

Northeastern Pennsylvania's rugged terrain, spectacular scenery, meandering waterways, and four seasons of weather combine to offer a tremendous setting for outdoor activities.

Seasonal Activities

Thirteen ski resorts, including Montage (www.skimontage.com), which is located five miles from Downtown Scranton, combine to create one of the most popular winter sports destinations on the East Coast. Downhill and cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and snowboarding are just a few of the wintertime activities enjoyed by visitors and residents. During the warmer months campers from all over the country travel to Northeastern Pennsylvania to enjoy the scenery, hiking trails, swimming areas, and fishing streams.

Biking and Hiking

Northeastern Pennsylvania is a paradise for hikers and mountain bikers. Bike clubs and great biking trails are available. The Lackawanna Bike Club can introduce you to trails ranging from 11 to 15 miles including some "top secret" routes within the County. Cycling Magazine has voted nearby Jim Thorpe, PA "one of the top three mountain biking destination in the U.S." More adventurous spirits can put their biking, running and swimming skills to the test in the Endless Mountain Triathlon, Wilkes-Barre Triathlon and at Cedar BMX.

Fishing and Hunting

Even the worst fishermen regularly pull rainbow, brown, golden and brook trout, walleye and muskellunge, small mouth, large mouth, and striped bass, and pickerel and panfish from area lakes and streams. Fly-fishing and ice fishing are also wildly popular here.

From the Stillwater Dam downstream to the southern limits of Carbondale, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission stocks brown, brook and rainbow trout at many different spots. From Carbondale to Olyphant, the Lackawanna River is regulated under Class A Wild Brown Trout Water and does not receive any stocked trout.

The Northeast Region has something for every sportsman. The Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northeast Region includes 13 counties bordered on the north by New York and on the east by New Jersey. This part of the state offers many recreational activities, including the popular Pocono resorts, but it's the fall and winter hunting seasons that attract thousands of sportsmen.

This diverse habitat produces an abundance of wildlife and offers sportsmen excellent hunting opportunities for big and small game and trapping for furbearers. The Northeast is home to bears, deer, turkeys and snowshoe hares. It has cottontails, grouse, woodcock, squirrels, waterfowl and stocked pheasants.

With the abundant wildlife resources, the Northeast Region has plenty of land open to public hunting. There are 53 separate tracts of State Game Lands consisting of 364,000 acres located in the region. Private landowners signed into one of the agency's Cooperative Access Programs (Safety Zone, Forest Game Project, Farm Game Project) have a combined acreage of over 377,000.



Golfing

The rolling hills and breathtaking scenery of Northeastern Pennsylvania contribute to some of the best public and private golf courses on the East Coast. There are 36 public golf courses within a 45-minute drive of Downtown Scranton. Lackawanna County is home to four excellent private country clubs, which have hosted prestigious tournaments and have been recognized for excellence by national golf magazines. Each spring, scores of professional golfers flock to Glenmaura National Golf Club to play in the Northeast PA Classic, a regular stop on the PGA Tour.

Running and Triathlons

Scranton is a runner's paradise. Whether you're interested in running scenic hills and trails or participating in a nationally recognized marathon, Scranton offers a variety of options to every level of runner.

Each October more than 2,000 runners from all over the world descend upon Scranton to compete in the nationally ranked Steamtown Marathon (www.steamtownmarathon.com). Featuring a 955' drop in elevation from start to finish, the Steamtown Marathon is one of the nation's fastest marathon courses according to Runner's World and is a certified qualifying event for the prestigious Boston Marathon.