Blessing Mountain

On the network of trails upon Blessing Mountain, hikers will experience an array of environments as they venture on different trails, from wild settings walking amongst a sea of mountain laurel to passing through towering conifers on the initial ascent of the Matt Mertes Trail. Serene springs and small brooks offer beauty in spring and rock slopes challenge hikers any time of year. These trails can be used to form various day hikes and can be connected with the trails of Rider Park. All named trails are marked in yellow with the exception of Cheryl’s Trail.

Boundary Trail
This .5 mile trail runs parallel to the State Forest Boundary.

Cheryl’s Trail
Cheryl’s Trail is marked in blue and is for the experienced hiker. It follows Cold Run and passes over Blessing Mountain for 3.6 miles before hitting the State Forest Boundary. There is no bridge where Cheryl’s Trail crosses Wallace Run.

Lance Trail
This trail connects The Weitzel Hollow Trail to Cheryl’s Trail at 1 mile in length.

Middle Point Trail
This .5 mile trail connects the Weitzel Hollow Trail with Rider Park.

Matt Mertes Memorial Trail
This 2 mile trail was named in memory of a local Boy Scout and showcases a vista looking south.

Walled-Up-Springs Trail
This 1 mile trail descends from Blessing Mt., follows a hollow to Caleb’s Creek, and follows Caleb’s Run Trail to the boundary.

Weitzel Hollow Trail
This 2 mile trail follows Weitzel Hollow Run then continues to Cheryl’s Trail.

Rider Park

Owned by FCFPA Properties Inc. and managed by the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania, the 867 acre park was a gift of the late Thomas J. Rider to the people of Lycoming County. This scenic treasure offers a variety of low impact recreational activities in a natural setting. A portion of the park rests a top Katy Jane Mountain which is part of the Allegheny Front that separates the Ridge and Valley Province from the Allegheny Plateau.

For more information on Rider Park visit http://www.wlfoundation.org/rider-park or call 570-601-3377 or 1-877-480-3377.

Allegheny Ridge Trail
This brown blazed trail climbs Katy Jane Mountain from Yeagle Road. It is .6 mile long.

Cheryl’s Trail
This 3.6 mile trail is a continuation of the trail from state forest land. As it continues onto Rider Park it features a guide to tree identification.

Francis X. Kennedy
This easy .5 mile hike features Doe Pen Vista. The trail is marked in green.

Katy Jane Trail
This trail is 2.6 miles and is blazed in yellow. Its highlights include two scenic vistas, one of which looks east toward the Loyalsock Valley. The other provides distant views of the Bald Eagle Mountains south of Williamsport.

Loop Trail
This red blazed side trail makes a .6 mile loop.

Saddle Trail
This red blazed trail is .4 mile long and offers a shortcut for those wanting a shorter hike on The Katy Jane Trail.

Care for the Land

State forests belong to all Pennsylvanians. Take time to enjoy them, but know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. Please be careful with fire, keep our forests litter free and don’t damage trees and other plants.

Certified “Well Managed”

Pennsylvania state forests are certified to FSC® standards. The Forest Stewardship Council® is an independent organization supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests.

iConservePA

To learn more about the state’s natural resources and what you can do to help protect and enjoy them, log onto iConservePA.org.

Pennsylvania’s vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health and to conserve native wild plants.

The Loyalsock State Forest comprises 115,000 acres in Bradford, Lycoming and Sullivan counties.

For more information

Loyalsock State Forest Resource Management Center
Resource Forest District #20
6735 Route 220
Dushore, PA 18614
(570) 946-4049

Resources and contacts are provided to help you navigate this beautiful and natural area. To learn more about the state’s natural resources and what you can do to help protect and enjoy them, log onto iConservePA.org.

Visit www.mypark.pa.gov for more information on Rider Park, and to learn how to become a member of the Preserve the Allegheny Ridge Foundation.

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