

**Map key**

- trail
- trail marker
- trailhead
- restroom
- campground
- roads
- public land
- lake
- Streams

Trough Creek State Park is open seasonally. Please call ahead when planning late / early season hikes.

You travel at your own risk! Cell phone coverage is not available along portions of the trail & emergency access is limited. Hike wisely and be prepared.

**In emergencies call**

**911**

**Camping is only permitted at designated sites.**



# Terrace Mountain Trail

## South-Central Section

**Distance:** 4.5 miles

**Rating:** moderate to strenuous

**Terrain:** sloping, some sections rigorous

**Surface:** mostly dirt, some rock

**Restrooms:** Tatman Run, Trough Creek State Park

**Public Campgrounds:** Trough Creek State Park

**General Trail Description:**

The South - Central Section runs from Tatman Run (mile 7.3) to Trough Creek State Park (mile 11.8). The first two miles of the trail is hand cut into the mountain and is rocky with steep climbs. The remaining portion of the trail follows an old logging road and descends into Trough Creek Gorge.

**Unique Features:**

The area surrounding Great Trough Creek is steeped in history. Iron manufacturing and lumber industries ruled the land during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The building of America has its foundations set along Terrace Mountain and the signs of that progress can still be seen today.

The trail winds through the unique habitat needed to grow towering Eastern Hemlocks. Hikers can see first hand the fight to save Pennsylvania's State tree in action along portions of the trail.

The unique geology of Trough Creek State Park is a must see. Mysterious balancing rocks to impressive rock shelters await those willing to travel short spurs off the Terrace Mountain Trail.



**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
Baltimore District

Raystown Lake  
6145 Seven Points Rd.  
Hesston, PA 16647  
(814) 658-3405  
<http://raystown.nab.usace.army.mil>

# terrace mountain trail

terrace mountain trail

south-central section



## points of interest

**7.3, Tatman Run.** Terrace Mountain is an unbroken ridge except in two places. You'll see both, here at *Tatman Run* and at *Great Trough Creek*.

**7.6 Mile, pipeline.** The Texas-Eastern pipeline, is the largest of the six pipelines that cross under Raystown Lake and lies underground along this cleared path. This pipeline was constructed in the 1950's. The four 36 inch diameter pipes transport natural gas from the Gulf of Mexico to Manhattan.



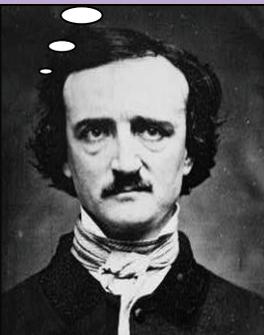
pipeline

**8.0 Mile, forest changes.** While hiking, observe the changing forest. Steep shale slopes support only sparse forest growth, primarily scrubby chestnut oaks. In contrast cool, shaded drainage basins support lush and colorful maple forests.

**8.1 Mile, Rothrock State Forest.** While most of the trail winds through Raystown Lake forests, several miles also cross Rothrock State Forest. You are now entering a Commonwealth managed forest, which is designated as a *Wild Area*. 1,757 acres are set



aside for recreational activities. Timber harvesting, construction and motorized vehicles are prohibited.



Edgar Allan Poe

**8.5 Mile, lake view.** Enjoy a panoramic view of the lake from this rocky overlook. It is reputed that Edgar Allen Poe once visited this area and wrote "The Raven" after seeing Ravens nest on cliffs near Great Trough Creek.



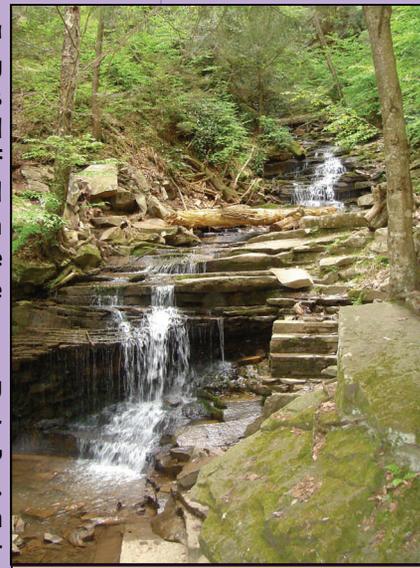
Great Trough Creek Gorge

**9.5 Mile, lumber industry.** This area abounds with artifacts left from long retired lumber operations. Timber was harvested to feed the massive iron and railroad industries. Nearly all of Pennsylvania's forests have been timbered at one time or another, leaving few virgin timber stands. Today's forests lack huge virgin timber stands and are instead made up of younger, "second growth" trees.

**10.5 Mile, Nancy's Camp.** Looking across the lake you can see Nancy's Boat-to-Shore Campground. Named for Nancy Plummer, a pioneering settler of the area. Kidnapped by Indians during the French and Indian war, Nancy died during her captive trip to Canada. Her decedents still live in the area.

### 10.8 Mile, Great Trough Creek.

The power of Great Trough Creek carved this gorge over millions of years. The power of Trough Creek has also fueled industry since 1790. Enjoy the view before descending into Trough Creek State Park.

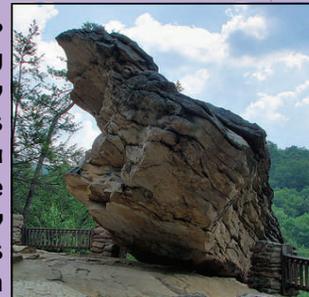


Trough Creek State Park

**11.0 Mile, Old Forge Road.** Continue through the gate & straight ahead before crossing Trough Creek.

### 11.7 Mile, Balanced Rock.

Take a short side-trip along Brumbaugh Trail to view "Balanced Rock" up-close. This huge boulder is a remnant of a former rock cliff. The surrounding rock eroded away leaving Balanced Rock in its precarious perch over Trough Creek.



Balanced Rock

### 11.8 Mile, Trough Creek State Park.

Cross the wooden foot bridge and enter Trough Creek State Park. After 100 years of unregulated lumber harvests and coal mining this area was stripped of the forest and prone to floods and fire. In 1933 the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) established a camp and revitalized the area by fighting fires, planting trees, repairing roads, and building the park you see today. Camping, trails, fishing and other recreational facilities are available within the park.

## Eastern Hemlocks

As you hike, take notice of the dark, cool areas afforded by the Eastern Hemlock. Eastern Hemlock have a straight trunk, spiraling bark and dark green needles. You will only find them in shady, moist areas.

As you enjoy the shade, stay still and wait for the wildlife. This single tree provides food and shelter for a number wildlife species. Most notably Deer seeking food and shelter during heavy snow.



You may notice small tags on certain Hemlocks. These individuals are being treated for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (a bug that threatens entire stands and the species survival). Each infected tree must be treated individually, by hand; hence the importance of tracking tagged trees. Biologists hope to find a more cost effective and permanent method, as treatments must continue annually. You can learn more about our "state tree" and the Woolly Adelgid at:

[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us)