Biking

Pittsburgh Off-Road Cyclists (PORC) http://www.porcmtbclub.org/index.php

This site provides a map of mountain bike trails and trail-heads in the Pittsburgh Area.

The Great Allegheny Passage http://www.atatrail.org

This is a 150 mile trail of converted railroad that connects Pittsburgh, PA and Cumberland, MD. There are various places to start for a multi-day trip or a day-long ride.

The Montour Trail http://www.montourtrail.org

This bike trail is a part of the Great Allegheny Passage and located north of Washington. Some parts of the trail are currently under-construction, but the majority of the trail is available for use with many different trailheads and access areas.

Bike Shops

Near Pittsburgh http://bike-pgh.org/shops/

Near Washington http://www.yellowpages.com/washington-pa/bicycle-shops?g=Washington%2C+PA&q=Bicycle+Shops

Bike Pgh http://bikepgh.org/trails-and-trail-organizations/

A comprehensive list of bike trails in the Pittsburgh area provided by the organization, Bike Pgh.

Map My Ride - Pittsburgh http://www.mapmyride.com/us/pittsburgh-pa/

This site provides bike routes throughout Pittsburgh created by other cyclists. They vary in range from a couple of miles to over 50. You can also search for bike routes created in other cities.

Camping

PA DCNR State Park Camping http://www.pa.reserveworld.com

If you know what state park you are interested in camping at, this site allows you reserve and pay for a site online.

Cooper's Lake https://www.cooperslake.com/home/index.php

This campground is located an hour north of Pittsburgh.

Fishing

Take W&J course PED 107: Fly Fishing

Fish Pittsburgh http://fishpittsburgh.com/maps/

This site provides a map of fishing hotspots in western Pennsylvania.

Fishing in State Parks

http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/recreation/fishing/where/west/index.htm

Fishing in Erie http://www.fisherie.com

PA Fishing License http://fishandboat.com/fishpub/summary/licenses.html

Park Information

PA State Parks http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/index.aspx

This site allows you to find PA state parks and provides detailed information on all available activities found there including: fishing, hiking, camping among others.

<u>Local Parks in Washington County http://www.co.washington.pa.us/index.aspx?nid=164</u> This site provides information on and driving directions to the 3 county parks: Mingo Creek, Cross Creek, and Ten Mile.

Hiking

All Trails http://alltrails.com

"AllTrails is focused broadly on outdoor recreation and provides information on 22 different activities including hiking, mountain biking, skiing, and snowboarding. We help people rediscover the outdoors by providing them with innovative products powered by one of the most comprehensive databases of outdoor recreation information".

This is a great website with a database of about 50,000 trails nation-wide and allows you to search by trail, park, or city. Searching by city provides you with a list and map of various parks and trails in the surrounding area. You can also filter your search by driving distance, trail length or duration, difficulty, as well as special features or activities found on the trail (birding, cycling, camping, fishing, etc.). An All Trails mobile app is also available for free in the iTunes App Store.

Explore PA Trails http://www.explorepatrails.com/index.aspx

This site provides detailed information on only trails in PA. You are able to browse a trail map or search by trail or county. Searches may be limited by various activities found on the trails. Directions to trail heads are easily available from this site

Hunting

Kayaking & Canoeing

Kayak Pittsburgh http://www.kayakpittsburgh.org

"Paddle around the Point at Point State Park, venture up the Allegheny River towards Washington's Landing or head for the Ohio or Monongahela Rivers, you set your own course for adventure!"

The closest of three locations is the North Shore under the 6th Street Bridge. They rent kayaks and bikes by the hour.

Hazelbaker's Bottom Yough Outfitters Inc., Linden Hall, PA http://www.hazelbakerscanoes.com

This company is located east of Washington off of Interstate 70. They offer kayak and canoe rentals for daily trips. Reservations are recommended.

Nature Centers and Zoos

Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve http://www.aswp.org/locations/beechwood/

This is the headquarters for the Audubon Society of Western PA. The property has 5 miles of short nature trails and a native plant center that are open to the public

The Good Zoo at Oglebay Resort http://www.oglebay-resort.com/goodzoo/

This zoo is located in Wheeling, WV and has over 50 species of rare or endangered animals.

The National Aviary http://www.aviary.org

The Aviary is America's only zoo dedicated exclusively to birds and contains more than 500 species. It is located on the North Shore of downtown Pittsburgh

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens http://phipps.conservatory.org

This historic greenhouse is located in Schenley Park in Oakland outside of downtown Pittsburgh. It's mission is to: "To inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse."

The Pittsburgh Botanic Garden http://www.pittsburghbotanicgarden.org

The garden is still a work-in-progress but will contain 18 different gardens on reclaimed mining land. The offer many volunteer opportunities for planting and building exhibits and also offer preview tours.

The Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium http://www.pittsburghzoo.org

The zoo and aquarium are open year-round and are located in Highland Park, just outside of downtown Pittsburgh.

The Wilds http://thewilds.org/default.aspx

This is the largest conservation center in North America and is located approximately two hours west in Cumberland, OH. They provide seasonal safari tours of their exotic animal pastures, horseback safaris, as well as a zip-line tour.

Pick Your Own Produce http://www.pickyourown.org/PAwest.htm

Skiing

7 Springs http://www.7springs.com/page/category.detail/nav/5598/Winter.html

White Water Rafting

White Water Adventures, Ohiophyle, PA http://www.wwaraft.com/index.html
Raft whitewater of the upper, lower, or middle Youghiogheny River with experienced guides! Various trips for all experience levels are provided.

Wilderness Voyageurs, Ohiophyle, PA http://wilderness-voyageurs.com/loweryough.html

This company also does Lower Yough whitewater rafting trips with Class III-IV rapids.

Local Organizations

Western PA Mushroom Club http://wpamushroomclub.org

W&J Student Organizations

Green Club – contact Dr. East The Naturalist Society – contact Dr. Jason Kilgore Outdoors Club – contact Dr. Jason Kilgore

Connect to Nature Quotes -

"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance."

— Theodore Roosevelt

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home."

Gary Snyder (Pulitzer Prize-winning poet)

"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrains of nature -- the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after winter."

- Rachel Carson, Silent Spring

"Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of the earth."

— Henry David Thoreau, Walden

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul."

— John Muir

"I think having land and not ruining it is the most beautiful art that anybody could ever want."

—Andy Warhol