Lehigh Gap Trail System

All trails are open from dawn to dusk. Biking is allowed on the D&L Trail, Bobolink Trail, and LNE Trail west of the Bobolink Trail. Horseback riding is allowed on the same trails, but in Carbon County only. Motorized vehicles, hunting, weapons, and camping are prohibited on the Refuge.
Explore Lehigh Gap Nature Center

The more than 750-acre LGNC Wildlife Refuge has 13 miles of trails with connections to the Appalachian, D&L, and Lehigh River Water trails. Here are a few suggested loop hikes:

**Osprey House Loop**
Take a walk around the Osprey House and look for wildlife in four distinct habitats: pond, scrub, forest, and river.

- 0.5 mile loop
- Difficulty level: easy
- Time: half hour

**Restoration Loop**
Hike through the Lehigh Gap and learn about the history of the corridor and the restoration.

- 2.2 mile loop
- Difficulty level: easy/moderate
- Time: 1 to 1.5 hrs

**Mountain Top Loop**
Climb the mountain and enjoy scenic views of the Kittatinny Ridge.

- 4 mile loop
- Difficulty level: challenging
- Time: 2 to 3 hrs

Circles the Osprey House; if starting at the pond, head uphill to the Prairie Warbler (PW) Trail across the driveway; PW Trail loops around to the north side of the Osprey House; cross the driveway and continue toward the river either around the drive or through our habitat garden; head north on the D&L briefly to pick up the River Trail; trail loops back to the pond.

**Points of interest:** Scrub habitat along the PW Trail is ideal for nesting Prairie Warblers, Field Sparrows, and Indigo Buntings in spring and summer. The River Trail passes through the riparian zone, which serves as a buffer against environmental impacts and supports life in and around the river. In warmer months, keep an eye out for black rat snakes (non-venomous), nesting orioles, warblers, vireos, and rare native plants.

Includes a section of the D&L Trail (part of the 165-mile Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Trail running from Bristol to Wilkes-Barre) and the LNE Trail, former railroad path for the Lehigh & New England line. Head north from the Osprey House and hike either the D&L or LNE to the Bobolink Trail and back on the opposite trail.

**Points of interest:** Read signage about local history along the LNE. The grassland restoration area and the site of the former New Jersey Zinc Company West Plant can be viewed from nearby the intersection of the LNE, Bobolink, and Prairie Grass trails. In warmer months, look for Tree Swallows and bluebirds nesting in boxes along both trails. Along the D&L, keep an eye out for amphibians in the springs and Common Mergansers on the Lehigh River.

From the Osprey House, take the Prairie Warbler Trail to the Woodpecker Trail to connect with the Appalachian Trail (AT). Use caution to follow the Woodpecker Trail blazes through rocky ground until you reach the AT intersection (do not follow the white spray painted gamelands trail). Turn right on the AT (uniform rectangular white blazes) and right again on the North Trail (blue blazes) to summit the 1,400 ft. ridge and return to the Osprey House by way of the Charcoal, Prairie Grass, and LNE trails.

**Points of interest:** The AT runs 2,200 miles from Maine to Georgia, attracting hikers from around the world. You’ll pass an AT shelter and spring along this hike. You are welcome to use the spring (filtration/treatment recommended), but the shelter is for through-hikers only. The view of the east side of the ridge from the North/Charcoal intersection is superb.

For more information, contact us at 610-760-8889 or mail@lgnc.org or visit www.lgnc.org