



Beltzville State Park
2950 Pohopoco Dr
Lehighton, PA 18235

March 24, 2020

Brian Sherman

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Beltzville State Park is responding to the COVID-19 virus pandemic in consultation with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This response includes avoiding gatherings of 10 or more people, promoting social distancing, and temporarily closing facilities statewide.

On March 16, 2020, Governor Wolf announced statewide measures to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Pennsylvania State Parks facilities therefore have been closed since Tuesday, March 17, to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As part of Pennsylvania's COVID-19 mitigation efforts, all buildings at the parks, including park offices and restrooms, have been closed, and all events and public educational programs have been canceled. The public is still able to access trails, lakes, rivers, forests, roads, and parking areas for passive and dispersed recreation, such as hiking. All overnight and day use rental facilities have been closed. While these park facilities are closed, state park rangers and park managers will continue to work to ensure security and that public safety is protected.

Additionally, all public programs, educational offerings, events and trainings in all state parks and forests have been canceled for the remainder of March and the month of April 2020. These cancellations include special events, such as races and festivals, and teacher and other trainings in state parks and state forests. Also impacted is programming by our "Friends" groups, the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation and other partners as well as weddings, family reunions, fundraisers, trail rides or any other type of event or activity that draws visitors together.

The Department's decision to cancel all public events and activities at State Park facilities on a statewide basis may affect your planned activity or event. If your planned activity or event is scheduled to occur in March or April, it is cancelled. Activities and events scheduled to occur after April 30 will be affected if the cancellation date is extended by the Department. In the upcoming weeks, please consult the Department's website at www.dcnr.pa.gov regarding state park event cancellations. If the Department cancels events at state parks occurring after April 30, your activity or event will be cancelled.

Depending on the nature of your activity or event, you may be able to reschedule it to another date later this year. Someone from the Park Office will contact you at the appropriate time if rescheduling is possible. Please be patient with us as we are dealing with a constantly changing situation.

We can assure you that the Department is exercising prudent measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic and is committed to working with you to respond to this worldwide health emergency. The Department remains committed to providing a quality visitor experience, while protecting the safety of all visitors. We value your partnership in meeting the community health needs and appreciate your cooperation with responding to the ever-changing situation.

Sincerely,

Alma

Alma M Holmes

Park Manager

CC: File
Director Office
Park Operations and Maintenance Division
Park Region 4

conserve sustain enjoy

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