

STATE PARKS

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

The welcome signs and mats are out again for the year and they say: "Come to Penn's Woods--come and enjoy our forests and parks"--and Pennsylvania's welcome is a great one, for we have probably more fine state parks than you'll find anywhere in the nation. Beauty, outdoor recreation and history are there, everywhere in the outdoors of Pennsylvania, which cover half of our state's area--magnificent mountain, valley and plateau areas, with state parks everywhere to provide health and recreation benefits. Wend your way through the whole state in your vacation periods; swim and sun on northwest beaches, toss in a fishline in the teeming waters--(last year fishermen caught nearly 25 million fish in the Commonwealth). Let's quick-trip the state here and there to give you an idea of possibilities for your vacation. In the northeast, check the Archbald Glacial pothole near Scranton; see the waterfalls at George W. Childs Park in Pike County; be amazed at the site of the famous Boulder Field at Hickory Run, near Jim Thorpe in Carbon County; see Wyoming Forest in the Endless Mountains; enjoy the view of the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania at Leonard Harrison and Colton Point State Parks in Tioga County; Hyner Run's view, below the Black Forest, will amaze you, near Renovo, and a bit to the north, the quietude of Ole Bull Park bring you peace. Rickett's Glen, west of Wilkes-Barre has 33 waterfalls along camp trails, some of them 100 feet high. The historic southeast offers Brandwine Battlefield Park in Delaware County; delightful vacationing with summer

theatre at Caledonia, west of Gettysburg; camping, swimming, boating and hiking at French Creek near Reading or Gifford Pinchot Park near Harrisburg and York...Roosevelt Park borders the 60 mile length of the Delaware Canal between Bristol and Easton; and Valley Forge, Washington's Crossing and Independence Mall are the nation's most historic places in our Pennsylvania state and national parks. The Southwest and Central offers scenery unmatched at high-in-the-clouds Blue Knob in Bedford, Cowan's Gap in Fulton; Prince Gallitzin Park with a 1640 acre lake near Johnstown; and Point Park in the heart of Pittsburgh for a look at the Fort Pitt Blockhouse, and in the west, one of the newest, Ohiopyle State Park. The northwest camping and picnicking is unmatched anywhere at Bendigo in Elk, Black Moshannon in Centre, Chapman in Warren, Cook Forest and its stand of virgin hemlock in Clarion County, and Presque Isle along the Peninsula of Lake Erie. These are merely a few of the matchless and wonderful places to vacation in Pennsylvania--provided for its citizens by the Commonwealth. There are 91 of them, plus state forests, too--for the enjoyment of fishing, boating, hiking, picknicking, camping, swimming and scenic drives which provide the finest inexpensive vacationing in the nation, any one, within 25 miles of any place in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's State Parks are yours--you pay for them; you should enjoy them! You will! Come on out!

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