



Blue Spruce Park

2021

WELCOME TO BLUE SPRUCE PARK'S SELF GUIDED TOUR! BEFORE YOU GO, WE RECCOMEND THAT YOU DOWNLOAD THIS FLYER AND IF INTERESTED, THE COMPREHENSIVE BIRD LIST AVAILABLE AT INDIANACOUNTYPARKS.ORG.

Blue Spruce Park is a great place for fishing, picnicking and even cross-country skiing in the winter. (No swimming allowed). It is a place where bear, deer, raccoons, and squirrel and other wildlife can be observed in their natural habitat. There are also areas designated for hunting on the outside perimeter of the park.



- 1 Park at the lot near the entrance of the park and stroll down the paved road. Turn left toward the Lakeside Center. A great feature here at the Park is the Indiana County Master Gardener's Trial Garden. This garden has the latest plants and flowers from the Penn State Gardener's Select Program.
- 2 Blue Spruce Park is the home to Getty Run that was dammed in 1908 to create Cummings Dam and the 12-acre lake. It was built by the Rochester and Pittsburgh (R&P) Railway, to provide clean water for the train engine's boilers. These trains carried the coal mined in Ernest, PA, a small mining town just over the hill south of the dam.

- 3 The concrete boulder dam is 455' in length. It is a 29 foot drop from the top of the spillway, which is 58 feet long. The dam was named for A.E. Cummings a nearby property owner.
- 4 If you continue along the paved road to the Getty Run Trail, you will see the sign for Bernice Gera, a trailblazer in her day. She was the first female umpire in baseball. The sign details some of the highlights of her life.*
- 5 Walking a little further down from the playground will lead you to a group of fenced in evergreen trees. Can you guess why this was done? This is known as a deer ex-closure, meaning that it is fenced to keep the deer out. This demonstration garden shows the varieties of Christmas Trees that have been grown in Indiana County.
- 6 Blue Spruce Park is a great place to do a little bird watching. On the Getty Run Trail, be prepared to encounter a variety of birds. Refer to the Comprehensive Bird list. Try to check off the birds during your walk. Compete with your friends. See who can identify the most!



On your next visit to Blue Spruce Park, enjoy some of our other recommended trails:

- G If you are looking for an *easy* walk, take the Getty Run Trail. The best access is from the parking lot near the playground.
- A For a *moderate* walk, take the Aspen Trail. Parking for this trail is best at Blue Spruce Lodge.
- O Another *moderate* walk is the Overlook Trail. parking is available on the opposite side of the dam. This gives you a panoramic view of the park.

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For more information, email bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com or visit us on Facebook at Indiana County Walking Decathlon or online at ICOPD.org



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