

ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST

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

Thoreau, the man of Walden Pond, said it all when he said:

"Man is richest whose pleasures are the cheapest". He could have been speaking of man's enjoyment of Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest, which guards the upper Allegheny River watershed and is probably the most beautiful forested area in the East. It covers parts of Warren, McKean, Forest, Jefferson and Elk Counties, and major Routes 6 and 219 take you directly into it. On its western border is the Allegheny River; to its south Cook's Forest State Park; on the north, the great Allegheny Reservoir and Kinzua Dam and to the east, Bradford, St. Mary's and Ridgway. I count within it some 40 recreation sites, for camping, fishing, picnicking, swimming, boating and trail-blazing. Allegheny National Forest is the virginal heartland of great trees, rushing streams, the new Kinzua Wonderland where ancient Cornplanter Indians' hunting grounds abounded with game--and still do. The lakes and streams are ideal for the fisherman; there are miles and miles of shaded woodland trails for hikers; and woodland sites for camping. Deer, bear and smaller game offer the exhilaration of the hunt in season. The Forest is scenic year long, but particularly in the lazy days of late summer, autumn and Indian summer when the hardwoods display colors that no artist can duplicate. Fresh air, scenery and the simple pleasures are there for everyone. Happiness is a brown trout held on a string in a boy's hand. Opportunities

for camera buffs to capture wildlife in the wild are vast. Boating on the Allegheny River is excellent, and reflections while you float in the stream are those to reflect upon. You can spend a holiday under canvas in many of the areas and explore and discover to your heart's content. Matter of fact, one of the favorite camping places in the vast Allegheny National Forest is aptly called "Heart's Content". This is Kinzua Wonderland country and I would suggest a visit to the Kinzua Point Information Center, upstream from Kinzua Dam as a starting point to anywhere in the forest. You'll get directions to all the campsites, fishing holes, most photogenic outlooks. The Kinzua Reservoir now provides what is considered the best total-recreation facility in the entire East--and this is the water-heart of Allegheny National Forest. Truly, it is one of the great outdoors-enjoyment areas of the Nation. Fifty years ago, this week, the National Forest Service established Allegheny National Forest and dedicated it to the principle of multiple use management of the forest resources--to yield wood, water, forage, wildlife and recreation. Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest is there to provide you with the natural pleasures that make all people rich. Enjoy it--to your "Heart's Content"--at "Heart's Content" in the Allegheny National Forest.

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