



2955 Edge Hill Rd
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

(215) 657-0830
www.pennypacktrust.org
contact@pennypacktrust.org

Pennypack Preserve Trail Map

Historical Points of Interests

H1 Wynkoop House

The original section of the house, "two windows wide," was built in 1791. The house was enlarged in 1833, and then significantly expanded and modernized in 1925.

H2 Paper Mill Rd. Bridge (Montgomery County Bridge #36)

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

H3 Langstroth Mill Complex

Englishman Thomas Longstreth came to America in 1767 and established a profitable business along the Schuylkill River. In 1792, he built a paper mill along the Pennypack. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1809, and then rebuilt with the assistance of public subscription. Later, the mill was sold to Philadelphian Joseph McDowell, who enlarged and modernized it. Fire destroyed the structure a second time in 1858 and it was never rebuilt. Ruins of a second mill, now mostly buried by fill emplaced for the Reading Railroad track in 1878, can be found in the woods on the east side of the creek.

H4 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.

H5 Shelmire Mill Dam

Stacks of large rocks extending into Pennypack Creek from both banks are the ruins of the dam that supplied water power to 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.

H6 Historic Train Wreck

"Death Gulch," the narrow rock cut along the abandoned Reading Railroad tracks (now Montgomery County's 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 railroads to replace wooden passenger coaches with metal cars.

H7 Webb Memorial 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.

H8 Creek Road Bridge (Montgomery County Bridge #35)

The Creek Road Bridge, built in 1840, is Montgomery County's fourth-oldest extant bridge. Its 34-foot stone arch bore Creek Road over Pennypack Creek in a single clear span.

H9 Mason's Mill Dam

Mason's Mill, built in 1762, was situated in what is now Upper Moreland Township's Mason's Mill Park. The dam that provided water power for the mill was located a half-mile upstream.

Natural Points of Interests

N1 "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."

N2 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.

N3 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 pasturage. Massive tuliptrees lend a sense of great age, but the oldest trees are oaks that sprouted from acorns around 1760.

Hiking Only Trails

Foot traffic only; No pets

Beech Springs Trail (0.6 mi.)

Trail features significant 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 the 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, and then descends steeply over a rocky outcrop into the valley.

Overlook Loop Trail (0.2 mi.)

Woodland footpath offering view of the Pennypack Creek valley in winter from a rocky knob.

Paper Mill Trail (0.4 mi.)

Trail follows old road across Pennypack Creek via the third-oldest bridge in Montgomery County, built in 1817. Trail is paved east of bridge; western portion is graveled and very steep.

Paper Mill Woods Trail (0.74 mi.)

Trail winds through open meadows, young woodlands and large reforestation site as it encircles the headwaters of the cleanest stream in the preserve.

Peak Trail (0.2 mi.)

Dirt footpath, rocky near the crest. Trail skirts a rocky knob ("The Peak"), and then winds through one of the preserve's finest stands of old forest.

Pennypack Trust Headquarters (1.0 mi. total)

A series of short interconnected dirt and mowed grass footpaths through the Trust's 25-acre headquarters. Approximately half the property is wooded and half is meadow. Features include the Trust's administrative offices, visitor center, restrooms, greenhouse complex, pond, springhouse, picnic area and bird blind.

Raytharn Trail (1.3 mi.)

Mowed trail through native grasslands. Spectacular sweeping views of the region's topography and the Bryn Athyn Cathedral.

Rosebush Trail (0.2 mi.)

Steep, rocky woodland footpath.

Webb Walk (0.1 mi.)

Level dirt footpath leading to 18th century springhouse.

Multiple Use Trails

Hiking, biking, horses, pets on leashes; No motorized vehicles

Creek Road Trail (1.4 mi.)

Wide, level, graveled trail through floodplain forest with views of Pennypack Creek, Crossroads Marsh, and several sites of historic significance.

Pennypack Creek Trail (0.6 mi.)

Level dirt footpath; may be muddy in the winter and following rain. Floodplain forest and conifer plantations.

Pennypack Trail (2.5 mi. through preserve; total 5.0 mi.)

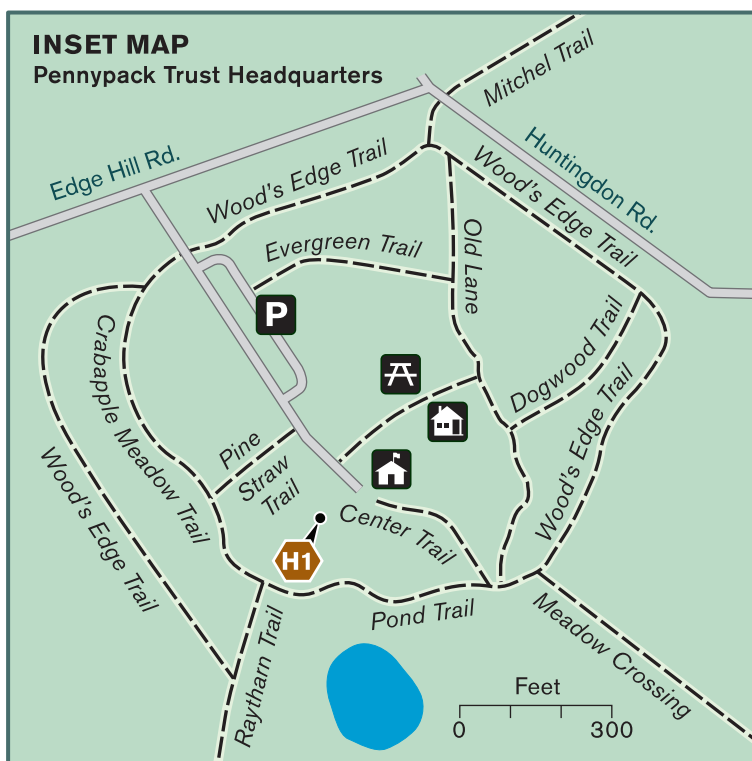
Wide, level rail-to-trail project surfaced with compacted stone screenings. Trail maintained by Montgomery County.

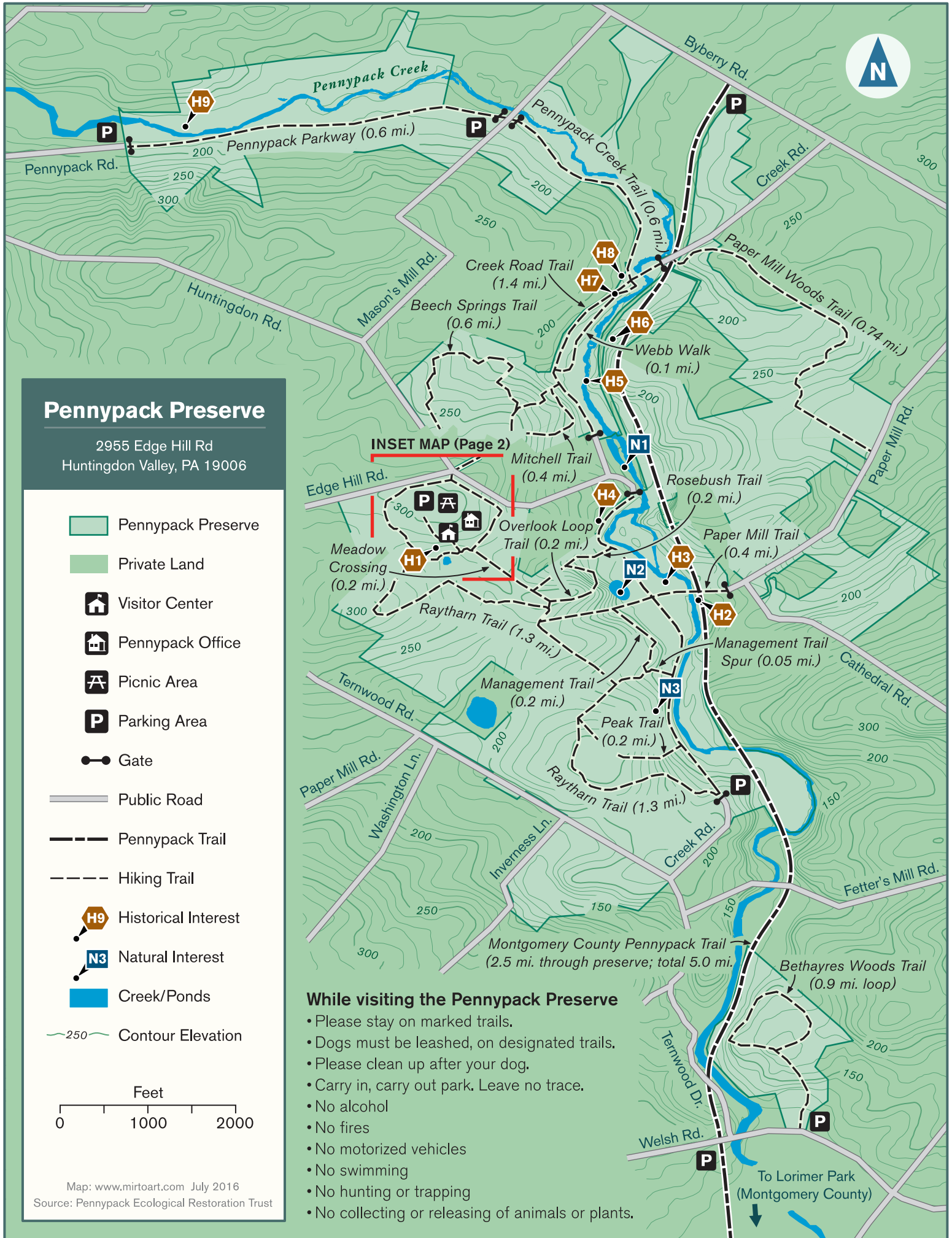
Pennypack Parkway (0.6 mi.)

Compacted stone screenings over old roadbed. Floodplain and upland forest, creek view, and ruins of colonial Mason's Mill dam.



Raytharn Trail, just south of the Trust's headquarters.





While visiting the Pennypack Preserve

- Please stay on marked trails.
- Dogs must be leashed, on designated trails.
- Please clean up after your dog.
- Carry in, carry out park. Leave no trace.
- No alcohol
- No fires
- No motorized vehicles
- No swimming
- No hunting or trapping
- No collecting or releasing of animals or plants.