TRACY RIDGE HIKING TRAIL SYSTEM

WELCOME to the Tracy Ridge Hiking Trail System, 54.52 kilometers (33.69 miles) of interconnecting loops to explore! This trail offers many opportunities ranging from a one hour hike to several day hike. Trail elevation ranges from 2245 feet on the flat ridgetop at Tracy Ridge Recreation area to 1328 foot elevation at water level on the Allegheny Reservoir. This trail is located within the Allegheny National Recreation Area (NRA), established by Congress in 1984 as part of the Pennsylvania Wilderness Act. The primary purposes of the NRA are to preserve and protect natural scenic, cultural, scientific, and wildlife values and to provide for enhanced dispersed recreation opportunities. In this area, only limited tree cutting is permitted to meet recreation or wildlife needs.

The recently designated Bullis Hollow Trail is an 8.3 mile connector trail linking the Tracy Ridge Trail System (through the Chestnut Ridge Wilderness Study Area) to the Marilla Trail System, which is a 15 mile multi-loop system maintained by the Tuna Valley Trail Association on private lands owned by the City of Bradford Water Authority.

FINDING THE TRAIL — The trailhead parking lot is located 18 miles west of Bradford via SR 346 and SR 321, or from the Allegheny Reservoir/Morrison Bridge area via SR 59 and SR 321.

HIKING THE AREA — The trail system is marked primarily with gray markers, except where it joins with 10 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail (marked with blue markers). These sections of trail are double marked for your convenience. Slopes along the reservoir and along the small streams which drain the area are steep. Rock ledges and large boulders can be found on the steeper hillsides. Most of the area is heavily forested, primarily with oak, and scattered with beech, black cherry, and hickory. Hemlock is found in small groves along the streams, and some magnificent old white pines can be found in scattered locations. At least three vistas have been established that offer magnificent views of the reservoir, and opportunities to view wildlife — deer, squirrel, grouse, and turkey are plentiful.

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REGULATIONS — These trails are for hiking and crosscountry skiing. Mountain bikes, motorized vehicles, ATVs, and snowmobiles are not allowed on any of the trails.

Forest trails policy prohibits the use of saddle, pack or draft animals on hiking or cross county ski trails.

If you are hunting in the area, please make sure you hunt outside the safety zone from the campground.

Camping is permitted along the trail with some exceptions. Camping is regulated and a fee is collected at the Tracy Ridge Campground and the Handsome Lake and Hopewell boat-to camping areas.

DISPERSED CAMPING ALONG THE TRAIL IS NOT PERMITTED WITHIN 1500 FT. OF THE RESERVOIR.

Campfires are permitted as long as they are maintained in a fire ring and are fully extinguished upon departing.

SAFETY —The skill level of these hiking trails is more difficult and you should be in good health to enjoy them. We encourage you to hike with at least one other person and to leave your itinerary with friends so they'll know where to look if you don't return on time or need assistance.

These trails are open for winter hiking and cross country skiing. Remember to dress in layers appropriate for the weather conditions. Be aware that these trails are used heavily in the late fall and spring by hunters. It is a good idea to wear bright fluorescent colored clothing if hiking during these time periods.

LEAVE NO TRACE! OUTDOOR ETHICS

- 1. PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE
- 2. TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES
- 3. DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY
- 4. LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND
- 5. MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS
- 6. RESPECT WILDLIFE
- 7. BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

FOR MORE INFORMATION on *Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics*, visit the Leave No Trace Inc. website at www.lnt.org.

Please recycle or reuse your brochure.

EMERGENCY — **Call 911**. The nearest hospital is 18 miles northeast in Bradford. The nearest telephone is 3 miles north at the intersection of SR 321 & SR 346. The pump water in the developed recreation areas is safe for drinking. Water from any other sources should be boiled before consumption.

VOLUNTEERS — These trails are maintained by various volunteer organizations and the U.S. Forest Service. If you, a friend, or your club are interested in volunteering to help maintain this trail or any other in the Forest, please contact the Bradford Ranger District.

CUSTOMER SERVICE — The Bradford (SR 346) area offers food, lodging, gasoline, and medical facilities. Also, the Bradford Ranger District Office, located at the junction of SR 59 & SR 321 has many books, maps and materials to help you enjoy the Forest. We would like to hear about your trail experience. Please report any unsafe trail conditions. We appreciate your support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about this and other recreation opportunities, contact:

Bradford Ranger District

29 Forest Service Dr. • Bradford, PA 16701 (814) 362-4613

http://fs.usda.gov/allegheny

Allegheny National Forest Visitors Bureau 80 E. Corydon Street • Suite 114 • PO Box 371 Bradford, PA 16701 • (800) 473-9370 www.visitanf.com

This brochure can be obtained in large print at the Allegheny National Forest, 4 Farm Colony Dr., Warren, PA 16365, (814) 723-5150.

ENJOY THE TRAIL!

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To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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Forest Service

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Allegheny National Forest

