746, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, a military engineer, became one of the 18th century's greatest champions of American and Polish freedom. The house at the corner of Third and Pine Streets, where Thaddeus Kosciuszko resided during the winter of 1797-1798, serves as a memorial to his life and accomplishments.

Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River - Authorized in 1978. This is a 73.4-mile stretch of free-flowing river between Hancock and Sparrow Bush, N.Y., along the Pennsylvania-New York Border. The area also includes the Roebling Bridge, believed to be the oldest existing wire-cable suspension bridge, and the Zane Grey home and Museum.

Valley Forge National Historical Park - Authorized in 1976. Site of the Continental Army's winter encampment, 1777-78, the park contains General Washington's headquarters, original earthworks, a variety of monuments and markers, reconstructed log buildings, and replica cannon.

Key Issues Facing National Parks in Pennsylvania

Taking care of America's national parks should be a national priority. With the 100th birthday of the National Park System approaching in 2016, it is more important than ever to address the ongoing problems that our parks are facing. The National Park Service is suffering from an operations funding shortfall now exceeding \$800 million annually. In addition, several billion dollars are needed to protect archaeological sites and historic buildings, and repair the extensive backlog of maintenance projects. Many park friends in Congress have spent years highlighting the fiscal crisis in America's national parks. The Administration has responded with a budget request for 2008 that would increase the National Park Service operating budget by \$258 million - a strong step in restoring our parks and improving the experiences of visitors. This budget also launches the National Park Centennial Challenge, which if properly framed and enacted could help restore the parks for their 100th birthday and for generations to come. In addition to



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the operational shortfall, the National Park Service has a \$1.9 billion land acquisition backlog consisting of over 11,000 tracts of land and covering more than 1.8 million acres. In many instances, failure to acquire these lands makes operating the parks more complex and costly. Unfortunately, funding for national park federal land acquisition has declined dramatically in recent years, from \$130 million five years ago, to only \$23 million in the fiscal year 2008 request.

- Many of the historic barns and homes in Gettysburg National Military Park that once served as makeshift hospitals for Confederate and Union soldiers are deteriorating, but the Park Service lacks sufficient funding to restore them. 100-year-old cast-iron cannon carriages, which were placed on the battlefield by Civil War veterans, are deteriorating and collapsing, but the Park Service doesn't have sufficient staff to restore them.
- Fewer than one in five visitors to Gettysburg National Military Park last year were able to participate in any kind of an interpretive program. Currently, many school groups are turned away from getting ranger-led park tours due to lack of staff.
- A hub in the State of Pennsylvania's network of trails, Valley Forge has unfortunately for 20 years been unable to maintain its 27 miles of trails. The Park Service does not have sufficient funding to staff even a seasonal trail crew and have relied upon AmeriCorps, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and other volunteer groups to do work that was identified in the trails plan prepared by National Park Service Olmstead Center in 2003. Already, there are

several long-distance trails connected to Valley Forge, with two more planned for the near future. This will only increase visitor use of the trails and push the Park Service further behind in both backlog and annual maintenance.

- Security at the Flight 93 National Memorial was financed by special grants authorized after September 11, 2001. However, those grants have dried up and as of March 2007, there will no longer be any guards at the site.

Park Visitation in Pennsylvania

In fiscal year 2005, the national parks in Pennsylvania welcomed 12,954,468 visitors.

Budget Information

In fiscal year 2006, the operations funding for the 24 national parks in Pennsylvania was \$60.6 million. For fiscal year 2008, the Administration is proposing a 8.8 percent increase, which would bring operations funding to \$66 million.

Contact Information

For more information on the national parks in Pennsylvania, please contact NPCA Pennsylvania Program Manager Cinda Waldbuesser at 215-327-2529 or NPCA Legislative Director Blake Selzer at 202-223-6722, ext. 250.

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NPS Unit	FY03 Enacted	FY04 Enacted	FY05 Enacted	FY06 Enacted	FY07 Estimate	FY08 Requested	Change FY06-FY08	% Change FY06-FY08
Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS	2,011	1,998	2,046	2,080	2,107	2,169	89	4.3
Appalachian NST	1,034	1,024	1,137	1,205	1,217	1,341	136	11.3
Delaware Water Gap NRA	8,141	8,003	8,312	8,488	8,698	9,847	1,359	16.0
Edgar Allen Poe NHS	373	372	381	380	380	382	2	0.5
Eisenhower NHS	1,051	1,045	1,071	1,068	1,068	1,069	1	0.1
Flight 93 NMem	0	198	563	575	585	781	206	35.8
Fort Necessity NB	1,245	1,240	1,288	1,508	1,533	1,601	93	6.2
Friendship Hill NHS	406	406	490	490	510	559	69	14.1
Gettysburg NMP	5,195	5,174	5,483	5,653	5,793	6,760	1,107	19.6
Hopewell Furnace NHS	1,038	1,053	1,079	1,099	1,119	1,271	172	15.7
Independence NHP	18,562	21,016	21,856	22,201	22,501	23,170	969	4.4
Johnstown Flood NMem	698	691	741	740	760	819	79	10.7
Potomac Heritage NST	197	216	250	276	279	280	4	1.4
Steamtown NHS	5,025	4,995	5,116	5,161	5,200	5,270	109	2.1
Thaddeus Kosciuszko NMem	139	138	142	156	156	158	2	1.3
Upper Delaware Scenic & Rec River	2,655	2,696	2,836	2,889	2,929	3,368	479	16.6
Valley Forge NHP	5,900	6,226	6,526	6,628	6,708	7,096	468	7.1
All Pennsylvania Parks				60,597		65,941	5,344	8.8

All dollar amounts in thousands



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