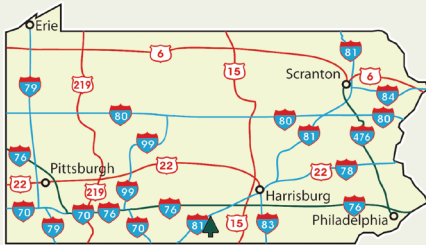
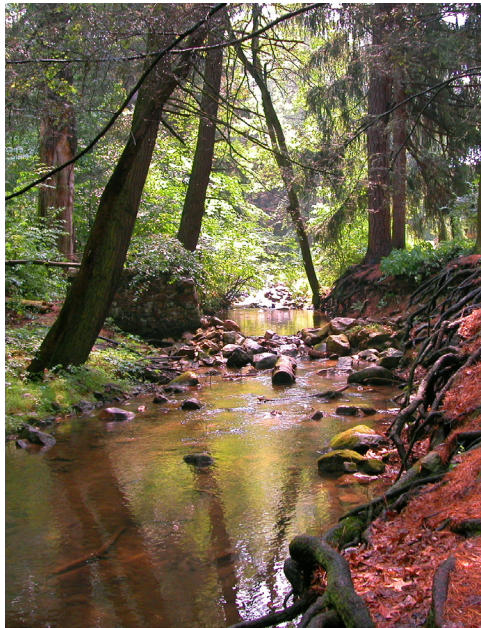




# Mont Alto State Park

## A Pennsylvania Recreational Guide

7/2017



### More Information

Mont Alto State Park  
c/o Caledonia State Park  
101 Pine Grove Road  
Fayetteville, PA 17222-8224  
717-352-2161  
email: [caledoniasp@pa.gov](mailto:caledoniasp@pa.gov)  
GPS DD: Lat. 39.8392666 Long. -77.537794

**An Equal Opportunity Employer**  
[www.visitPAparks.com](http://www.visitPAparks.com)

#### Information and Reservations

Make online reservations at  
[www.visitPAparks.com](http://www.visitPAparks.com) or call toll-free  
888-PA-PARKS (888-727-2757), 7:00 AM  
to 5:00 PM, Monday to Saturday, for state  
park information and reservations.

[facebook.com/visitPAparks](https://www.facebook.com/visitPAparks)

[twitter.com/visitPAparks](https://twitter.com/visitPAparks)



This quiet park features a unique pavilion, picnicking and trout fishing. Mont Alto is the oldest park still in the Pennsylvania state park system.

### Directions

The 23-acre Mont Alto State Park is in Franklin County. It can be reached from Caledonia State Park on US 30, the Lincoln Highway, by traveling seven miles south on PA 233 or, from the south, travel north on PA 233, one mile from the town of Mont Alto.

### Recreational Opportunities

**FISHING:** The West Branch of Antietam Creek flows through the park and offers excellent trout fishing.

**HIKING:** Local mountain roads offer interesting short hikes and a flora that attracts a diversity of wildlife, especially woodland birds.

**PICNICKING:** Two picnic areas contain grills, tables, and two picnic pavilions.

### History

Mont Alto Park was once part of the Mont Alto Iron Works. Maryland iron furnace operators, Colonel Daniel Hughes and sons Daniel and Samuel, built Mont Alto Furnace in 1806-1807 on land given to Colonel Hughes' father by Lord Baltimore. Colonel Hughes died in 1809. When Daniel died in 1824, ownership passed to Samuel, then to his son John Holker Hughes in 1855.

John Holker Hughes sold the ironworks in 1864 to George Weistling and associates. To improve efficiency of getting their iron products to market, Weistling and company built the Mont Alto Railroad in 1872. The railroad connected with the Cumberland Valley Rail Road near Scotland, Pennsylvania. To help keep the railroad profitable the ironworks capitalized on city folks seeking rest and relaxation in beautiful natural settings by opening Mont Alto Park in 1875. Along with the natural beauty of the mountain valley, the park offered a dance pavilion, bowling alleys, quoit and croquet courts, shooting gallery, dining room, and a merry-go-round. Railroad profits soared as it brought visitors to the attractive mountain setting in the 1880s.

Weistling became the sole owner of the Mont Alto Iron Company in 1889 and died three years later. The ironwork began to fail and ceased operation by 1893. Dr. Joseph Rothrock began talks for the ironworks' lands to be acquired by the Pennsylvania Forest Commission for the new forestry school. Old

Mont Alto Park was still a popular forest retreat so on May 1, 1902, Mont Alto became the first state forest park.

### Nearby Attractions

Information on nearby attractions is available from the Franklin County Visitor's Bureau. 717-552-2977. [www.explorefranklincountypa.com](http://www.explorefranklincountypa.com)

Adjacent to the park is the **Mont Alto Campus of the Pennsylvania State University**. At the Campus Chapel, the famed abolitionist John Brown taught Sunday school while living in Chambersburg and planning his raid on the Harpers Ferry Arsenal.

The 96,000-acre **Michaux State Forest** features hunting, fishing, and general outdoor recreation. The 611-acre Meeting of the Pines State Forest Natural Area is just north of the park in the Michaux State Forest. Northern and southern species of pine grow in this area, including table mountain pine, pitch pine, short-leaf pine, white pine, and Virginia pine. 717-352-2211

### Trash Disposal and Recycling

Mont Alto State Park participates in a carry-in/carry-out trash disposal program for small parks. There are no collection or recycling facilities. Visitors are asked to limit the amount of disposable items brought to the park and to take all trash, garbage, and recyclables home with them.



### Access for People with Disabilities

This symbol indicates facilities and activities that are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible for people with disabilities. This publication text is available in alternative formats.

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the park you plan to visit.



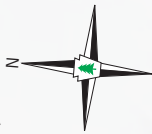
### In an Emergency

Call 911 and contact a park employee. For directions to the nearest hospital, look on bulletin boards.

#### NEAREST HOSPITAL

Chambersburg Hospital  
112 North Seventh Street  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
717-267-3000

Mont Alto Campus  
Penn State  
University



# MONT ALTO STATE PARK

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Meeting of the  
Pines Natural Area

MICHAUX

STATE

FOREST

MICHAUX

STATE

FOREST



Blue Symbols

Mean ADA Accessible

Picnic Area

Picnic Pavilion

Playground

Restrooms

Gate

Hiking Trail

Unpaved Road

Parking ADA Accessible

Gravel Parking

State Park No Hunting

CONTOURS ARE ON  
50 FT. INTERVALS

1200  
1150

To PA 997 &  
Mont Alto, 1 Mi.

Dance  
Pavilion

Playfield

West  
Branch

Antietam  
Creek

Bank  
Pavilion

Chestnut Spring  
Monument

To South Mountain, 4 Mi. &  
Caledonia State Park, 7.5 Mi.

50 0 50 100 METERS

200 0 200 400 FEET

PRIVATE LAND

Rev. 7/25/17

