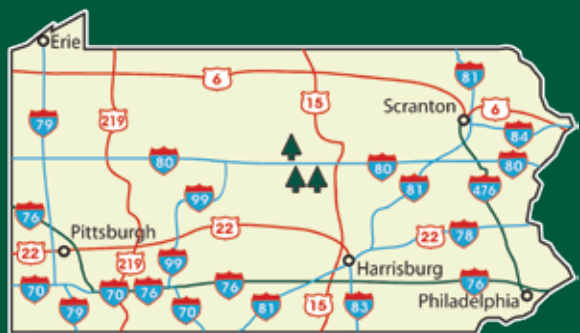


A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide for
**Ravensburg, McCalls Dam,
and Sand Bridge State Parks**



Pennsylvania
Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources



**Ravensburg, Sand Bridge, and
McCalls Dam State Parks**
c/o Raymond B. Winter State Park
17215 Buffalo Road
Mifflinburg, PA 17844–9656
570–966–1455
RBWinterSP@pa.gov

Make online reservations at
www.pa.gov/state-parks or
call toll-free 888–PA–PARKS
(888–727–2757), 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM,
Monday to Saturday.

www.pa.gov/state-parks



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2025

Ravensburg State Park

This 78-acre park lies in a cozy, steep-walled gorge carved by Rauchtown Creek through the side of Nippenose Mountain. A northern hardwood forest blankets the bottomland along this spring-fed stream. Rock-covered (talus) slopes and interesting rock formations are interspersed among a stunted oak forest growing on the steep mountainsides and ridges. This pretty valley is especially beautiful when the mountain laurels bloom in late June and during early–October’s fall foliage.

Stay the Night

TENT CAMPING: The forested campground with 21 tent-only sites is open from early May through late September. Campsites are first-come, first-served only. No overnight reservations are accepted at this park.

Geology

The most outstanding geologic feature in the park is Castle Rocks. Tall erosional spires of sandstone are silhouetted against the sky, like the towers of an ancient castle. View Castle Rocks from Mid State Trail in the southern end of the park. Frost action has caused weak places in the sandstone to break away, leaving behind isolated pillars. Additional information on these geological features is found in the “Trail of Geology Guide” available on the park website.

History

The park was named for ravens that once roosted on the rock ledges at the southern end of the park. Ravens are still seen around the park and can be distinguished from crows by their larger size and deeper, groan-like call.

The forest of Ravensburg State Park has undergone little change in the last 100 years. It is likely that extensive logging never occurred in the area due to the steep, rocky terrain and the isolation of the area.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed Ravensburg State Park on state forest land. CCC Camp S-127–PA built picnic pavilions, latrines, waterlines, fountains, bridges, trails, and a dam on Rauchtown Creek.

Ravensburg State Park still has a pleasing, rustic character due to the rugged land and the CCC-era structures of native stone, rough-sawn logs, and stained wood.

McCalls Dam State Park

The sound of White Deer Creek pervades the quiet, remote McCalls Dam State Park. Majestic pines, hemlocks, maples, and oaks reach for the sky around the small picnic area. Bald Eagle State Forest surrounds the 8-acre park.

History

In 1850, Johnny McCall, an early settler, built a dam on White Deer Creek to provide power to his large sawmill and shingle mill. Sixteen years later, the dam was repaired and used as the second of a series of splash dams to float white pine logs to the Susquehanna River and the extensive sawmills at Watsontown. Though no remnants of the original dam remain, its history is kept alive in the park’s name.



Sand Bridge State Park

Rapid Run’s lovely murmur and the sounds of birds fill this quaint picnic spot. The two rustic picnic pavilions hug the side of Seven Notch Mountain, conveniently along PA 192.

History

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased the land in 1905, and it became part of White Deer State Forest District.

In the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps built the pavilions and restrooms.

In 1978, Pennsylvania’s Bureau of State Parks took over administration of Sand Bridge State Park.

Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Clinton County Visitors Bureau.
570–748–5782.
www.exploreclintoncountypa.com

Park Information for All Locations

Directions

Ravensburg State Park

Ravensburg State Park is in central Pennsylvania, Clinton County, on PA 880. It is eight miles southeast of Jersey Shore, or four miles north of Carroll off Exit 192 on I-80.

GPS DD: Lat. 41.1084 Long. –77.2436

McCalls Dam State Park

McCalls Dam State Park is at the east end of Centre County. It can be reached by traveling McCall Dam Road, which links PA 192 at Raymond B. Winter State Park and PA 880 at Eastville.

GPS DD: Lat. 41.01755 Long. –77.17958

Sand Bridge State Park

Sand Bridge State Park is in Union County on PA 192, 14 miles west of Lewisburg.

GPS DD: Lat. 40.9872 Long. –77.12665

Recreational Opportunities

PICNICKING: All three parks have picnic areas with picnic tables, charcoal grills, and restrooms.

The picnic areas at Ravensburg State Park include a playfield and horseshoe pits. Two picnic pavilions may be reserved up to 11 months in advance for a fee. Unreserved picnic pavilions are free on a first-come, first-served basis.

There are two picnic pavilions at Sand Bridge State Park that are free on a first-come, first-served basis.

FISHING: Rauchtown Creek and its tributaries provide excellent coldwater fishing for native brown and brook trouts at Ravensburg State Park.

Within Sand Bridge State Park, Rapid Run is an excellent native coldwater fishery.

Native brook trout can be found in White Deer Creek, which flows through the McCalls Dam State Park.

Warmwater fishing is within easy driving distance and includes West Branch Susquehanna River, Bald Eagle Creek, and Blanchard Lake.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.



Hunting Prohibited

Hunting is prohibited in McCalls Dam, Sand Bridge, and Ravensburg state parks. Hunters may access hunting areas within state forest lands from park trails.

Complete information about hunting rules and regulations in Pennsylvania is available from the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

In areas not open to hunting or during non-hunting seasons, firearms and archery equipment shall be kept in the owner’s vehicle or enclosed trailer. Exceptions include law enforcement officers and individuals with a valid *Pennsylvania License to Carry Firearms* are authorized to carry a firearm concealed on their person while they are within a state park.

Trash Disposal and Recycling

McCalls Dam and Sand Bridge state parks participate in a carry-in/carry-out trash disposal program for small parks. There are no trash collection or recycling facilities. Visitors are asked to limit the number of disposable items brought to the parks and to take all trash and recyclables home.

Access for People with Disabilities

 This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.

In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee to summon medical, fire, or safety professionals.

Call or text 988 to contact a crisis center counselor during a mental health or substance abuse crisis.

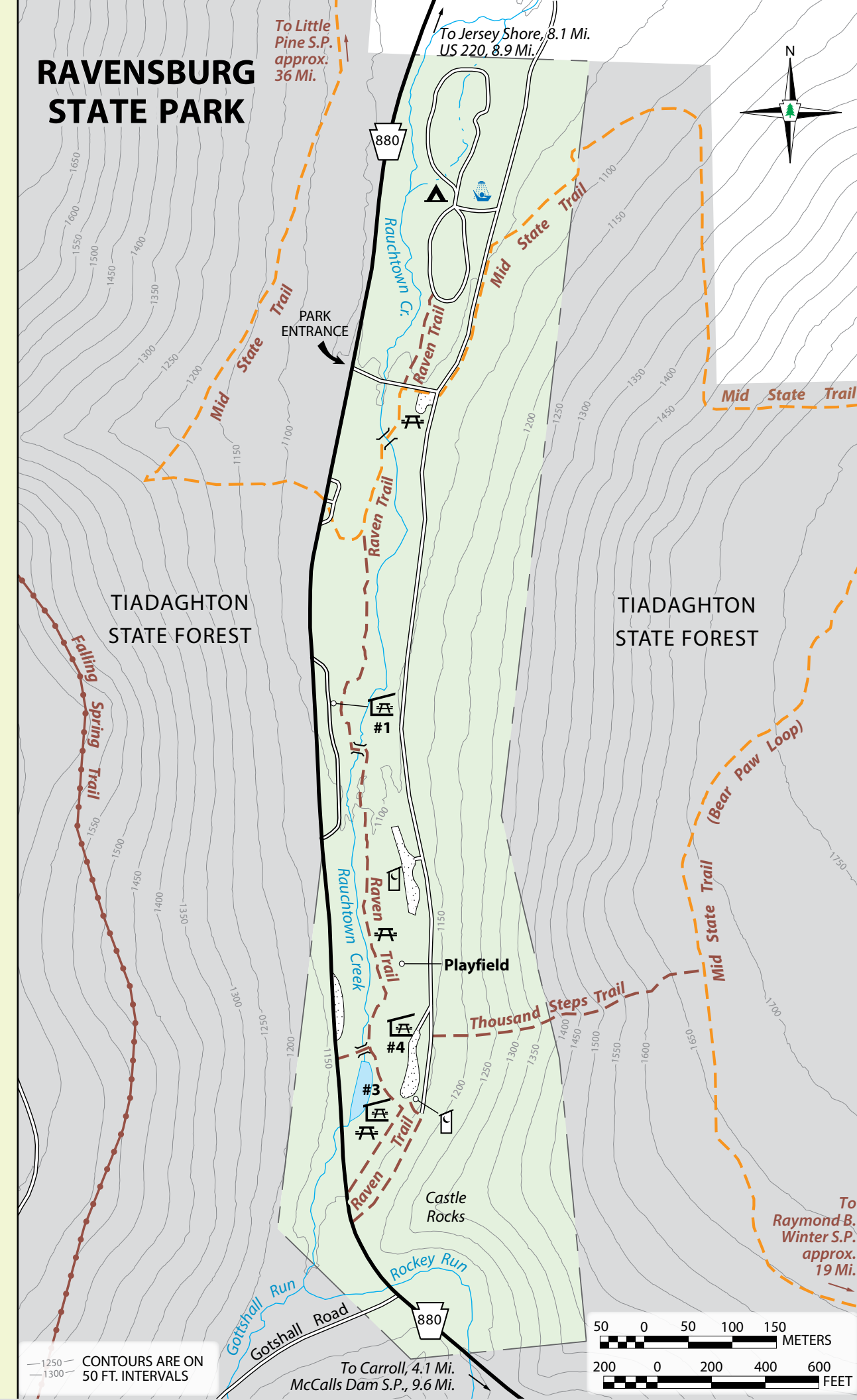
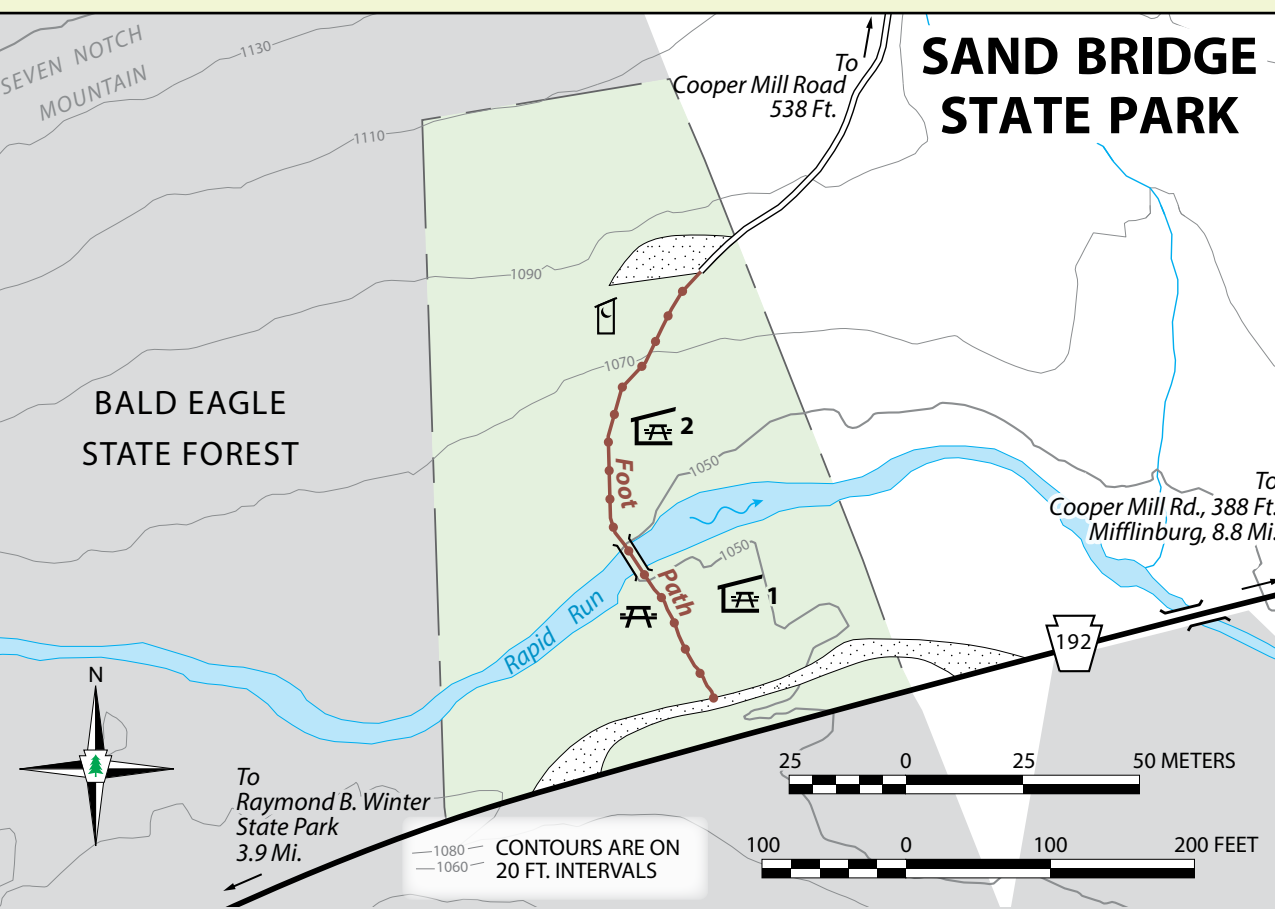
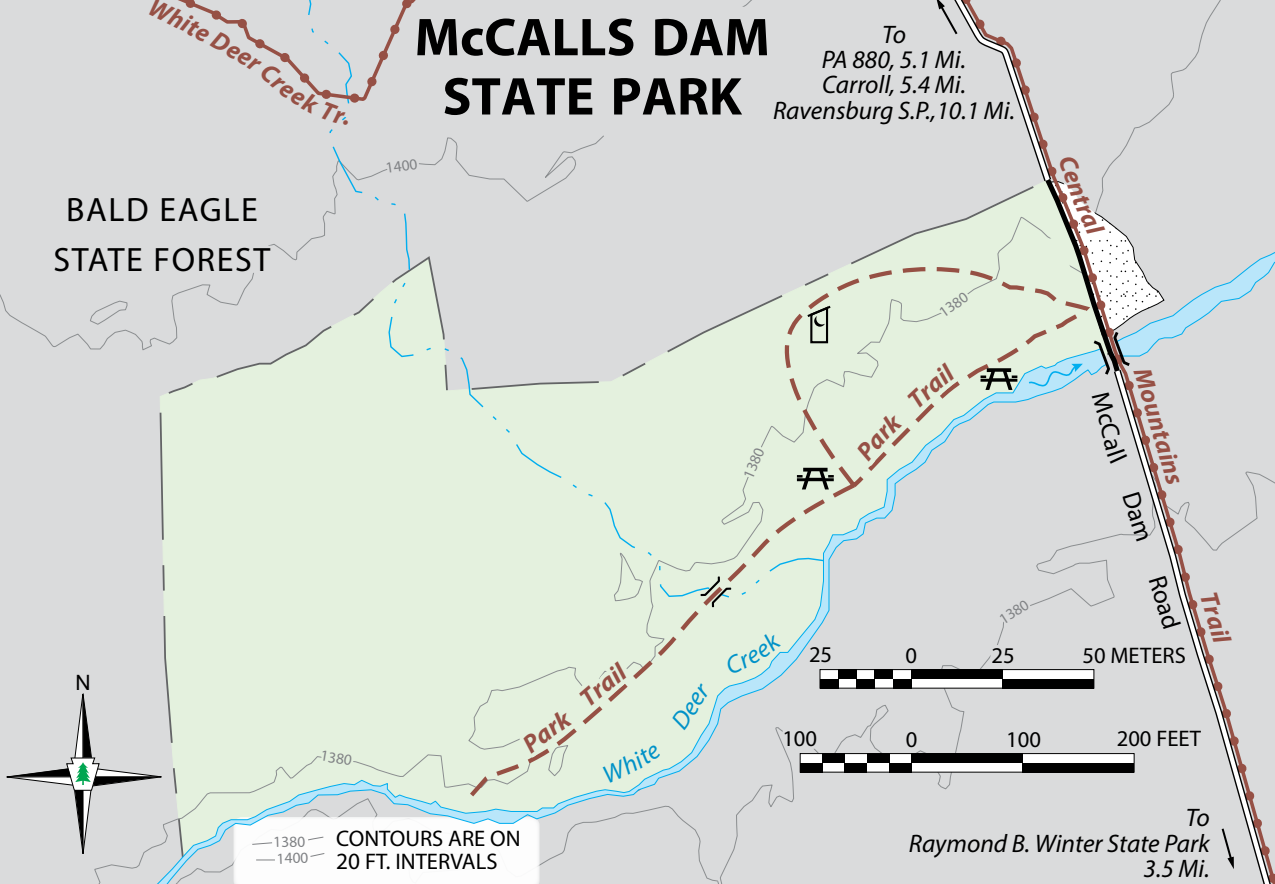
Directions to the nearest hospital are posted on bulletin boards and at the park office.

NEAREST HOSPITAL to McCalls Dam and Sand Bridge State Parks

Evangelical Community Hospital
One Hospital Drive
Lewisburg, PA 17837
570–522–2000

NEAREST HOSPITAL to Ravensburg State Park

Geisinger Jersey Shore Hospital
1020 Thompson Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570–398–0100



Ravensburg Hiking: 1 mile

Mid State Trail

0.4 mile in the park | Most difficult hiking | Point-to-point trail | Orange blazes

Recreations permitted: hiking, backpacking

Trailhead amenities: non-flush restrooms, potable water, picnic tables

The park is a trailhead for central Pennsylvania's Mid State Trail. Stretching 361 miles from Bedford County in the south to Tioga County in the north, this wilderness footpath traverses mostly public lands as it passes through state forests, state parks, and state game lands. The remote and isolated trail is excellent for backpacking.

Raven Trail

0.5 mile | Easiest hiking | Out-and-back trail | Red blazes

Recreations permitted: hiking

Trailhead amenities: non-flush restrooms, potable water, benches

This trail meanders through the day-use area of the park.

Thousand Steps Trail

0.1 mile in the park | Most difficult hiking | Out-and-back trail | Yellow blazes

Recreations permitted: hiking

Trailhead amenities: non-flush restrooms

This very steep trail runs 0.3 mile straight up a talus slope from the picnic area to the Mid State Trail in Tiadaghton State Forest. Extreme care and caution should be taken.

