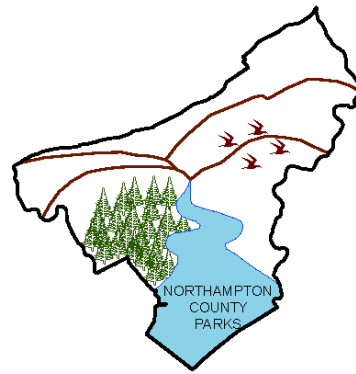
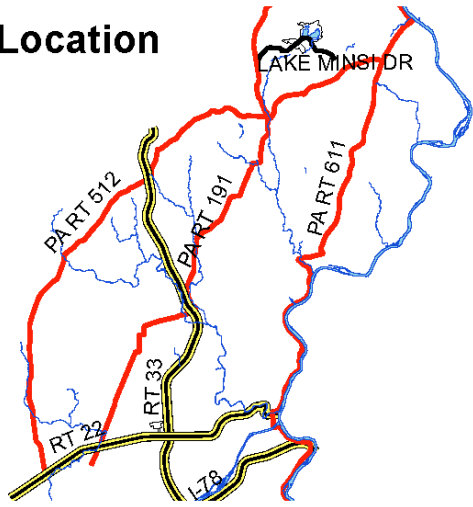


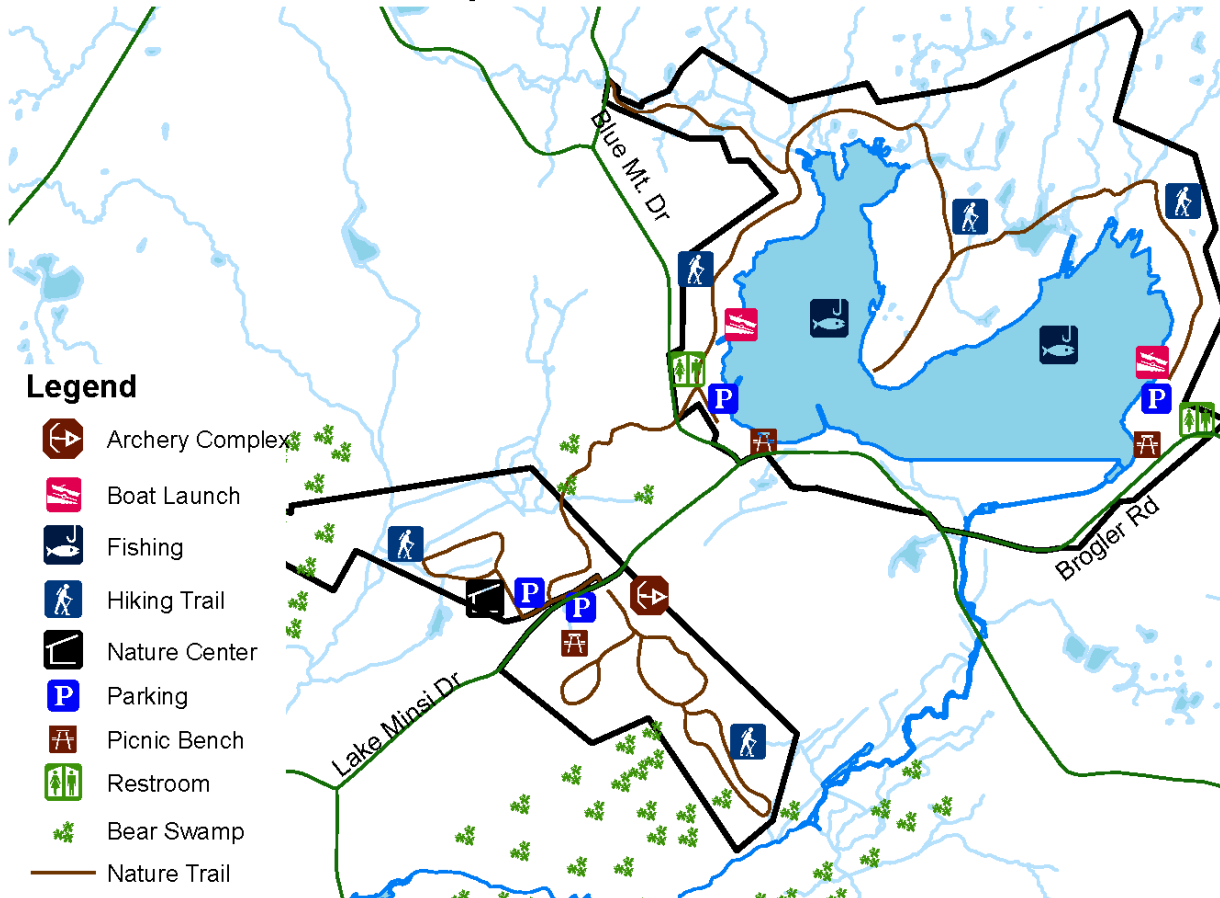
Location



MINSI LAKE-BEAR SWAMP

Adventures in the Great Outdoors
A unique wilderness & recreational area

Lake Minsi - Bear Swamp



Legend

- Archery Complex
- Boat Launch
- Fishing
- Hiking Trail
- Nature Center
- Parking
- Picnic Bench
- Restroom
- Bear Swamp
- Nature Trail



Discover a multitude of interesting outdoor activities and attractions right in your own back yard.

County of Northampton Division of Parks & Recreation
Gracedale Complex
Nazareth, PA 18064 (610) 746-1975

NATURE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS



Minsi Lake and **Bear Swamp** are in a rustic “one of a kind” area with special features of interest to those who love the outdoors. Located on Johnsonville Road in Upper Mt. Bethel Township, the **Minsi Lake** area contains a 117-acre fishing lake with a large waterfowl population. **Bear Swamp** is a wilderness area that is the last habitat of the black bear in Northampton County. The swamp and bogs contain a huge array of wildflowers and birds.

The Appalachian Trail and the Delaware Water Gap Natural Recreation Area are located nearby.

Recreational Opportunities

Fishing and Hunting are available in season, including ice fishing. Fishing is available from your boat or from piers and shore. There are a total of seven miles of blazed Hiking trails and Guided Nature Walks are held several times a year. This feature is available to school groups. Picnicking is convenient to the parking lot areas. Winter activities include Cross Country Skiing on marked trails and Ice Skating during special events.

NATURE CENTER & TRAILS

The unusual flora and fauna of **Bear Swamp** can be seen easily by taking the self-guided nature trail and visiting the nature center where displays of insects, ferns, and other vegetation are presented. The trail, about a mile in length, becomes an elevated walkway over the swamp.

Archery Complex

The archery complex at **Bear Swamp** is one of the largest and most functional facilities of its type in the United States. Opened in 1979, the complex offers a FITA (Olympic) field, a 14-target field archery range, a 10-target 3-D bow hunting practice range, and an American Archery Council training range.



Special Events

Archery Festival – Bowfest is held annually in August by the Northampton County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs. The weekend festival features seminars, a 3-loop hunter’s 3-D course, running deer targets, novelty shoots, vendors, and prize give aways.

SEEK – Summer Environmental Education Program for **Kids**, held for two weeks in June at the Nature Center. Open for children 5-12 years of age.



Minsi Lake is owned by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission and is leased by the County of Northampton.

Park Regulations

- **Hours:** 7:30 a.m. to Sunset
- **Fishing and Hunting:** Seasons are governed by laws enforced by the Pennsylvania Fish and Game Commissions
- **Swimming:** Prohibited due to underwater hazards
- **Boat Size:** Regulations are posted and are based on Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission regulations. Combustion engine-powered boats are prohibited.
- **Pets:** Prohibited except hunting with dogs is permitted in season.
- **Feeding Waterfowl:** Discouraged highly due to causing dependency on people for food, spread of disease, and bird/people conflicts
- **Permits:** Required for groups of 10 or more people and for bringing alcoholic beverages into the park.
- **Call the Park office** for information at (610)746-1978