

Quick Guide to Indiana County Parks & Trails



Blue Spruce Park – The principal park of Indiana County Parks & Trails, Blue Spruce Park is 650 acres of hiking trails, pavilions and lodges, playgrounds, a lake open to fishing, and is the site of the annual Festival of Lights.



Pine Ridge Park – Located in the southern portion of Indiana County near Blairsville, Pine Ridge Park is the third largest park in the county system. Its 635 acres include hiking trails, pavilions and lodge, playgrounds, and fishing at Tom's Run.



Memorial Park – The smallest of the county parks, Memorial Park is located in Indiana. At one time, the site was a church cemetery. During the summer, concerts are held at the bandstand.



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



Blacklick Valley Natural Area – Blacklick Valley Natural Area (BVNA) is one of two natural areas within the county parks system. Located in southeastern Indiana County, BVNA contains limited site development that includes a parking area and 6 miles of hiking trails.



Buttermilk Falls – Nestled away 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).

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Waterworks Conservation Area – Currently under development, the 10-acre Waterworks Conservation Area will combine environmental restoration with recreational opportunities. Located at the site is an acid mine discharge (AMD) lime dosing silo and an artificial wetland. There are plans to add a pavilion, restroom, canoe/kayak launch, fishing area, and trail circuit.



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 off the Ghost Town Trail and is leased to the county 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 site adjacent to the Conemaugh Dam, located in the southwestern section of the county. A 900-ft. section of the Pennsylvania Mainline Canal is visible, along with interpretive exhibits about the site.



Covered Bridges – Indiana County Parks & Trails maintains the four remaining covered bridges in the county. All located in the north-central section of Indiana County, the bridges cross Crooked Creek or the South Branch of Plum Creek. The four covered bridges are Kintersburg, Thomas, Harmon and Trusal.

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Ghost Town Trail – Designated by the U.S. National Park Service as a National Recreation Trail, the Ghost Town Trail is a 36-mile rail trail passing by old mining towns in Cambria and Indiana Counties. With the installation of two bridges during 2009, the trail will run uninterrupted between Ebensburg and Black Lick.



Hoodlebug Trail – The Hoodlebug Trail is a 10-mile recreation and commuter trail running from Black Lick to Indiana. It follows the abandoned Indiana Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which at one time was used for a self-propelled passenger coach, known locally as a Hoodlebug.

