

CAMPING

Good day, everyone--it's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.

This could well be the most enjoyable summer you've ever experienced--if you're a camper and camp in Pennsylvania...Long ago this year--in the early springtime, thousands of families dusted off their gear, fixed a carry-all trailer and began thinking about hitting the highways for the summer weekends and the vacation camping. Pennsylvania--land of lakes and forests, mountains and valleys and pleasant plains, is ideal for it. And camping sites range the entire state, from French Creek State Park near Birdsboro in the southeast to Chapman State Park in Warren County in the northwest. Camping facilities are generally situated in the mountain areas of Pennsylvania--accessible to the camper--with more than 4,000 campsites available now. At the moment, the Legislature also is considering legislation to add more sites, but above all more cabins and lodges to enhance the comfort and convenience of these magnificent outdoor areas. Remember, Pennsylvania has 29,000,000 acres of forest, and camping is an ideal way to see Pennsylvania first. Every year, Pennsylvania's State Parks report a total of 1,300,000 camper-nights. And you can enjoy Pennsylvania's many tourist attractions while camping. For example, Cherry Springs State Forest is just a few miles from the famous Coudersport Ice Mine. Colton Point and Leonard Harrison State Park are adjacent to Pennsylvania's famed Grand Canyon, overlooking Pine Creek near Wellsboro. French Creek Park is almost in the heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch Country and a stone's throw from the Hopewell

Village National Historic Restoration, and the original homes of Daniel Boone and the Lincoln family--ancestors of the 16th President. Besides the many State Parks, there is Allegheny National Forest in Northwest Pennsylvania which covers large parts of Warren, Forest, McKean and Elk Counties and has many campsites, some of which have trailer space. There is as much, if not more, camping fun and facilities available in Pennsylvania as in any other state. And just the names of sites in Allegheny Forest afford pioneer feeling for the enthusiast; names like Allegheny, Buckaloon, Heart's Content, Kelly Pines, Kiasutha, Loleta, Minister Creek and Twin Lakes. Cooks Forest and Caledonia State Park have excellent hotels or lodges and all of our camping areas include picnic sites for the short stop. And Presque Isle State Park on Lake Erie features fishing, miles of shore line, the best lake swimming in all of America and a marina for boats.

I have touched only a few of our state parks; there are many--I know one spot--Ricket's Glenn, where you can hike 6 miles and see 33 waterfalls--the loveliest place I've ever seen. Visit our parks; camp in them. Your friends would enjoy a card, I'm sure, that reads: "Wish you were here"--which was mailed from a place called Heart's Content in Pennsylvania.

This is Pete Wambach. It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania.