

“Other work programs of the 1930s-1940s influencing development of West Virginia state parks.”

The Works Progress Administration (WPA)



Located along Route 52, near historic Bramwell in Mercer County, Pinnacle Rock State Park is one of the more interesting day use parks operated by the West Virginia State Park system.

Towering above the rugged mountains of southeastern West Virginia, Pinnacle Rock is an unusual sandstone formation reaching 3,100 feet above sea level. This park provides a relaxing picnic area in an unusual scenic setting.

The park was opened in 1938 when the Conservation Commission purchased a 26 acre tract of land surrounding the rock. Parking areas, walkway and a large picnic shelter with a stone fireplace were then constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in conjunction with the state of West Virginia. Today there are nearly 400 acres which include Jimmy Lewis Lake (seasonally stocked with trout) located nearby within the park boundary.



There was a CCC camp established at Tomlinson Run; however, it only operated for one week. The entire park was developed by a WPA work camp.

USDA Farm Security Administration Resettlement Project



The dense forests of Holly River State Park provide guests with a natural feeling of peaceful solitude. Located near the center of the state in Webster County, it is far from the hustle and bustle of city life making it a perfect vacation getaway.

Holly River is the second largest park in the West Virginia park system with a total of 8,101 acres. Nestled in a narrow valley, the park is surrounded by heavily forested mountains some reaching heights of over 2,800 feet.

In the midst of this woodland paradise, park guests will find a myriad of recreational opportunities. Playing tennis, surrounding yourself with nature on one of the hiking trails, or just soaking up the sun by the swimming pool--all of these spell Holly River State Park.

Holly River State Park is open, however the cabins and campground are seasonal and not available for rental in winter months. The park office takes phone calls for reservations for dates cabins, campsites and picnic shelters are open.

Holly River State Park retains its rustic style, WPA-built administrative building, which also houses a restaurant.



Mountain Laurel blooms in June
