

A couple is walking away from the camera on a paved path through a forest. The man is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and light blue jeans, and the woman is wearing a beige sweater and dark pants. They are holding hands. The path is lined with trees and a wooden fence on the left. The background is filled with green foliage and a hot air balloon graphic in the upper right corner. The text "Pennsylvania's" is written in a blue script font above "Crawford County", which is in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. Below "Crawford County" is "VisitCrawford" in a smaller, blue sans-serif font. A white sun graphic is on the left side of the text.

Pennsylvania's
Crawford County
VisitCrawford

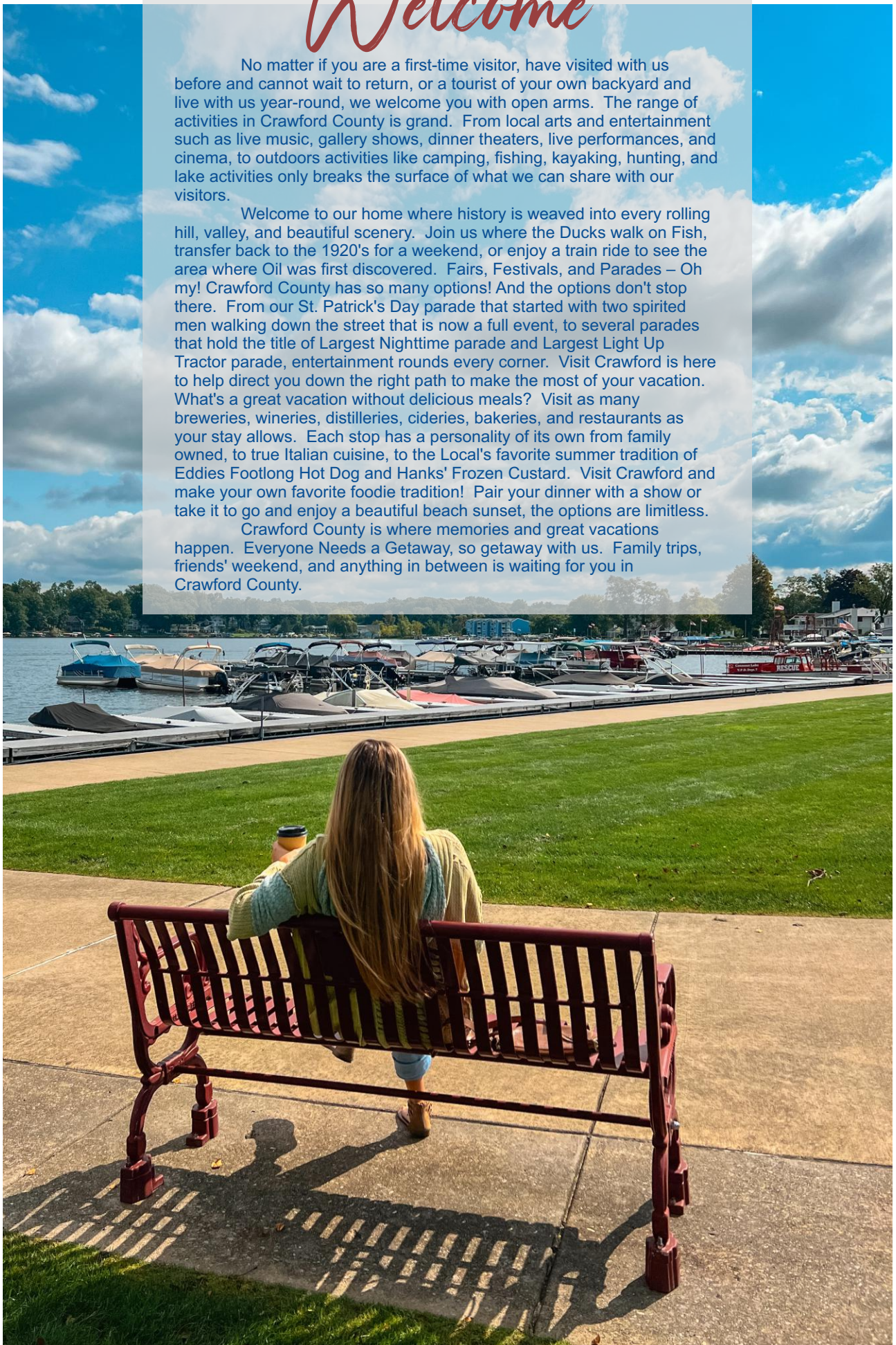
VisitCrawford.org

Welcome

No matter if you are a first-time visitor, have visited with us before and cannot wait to return, or a tourist of your own backyard and live with us year-round, we welcome you with open arms. The range of activities in Crawford County is grand. From local arts and entertainment such as live music, gallery shows, dinner theaters, live performances, and cinema, to outdoors activities like camping, fishing, kayaking, hunting, and lake activities only breaks the surface of what we can share with our visitors.

Welcome to our home where history is weaved into every rolling hill, valley, and beautiful scenery. Join us where the Ducks walk on Fish, transfer back to the 1920's for a weekend, or enjoy a train ride to see the area where Oil was first discovered. Fairs, Festivals, and Parades – Oh my! Crawford County has so many options! And the options don't stop there. From our St. Patrick's Day parade that started with two spirited men walking down the street that is now a full event, to several parades that hold the title of Largest Nighttime parade and Largest Light Up Tractor parade, entertainment rounds every corner. Visit Crawford is here to help direct you down the right path to make the most of your vacation. What's a great vacation without delicious meals? Visit as many breweries, wineries, distilleries, cideries, bakeries, and restaurants as your stay allows. Each stop has a personality of its own from family owned, to true Italian cuisine, to the Local's favorite summer tradition of Eddies Footlong Hot Dog and Hanks' Frozen Custard. Visit Crawford and make your own favorite foodie tradition! Pair your dinner with a show or take it to go and enjoy a beautiful beach sunset, the options are limitless.

Crawford County is where memories and great vacations happen. Everyone Needs a Getaway, so getaway with us. Family trips, friends' weekend, and anything in between is waiting for you in Crawford County.



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Museums & Historical
Dining

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PHOTO CREDITS

Jay Witosky
OC&T Railroad
Pymatuning State Park
Crawford County Historical Society
Conneaut Lake Historical Society
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Darl Black

local Resources

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www.crawfordcountypa.net

Senator Michele Brooks
50th District
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State Rep. Brad Roae
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CRAWFORD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Eric Henry
ehenry@co.crawford.pa.us

Scott T. Schell
sschell@co.crawford.pa.us

Christopher R. Seeley
cseeley@co.crawford.pa.us

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First

FRIDAYS



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Individual Store Specials

2026

February 6

March 6

April 3

May 1

June 5

August 7

September 4

October 2

November 6

December 4

2027

February 5

March 5



**For detail list of
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Other Events
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Small Town, Big Spirit: The Ultimate 2026 Guide to Crawford County Events

2026 is not just another year in Crawford County. As the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary, this corner of northwest Pennsylvania is marking the milestone in a way that feels authentic to its roots. Here, history is lived, agriculture is celebrated, and traditions are not recreated for visitors—they are shared. From hot air balloons floating above rolling valleys to tractors glowing under winter skies, these are the events that define Crawford County and make it unlike anywhere else.

Father's Day weekend, June 18–21, 2026, belongs to the Thurston Classic. With historic ties to 19th-century aeronaut Samuel Thurston, this event turns Meadville's skyline into a living canvas as competitive balloonists launch over the French Creek Valley. The signature moment is the Night Glow at Allegheny College, when tethered balloons illuminate the campus and create one of the most iconic visual scenes in the county.

Independence Day in 2026 carries added significance. An Old Fashioned Fourth on July 4 will serve as Crawford County's official semi-quincentennial celebration. Hosted at the Robertson Athletic Complex, the event is planned as the largest free, county-led birthday party in local history, featuring vintage games, community picnics, and a fireworks finale created specifically for America's 250th anniversary.

August turns attention to Titusville at the Titusville Oil Festival. Often called "the valley that changed the world," Titusville celebrates its role as the birthplace of the modern petroleum industry. Drake Day commemorates Edwin Drake's famous oil strike with living history demonstrations at the Drake Well Museum, along with parades and antique oil machinery displays found nowhere else.

No summer visit to Crawford County feels complete without a stop at the Pymatuning Spillway. While not a scheduled event, the peak-season carp feeding is a world-famous oddity where ducks appear to walk across the backs of densely packed fish, making it a must-do experience during any warm-weather weekend.

Crawford County's fair season offers three distinct ways to experience the region's agricultural roots, each with its own personality and appeal.

The season begins with the Cochranon Community Fair (August 3–8, 2026), a classic hometown fair where livestock shows, youth competitions, and evening entertainment create a welcoming, small-town atmosphere. It is an easy entry point for visitors looking to experience rural life without the crowds.

From August 22–29, 2026, the focus shifts to the Crawford County Fair, one of the largest agricultural fairs in the region. Harness racing, expansive barns, and signature foods like maple milkshakes and ox roast sandwiches make this a full-scale experience that anchors late summer in Crawford County.

As September arrives, the Spartansburg Community Fair (September 1–6, 2026) offers a more heritage-driven experience. Tractor pulls and antique machinery displays highlight the county's farming past and provide a slower, more nostalgic way to close out fair season.

Together, these fairs show agriculture not as a single event, but as a living tradition woven through the county's calendar.

Each fall, downtown Meadville hosts the Meadville Halloween Parade, an event frequently cited as one of the largest nighttime parades in Pennsylvania. With more than 100 units, elaborate floats, performance groups, and powerful sound systems, the parade turns the city into a glowing, high-energy spectacle after dark. The route winds through the heart of downtown and around the historic Meadville Market House, creating a dramatic backdrop that blends history with pageantry. Longtime attendees know to arrive early with lawn chairs to secure a viewing spot, as crowds line the streets well before the first units roll through. For visitors, it is one of the most electric nights of the year and a signature fall experience in Crawford County.

Trees of Christmas at the Baldwin Reynolds House Museum, a biennial event where the Meadville Garden Club transforms a 19th-century mansion into a Victorian holiday showpiece filled with themed trees and seasonal décor.

In Titusville, the season takes on a festive glow with Holiday at the Burgess, a holiday tradition set in Burgess Park. While the lighted display can be enjoyed as a drive-through experience, select weekends often include special in-person moments with Santa, reindeer, and even the Grinch, giving families multiple ways to experience the event throughout the season.

Crawford County also leans fully into its agricultural identity during the holidays. The Linesville Lighted Tractor Parade in December features everything from modern farm equipment to antique tractors wrapped in thousands of LED lights—a uniquely rural take on seasonal celebration and one of the county's most distinctive winter traditions.

While often associated with holiday events, the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad is a year-round experience that connects many of these seasonal traditions. Operating excursions through Oil Creek State Park, the railroad offers a relaxed way to experience the Oil Creek Valley in every season. Spring and summer rides highlight forested hillsides and river views, fall foliage trips are among the most popular in the region, and winter excursions provide a quiet, snow-dusted perspective on the valley's history. Specialty rides throughout the year reinforce Titusville's role in the birth of the petroleum industry, making the railroad as much a moving museum as a scenic attraction.

Why 2026 Matters Here

Crawford County does not simply host events—it expresses its identity through them. In 2026, those traditions are amplified by a national milestone and a renewed focus on what makes this place distinctive: history that changed the world, agriculture that still shapes daily life, and communities that show up in every season. For visitors and locals alike, 2026 is the year to experience Crawford County at its most authentic.

Stay in the loop with events and more, follow our Facebook page, download our App, and check out the Events Calendar on our website.

*Event details were as of the date this article was published and are subject to change, please see the actual event for current details and information.



There's a Story Here!

Parades, three cornered hats, sprinklers, and flags along people lined streets as marching bands and floats pass by...if this image evokes memories of your childhood, you may be thinking back to the United States Bicentennial in 1976 and festivities celebrating 200 years of our American story.

The reason for triggering this visual, however, is to ask a simple question - why? Why are we celebrating America's 250th birthday more so than every other Independence Day? What can we learn from the struggles and successes of our ancestors - nine generations earlier? What material from our high school history classes do we wish we remembered as our children sit in the back seat of vehicles on the way to a family vacation asking questions? Why?

Visit Crawford and the Crawford County Historical Society have several opportunities throughout the next year to learn more, get excited about, be inspired by, and participate in to answer those nagging "why" questions. We are excited to announce a full year of countywide celebrations, totalling over 25 in number!

We've decorated our 1921 Model T Ford Depot Hack with plans to travel the county, heading to schools and libraries countywide.

Throughout 2026, we'll be celebrating with events each month including speakers, outdoor movies, a bus trip to Philadelphia, cemetery wreath ceremonies, parades, family festivals, and yes - fireworks! You can find those on the Crawford County Historical Society's website (CrawfordHistorical.org/Events), social media (Facebook and Instagram), the Crawford County Visitors Bureau, and your local newspaper.

This year is not only a year to celebrate our nation, but one to celebrate you, the people who live in or visit Crawford County - you are the ones who this celebration is truly for - the people who have lived, worked, innovated, explored, and inspired for generations - making our county, and our nation, something special. Happy Semiquincentennial, Crawford! We're excited to celebrate with you in 2026!

Camping

When it comes to camping, Crawford County offers a wide range of camping options and you will have plenty of fun activities to entertain the whole family. Crawford has 8 amazing lakes to boat, fish, canoe, kayak and of course swimming! Some campsites that have lake front views. There is nothing like sitting around a glowing, crackling campfire making smores or toasting marshmallows. Crawford County has many hiking and biking trails to stay fit on vacation. Go to VisitCrawford.org for a list of camping sites and what they have to offer.

The Pymatuning State Park Campgrounds include Linesville, Jamestown for a total of 400 campsites and Tuttle Point will be re-opening soon. About half of the campsites have 30-amp electricity and pets are permitted on all sites. Pymatuning State Park also has 25 modern cabins, some being ADA accessible. Jamestown, the larger of the two state campgrounds, has modern facilities, including showers and flush toilets. About half of the campsites have electricity, and many sites are full service (water, 30/50 amp electric and sewer). There is a boat launch, beach, camp store, amphitheater and a playground, and pets are permitted on designated sites. The twenty modern cabins located near the Jamestown Campground are available for year-round use. Some cabins have two bedrooms, some three bedrooms. There are pet-friendly cabins available, too. The beach at Linesville has a brand-new playground. Be sure to check out the Learning Center in the Park, events happen all summer long.

If you're looking for more modern facilities with your camping adventure, then Crawford County offers plenty of private camping facilities that provide all kinds of family fun and highly rated campgrounds! Many of the private campgrounds provide full service facilities (water, 30/50 amp electric, and sewer). Private campgrounds offer outdoor recreation of all kinds including swimming pools, some offer catch and release fishing, playgrounds, hiking trails at the campground, volleyball, basketball, horseshoes, paddle boats, mini golf, jumping pillows, or pedal karts. Most provide family fun entertainment and planned activities for your whole family! Look for those that offer modern utilities like Wi-Fi and cable TV if that is on your list of must-haves. And of course, private campgrounds offer cabins too. Cabins can range from primitive (beds, table, and electric) to "glamping" (more glamorous camping) which include full service cabins with TV! And of course, private campgrounds provide picnic tables and fire rings at their campsites whether you seek to cook an outdoor meal for your family, make s'mores with the kids, or just enjoy relaxing by the campfire! Private campgrounds are where nature and modern conveniences meet. Reservations can be made through each private campground directly, and some provide online reservations as well.

So whether you want to "rough it" with a more primitive experience or camp at a private campground with all the luxuries, Crawford County has it!







Behind Every Adventure Story **IS A GOOD CUP OF COFFEE**

Traveling is long and can sometimes take a lot out of you! Before setting out on your adventures, it's important to start the day right. In Crawford County, we love coffee and don't mess around when it comes to brewing the perfect cup. These local coffee shops and cafes take their caffeinated calling seriously with unique ambiances and amazing flavors to offer any weary traveler. If COFFEE gets you started, you landed on the perfect page.

Crawford County is home to several quaint coffee shops. If you are near the Linesville area, or traveling through, be sure to stop at Twin Pies. As the name suggest, you can get more than just coffee here! Just like Grandma's and baked fresh daily, Twin Pies is home to some of the best pie around. In addition to pies and coffee, you can also get savory sandwiches from their deli counter as well.

As you travel closer to the center of Crawford County you would encounter Vacavi Café. Proudly owned by lifelong Crawford County residents, Vacavi Café is the place to spend your mornings or early afternoons. Seasonal food features, yummy treats, and locally sourced products, Vacavi is perfect to take a break from your road trip and enjoy the view of Conneaut Lake.

Continuing down 'the pike' as the locals might say, brings you into the center of Crawford County, Meadville, where coffee shops are not in short supply. French Creek Coffee and Tea Co., formerly known as Tarot Bean, has expanded up the street to

their beautifully renovated space. Housing not only great made-to-order coffee and tea beverages, French Creek Coffee and Tea co. has their roasters in-house, with grand windows so you can watch the process. You can buy beans to go, or grab some pastries and head up to their Library for a unique place to work outside of the office.

On lower Chestnut Street, another coffee shop is JT's SteamTable Restaurant and Catering. In the summer they feature their Black Cat Alley patio seating that makes you forget you're in the middle of town. Specializing in southern-flair cooking and in-house flavored coffee, JT's SteamTable is great for a quick coffee pick-me-up or a casual lunch stop. If you are traveling around the east side of the county,

one of the coolest local coffee shops is a shop within a shop. The Mercantile at Towne Square in Titusville, known to us as "the Merc", is home to several great shops, including Coffee Days.



*Good coffee is a pleasure,
good friends are a treasure!*
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Wine and Dine at These Fine Restaurants

Polish your dinner shoes and get ready for an evening to remember! These restaurants are ideal for a romantic date night, special celebrations, or when you're in the mood for something a bit more upscale. Explore our top picks for a truly delightful dining experience.

Silver Shores

A staple on Conneaut Lake's shores since 1930, this lakeside restaurant features dishes from prime rib to fish sandwiches. Top it off with a cocktail and a lovely view of the lake and it's a magical way to spend an evening.

The Venango Valley Inn

This historic inn in Venango is home to some of the most delectable dining around. Seafood, pasta and favorites from the grill... The Venango Valley Inn will not disappoint. With beautiful dining rooms decorated with antiques and windows facing their golf course, every meal tastes just as good as the view.

TimberCreek Tap & Table

Located in Meadville, TimberCreek Tap & Table is known for its savory food and for brewing their own handcrafted ales. With a diverse menu and inviting atmosphere, this can be a fancy date night event, a filling, casual lunch spot or you can even rent out the taproom for parties.

The Rambler

The Rambler in Cambridge Springs has a fresh new look and menu, offering a modern twist on American classics. Inspired by the adventurous tales of Leon Ray Livingston, their dishes are a mix of local flavors and wanderlust. With a stunning view of the Riverside golf course, it's the perfect spot for a special dinner or a memorable evening out.

Julian's Bar & Grille

A classic restaurant with an edgy twist and outdoor seating with a downtown view. That's the perfect way to describe this Meadville grill. With a full bar and tons of sandwiches to choose from, this is the best lunch spot. Their burgers, tacos and sandwiches each have a quirky take that makes them equally unique and delicious.

The Crooked Paddle

Only a short distance from the famous Linesville Spillway, this newly remodeled pub is a must when visiting Crawford County. Dine on classic American fare and on the weekends try their delicious homestyle dinners.

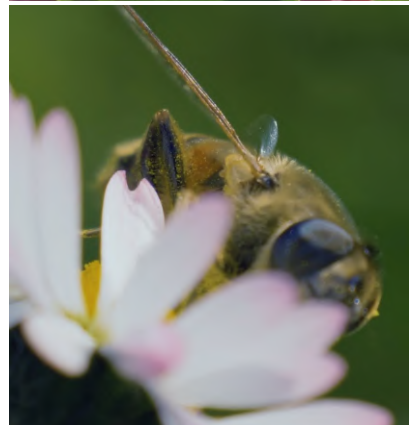
there's a story here

Spring

HERE COMES THE SUN AND WARM WEATHER FUN!

As the snow melts and the ice thaws, our festivities turn from snow tubing and skiing to golfing and biking. Spring in Crawford County is an exciting time of transition as flowers begin to bloom (including our famous rhododendrons) and residents trade in their snowshoes for their hiking boots. Warm weather activities begin to ramp up with local music coming out of hibernation, our parks turning green and longer days giving us more time in the sun.

The railroad in Titusville offers its famous train excursions, First Fridays and Second Saturdays fill our downtowns with music and vendors and our breweries, cideries and wineries open their patios and launch their spring flavors. With fresh flowers and lush landscapes, write your next chapter in Crawford County's spring season!





THURSTON CLASSIC

Ballooning has a very long history in Meadville. The Thurstons were a Meadville family who were involved with ballooning in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Samuel Sylvester Thurston was born in 1834, and operated a hotel in Meadville. In 1860, Samuel learned how to fly from noted balloonist, Professor Steiner, and purchased a balloon. Townspeople were skeptical, but over the next 25 years, Samuel made 215 ascensions in his balloon. He enjoyed sharing his unusual sport with others, flying without charge at fairs, exhibitions, and 4th of July celebrations.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Alic Thurston began ballooning in 1889. His first public ascension in 1891 abruptly ended when his balloon caught on the wiring of the newly-installed street lights of Meadville and never took off. Alic later built a number of balloons, including one that he christened the "Meadville". The Meadville was constructed of 576 yards of muslin, and stood 64 feet high. It had a volume of 35,000 feet, which is only half the size of a modern sport hot-air balloon, but comparable to the gas balloons still flown in competition today. He had many accomplishments, as well as misadventures, and is the gentleman who launched his balloon from the roof of the Market House in downtown Meadville, the same one you see today.



In 1988 a group of volunteers decided to commemorate the daring feats of the Thurston's during the Meadville Bicentennial celebration. Since 1988 the Thurston Classic has brought beautiful balloons to the brilliant skies over Meadville, Pennsylvania and the surrounding Crawford County. Thanks to an army of volunteers and local community and business support the balloons will take to the skies each Father's Day Weekend.



there's a story here

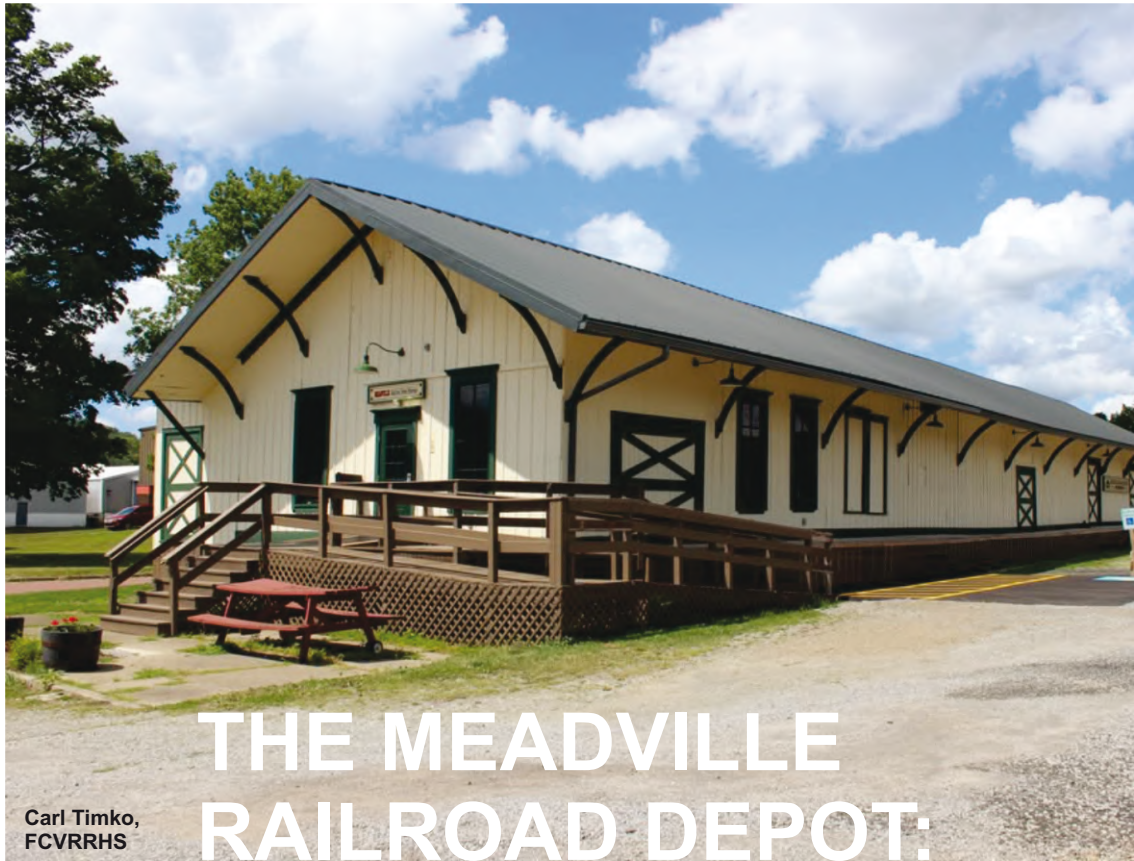
Summer

GET READY TO SWIM, SAIL AND SIP.

Once summer arrives in northwestern Pennsylvania with all of its bright, sunny days, our communities come alive with events, activities and so many ways to soak up the sun. Crawford County celebrates summer to the fullest with lush golf courses, festivals and fairs, and wine and beer tastings galore. Outdoor concert series hosted by our cideries, breweries, and distilleries fill the season with music from local favorite artists. Our 8 local lakes and noble waterways are summer hotspots with swimming, paddleboarding, kayaking and boating all on the docket.

Crawford County is also the home of the largest agricultural fair east of the Mississippi every August. Visitors can play games, enjoy nationally renowned talent and taste classic fair food. There are so many opportunities to learn lesser-known facts about Pennsylvania's unique history. In the summertime, our museums and historical sites come alive with stories of the past and events to immerse you in America's rural past.





Carl Timko,
FCVRRHS

THE MEADVILLE RAILROAD DEPOT:

HONORING CRAWFORD COUNTY'S INDUSTRIAL HISTORY

Owned by the French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society (FCVRRHS), the Meadville Railroad Depot began when the newly formed group was searching for a place to call home. Not only did they need a permanent location, but also wanted to store and display the history of the area's railroads for the community. At one time, forty-five percent of the population of Meadville worked for the railroads, making this a valuable part of Meadville's history. The FCVRRHS wanted to honor those who worked — some folks for their entire lives — on the railroads. Not only were the railroads the lifeforce of Meadville's economic growth during this period, but they kept the entire country running, especially during times of war and depression.

To help spread community awareness about the area's important railroad history, the organization designated the Museum Committee to collaborate with the National Tooling & Machining Association, the Johnson-Shaw Stereoscopic Museum, the Crawford County Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Crawford County Historical Society to form the Northwest Pennsylvania Railroad and Tooling Heritage Center. The goal was to share information and experiences to find a way to establish and build a museum that contained artifacts from the railroading industry and the tooling industry, both industries that put Meadville on the map. The Crawford County Historical Society also played an important role in helping the FCVRRHS grow its membership.



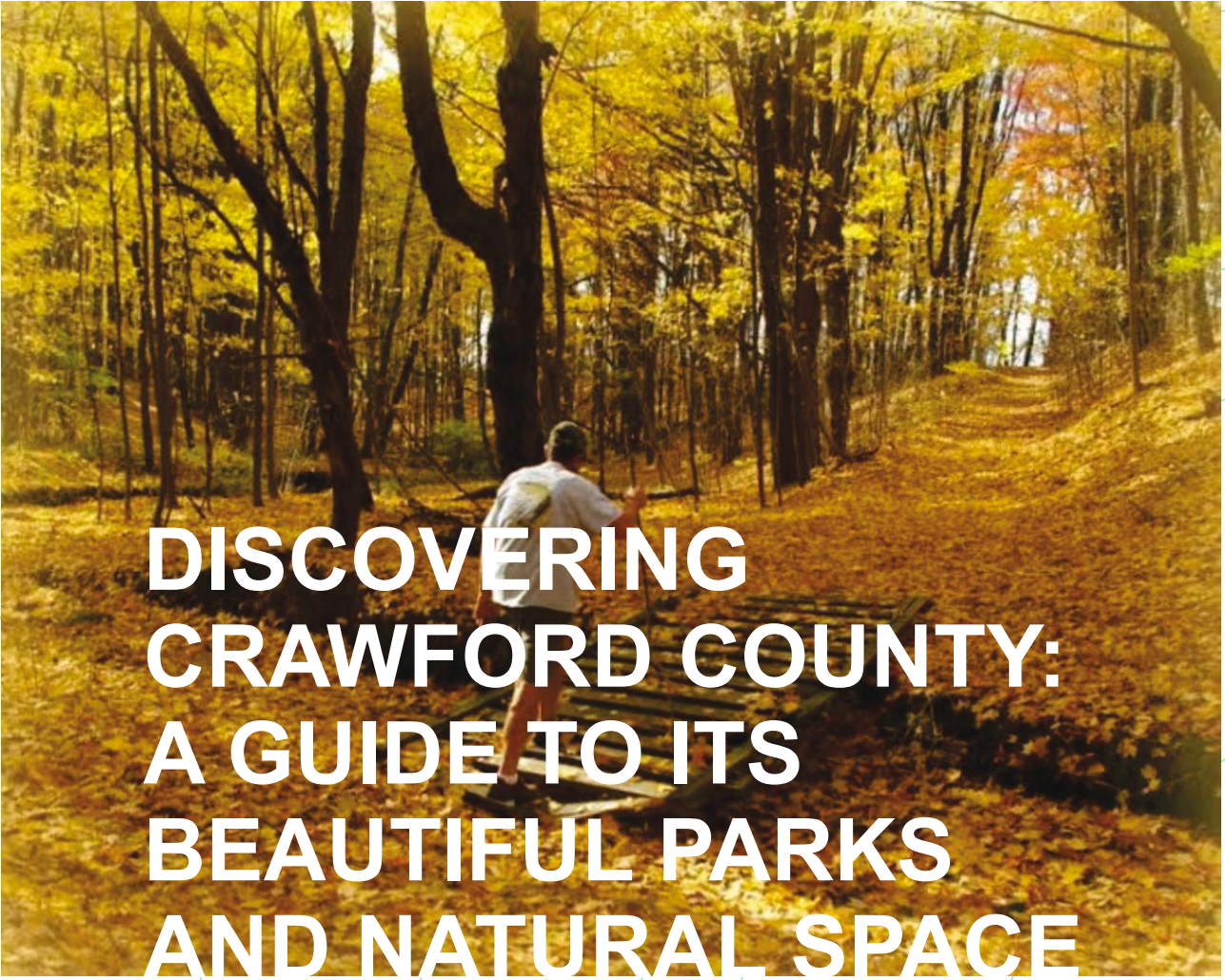
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GolfWhisperingPines.com



Avalanchexpresstubing.com



DISCOVERING CRAWFORD COUNTY: A GUIDE TO ITS BEAUTIFUL PARKS AND NATURAL SPACE

Nestled in the heart of Pennsylvania, Crawford County boasts an impressive collection of parks that offer residents and visitors alike a perfect escape into nature. Each park, from sprawling state parks to charming city green spaces, serves as a cornerstone of community life, promoting health, wellness, and environmental stewardship.

State Parks: The Crown Jewels of Crawford County

Pymatuning State Park stands out as one of the largest state parks in Pennsylvania. This park is a treasure trove of activities, featuring the expansive Pymatuning Reservoir—Pennsylvania's largest lake. Here, families can enjoy boating, fishing, and swimming. The park is also equipped with extensive camping facilities, miles of hiking trails, and dedicated wildlife viewing areas, including sites for observing majestic bald eagles. The Linesville Spillway, where visitors famously feed the fish, offers a unique, hands-on nature experience that captivates all ages.



City Parks: Meadville's Urban Retreats

Meadville, the county seat, is rich with well-maintained city parks that cater to a variety of interests and activities. Diamond Park, located centrally, is not only picturesque but also a hub for community events and a peaceful spot for midday picnics. Nearby, Roche Park focuses on outdoor recreation and nature preservation, providing a green sanctuary within the urban landscape. These parks are complemented by others like Oak Grove Park and Lord Mason Park, which offer additional recreational options including playgrounds, sports facilities, and ample space for family gatherings and community festivals.

Titusville's Tranquil Treasures

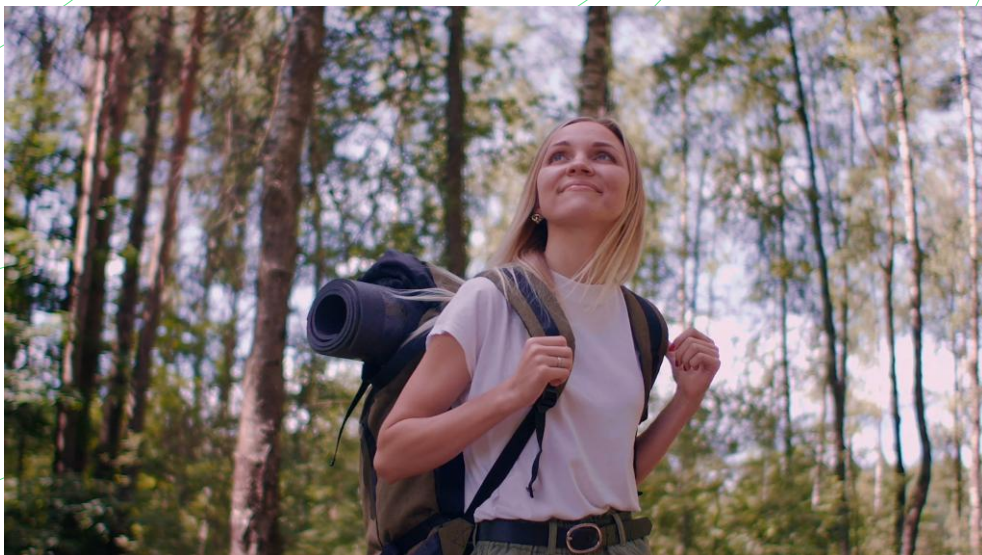
Titusville adds to Crawford County's park offerings with spots like Burgess Park and Drake Well Park, a favorite for sports and recreation with its extensive facilities, and Oil Creek State Park known for its serene fishing and picnic areas. Scheide Park in downtown Titusville is a focal point for community gatherings, hosting events and concerts that bring residents together in celebration of local culture.

Exploring More Hidden Gems in Crawford County

Crawford County also features a variety of other parks and natural areas that provide ample opportunities for recreation and relaxation. Woodcock Lake Park is perfect for water sports or a quiet day by the water. Ernst Trail offers a scenic path for walking and cycling, and Lincoln Avenue Sports Complex is a hub for community sports. Fifth Ward Playground, Lord Mason Park, and Hasbrouck Park provide safe and engaging spaces for children and families. The Arc Community Greenspace serves as a vibrant hub for community engagement, offering a serene setting where residents can gather, relax, and enjoy various outdoor activities surrounded by nature's beauty.

Beyond Recreation: The Role of Parks in Crawford County

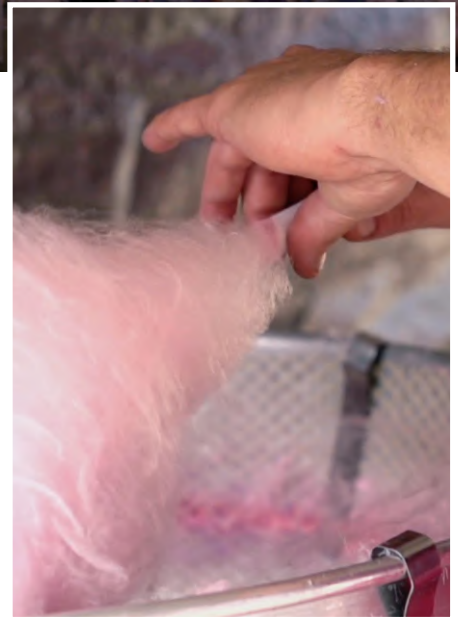
The parks of Crawford County are more than just recreational spaces; they are vital to the community's health and well-being. They provide essential green spaces that enhance the quality of life, offer environmental education opportunities, and serve as venues for meaningful cultural exchanges and community events. For instance, Pymatuning State Park's environmental education programs help foster a deeper appreciation for the natural world among residents and visitors.



FAIRS



Amid a world of complication, Crawford County is a destination where people can enjoy the simplicity of life through tangible, authentic experiences. Here is where creativity thrives through artisans and craftsmen whose unique ideas and expressions can be found inside the main street shops and stores in towns and cities across the county. Crawford County is a place where performers are encouraged to sing, dance, and act at venues and on stages both big and small. It's also a place where taste matters in the form of bakers, roasters, brewers, and distillers who understand how to make mouths water without pretension. And before farm-to-table was a thing, it was a way of life here from our earliest days when people proudly shared their fresh produce, livestock, and homegoods at farmer's markets and fairs – a tradition so ingrained in our story that it's still told today at the state's oldest operational market house and its largest agricultural fair.





& FESTIVALS

A Community Story



Fairs play an important role in the community by bringing people together to enjoy various forms of entertainment, food, and activities. They provide a platform for showcasing local talent and promoting the heritage of rural life. The Cochran, Crawford County, and Spartanburg fairs specifically offer unique and exciting experiences that cater to all interests and ages. Attending these fairs is an excellent way to celebrate the local community. Don't miss out on these enriching and enjoyable events and all that Crawford County has to offer! Mark your calendars and download our app. Make the most of your summer, and enjoy an unforgettable time with family and friends.





Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad & Caboose Motel

Three hour round-trip on a vintage train through the Oil Creek valley. Murder Mystery Rides, Santa & Peter Cottontail Express and other exciting events.



octrr.org



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The Meadville Garden Club
Trees of Christmas
Classic Christmas Movies



Nov. 20, 21 & 22 and Nov. 27, 28 & 29, 2026



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834 Bessemer St., Meadville
- Adjacent Parking At Holland Hall, 681 Terrace St.
where you will follow a path to the event

- Unique Gifts & Sweet Shop
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- Raffles •Drawings
- Beautifully Decorated Trees and Rooms



Noon - 8PM - Admission \$5 - Students \$2

For more Information - Visit Crawford.org or Phone: 814-333-1258



South Porch Exit
Merry Christmas to All
 Thank You For Visiting!
 Tree Chairpersons,
 Allison, Nicola and Heather

Through The Valley that Changed the World

OC&T Railroad



The Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad, located in Titusville, Pennsylvania, takes visitors on a journey through "the Valley that Changed the World".

Passengers travel through Oil Creek State Park in vintage railcars dating back to the 1940's and even as far back as the 1920's. Visitors experience the park & wildlife up close from the open car.

The train is host to many different events through the season, starting with the Peter Cottontail run around Easter, followed by school runs in early May, and June is the start of our regular season. We then run between 2-5 days a week, depending on the month, along with Murder Mystery Dinner trains and Wine Tasting Trains, and Christmas in July, where Santa & Mrs. Clause ride to share their vacation with the children on board the train. We are also working in conjunction with Benson Memorial Library, in Titusville, to bring the kids "Story Time on the Train", as well as special recognition days, for residents of the two counties within which we operate. We wrap up the season with Santa trains at the end of November and early December, where Santa rides the train and speaks with the children. However, our busiest time of the year is October when we operate 5 days a week and people are riding to see the gorgeous colors of fall along the Oil Creek Valley.

there's a story here

Fall

FALL INTO FUN IN CRAWFORD COUNTY

Fall in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, paints a picturesque scene of nature's transition, as lush forests and rolling hills transform into a rich tapestry of fiery hues. The landscape becomes a symphony of oranges, reds, and yellows, with leaves crunching underfoot and a crispness in the air that invigorates the senses. Amidst this breathtaking backdrop, charming towns like Meadville and Conneaut Lake come alive with seasonal festivities, apple picking at local orchards, and leisurely strolls along peaceful country roads. As daylight gradually wanes, the warmth of community and the beauty of the season converge, making Fall in Crawford County a time of both reflection and vibrant celebration.

Whatever floats your boat, Crawford County will put the wind in your sails.



6 Breweries That Raise The Bar

DID YOU KNOW THAT CRAWFORD COUNTY HAS SOME OF THE BEST CRAFT BEER AND LOCAL CIDER IN THE REGION?

1

Timber Creek Tap & Table

Lovers of beer and burgers will find their happy place at this Meadville tap-and-table brewery. TimberCreek works with a 10bbl system to brew beer on-site, with four flagship beers available year-round and plenty of seasonal drafts available so you can experience something new every time you drop by.

2

Voodoo Brewery

Voodoo Brewing Co.'s employees and owners pride themselves on their ability to infuse their distinct, quirky personalities into the beers they craft and their unique dining space.

3

Riverside Brewing Co.

Found at the former location of the historic Riverside Inn, Riverside Brewing Co. is a picturesque county favorite. Fun fact: this brewery is housed in a rustic barn originally built in the 1800s! This dog-friendly venue is a great spot to soak up some sun and enjoy a rounded selection of unique craft beers and delicious dishes.

4

Orr's Brewing Co.

In historic Titusville, Orr's microbrewery tapped their first official beer in 2017 as one of the newer brewpubs in the region. Their expansive rotating tap list features 10 draft beers on any given day, plus one nitro! Orr pays homage to the rich history of the town with their well-loved Crude Oil Stout.

5

Mortals Key Brewing Co.

Along the edge of Pymatuning State Park lies Mortals Key Brewing Co., a combination of Old World recipes and nonconformist artistry. Their small batch approach begins with fresh spring water from their 100-acre farm. Find your freedom along the lake with a deep copper Altbier or a light Kolsch. Take a break from the sun in their funky industrial-barn style tasting room or bring your pets to hang outside on the spacious outdoor patio.

6

Davenport Fruit Farm Cidery & Winery

Sip a variety of delicious ciders, wines and mixed drinks in Davenport's restored barn tasting room, or take it outside to enjoy their dog-friendly, beautiful patio overlooking the orchard. Made from their very own apples and fruit blends, their hard ciders are totally unique and as fresh as they come.



there's a story here

Winter

THE BEST WINTER HAS TO OFFER.

As a neighbor of Lake Erie, you might already know that Crawford County gets its fair share of deep snow and frigid temperatures every winter. What you might not know is that we don't spend this time hibernating here! Come to Crawford County to experience the best winter has to offer. Don't miss the annual Winter Ice House Park Festival at Conneaut Lake, where you can find incredible ice sculptures, live music, historic exhibits, and even a delicious chili cook-off. Both Pymatuning State Park and the Ernst Trail offer cross-country skiing for all of the snow bunnies, plus a 900 ft long tubing experience at the Avalanche Xpress! The Meadville Area Recreational Complex (MARC) offers family deals on ice skating and curling all season long, with opportunities for parties and lessons too.

During the height of the holiday season, head to Port Farms to cut down your own Christmas tree, then cozy up in Santa's Workshop with some hot cocoa while the kids decorate cookies and ornaments. You can also hop on a Christmas Carriage Ride during Meadville's Light-Up Night celebration or join the Santa Express on a ride through Oil Creek State Park or take a boat tour around Pennsylvania's largest natural glacier lake during the Conneaut Lake "Trees of Light" tour. Make the most of the snowy season with Crawford County.



4 HISTORIC SITES *You'll Want To See*



For those wanting to spend a rainy afternoon or a whole weekend immersed in history, Crawford County has a number of amenities that connect our region to not just regional history, but major events and individuals who shaped our nation's past. Join us as we explore everything from timeless architecture to the history of the underground railroad and the man that helped get Andrew Jackson elected President.





Beautiful paths and trails. Spring brings a spectacular show of blooms with one of the area's largest Rhododendron displays.



FOUR *Reasons to Travel*

Mt.Hope: The Baldwin Reynolds Estate

1 Every town in America, it seems, has their own house museum that relays the history of Dr. or Mr. or Mrs. "fill in name here" that was pivotal in helping to found the area in the 1800s. In Crawford County, however, the house museum was owned by a United States Supreme Court Justice... and he is responsible for helping to acquire Florida, the Missouri Compromise and many of our nation's tariff laws. Mount Hope: The Baldwin-Reynolds House Museum was the former home of United States Supreme Court Justice Henry Baldwin, who served on the bench from 1830 through 1844 after spending time in Congress and helping Andrew Jackson get elected President. Baldwin lived in the house a relatively short time (dying within a year of its completion), but his descendants (and future Mount Hope residents) were major figures in the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad as well as much of the development of this region.

Johnson Shaw Sterioscopic Museum

2 Long before television and even radio, people had to find amusements a little differently! In 1892, the Keystone View Company brought three-dimensional imagery to the common American home through the stereoscope – a contraption that exists in the hands of children today as the "View Master." Keystone View lives, from the world's leading manufacturer of stereoscopic technology to the world's leading museum of stereoscopic photography. Come take a trip around the world with Johnson-Shaw without leaving the building.

Greendale Cemetery

3 Serving as the main graveyard for the City of Meadville since 1852, Greendale Cemetery is much more than its name implies. The Cemetery is as much a park or arboretum as a burial ground. It features the landscape design of Herman Munz, an architect who helped lay out much of the older section of the cemetery as well as planted thousands of rhododendrons on the property. These blossoms are enjoyed by visitors and locals alike each spring. The cemetery features walking trails near a waterfall as well as the final resting places of the inventors of the zipper, the wife of a Supreme Court Justice, those involved in the Underground Railroad and many more. Hours are dawn to dusk and respectful visitors are welcome.

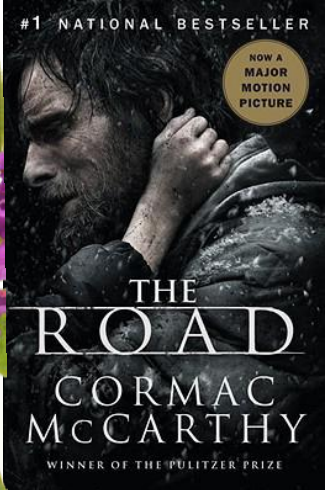
John Brown Tannery

4 John Brown, the abolitionist responsible for Bleeding Kansas and the Raid on Harper's Ferry, spent his earlier days in Crawford County, Pennsylvania! Brown, a tanner and postmaster by trade at the time, built a tannery in 1825 and spent the next ten years working on the property as well as being an active stop on the Underground Railroad.

The tannery site is in a great state of preservation and serves as an historic site and tourist attraction near New Richmond. The property can be visited at 17620 John Brown Road, Guys Mills, PA.

DID YOU *know*

History.
WE ARE KNOWN
FOR SO MUCH!



Journey into

HOLLYWOOD.



The Commonwealth's largest agricultural fair, The Crawford County Fair, is held each August.

Pennsylvania's oldest continuously operated Market House can be found in Meadville.

The "hookless fastener" or zipper was perfected and manufactured in Meadville and mended into a NASA space suit.

Conneaut Lake is the largest natural kettle lake in Pennsylvania and Canadota Lake is the second largest.

Pymatuning Lake is the largest man-made lake in Pennsylvania.

Allegheny College, founded in 1815, was the first college west of the Allegheny Mountains and the 32nd oldest in the U.S.

The first successful oil well, Drake Well, was drilled in Titusville in 1859.

The first cable television service begun by the Barco family's Meadville Master Antenna.

One of the World's most biologically diverse streams, French Creek, flows through Crawford County.

The 3rd oldest Chamber of Commerce in the USA was established in Meadville in 1807.

The Nation's first direct primary election was held here in 1848.

The Liberty II speed boat which sank in Conneaut Lake in the 1920's, raised in the 1980's, has one of only 3 engines like it in the USA.

Over 1500 Nationally Recognized Rhododendrons at Greendale Cemetery



John Brown, an abolitionist who gave his life in the struggle to end slavery, lived in New Richmond and owned a tannery.

Samuel Clemens, a.k.a. **Mark Twain**, vacationed at Conneaut Lake.

Perry Como was a barber at Hotel Conneaut by day and a singer at the Dreamland Ballroom by night in the 1930s.

Todd Holland, who is an Emmy Award-winning TV and movie director in Hollywood, grew up in Meadville and visited Conneaut Lake Park many times as a teenager.

Doris Day sang at the Dreamland Ballroom.

Shirley Jones of "Oklahoma" and "The Partridge Family" was a waitress at the former Oakland Beach Hotel during the 1950s when hamburgers were 25 cents.

Gene Kelly, well-known entertainer, never sang or danced professionally here, but like Mark Twain, game here to fish and rest during the summer.

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the USA, stayed at the Whiteside Inn in Harmonsburg.

Clark Gable, of "Gone with the Wind" fame, had ties to the area, having lived with his grandparents as a young child on a farm in Venango Township.

William McKinley, 25th President of the USA, was a student at Allegheny College and would stay at a Conneaut Lake home of an Odd Fellows member.

Jeannie Seely grew up in Townville and attended Townville High School. She has been entertaining at the Grand Ole Opry for over 30 years.

Sharon Stone, a well-known actress, was born and raised in Saegertown and became Miss Crawford County in 1975.

While we find no official record, we are certain that late **PA Governor Raymond Shafer**, who lived in Meadville, also frequented Conneaut Lake Park on more than one occasion.

George Washington, first President of the USA, named French Creek in 1753 on a mission deliver a message to the French.

Trent Reznor, of Nine Inch Nails, attended Allegheny College.

Several members of the Grammy-nominated Christian rock band **Red** are from Linesville.

Luke Laird of Conneaut Lake area is co-writer of Carrie Underwood's hit song "So Small". He has also co-written songs for Rascal Flats and Tim McGraw. He continues to write for Universal with **Bill Luther**, also formerly of Conneaut Lake.

Pig Hill. "Pig Hill" is a 2025 folk horror film and, more notably, a long-standing local urban legend based in Meadville, Pennsylvania. The Legend of "Pig Hill" Location: The myth is centered on Radio Tower Hill in Crawford County, near Meadville. Directed by Kevin Lewis (known for Willy's Wonderland), the movie was filmed on location in Meadville, Pennsylvania.





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No matter your sport, Crawford County is a hunting destination in every season.

State Game Lands No. 213, consists of 5,603 acres, located in Crawford County. Its level terrain extends along the Conneaut Lake Outlet from Conneaut Lake southeast to the village of Custards. This tract provides excellent habitat for various species of waterfowl. Primary game species are deer, squirrel, grouse and woodcock.





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PA DAY TRIPS:

Trip Inspirations

1

French Creek Coffee and Tea Co.

Every great day starts with coffee. This charming spot downtown Meadville has delicious cold brew, scones and a super cute sitting area on the second floor. Eat in or take your coffee to go and explore all the shops downtown.

2

Ernst Trail

If you're looking to work off some of that caffeine with a nice walk, this five-mile paved trail is close to downtown, dog-friendly and easy to navigate. Denver and I made so many dog friends!

3

Eddie's Footlong Hot Dogs

Eddie's is a Meadville must when in Meadville. Head to the original location on Conneaut Lake Road for the full experience. Open since 1947, this local favorite uses Smith's footlong hotdogs which are a staple in the northwest PA region.

4

Hank's Frozen Custard

Right down the road from Eddie's is another local favorite – Hank's! This family-owned business has delicious treats and still uses the original machines from when they opened in 1952. It seems like everyone had the same idea – I ran into multiple people there that had just eaten lunch at Eddie's.

5

Linesville Spillway

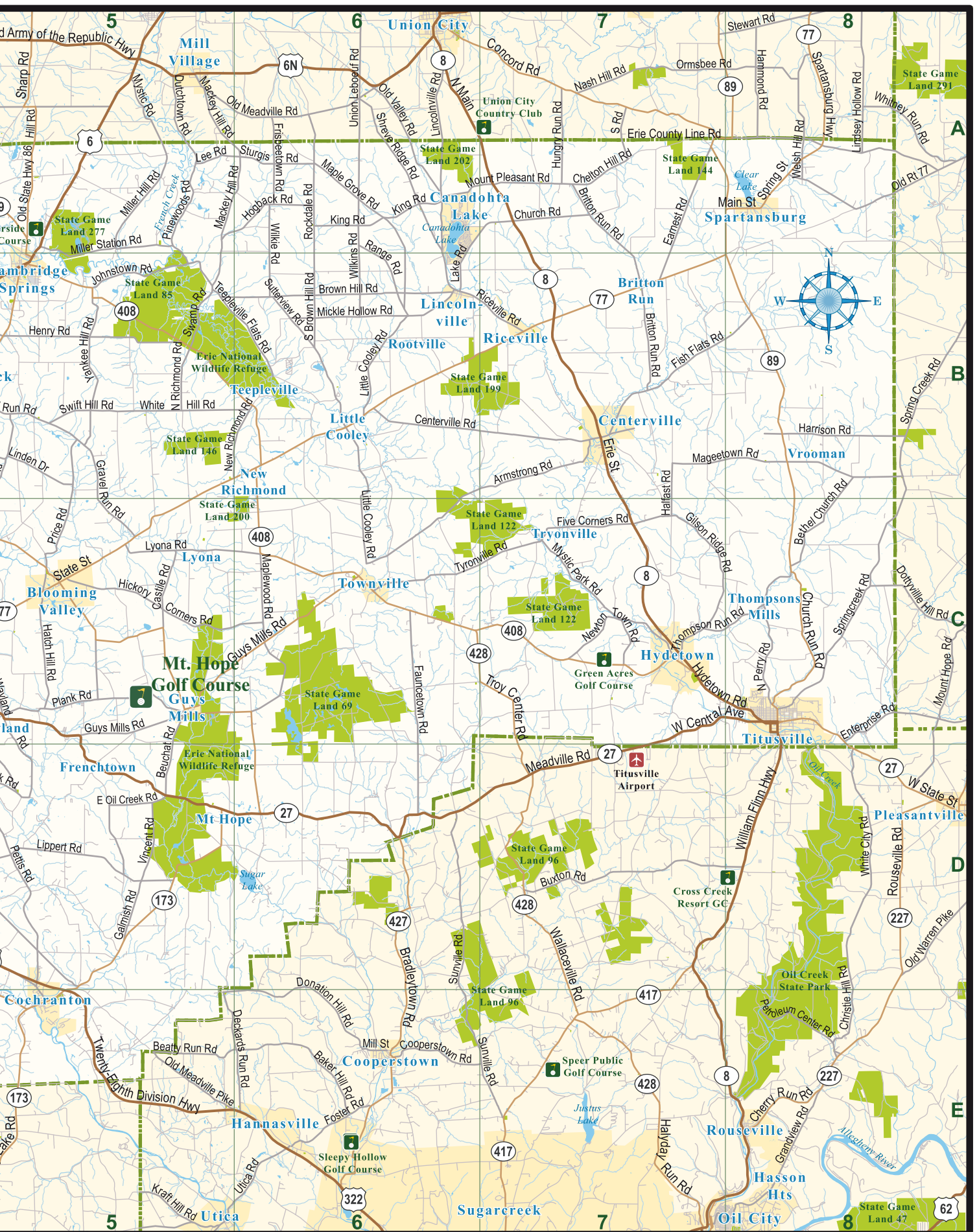
From there, head outside Meadville to do some more exploring. The Linesville Spillway is a beautiful, fun stop for the whole family. It's sometimes called the place where ducks walk on fish because there are so many! Look for birds in the sky as well – it's a commonplace to spot raptors.

6

Mortal's Key

On your way out of town from Meadville, end the day with a drink and some live music. This sprawling green space is the perfect place to wind down after a full day of fun. Mortal's Key uses Old World recipes to brew their craft beers and the dining environment is great, too. It's dog-friendly, super relaxed and a great way to wrap up your visit!





Crawford County





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SCAN ME



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SCAN ME

A Reel Fish Story

Crawford County's

BEST FISHING

By Darl Black



Conneaut Lake
Pumpkinseed Sunfish



French Creek Small mouth Bass



Pymatuning Lake Muskellunge



Woodcock Lake
Smallmouth Bass

Whether your planned visit to northwestern Pennsylvania's Crawford County is for serious fishing, or simply adding causal angling outing to the family's agenda of activities, you need to know the best options available in a county which offers diverse waterways and a wide variety of fish species.

Popular gamefish species found in various Crawford County waters include muskellunge, northern pike, walleye, largemouth & smallmouth bass, white bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, crappies, yellow perch, bluegills, pumpkinseeds and trout.

Pymatuning Lake offers the widest range of species – including all forementioned species except northern pike or trout. While Pymatuning has creel limits and minimum length limits on several species, there is no closed season for any gamefish on this 16,000-acre reservoir. Anglers flock to Pymatuning from April through early July to target walleyes, crappies, bluegills and muskies. During late summer and early fall, the best bites are for largemouth, white bass, yellow perch, channel catfish and some mighty big flathead catfish. Dropping water temperatures in November signal a major feeding spree for walleyes and perch. (20 HP Motors)

Conneaut Lake holds the Pennsylvania State Record for Muskellunge (54 lb. 3 oz.) and White Bass (3 lb. 15 oz.). Unfortunately, the lake no longer produces quality musky fishing as in the past. However, the clear waters of this 925-acre natural lake continue to provide outstanding crappie, bluegill and pumpkinseed fishing, along with very good largemouth bass and northern pike opportunities. A busy resort lake, boat traffic often makes fishing difficult during July, August and early September; the best times to fish Conneaut are May and June, and in October and November. Extremely limited shoreline fishing; a boat is a necessity. (Unlimited HP Motors)

Canadohta Lake and Sugar Lake, two small natural lakes, offer anglers a crack at a husky musky. Canadohta also yields northern pike, average-size crappies, largemouth bass and a few walleyes. In addition to crappies and trophy-size largemouth bass, Sugar also hosts a chain pickerel population – a species not found in other area lakes. (10 HP Limit on both lakes)

With its dam integrity finally repaired, Tamarack Lake has been refilled and restocked. Fishing is permitted, but no harvest of any species is allowed until the fish populations are well established. Lots of shoreline catch-n-release panfish action at present time. Expectations are high for a return of a strong largemouth fishery. However, whether the musky population will return to its former glory is unknown. (Electric Motors Only)

Also on the comeback trail is Woodcock Lake, which suffered an unplanned dewatering in 2021 due to an impaired dam gate. While many fish were swept downstream, Fish Commission surveys determined sufficient numbers of certain fish species remained in the lowered pool; therefore, supplemental stocking was limited to musky, walleye and baitfish. In 2022, anglers reported catching mature smallmouth bass, crappies and walleyes which had survived the sudden flush of water from the lake. (20-HP limit)

French Creek meanders through Crawford County offering both shoreline and wade fishing opportunities for smallmouth bass, walleyes, northern pike, and muskellunge. Public access sites for cartop boats at Cambridge Springs, Saegertown, Meadville and Cochranon make kayak or canoe float trip planning a breeze.

If stream trout fishing is your desire, visit Crawford between mid-April and the end of June to pursue stocked rainbow, brook and brown trout. Streams to consider are Conneaut Creek, East Branch Oil Creek, Oil Creek, Sugar Creek and Woodcock Creek. A complete list of stocked stream sections can be found in the Pennsylvania Fishing Summary.



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