

TUSCARORA STATE PARK

Recreational Opportunities

**CAMPING COTTAGES:** Six cottages sleep five people in bunk beds and have windows, a porch, picnic table, fire ring, electric lights, and outlets. Camping cottages do not have running water, but restroom and shower facilities are nearby.



**YURTS:** Four round, canvas and wood walled tents each have a wooden deck and sleep four or five people in bunk beds. Yurts have a stove, microwave, refrigerator, countertop, table, chairs, electric heat, outlets, fire ring, and two picnic tables. Yurts do not have running water, but restroom and shower facilities are nearby.

**PICNICKING:** Over 250 picnic tables are available year round. 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. Modern restrooms are available April through October.

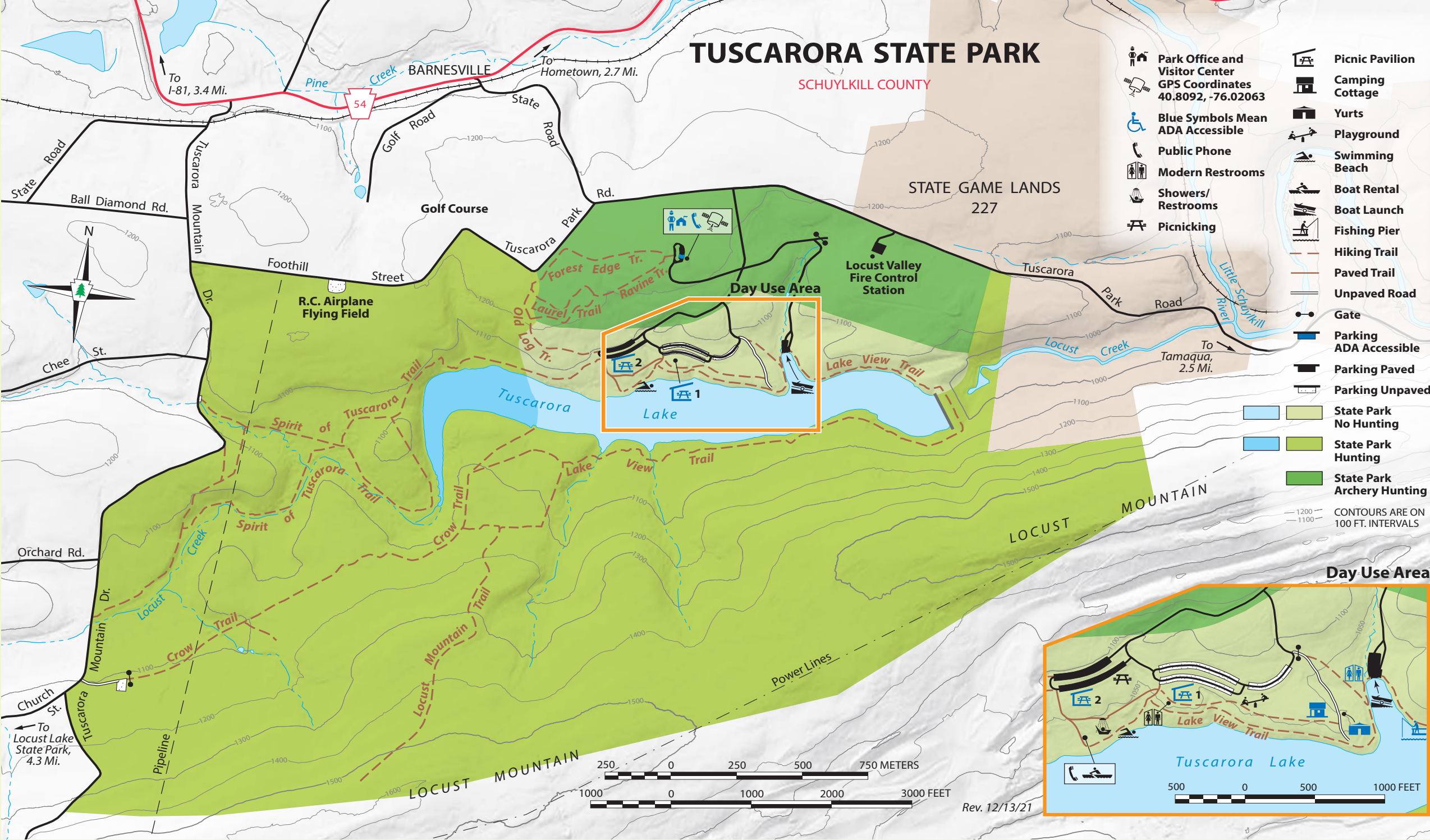
**MODEL AIRCRAFT FLYING FIELD:** A 5-acre model aircraft flying field is maintained by the Tuscarora R.C. Club and open to public use. An AMA license is required, and all field rules must be followed. For more information, visit the Tuscarora R.C. Club. <https://tuscarorarcflyingclub.com>

Hiking: 9.1 miles

Trails wander through several habitats like mature deciduous forest, meadow, and agricultural fields.

CROW TRAIL: 1.4 miles, yellow blazes, easiest hiking

This old dirt road passes through many habitats, including mature deciduous forest, pine and larch plantation, grass fields, and overgrown meadow. This trail ends at the southern shore of Tuscarora Lake.



FOREST EDGE TRAIL: 0.4 mile, no blazes, easiest hiking

This grass mowed trail winds along the edge of a mature forest and agricultural fields. The trail provides access to Old Log Trail and the park office and visitor center.

LAKE VIEW TRAIL: 2.3 miles, yellow blazes, easiest hiking

One end of Lake View Trail is in the day use area. The other end meets Crow Trail. Lake View Trail runs parallel to Tuscarora Lake,

crosses two creeks, and passes through a large rhododendron stand and a hemlock forest. The trail crosses the dam, allowing for spectacular views of the lake.

A 7.5-mile loop around Tuscarora Lake can be made by hiking Lake View, Spirit of Tuscarora, and Crow trails.

LAUREL TRAIL: 0.4 mile, not blazed, easiest hiking

Accessed from Old Log or Forest Edge trails, this grassy road was used to cut trees that

died from severe insect damage. This short loop provides views of mountain laurel and a mature forest.

LOCUST MOUNTAIN TRAIL: 0.4 mile, no blazes, more difficult hiking

This old fire access road winds through a mature deciduous forest on a fairly steep slope as it travels from Crow Trail to the top of Locust Mountain.

OLD LOG TRAIL: 0.3 mile, no blazes, easiest hiking

This old logging road winds through a mature deciduous forest. It has a slight grade and connects to Laurel and Forest Edge trails and the west end of the main parking area.

RAVINE TRAIL: 0.4 mile, no blazes, easiest hiking

The trail is bordered by low shrubs, pines, and sassafras trees. It connects to Laurel Loop and leads back to the park office parking lot.

SPIRIT OF TUSCARORA TRAIL: 4.5 miles, red/white/yellow blazes, more difficult hiking

The trail meanders along Tuscarora Lake and Locust Creek and through deciduous forest, a mature eastern hemlock stand, late successional field, rhododendron thicket, and wetland meadow. Highlights include year-round seasonal wildflowers, a large milkweed patch for monarch butterflies, abundant neotropical songbirds, and the interesting tree for which the trail is named.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT BOTH PARKS

BOATING: electric motors only

The 96-acre Tuscarora Lake has a boat launch and boat mooring. The 52-acre Locust Lake has a boat launch. Rowboats, canoes, kayaks, and pedal boats are available through a boat rental concession at each park.

Tuscarora State Park has 125 seasonal boat mooring spaces and 20 canoe racks. The season begins April 1 and ends October 31. A required state park mooring permit can be purchased at the park office.

Motorboats must display a boat registration from any state. Non-powered boats must display one of the following: boat registration from any state; launch permit or mooring permit from Pennsylvania State Parks, available at most state park offices; launch use permit from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.



**SWIMMING:** A sand beach at each park is open from late-May to mid-September, 8:00 AM to sunset. Swimming areas are marked with buoys and have a maximum depth of 5.5 feet. Swim at your own risk. Please read and follow posted rules.

**HUNTING AND FIREARMS:** About 1,100 acres of Tuscarora State Park and about 1,700 acres of Locust Lake State Park are open to hunting, trapping, and the training of dogs during established seasons. Common

game species are deer, pheasant, rabbit, squirrel, turkey, grouse, and dove.

Special regulations areas allowing only bow and arrow and flintlock muzzleloader hunting are located by the park entrance of Tuscarora and at several areas of Locust Lake.

Hunting woodchucks, also known as groundhogs, is prohibited. Dog training is only permitted from the day following Labor Day through March 31 in designated hunting areas. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Pennsylvania Game Commission rules and regulations apply. Contact the park office for ADA accessible hunting information.

Use extreme caution with firearms at all times. Other visitors use the park during hunting seasons. Firearms and archery equipment used for hunting may be uncased and ready for use only in authorized hunting



Locust Lake fishing pier

areas during hunting seasons. 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.

**FISHING:** The 96-acre Tuscarora Lake is a warmwater fishery. Popular species are bass, muskellunge, pickerel, catfish, yellow perch, and sunfish. Night fishing is permitted. There is an ADA accessible fishing pier at the boat launch.

The 52-acre Locust Lake is a warmwater fishery and receives several stockings of brown and brook trout annually. Pickerels,

basses (largemouth and smallmouth), and panfishes give anglers action in all seasons.

Those fishing at Locust Lake who are not camping are required to use the parking area near the park entrance.

In the winter, ice fishing for panfish and trout is popular at both lakes. **Ice thickness is not monitored.** For your safety, make sure ice is at least 4" thick for a single angler and 7" thick for a small group. Always carry safety equipment.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regulations and laws apply.



LOCUST LAKE STATE PARK

Recreational Opportunities

CAMPING: modern restrooms, warm showers

The 281 campsites encircle the lake. Tenting is permitted on all sites, including on the north side of the lake and on the trailer facilities on the south side of the lake. All campsites are in a wooded area and have a parking pad, picnic table, fire ring, and a cleared area for camping equipment. There are also a number of walk-to sites that are a short walk from the designated parking area.

Campground conveniences include modern restrooms and shower houses. A sanitary dump station is on the trailer side of the lake. There are three playgrounds within the camping areas. Trash and recycling areas are on the north and south sides of the lake.

All areas are within easy access to swimming, boating, fishing, and hiking.

A camp store, boat rental, and public phone are on the northwestern side of the lake. The camp store has basic food and camping supplies like wood and bait.

GPS DD: Lat. 40.78499 Long -76.11921

**ORIENTEERING:** A easy orienteering course loops around the lake starting near the camp store. Maps are available at the contact station and at the beginning of the course.

**BIKING:** The paved, 1.3-mile Bicycle Trail circles the lake, providing excellent views over the water.



Hiking: 9.5 miles

BEACH TRAIL: 0.4 mile, no blazes, easiest hiking

Connecting Bicycle Trail to the back loop of the campground, this short trail is often used by campers to go to the beach.

BICYCLE TRAIL: 1.3 miles, no blazes, easiest hiking

This paved path for hikers and bikers loops around Locust Lake. It is ADA accessible and great for strollers. Outdoor fitness stations can be found along the trail.

FIRELINE TRAIL: 3.6 miles, red blazes, most difficult hiking

The trail traverses the mountain over Locust Lake and the Locust Valley as it winds

through pine plantations and up and down mountain terrain. This trail connects the campground to Brockton Mountain Road.

HEMLOCK TRAIL: 0.2 mile, yellow blazes, more difficult hiking

Accessed from Oak Loop Trail, this trail is commonly used to make a 1.7-mile loop, passing through a mature hemlock stand with a woodland stream and by a unique geological outcropping.

OAK LOOP TRAIL: 2.2 miles, white blazes, most difficult hiking

The longest of the loop trails, it encircles a ridge covered by a mature deciduous forest and passes Locust Creek.

PLANTATION TRAIL: 0.8 miles in the park, red blazes, easiest hiking

Traverse mature pine plantations along this old logging road. The entire trail loop is 3.4 miles long and relatively flat with level terrain. At the park boundary, the unblazed section of the trail continues on Blythe Township Municipal Authority property before looping back to the park again.

RIDGE TRAIL: 0.2 mile, blue blazes, more difficult hiking

Accessed from Oak Loop Trail, this trail winds along a woodland creek and through forested areas. It is commonly used to make a 0.75-mile loop with sections of Oak Loop Trail.

