Welcome to the Pennypack Preserve.
We have over 800 acres and 11 miles of trails.
Trails open from dawn to dusk.

YOU MAY:
• Walk, hike and jog on trails
• Walk pets on leash (on designated trails)
• Bike (on designated trails)
• Ride horses (on designated trails)

YOU MAY NOT:
• Hike or jog off trails
• Drive motorized vehicles
• Collect animals or plants
• Release animals or plants
• Drink alcohol
• Hunt or trap

Things to look for...

Historic

Bone Hill Mill
The stone wall from the lowest level of a three-story mill is visible adjacent to the Creek Road Trail. In its later years, this mill may have ground animal bones for fertilizer. It was powered by an unusual waterwheel that rotated horizontally rather than vertically as more traditional overshot or undershot waterwheels do.

Creek Road Bridge
(Montgomery County Bridge #35). The Creek Road Bridge, built in 1840, is Montgomery County’s third-oldest extant bridge. In 34-foot stone arch being Creek Road over Pennypack Creek in a single clear span.

Historic Train Wreck
“Death Gulch,” the narrow rock cut along the former Reading Railroad tracks, now the Pennypack Trail, 1,500 feet south of Creek Road, marks the location of the fiery head-on collision of two trains in December 1921 that killed 27 people and led the residents’ lives.

Hallowell-Langstroth-McDowell Mill
Englishman Thomas Langstroth came to America in 1767 and established a paper mill (c. 1760) along the Pennypack Creek Road over Pennypack Creek in a single clear span.

Paper Mill Road Bridge
(Montgomery County Bridge #36). Constructed in 1817, the Paper Mill Road Bridge is the second-oldest extant bridge in Montgomery County. It is a rubble-filled stone arch structure with two 30-foot spans crossing Pennypack Creek.

Shelmire Mill Dam
Stacks of large rocks extending into Pennypack Creek from both banks are the ruins of the dam that supplied water power for several downstream mills, including one owned by George Shelmire. Milling operations ceased in 1860, and the dam, no longer needed, was breached by floods and never repaired.

Webb Walk Springhouse
This 18th century springhouse served as a natural “refrigerator” for the farmhouse uphill. Before electricity, the cool spring water extended the useful life of milk and other perishables.

Wynkoop house
The original section of the house, “two windows wide,” was built in 1790. The house was enlarged in 1833, and then significantly expanded and modernized in 1925.

Natural

Crossroads Marsh
Springs seeping from the hillside above the pond provided clean water for milling operations and for a community of millworkers whose houses were in the area. The present water body dates from 1976, when the Trust created a shallow wetland that quickly became an important haven for wildlife.

“The Falls”
When the Reading Railroad tracks were laid alongside the Pennypack in 1878, the builders filled a meander loop, confining the creek to a narrow channel to the west of the fill. This rerouting and straightening caused the creek to descend rapidly, forming the dramatic rapids known locally as “The Falls.”

The Peak Woods
Because of its steepness and rockiness, this woodland may never have been completely cleared for agriculture, though it was used as a source of timber, firewood, building stone and pastureage. Massive tulip trees lend a sense of great age, but the oldest trees are oaks that sprouted from acorns around 1760.
### Multiple Use Trails

- **Creek Road Trail** (1.4 mi.)
  - Wide, level, graveled trail through floodplain forest with views of Pennypack Creek, Crossroads Marsh, forest restoration and several sites of historic significance.

- **Pennypack Creek Trail** (0.6 mi.)
  - Level dirt footpath, may be muddy in the winter and following rains. Floodplain forest and conifer plantations.

- **Pennypack Parkway** (0.6 mi.)
  - Compacted stone screenings over old roadbed. Floodplain and upland forest, creek view, and ruins of colonial Mason’s Mill dam.

### Hiking Only Trails

- **Beech Springs Trail** (0.6 mi.)
  - Trail features incredible diversity over a short distance including beautiful meadows, a majestic old forest, spring seeps, and panoramic views.

- **Bethayres Woods Trail** (0.9 mi. loop)
  - Dirt footpath. Wetlands near trailhead, mature woodlands and Pennypack Creek overlook in the upper loop. Bethayres Woods is not contiguous with the remainder of the preserve.

- **Management Trail** (0.2 mi.)
  - Mowed grass and dirt footpath alongside floodplain forest and meadows.

- **Management Trail Spur** (0.05 mi.)
  - Short mowed grass footpath linking Creek Road and Management Trails.

- **Meadow Crossing** (0.2 mi.)
  - Panoramic introduction to Raytharn Farm on a wide grassy footpath.

- **Mitchell Trail** (0.4 mi.)
  - Trail begins at the intersection of Huntingdon and Edge Hill Roads on a gentle slope in mature woodland, then descends quickly over a rocky outcrop into the valley.

- **Overlook Loop Trail** (0.2 mi.)
  - Woodland footpath offering panoramic view of the Pennypack Creek valley in winter from a rocky knob. Forest restoration in progress.

- **Paper Mill Road Trail** (0.4 mi.)
  - Dirt footpath following old roadbed, western half very steep and rocky. Scenic crossing of Pennypack Creek over second-oldest bridge in Montgomery County, built in 1817.

- **Paper Mill Woods Trail** (0.74 mi.)
  - Trail winds through open meadows and young woodlands as it encircles the headwaters of the cleanest stream in the preserve.

- **Pennypack Trust Headquarters**
  - Trail Network (1.0 mi., total)
    - Wood chips, mowed grass. A series of short, interconnected footpaths through the Trust’s 25-acre headquarters. Approximately half of the property is wooded, half meadow. Features a visitor center, restrooms, pond, springhouse, picnic area, and bird blind.

- **Peak Trail** (0.2 mi.)
  - Dirt footpath, rocky near the crest. Trail skirts a rocky knob (“The Peak”), and then winds through the preserve’s finest old growth forest.

- **Raytharn Trail** (1.3 mi.)

- **Rosebush Trail** (0.2 mi.)
  - Steep, rocky woodland footpath leading to the site of active forest restoration.

- **Webb Walk** (0.3 mi.)
  - Level dirt footpath, some sections of which are uneven and muddy. Wooden footbridges over scenic stream and through wet meadows lead to 19th century springhouse. Impressive display of naturalized spring flowers.