

MARKET STREET BRIDGE, WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

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INTRODUCTION

Comprised of cities like Wilkes-Barre, Pittston, Scranton, Hazleton, and hundreds of smaller communities, Northeastern Pennsylvania (NEPA) is a unique combination of modern businesses and historical sites—a place that is open to new ideas, but brimming with deep rooted traditions. You can choose an urban life in a loft apartment or in a Victorian home in the city, a suburban life in an established neighborhood or in a brand new development, or a rural life with acres of beautiful land. All these choices are within minutes of each other.

You can live an active life in NEPA — our sports venues and outdoor recreation sites prove it. The region is home to the AAA affiliate of the New York Yankees and the AHL affiliate of the Pittsburgh Penguins. Fans of golf and NASCAR are equally satisfied as national competition

in both sports are held here. But more than that, NEPA offers important advantages for everyone.

This Community Profile was prepared by Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services, NEPA's premier, full-service commercial real estate company. Mericle has developed approximately 19 million square feet of industrial, office, flex, and medical space in NEPA. Those buildings provide homes for hundreds of companies that together employ more than 13,400 people.

Mericle is very proud to call NEPA home and would be pleased to help you locate your business here. Just call **570.823.1100** or visit **mericle.com**.



LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION

One of NEPA's greatest assets is its excellent transportation network. Five major highways – I-81, I-80, I-84, I-380, and I-476 – meet here and provide quick access to the Northeast's major metro areas. There are no major bridges or tunnels in the region to delay truck traffic. The average commute to work is about 20 minutes.

More than 51 million people live within 200 miles of NEPA and more than 83 million live within 400 miles. New York City, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg can all be reached in about two hours.

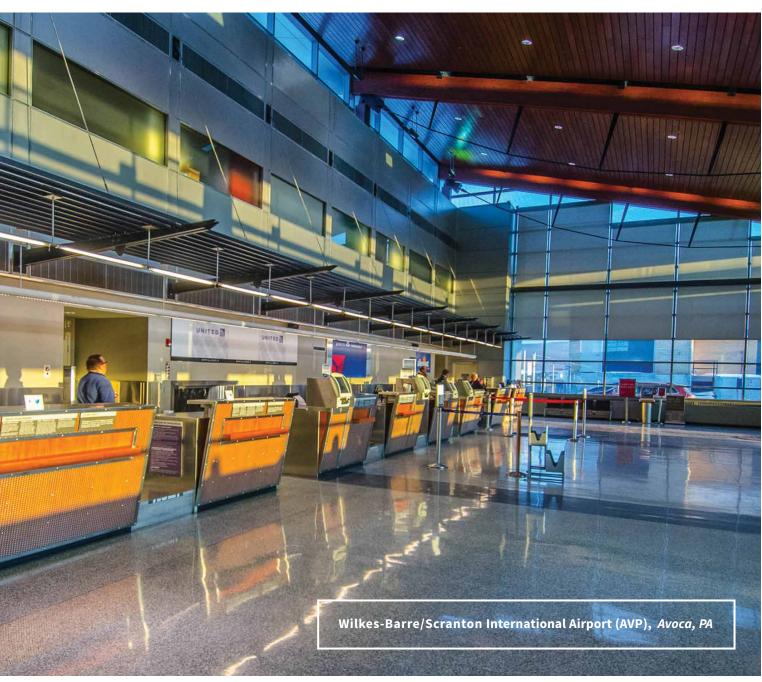
NEPA, also known as the Northern I-81 Corridor, is quickly accessible to most major seaports along the East Coast, which are predicted to experience increased volume once infrastructure upgrades to the Panama Canal are complete. Upgrades to the Canal will allow for the passage of "post-Panamax" ships with a capacity to carry 14,000 containers (three times more than a ship can currently carry through the Canal).

In addition to its excellent highway network, NEPA is served by several airports, a nationally known bus line, and several main line and short line railroads.



MERICLE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES | COMMUNITY PROFILE

LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION



AIR SERVICE

NEPA's main airport is the Wilkes-Barre/
Scranton International Airport (AVP), which
is located in Avoca, between Scranton and
Wilkes-Barre. AVP offers approximately 40
daily arrivals and departures to seven major
hubs with one-stop service to more than 450
destinations worldwide. AVP provides direct
daily flights to Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago,
Detroit, Newark, Orlando, Philadelphia,
and Tampa. Carriers include Allegiant, Delta
Connection, United Express, and US Airways
Express. AVP is also served by Aviation Technologies, Inc., one of the finest fixed base
operators in the Northeastern United States.
For more info, visit flyavp.com.

Other airports serving the area include:

- Hazelton Municipal Airport
- Lehigh Valley International Airport
- Nicholson Airport
- Pocono Mountains Municipal Arport
- Seaman's Airport/Endless Mountain Air, Inc.
- Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport

BUS SERVICE

Martz Trailways (martztrailways.com) is headquartered in Wilkes-Barre and operates six major motor coach companies. Martz has bus stops at several locations in NEPA including Downtown Scranton, Downtown Wilkes-Barre, the Wyoming Valley Mall (suburban Wilkes-Barre), and the Poconos.

RAIL SERVICE

NEPA receives freight service from Class One and short line railroads. Numerous business parks are served by rail. Providers include:

CLASS ONE RAILROADS

- Norfolk Southern Railway NS (nscorp.com) provides transportation in 22 states and operates more than 20,000 route miles. In addition, NS provides service to the major Eastern seaports, and various river and lake ports.
- Canadian Pacific Railway CPR (cpr.ca) provides transportation to numerous major cities on the east coast of the United States and many in Canada. CPR is an independent company that spans across 14,000 miles.

SHORT LINES

- Luzerne & Susquehanna Railroad (Isry.net), also known as LSX, has grown to maintain 2,200 carloads annually. LSX operates more than 60 miles of track in NEPA.
- Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad (rbmnrr.com) is the largest privately owned railroad in the Commonwealth. It operates a 320-mile regional rail system in nine counties in Eastern Pennsylvania.
- PA Northeast Regional Railroad Authority (pnrra.org)
 operates a 100+ mile regional rail system with freight
 service across NEPA.

*In November, 2014, Norfolk Southern Corp. (NS) and the Delaware & Hudson Railway Co. (D&H), a subsidiary of Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) announced a proposed transaction under which NS would acquire 282.55 miles of D&H rail line between Sunbury, PA., and Schenectady, NY, including the segment that serves Northeastern Pennsylvania. The transaction was completed in May 2015.



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NEPA is nationally known for its dedicated and highly productive workforce. In fact, esteemed national site selection consultant John Rhodes of Moran, Stahl & Boyer said,

It's almost like Northeast PA defines what work ethic is.
People come to work with an eagerness and a willingness to get the job done.

SECTOR

LABOR MIX

NEPA has a fairly diversified employment breakdown. The following are 2013 statistics for both Lackawanna and Luzerne counties.

Healthcare and social assistance	44,142	
Retail trade	31,210	
Manufacturing	25,064	
Accommodation and food services	20,110	
Educational services	19,955	
Fransportation and warehousing	18,317	
Admin, support, waste mgmt, remediation	16,741	
Wholesale trade	10,139	
Finance and insurance	9,760	
Public administration	9,009	
Construction	8,827	
Professional, scientific & technical svc.	7,653	
Other services (except public admin.)	6,745	
nformation	4,593	
Management of companies & enterprises	2,950	
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2,607	
Jtilities	2,316	
Real estate rental and leasing	1,575	
Mining	536	
Forestry, fishing, and related activities	161	

Source: paworkstats.geosolinc.com

PERSONS EMPLOYED



MANUFACTURING COMPANIES WITH AT LEAST 250 EMPLOYEES

PRODUCTS

COUNTY

COMPANY

		000
Arlington Industries	Electrical fittings	Lackawanna
BAE Systems	Combat helmets, armor	Lackawanna
Bemis Company, Inc.	Polyfilm	Luzerne
Bimbo Bakeries	Bakery products	Luzerne
Bridon American Corp.	Wire and wire rope	Luzerne
Cargill Meat Solutions	Meat processing	Luzerne
Certech	Ceramics	Luzerne
Cornell Iron Works	Steel rolling doors	Luzerne
CPG International	Polyethylene slabs	Lackawanna
Fabri-Kal Corp.	Packaging	Luzerne
First Quality Nonwovens	Nonwoven fabric	Luzerne
General Dynamics	Military tanks, shells	Lackawanna
Gentex Corp.	Protective products	Lackawanna
Gertrude Hawk Chocolates	Chocolate	Lackawanna
Golden Technologies	Home healthcare, scooters	Lackawanna
Hershey Company	Molded chocolate	Luzerne
ndalex	Anodized extrusions	Luzerne
nterMetro Industries Corp.	Wire storage, storage	Luzerne
Lockheed Martin	Nuclear components	Lackawanna
Maid-Rite Specialty Foods	Portion control meats	Lackawanna
Mission Foods	Tortillas	Luzerne
Offset Paperback	Book printing	Luzerne
Pride Mobility Products	Wheelchairs and scooters	Luzerne
Procter & Gamble	Paper products	Wyoming
Quaker Oats (QTG)	Beverages	Luzerne
Quebecor World	Telephone directories	Luzerne
Sandvik Steel, Inc.	Seamless tubes	Lackawanna
Sanofi Pasteur	Vaccines	Monroe
Schott North America	Optical, ophthalmic glasses	Lackawanna
Scranton Times-Tribune	Newspapers	Lackawanna
Simmons Company	Mattresses	Luzerne
Simplex Industries	Modular homes	Lackawanna
Tobyhanna Army Depot	Electronics	Monroe
Trion Industries	Store fixtures	Luzerne



OFFICE COMPANIES WITH AT LEAST 250 EMPLOYEES

PRODUCTS

National accounting

COMPANY

UPS Supply Chain Solutions

Altria Food products Bank of America Financial services Blue Cross of NEPA Health insurance Cigna Insurance Co. Health insurance **EDM Americas** Document management Telecommunications Frontier Communications Geisinger Health Systems Healthcare Genpact Financial information Guard Insurance Insurance Maximus Health claims appeals MetLife Computer center Penn Foster Career School Distance education Prudential Insurance RCN Telecommunications svcs. Student loans Sallie Mae/Navient Telerx Financial services TMG Health Medicare/Medicaid U.S. Social Security Adm. Data center

COUNTY

Luzerne

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

COMPANY Amazon.com American Eagle Outfitters AutoZone Benco Dental Supply **Bradley Caldwell Dollar Tree Stores** Johnson & Johnson (Genco) The Home Depot Kane Warehousing Keystone Automotive Oper. Lord & Taylor Lowe's Companies McLane Company Men's Wearhouse Michael's Stores Sears Logistics Svcs.

T.J. Maxx

WAREHOUSING & DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES WITH AT LEAST 250 EMPLOYEES

utfitters Apparel Auto parts, supplies Pental supplies Hardware, farm, pet supplies Various Health and medical supplies Home products g 3PL – Various Aftermarket auto parts Apparel S Home products Food

Men's apparel

Apparel

Handcraft products

Various retail products

PRODUCTS

Various

12

COUNTY

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Monroe

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Luzerne

Schuylkill

Lackawanna

Lackawanna

Columbia

LABOR AVAILABILITY

Despite strong growth in several business sectors since 2000, NEPA's unemployment rate continues to run higher than state and national averages.

The following table compares combined statistics for Lackawanna and Luzerne counties to those for the state and nation. The rates are seasonally adjusted and have been rounded.

YEAR	NEPA CIV. LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMP.	NEPA RATE %	PA RATE %	US RATE %
2015	267,700	252,200	15,900	5.8%	5.4%	5.5%
2014	260,900	242,300	18,700	7.2%	5.6%	6.3%
2013	270,800	245,300	25,600	9.5%	7.9%	7.6%
2012	270,300	244,800	25,500	9.4%	7.6%	8.2%
2011	264,600	239,800	24,700	9.3%	7.9%	8.9%

Source: www.paworkstats.state.pa.us



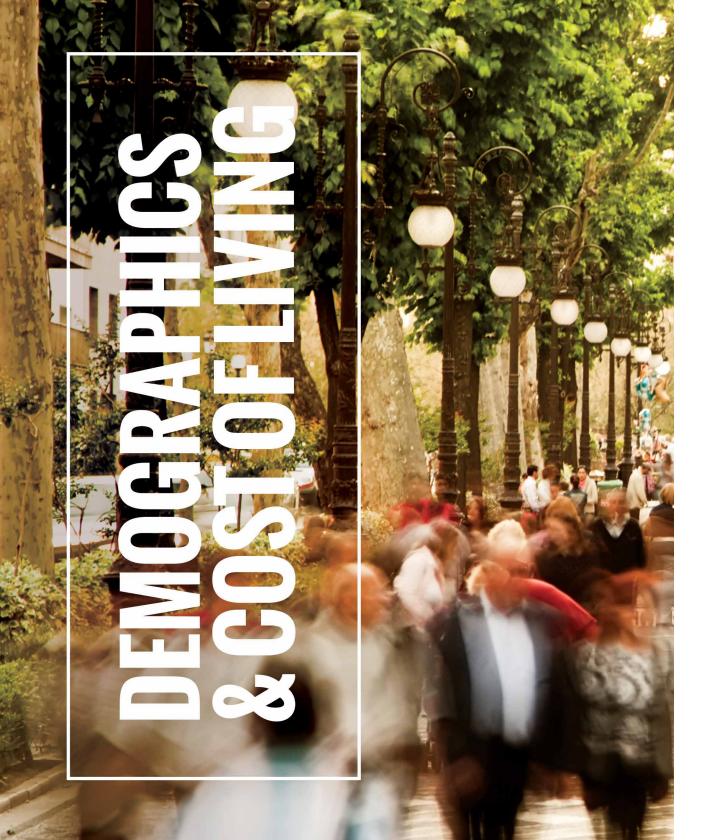
LABOR RATES

Overall average wages per job in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties are compared below to the Pennsylvania counties that compete with NEPA for business.

PA COUNTY	REGION	AVG. WAGE PER JOB
Lackawanna	Northeast PA	\$39,780
Luzerne	Northeast PA	\$40,144
Berks	Lehigh Valley	\$47,476
Lehigh	Lehigh Valley	\$53,560
Northampton	Lehigh Valley	\$45,812
Dauphin	Greater Harrisburg	\$51,740
Lancaster	Greater Harrisburg	\$44,408
Lebanon	Greater Harrisburg	\$40,092
York	Greater Harrisburg	\$45,500
Bucks	Greater Philadelphia	a \$52,104
Delaware	Greater Philadelphia	a \$56,368
Chester	Greater Philadelphia	a \$69,316
Montgomery	Greater Philadelphia	a \$65,624
		Courses were been an

Source: www.bea.gov

For more information about wage rates, occupational breakdowns, unemployment rates, etc., please visit the Center for Workforce Information and Analysis Website at www.paworkstats.state.pa.us.



POPULATION

The following statistics represent a 30 miles radius from the center of the region.

POPULATIO	N	TOTAL	2	%
		686,57	3	
Under 10 Yea	ars	70,937		10.33
Age 10-19		84,014		12.24
Age 20-29		86,002		12.53
Age 30-39		76,453		11.14
Age 40-49		89,356		13.01
Age 50-59		101,993		14.86
Age 60-64		46,884		6.83
Age 65+		130,934		19.07
				ô
GENDER	Male	49.26% 338,217	Female	50.74% 348,356

Source: www.pasitesearch.com

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT

POPULATION AGE 25+	TOTAL 576,567	%
< Grade 9	29,515	5.12
Grade 9–12	74,104	12.85
High School	194,548	33.74
Some College	88,509	15.35
Assoc. Degree	42,588	7.39
Bach. Degree	67,552	11.72
Grad. Degree	79,751	13.83

Source: www.pasitesearch.com



INCOME

2013 PER CAPITA INCOME

Luzerne County	\$39,621
Lackawanna County	\$41,428
Pennsylvania	\$46,202
United States	\$44,765

Source: www.bea.gov

2009 - 2013 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$44,402
\$46,044
\$52,548
\$53,046

Source: quickfacts.census.gov



COST OF LIVING

It costs less to live in NEPA than in most other major metro areas in the Northeast US. Housing costs in NEPA are especially affordable. A score of 100 indicates the US average.

METRO AREA	OVERALL COST OF LIVING SCORE	HOUSING INDEX
Nassau-Suffolk (Long Island), NY	155	210
Stamford-Norwalk, CT	152	222
Westchester County, NY	149	190
Washington DC – Arlington/Alexandria, VA	148	177
Boston, Cambridge, Quincy, MA	144	168
New York, NY	144	168
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY	132	140
Hartford, CT	120	123
Syracuse, NY	116	95
Baltimore-Towson, MD	115	135
Bergen-Passaic, NJ	114	161
Philadelphia, PA	114	116
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA	108	109
NEPA	101	82

Source: http://cost-of-living.findthebest.com/

HOUSING

Between May 30, 2013 and June 30, 2014, just less than 2,000 single-family homes were sold in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties with a sales price breakdown as follows.

NUMBER OF BEDROOMS	HOMES SOLD	MEAN PRICE	MEDIAN PRICE
2 or less 3	260 1,101	\$75,957 \$105,337	\$63,500 \$202,495
4 or more	604	\$202,495	\$173,000

Source: www.flexmls.com

Northeastern Pennsylvania features four seasons of weather. The average daily high in the summer is in the low 80s with the temperature reaching 90 or above 15 to 20 times per year. The average summer low at night is in the mid to high 50s. The average annual snowfall is 46.2 inches. There are 139 days of precipitation in a typical year. The first frost usually occurs in mid-October, and the last freeze most often happens in late April.

MONTH	AVG. HIGH TEMP	AVG. LOW TEMP	AVG. PRECIPITATION	*** AVG. SNOWFALL
January	34.5	17.2	2.5"	14.2"
February	37.2	17.6	2.3"	9.3"
March	47.4	25.9	3.2"	9.0"
April	60.8	35.1	3.3"	3.3"
May	72.3	44.6	3.7"	
June	80.5	54.0	3.9"	
July	84.0	58.6	3.8"	
August	82.2	57.3	3.5"	
September	74.8	50.6	3.1"	
October	63.4	39.7	3.0"	0.1"
November	50.3	31.6	3.0"	2.9"
December	38.1	22.6	2.6"	7.4"

Sources: www.weatherbase.com and www.currentresults.com



The list below compares violent crime in Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton – NEPA's largest cities – to that of other major Northeast US cities. The crime indices range from 1 to 100. A higher number corresponds with more crime. Crime rates are based on FBI data.

Wilmington, DE	95.2	Syracuse, NY	78.4
Harrisburg, PA	95.0	Boston, MA	76.8
Baltimore, MD	91.4	Pittsburgh, PA	76.1
Trenton, NJ	91.2	New York, NY	63.5
Cleveland, OH	89.5	Wilkes-Barre, PA	59.7
Hartford, CT	89.4	Hazleton, PA	56.5
Washington D.C.	87.1	Scranton, PA	52.2
Philadelphia, PA	86.5		

The following table compares crime rates for the United States to rates for Mountain Top, Dallas, and South Abington Township – three of NEPA's fastest growing suburban communities.

	MOUNTAIN TOP	DALLAS	SOUTH ABINGTON TWP.	US
Violent	18.7	26.6	26.7	41.4
Property	16.2	21.7	18.4	43

Source: www.bestplaces.net

EDUGATION

EDUCATION

Northeastern Pennsylvania has a reputation for excellence in education. Our students receive specialized attention from pre-school, through K-12 and college, and on to graduate school.

Millions of dollars have been invested in NEPA's schools and in new technology. Class sizes are small – our average student/teacher ratio is just 16 to 1 – and our average graduating class size is 200. Advanced placement, gifted programs, and special education services are offered by most local school districts.

- There are more than 83,000 students enrolled in grades K 12 throughout the immediate Scranton/Wilkes-Barre area and close to 275,000 students in the 20 Pennsylvania counties covered by Mericle's brokerage division.
- High school graduation rates in Northeastern Pennsylvania average 91% compared to the state average of 86.4%. In fact, 22 out of 24 public high schools in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties have graduation rates higher than the state average.
- Approximately **80%** of local high school graduates enroll in college vs. the **77.1%** state average.
- Wilkes-Barre is one of the 30 least expensive places to go to college in the US. Student housing is 30% of the national average.

K-12, PUBLIC, & PRIVATE

Public school districts in Lackawanna and Luzerne counties include:

- Abington Heights School District
- Carbondale Area School District
- Crestwood School District
- Dallas School District
- Dunmore School District
- Greater Nanticoke School District
- Hanover Area School District
- Greater Hazleton Area School District
- Lake Lehman School District
- Lakeland School District
- Mid Valley School District

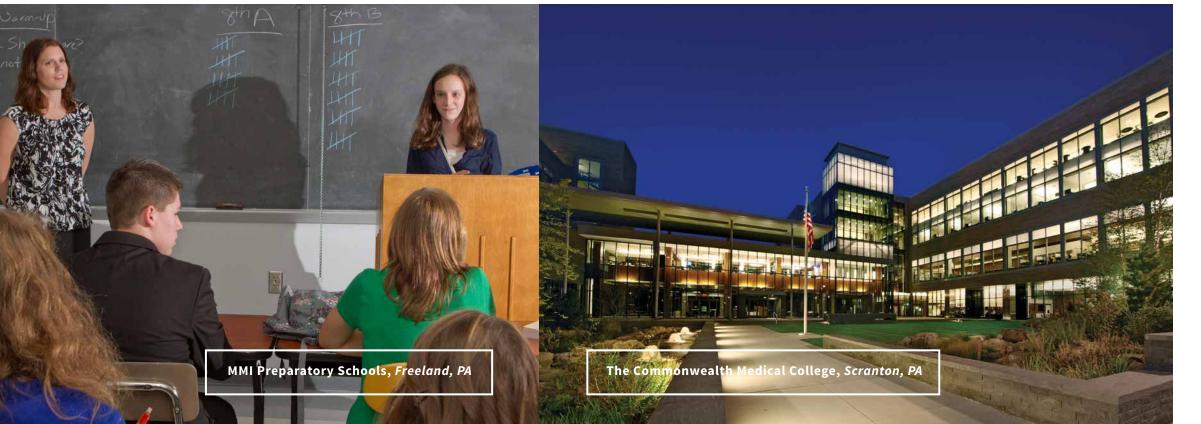
- North Pocono School District
- Northwest Area School District
- Old Forge School District
- Pittston Area School District
- Riverside School District
- Scranton School District
- Valley View School District
- Wilkes-Barre Area School District
- Wyoming Area School District
- Wyoming Valley West School District

The Diocese of Scranton manages more than 20 Catholic elementary schools and high schools In Lackawanna and Luzerne counties. NEPA is also home to several excellent private and charter schools. Some of the more notable are:

- Abington Christian Academy
- Bais Yaakov of Scranton
- Bear Creek Community Charter School
- Bnos Yisroel High School
- Fell Charter Elementary School
- Howard Gardner School
- Immanuel Christian School
- MMI Preparatory School

- Milton Eisner Yeshiva High School
- Scranton Hebrew Day School K-8
- Scranton Preparatory School
- The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children
- United Hebrew Institute
- Wyoming Seminary
- Yeshiva Bais Moshe





HIGHER EDUCATION

There are 17 colleges and university campuses with close to 55,000 enrolled students within an hour's drive of the center of NEPA. This network of higher education provides an invaluable resource for employers and their employees, offering ample opportunity for co-ops, continuing education, customized job training, internships, and recruiting.

Area colleges often work together to custom design the training programs needed by our employers. A variety of grant programs are available to help companies lessen their training expenses. There are 17 higher education institutions located in NEPA.

- Bloomsburg University
- East Stroudsburg University
- Johnson CollegeKeystone College
- Kings College
- Tilligo cottege
- Lackawanna College
- Luzerne County Community College
- Marywood University
- Misericordia University
- Northampton Community

- College (Monroe Campus)
- Penn State Hazleton
- Penn State Wilkes-BarrePenn State Worthington
- Scranton CampusSummit University
- The Commonwealth
 Medical College
- University of Scranton
- Wilkes University

TRAINING & TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Specialized training is also available to area residents at several vocational and technical schools. These include:

- Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County
- Fortis
- Hazleton Area Career Center
- ITT Technical Institute
- McCann School of Business and Technology
- New Horizons Computer Learning Center
- West Side AVTS
- Wilkes-Barre Area Career and Technical Center

HEALTHCARE

NEPA has an excellent healthcare system. With numerous award winning hospitals and specialty care providers, NEPA residents have abundant resources available for their healthcare needs. Some of NEPA's premier providers include:

ALLIED SERVICES

Allied Services is a leading provider for Pennsylvania residents with disabilities and chronic illness. With a 53-year history, Allied's 3,200 employees and volunteers have a commitment to excellence throughout their entire health care system. With rehabilitation hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, behavioral health and developmental disability programs, home care, specialty, or vocational programs, Allied provides the region with a wide array of medical services.

Allied's John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitation in Wilkes-Barre is an inpatient rehabilitation hospital specializing in recovery from amputations, brain injury, neurological disorders, orthopedic conditions, spinal cord injury, and stroke care. It is equipped with 71 beds.

CLARKS SUMMIT STATE HOSPITAL

Clarks Summit State Hospital is an extended stay acute care psychiatric hospital serving 11 counties in NEPA. The facility is located approximately eight miles north of Scranton in a suburban setting. The hospital is part of a continuum of care that provides individualized psychiatric treatment for adults with serious and persistent mental illness.



COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.

Community Health Systems, Inc. (CHS) is one of the nation's leading operators of general acute care hospitals. The organization's affiliates own, operate, or lease 207 hospitals in 29 states with approximately 31,100 licensed beds. CHS operates seven hospitals throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. These include Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, First Hospital Wyoming Valley, Moses Taylor Hospital, Regional Hospital of Scranton, Berwick Hospital Center, and Tyler Memorial Hospital.

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL COLLEGE

The Commonwealth Medical College (TCMC) is one of the nation's newest fully-accredited medical colleges and offers a community-based model of medical education with three regional campuses - North (Scranton), South (Wilkes-Barre), and West (Williamsport). The College attracts students from within its 17 county region, as well as across Pennsylvania and the nation who are interested in studying evidence and community-based medicine and who have a strong desire to serve their community. TCMC offers a Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program and a Master of Biomedical Sciences (MBS) Program.

GEISINGER HEALTH SYSTEM

As one of the nation's largest rural health services organizations, Geisinger serves more than 2.6 million residents throughout 44 counties in Central and Northeast Pennsylvania.

Geisinger's health system and health plan are nationally recognized for integration, quality, and service. Its physician-led system is comprised of more than 21,000 employees, including a 1,100-member multi-specialty group practice, eight hospital campuses, two research centers, and a 467,000-member health plan, making Geisinger a major contributor to both the economic and medical health of the region.





We have virtually no absenteeism because our employees are so committed to making life better for our patients. All of them understand that when you get into healthcare, you have to put patients first - it just comes with the territory.

HARMAR D. BRERETON, M.D.

LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK

Lehigh Valley Health Network, with it more than 13,000 professionals, serves the Greater Hazleton area with exceptional medical service. Three full-service hospitals, including the Children's Hospital at Lehigh Valley Hospital, offers a strong health care system for NEPA residents.

SAINT JOSEPH'S CENTER

Through pregnancy, family and adoption services, outpatient therapy, and extensive residential and community-based programs for children and adults diagnosed with intellectual disability, St. Joseph's Center of Scranton serves hundreds of people throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania on a daily basis.

WILKES-BARRE VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER

The Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center, located in Wilkes-Barre, is a complexity Level 2 teaching hospital, which provides a full range of patient care services. Comprehensive healthcare is provided through primary and tertiary care in areas of medicine, surgery, psychiatry, physical medicine and rehabilitation, neurology, oncology, dentistry, hematology, and nephrology. Additionally, geriatrics and extended care services are offered including long term care, telemedicine, respite, dementia, rehabilitation, hospice, transitional care, and a variety of home care services.

The medical center has 68 operating hospital beds (including 10 Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs), plus 105 operating Community Living Center beds.



SHOPPING & DINING

Northeastern Pennsylvania has numerous shopping malls, lifestyle centers, outlets, and specialty retailers that cater to all types of tastes and budgets. Whether you are looking for a department store or a day-long excursion to the discount outlets, you can find it here. The area is spotted with small antique shops, flea and farmers markets, and boutiques. Not only are there numerous shopping options within NEPA, but the King of Prussia Mall – one of the largest and most iconic malls in the nation – is less than a two hour drive. Some of the notable shopping venues in the area include:

- Arena Hub Plaza, Wilkes-Barre Township
- Crossings Premium Outlets, Tannersville
- The Mall at Steamtown, Scranton
- Shoppes at Montage, Moosic
- Viewmont Mall, Dickson City
- Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre Township

Abercrombie & Fitch

Banana Rebulic

Barnes & Nobles

BCBG Max Azria

Bon-Ton

Boscov's

Coach

Express

F.Y.E

Calvin Klein

DSW Shoes

Charlotte Russe

Christmas Tree Shops

Dick's Sporting Goods

Famous Footwear

Bath & Body Works

Bed Bath & Beyond

American Eagle Outfitters

Finish Line

Foot Locker

Forever 21

GameStop

Gymboree

JC Penney

Lane Bryant

LensCrafters

Lucky Brand

Hollister

J. Crew

Kohls

Lids

LOFT

Macy's

Michael's

Gap

Francesca's Collection

Nautica

PacSun

Target

Talbots

Ulta

DINING

NEPA offers a comprehensive variety of dining options that ranges from nationally-known franchises to locally-owned neighborhood favorites. The area is foodie-friendly with a plethora of culinary offerings. You can plan a multi-day food tour and have something for everyone, including American, Brazilian, French, German, gluten-free, gourmet coffee and tea houses, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Middle Eastern, Mexican, Raw, Soul, Tapas, Thai, Vegan and more. NEPA is home to Old Forge, which touts itself as the "Pizza Capital of the World" and Pittston, the "Tomato Capital of the World."

Some of the national franchises with establishments in the area.

Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar

Chili's Grill & Bar Chipotle Mexican Grill

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store

Dairy Queen Denny's

Domino's Pizza Dunkin' Donuts

Five Guys Burgers & Fries Friendly's Ice Cream

Grotto Pizza Johnny Rockets

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

La Tolteca

Logan's Roadhouse Longhorn Steakhouse Long John Silver's Moe's Southwest Grill

Olive Garden

Outback Steakhouse

Panera Bread

Perkins Restaurant & Bakery

Quiznos Red Lobster

Red Robin Ruby Tuesday Rustic Kitchen

Ruth's Chris Steakhouse Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill

Sonic, America's Drive-In

Starbucks TGI Fridays

Waffle House

Some of the nationally known retailers with stores and outlets in NEPA include: New Balance Nike Factory Store Old Navy Radio Shack Sephora Shoe Dept. T.J Maxx The Children's Place **Under Armour** Verizon Wireless Victoria's Secret White House Black Market Yankee Candle The Shoppes at Montage, Moosic, PA ranklin's Restaurant, Downtown Wilkes-Barre, PA

Find great places to eat throughout NEPA, and read restaurant reviews at tastenepa.com.



FOOD TRUCKS

There are always trends within the food industry that help shape its future. Today's trend - food trucks – has found traction nationally and in NEPA.

What the Fork – one of the most identifiable trucks in our area – serves high quality and unique dishes. What the Fork gained national recognition after being named the runner-up in Live! With Kelly & Michael's 2013 food truck contest. What the Fork has expanded to two trucks, a food stand at Scranton/ Wilkes-Barre RailRiders games, and even a brick and mortar restaurant in Downtown Wilkes-Barre and Scranton

going anywhere, with one in five restaurants wanting to expand with a food truck within two years*. The Bitemobile, a traveling extension of the popular Scranton-area restaurant, Nina's allowed the owners to open a second location – with wheels.

A number of other popular food trucks circulate throughout Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties.

*National Restaurant Association 2014 Restaurant Industry Forecast (https://www.restaurant.org/Down-loads/PDFs/News-Research/research/RestaurantIndustryForecast2014.pdf) Source: www.bestplaces.net



NEPA is also home to several breweries and microbreweries. Visitors tour the facilities, sample locally-brewed beers, and pair their beverage selections with food. Many of these NEPA beers have become staples in local restaurants and bars.

Breaker Brewing Company (breakerbrewingcompany.com) in Wilkes-Barre is a microbrewery specializing in craft beer. The name is a nod to the history of NEPA. Coal breakers were staples in the area back when coal was king.

Interested in learning how beer is made? Susquehanna Brewing Company (sbcbeer.com), headquartered in Pittston, has been named one of the Top 10 Brewery Tours in the US.

Lion Brewery, Inc. (lionbrewery.com) in Wilkes-Barre is one of the oldest breweries still in operation within Pennsylvania. Founded in 1905, its beers and sodas are sold in Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

Maybe you are interested in locally crafted beer and wine. Nimble Hill Brewing Company (nimblehillbrewingcompany.com) in Tunkhannock is the perfect place to satisfy both cravings.







SPORTS & RECREATION

SPORTING EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS, & VENUES

This region is home to three professional sports teams, NASCAR racing, a nationally acclaimed marathon, half marathon, and triathlon, and numerous waterparks. Want to get in the action? NEPA offers plenty of possibilities to put you in the middle of the excitement. The most popular sporting events and venues are:

BERWICK RUN FOR THE DIAMONDS

Founded in 1908 and now considered the fourth oldest running event in the nation, this annual Thanksgiving Day race draws about 1,500 runners to it hilly, nine mile course in Berwick.

CAMELBEACH

Camelbeach Mountain Waterpark in the Poconos offers slides from mild to wild with thrill rides, family rides, Camel Kids, adventure zone, and Camelback Mountain Adventures. Enjoy 37 rides, slides and attractions, dousing buckets, spraying water, hundreds of palm trees, cobblestone walkways, and real beach sand.

GREAT WOLF LODGE

Great Wolf Lodge in the Poconos features a 79,000 square feet indoor waterpark with slides and rides for guests of all ages. Kids love to battle dragons at MagiQuest, an interactive live-action, role-playing experience. Rides, events, mini golf, arcades, and more make for a great family experience.

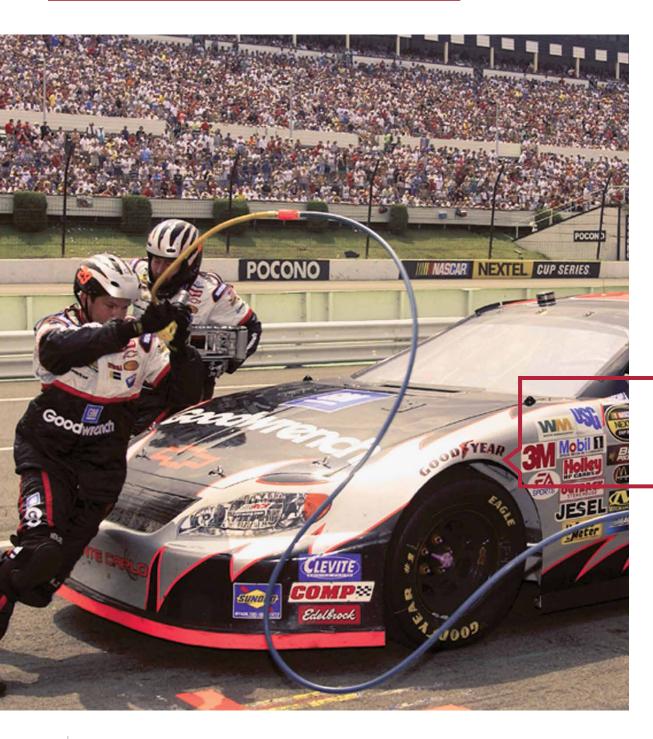
HARNESS RACING AT MOHEGAN SUN AT POCONO DOWNS

Live harness racing is among the many amenities at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs, a spectacular entertainment, gaming, shopping and dining destination located on 400 acres in Plains Township near Wilkes-Barre.

H20000HH! INDOOR FAMILY WATERPARK

H2Oooohh! Indoor Family Waterpark is located adjacent to the Galleria at Split Rock Resort in Lake Harmony, Pennsylvania. This complete indoor water park features attractions for all ages.





KALAHARI RESORTS

Kalahari Resorts, home to one of America's most successful family-owned indoor water parks, opened in the Pocono Mountains in summer of 2015. This \$230 million, 150 acre complex, offers convention and meeting space, indoor and outdoor waterparks, a family entertainment center, and lodging.

THE KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE

Thousands participate in this 5K run and walk that is held annually in Downtown Scranton. The Northeastern Pennsylvania Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® organizes the race as part of its mission to fight breast cancer.

MONTAGE MOUNTAIN WATERPARK

Located at the Montage Mountain Ski Resort, this waterpark features wild water rides and slides, a regulation sized volleyball

POCONO RACEWAY (NASCAR SPRINT CUP)

Also known as the Tricky Triangle, this superspeedway is located in the Pocono Mountains at Long Pond. It is the site of two annual NASCAR Sprint Cup Series, a NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event, and a Verizon IndyCar Series race.

RIVERFRONT SPORTS

Located just outside of Scranton, this modern facility features indoor turf fields and courts for soccer, basketball, flag football, and more.

SCRANTON HALF MARATHON

This annual 13.1 mile, USATF-certified half marathon sells its 3,000 spots out quickly. The race starts and finishes at Memorial Stadium near Downtown Scranton. This is one of the largest half marathons in the Northeast US.

SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE RAILRIDERS

This AAA franchise of the New York Yankees plays in PNC Field, a beautiful stadium located near the base of the Montage Mountain Ski Resort in Moosic Borough. Watch future New York Yankees stars during 71 annual home games.

SKY ZONE

The creator of the world's first indoor trampoline park opened a facility in 2014 in CenterPoint Commerce & Trade Park East. The space features connecting trampolines in an open court with about 12,500 square feet of jump space, as well as two dodge ball courts, a "SkySlam" basketball court, a fitness class called "SkyRobics," and a Foam Zone.

STEAMTOWN MARATHON

Rated the 6th best marathon in the nation in a Runner's World poll, this 26.2 mile, USATF-certified, Boston Marathon qualifier runs through 12 communities from Forest City to Scranton and annually draws close to 2,500 runners from all over the world. The Marathon was founded in 1996.

TOYOTA SPORTSPLEX

This official practice rink of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins is located on Coal Street in Wilkes-Barre and also offers public skating, instruction, figure skating, curling, and more.

WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS

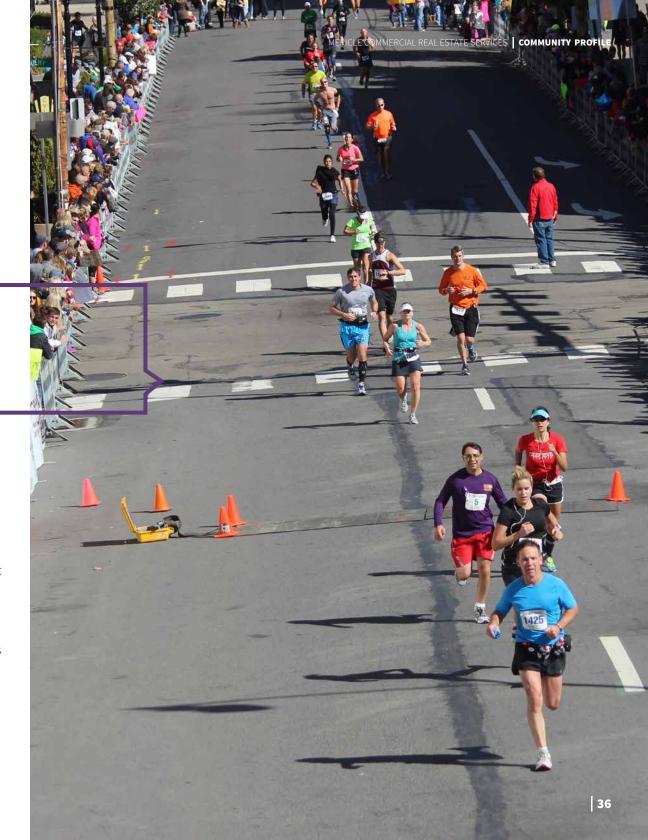
The Penguins are the American Hockey League affiliate of the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins. They play their home games in the 8,000+ seat Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza near Wilkes-Barre.

WILKES-BARRE TRIATHLON

Held annually in seven communities in the Back Mountain area, this nationally acclaimed triathlon features an Olympic Course (1.5k swim, 40k bike, 11k run) and a Sprint Course (.75K swim, 26K bike, and 5.5k run). The event was founded in 1982.

WYOMING VALLEY SPORTS DOME

This temperature controlled 76,000 square foot air structure near Wilkes-Barre features three Field Turf playing fields and is used for soccer, softball, field hockey, lacrosse, and more.



OUTDOOR RECREATION

Northeastern Pennsylvania is a mountainous region that provides numerous outdoor recreation opportunities including lakes, hiking and biking trails, and state and municipal parks. Hunting, fishing, mountain biking, running, hiking, camping, and boating are all very popular here. Additional outdoor recreation in NEPA ranges from water parks, to resorts, to ski resorts, to amusement parks, to whitewater rafting.

Sections of the Lackawanna River near Scranton have been classified by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission as "Class A Wild Brown Trout Water." Channel catfish and smallmouth bass are plentiful in the Susquehanna River near Wilkes-Barre. For information about fishing in NEPA visit **fishandboat.com** and **nepafishing.com**.

To learn about the many state parks in the area including Francis Slocum, Gouldsboro, Hickory Run, Lackawanna, Nescopek, and Rickett's Glen, visit dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks.

ADVENTURE CENTER AT WHITE WATER CHALLENGERS

White Water Challengers offers whitewater rafting and kayaking on the Lehigh River in White Haven, as well as biking and camping.

AYLESWORTH PARK

Created as the result of a U.S. Army Corp of Engineers dam control project in 1970, this 252-acre county park in Archbald Borough features a four acre lake with beach, fishing, lake trail, hiking trails, and picnic areas.

CAMP KRESGE

The Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA owns and operates Camp Kresge, which is located in White Haven. The 1,100 acre camp includes Beaver Lake and offers the Blue Sky education programs, swimming, hiking, canoeing, paddle boats, ropes courses, a climbing tower, zip line, and much more.

FRANCIS E. WALTER DAM

This 1,800 acre area in White Haven includes an 80 acre reservoir and offers areas for picnicking, hiking, and fishing. Whitewater rafting is available downstream.

LUZERNE COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX

Located in Forty Fort, this multi-field complex is used for soccer and softball tournaments, festivals, fairs, musical events, corporate outings, and more.

KIRBY PARK

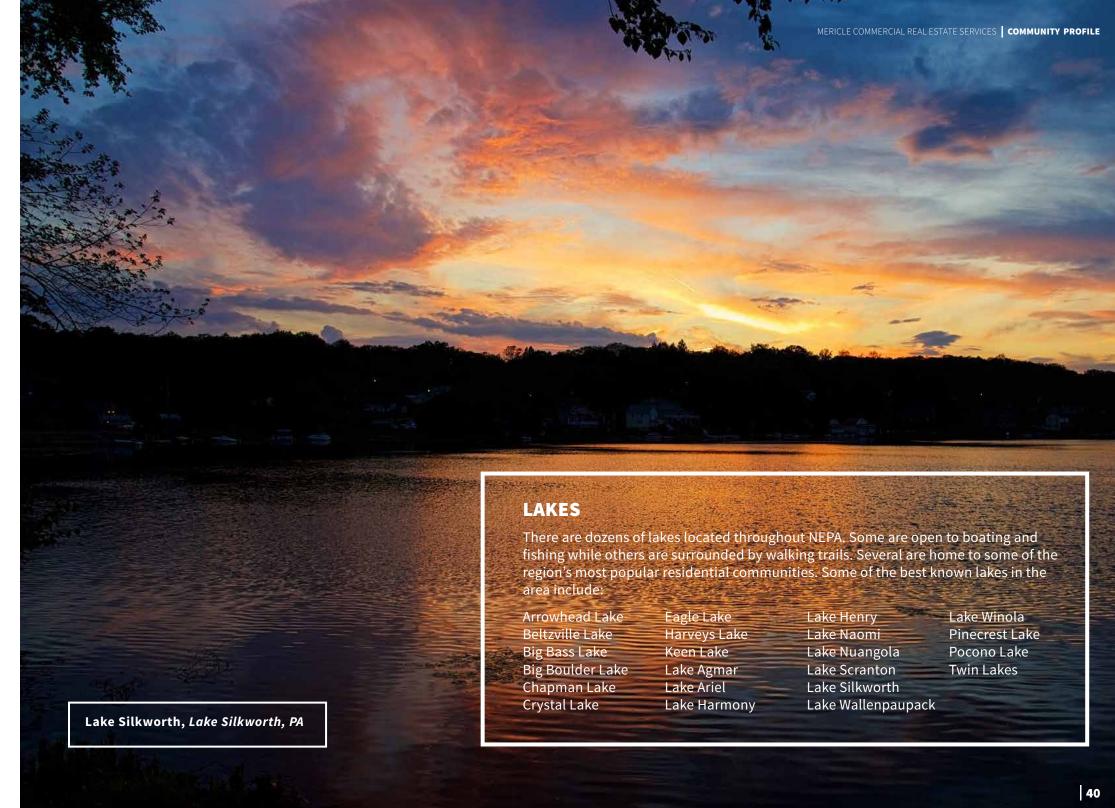
Located near the Market Street Bridge in Kingston, this park offers tennis courts, a quarter mile track, football, soccer, and softball fields, volleyball courts, fishing, and pavilions. The park is the setting for the City of Wilkes-Barre's annual Cherry Blossom Festival in April, the city's Old Fashioned 4th of July Celebration, and countless community events.

KNOEBLES AMUSEMENT RESORT

Located in Elysburg, Knoebles is a picnic grove and amusement park and has been America's largest free admission park for close to 90 years.









In addition to the many hiking trails located in area state and municipal parks, several non-profit organizations have constructed lengthy trails along rivers and atop former rail beds.

LACKAWANNA HERITAGE VALLEY AUTHORITY (LHVA)

The LHVA has developed numerous trails atop former rail beds throughout Lackawanna County. LHVA trails in Archbald and Jessup Boroughs are part of the Steamtown Marathon Course and those in Scranton and Taylor Boroughs are part of the Scranton Half Marathon course.

THE BACK MOUNTAIN TRAIL IN DALLAS, LUZERNE COUNTY

This 4.5 mile trail runs from Luzerne Borough to Dallas and cuts through scenic woodlands, complete with a meandering creek, a waterfall, and open fields of flowers.

THE COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVANCY

In October, 2014, this local non-profit opened a new trail in Lackawanna County that runs from the South Abington Township/Clarks Summit line through Glenburn Township all the way to the Dalton line. It is called the "Trolley Trail" because it follows a rail path once served by the Northern Electric Trolley.



lue Mountain, Palmerton, PA

MERICLE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES | COMMUNITY PROFILE

SKIING

NEPA offers some of the best ski resorts on the East Coast. Whether you are interested in skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing, or lounging in the lodge, there is something for everybody. A few of the better-known resorts include:

ALPINE MOUNTAIN

Located in Henryville in the Poconos, Alpine offers 21 downhill trails, snowshoeing, snow tubing and an ice skating rink.

BLUE MOUNTAIN

Blue Mountain is located in Palmerton and is known for its high vertical and long runs.

CAMELBACK

Voted the #1 resort in Pennsylvania four years in a row, Camelback's ski resort offers the biggest skiing and snowboarding terrain in the area and the largest snow tubing park in the nation.

EAGLE ROCK

Located near Hazleton, the Eagle Rock resort is known for its short lift lines and uncrowded skiing.

ELK MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT

Located north of Scranton in Susquehanna County, Elk Mountain offers some of Pennsylvania's best downhill skiing.

JACK FROST BIG BOULDER SKI RESORT: POCONOS

Jack Frost Big Boulder opened in 1972 and is located near Blakeslee in the Poconos. It features 30 slopes and trails.

MONTAGE MOUNTAIN

The Montage Mountain Resort is located in Moosic and is home to challenging ski and snowboarding trails and a waterpark.

SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN

Shawnee Mountain is a family friendly ski area located outside East Stroudsburg and includes a snow tubing park.

In addition to these downhill ski venues, many state and county parks have cross country ski trails.

Photo Credit: poconomountains.com

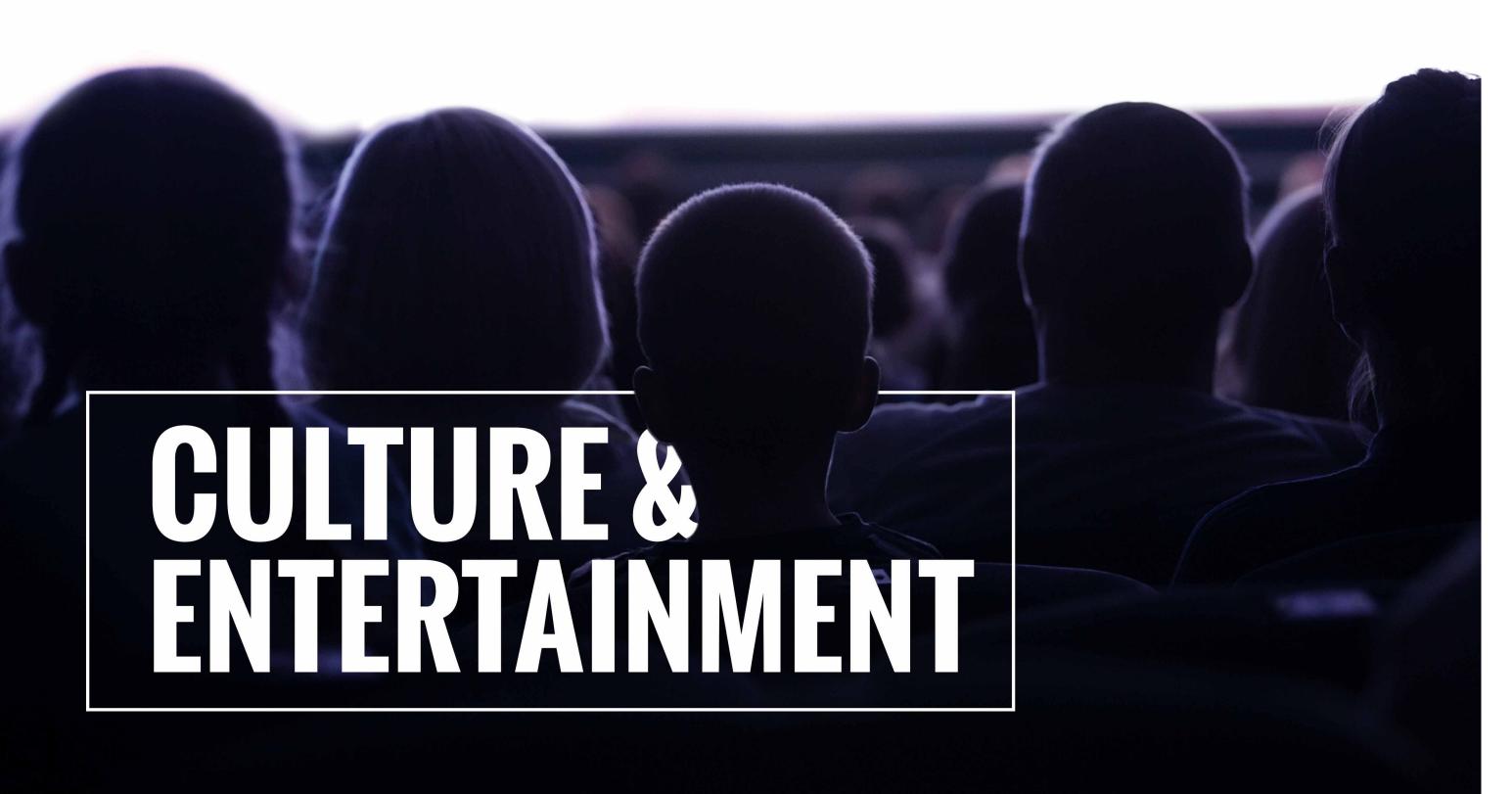
GOLF

Northeastern Pennsylvania has a wide variety of nine and 18 hole, public, and private golf courses. The most popular include:

Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club, Luzerne County Country Club of Scranton, Lackawanna County Country Club of the Poconos, Monroe County Eagle Rock Resort, Luzerne County Edgewood in the Pines, Luzerne County Elkview Country Club, Lackawanna County Elmhurst Country Club, Lackawanna County Emanon Country Club, Wyoming County Fox Hill Country Club, Luzerne County Glen Oak Country Club, Lackawanna County Glenmaura National Golf Club, Lackawanna County Hideaway Hills Golf Club, Monroe County Hidden Valley, Schuylkill County Huntsville Golf Club, Luzerne County Irem Country Club, Luzerne County Jack Frost National Golf Club, Monroe County Mount Airy Casino Resort Golf Club, Monroe County Mountain Laurel Golf Club, Carbon County Mountain Valley Golf Course, Schuylkill County

Paupack Hills Golf and Country Club, Pike County Pine Hills, Lackawanna County Pocono Farms Country Club, Monroe County Pocono Manor Inn & Golf Resort, Monroe County Sand Springs Country Club, Luzerne County Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort/Great Bear Golf Club, Monroe and Pike County Shadowbrook Inn & Resort, Wyoming County Schuylkill Country Club, Schuylkill County Skytop Lodge, Monroe County Split Rock Resort & Golf Club, Carbon County Stonehedge Country Club, Wyoming County Stone Meadows Golf Course, Luzerne County Sugarloaf Gold Club, Luzerne County The Valley Country Club, Luzerne County Wilkes-Barre Municipal, Luzerne County Woodloch Pines, Wayne County Wyoming Valley Country Club, Luzerne County





CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

VENUES AND GROUPS

NEPA hosts a variety of different performances, from Broadway shows, to ballet, to concerts by internationally-recognized recording artists, to local plays, and much more. Some of the area's most prominent venues, theater and dance groups, and movie theaters include the following.

BALLET NORTHEAST

Ballet Northeast was established in 1948 and is located in Wilkes-Barre. The company has developed a repertoire of classical pieces and originally choreographed ballets.

BETHEL WOODS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Located just a short drive from NEPA, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is an award-winning cultural and civic center located on an 800 acre site that surrounds the location of the 1969 Woodstock festival. Performers cover a broad range of classical, rock, pop, jazz, and country music.

BROADWAY THEATRE LEAGUE OF NORTHEAST PA

Founded in 1959, Broadway Theatre has welcomed many pre and post Broadway tours and countless stars of stage and screen to the region.

CINEMARK

The largest movie complex in the region, Cinemark 20 and XD is located in Moosic on Montage Mountain and features ceiling-to-floor and wall-to-wall screens, custom sound, and premium stadium seating.

DIETRICH THEATER

Located in Downtown Tunkhannock, this historic theater shows countless blockbuster, foreign, independent, and classic films. The theater has also presented more than 100 cultural events, including semiannual film festivals, live theater, concerts, and workshops.

DOROTHY DICKSON DARTE CENTER

Located on the campus of Wilkes-University in Downtown Wilkes-Barre, the facility's main auditorium, the Darling Theatre can seat 478 people and hosts a variety of dance and musical performances.

GARDEN DRIVE-IN

The Garden Drive-in, located in Hunlock Creek, is a drive-in theater, popular with the locals, that hosts movies on two screens during the spring and summer. Concerts – most recently, Jimmy Buffet – and flea markets are also held here.

LITTLE THEATER OF WILKES-BARRE

Based in Wilkes-Barre, this nonprofit is one of the oldest continuously running theaters in the United States and is still ranked among the 10 best "little theater" groups. Since 1923, Little Theater has reached more than two million people and performed hundreds of productions.

THE THEATER AT LACKAWANNA COLLEGE

This historic theater, now part of Lackawanna College, was renovated in 2009. It hosts a series of performing arts concerts and theater productions.

MOHEGAN SUN ARENA AT CASEY PLAZA

With more than 8,000 permanent seats and a capacity of nearly 10,000 for concerts, the arena has played host to some of the biggest names in entertainment, including Elton John, Cher, Neil Diamond, Janet Jackson, Luke Bryan, The Eagles, AC/DC, and Simon & Garfunkel. The arena's primary tenant is the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins of the American Hockey League, which is affiliated with the National Hockey League's Pittsburgh Penguins.

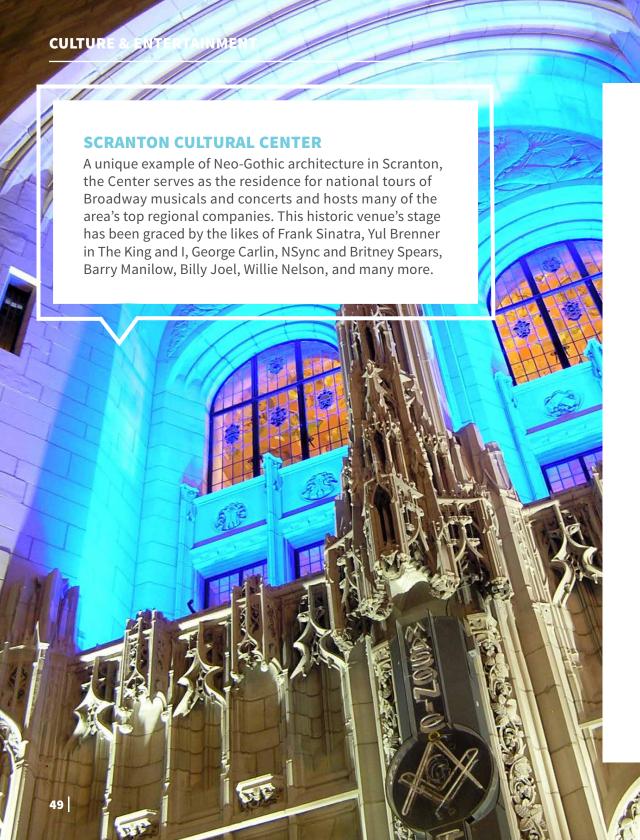
MUSIC BOX DINNER PLAYHOUSE

This community theater is located in Swoyersville. The Music Box Players is a nonprofit organization made up of performers who work in the local community and volunteer their time to rehearse and perform in the productions.

NORTHEASTERN PA PHILHARMONIC

The Philharmonic's concerts, classical and pop themed, are performed at the Scranton Cultural Center in Downtown Scranton and the F. M. Kirby Center in Downtown Wilkes-Barre.





PENN'S PEAK

This beautiful mountaintop entertainment venue located in Jim Thorpe can comfortably host 1,800 concertgoers. Penn's Peak hosts many well-known entertainers annually.

PAVILION AT MONTAGE MOUNTAIN

This outdoor concert venue has attracted world class artists from Jason Aldean, to Lil Wayne, to Josh Groban, to Maroon 5. The pavilion has a seating capacity of 17,500, with about 7,000 of those as fixed seats under cover and an approximately 10,500 person capacity in the

RC WILKES-BARRE MOVIES 14

Located at East Northampton Street and Main Street in Downtown Wilkes-Barre, this 14 screen theater opened in 2006 and features huge wall to wall curved screens and stadium seating with high back rocking chairs.

REGAL DICKSON CITY STADIUM 14 & IMAX

This 14 screen, state-of-the-art movie complex is located in Dickson City near the Viewmont Mall and surrounding shopping venues and features an IMAX theater.

SCRANTON CIVIC BALLET

The Scranton Civic Ballet was founded in 1978 as a regional resident ballet company with its home in Scranton. The focus of the Civic Ballet Company is two annual major performances, which are full scale theatrical productions presented at the Scranton Cultural Center.

THE LEONARD

A former opera house and vaudeville theater, The Leonard Building has been home to hundreds of big names over the years and today hosts concerts, performing arts, Broadway shows, weddings, and corporate parties.

HISTORICAL SITES, MUSEUMS, & GALLERIES

NEPA has a diverse assortment of historical sites, museums, art galleries, and educational opportunities. Here are a few of NEPA's most visited venues:

ART GALLERIES

NEPA is home to numerous galleries that display the works of regional and national artists. Some of the best known include:

AFA Gallery Artworks Gallery & Studio **Everhart Museum** Hope Horn Gallery Mahady Gallery Maslow Study Gallery Pauly Friedman Art Gallery/ MacDonald Gallery Sordoni Art Gallery Schulman Gallery Suraci Gallery Widmann Art Gallery Wyoming Valley Art League

Photo Credit: Diamond City Partnership



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ECKLEY MINER'S VILLAGE

This is a 19th century anthracite coal mining town "frozen in time." Located in Weatherly, the museum shows what it was like to live and work as a coal miner in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

THE ELECTRIC CITY TROLLEY MUSEUM

The museum is located adjacent to Downtown Scranton on the Steamtown National Historic Site grounds. Go back in time as you explore vintage trolleys from the 19th and 20th centuries and learn more about the history of the Lackawanna Valley.

EVERHART MUSEUM

The Everhart Museum is located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton. It is a non-profit art and natural history museum that was founded in 1908. There are 15 gallery spaces providing display areas for permanent and temporary exhibitions. The original focus was to create a comprehensive display of the state's native birds, animals, and other wildlife. An extensive art collection was later added.

FORTY FORT MEETING HOUSE

Forty Fort was named for a Revolutionary War era fort that the town's original 40 settlers built. This historic meeting house at River Street and Wyoming Avenue in the Old Forty Fort Cemetery was built in 1806–08 in a New England meeting house style with white clapboard siding and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

FREDERICK STEGMAIER MANSION

Built in Downtown Wilkes-Barre in 1870, the Frederick Stegmaier Mansion has been meticulously restored to its former opulence and operates today as an historic house museum, banquet facility, and grand bed & breakfast.

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTER

The Holocaust Museum is a small, but expanding exhibit compiled of artifacts that survived the Holocaust, such as a Czech Torah. The Museum's counterpart, the Holocaust Research Center, serves as an educational and outreach tool for the community.

HOUDINI TOUR & MAGIC SHOW

Located in Scranton, this is the world's only building devoted to the most famous magician of all time, Harry Houdini, who performed many times in NEPA.

LACKAWANNA COAL MINE TOUR

The Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour takes you 300 feet below the earth as you slowly descend in a mine car. A miner accompanies you, enlightening you on the history and heroic journeys that have taken place in this anthracite coal mine that opened in 1860.

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY/THE CATLIN HOUSE

Located on the campus of the University of Scranton, the 1912-built Catlin House is a Tudor Revival style home and is a stately example of the upper-class homes of its time. It serves as a museum operated by the Lackawanna County Historical Society.

NATHAN DENISON HOUSE

In 1790, Nathan Denison of Connecticut built his house on the western bank of Abrams Creek in then Kingston Township – now Forty Fort. He lived here until his death in 1809. Today, both the house and the furnishings appear as they did when the home was built.

PA ANTHRACITE HERITAGE MUSEUM

The museum is located in McDade Park in Scranton. The Museum tells the story of the people who came from Europe to work in the anthracite mining and textiles industries.

PATRICK J. SOLANO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Located near the shore of the lake at Frances Slocum State Park, this interpretative building welcomes more than 15,000 people annually, including many children. The center features exhibits on American Indians and ecological topics, as well as curriculum-based environmental education programs.

SCRANTON IRON FURNACES

The Scranton Iron Furnaces represent the once booming iron industry in the United States. By 1865, these four gigantic stone blast furnaces, located near the Steamtown National Historic Site, had the largest capacity to produce iron in the country.

STEAMTOWN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The Steamtown National Historic Site, managed by the National Park Service, is one of the world's largest collections of steam locomotives and related memorabilia. Steamtown is home to passenger cars, locomotives, freight cars, and maintenance-of-way equipment from various historic railroads. The site sits on almost 40 acres adjacent to Downtown Scranton.

SWETLAND HOMESTEAD

The Swetland Homestead, built in 1803, and located in Wyoming, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Highlights include the 1860's era Victorian style parlor and household objects that represent the transition to a more industrialized society.

TRIPP HOUSE

A Federal house built in Scranton in 1778 by early New England settlers, the Tripp House is the oldest house in Lackawanna County. The home has been described by the National Heritage Corporation as "more than any building in Scranton, an expression of the City's history."



FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Local festivals and events are integral to NEPA's culture. From holiday parades, to fairs, to authentic heritage festivals, here are some of the best known events in the area.

CO-OP FARMERS MARKET, SCRANTON

This Scranton Market offers a wide variety of seasonal, home-grown, fresh-picked fruits, vegetables, jams & jellies, and fresh cut and potted flowers. This is considered to be the only open-air seasonal market of its kind in Northern Pennsylvania that is solely owned and operated by the farmers themselves.

FARMERS MARKET, WILKES-BARRE

This annual tradition is held for several weeks every summer at Public Square in Downtown Wilkes-Barre. Highlights include music, food, crafts, and the highest quality fresh produce from local growers.

FINE ARTS FIESTA, WILKES-BARRE

The Fiesta was started in 1956 and is held on Public Square in Downtown Wilkes-Barre. This four day festival in May celebrates "diversity, talent, passion, and friendship." The oldest arts festival in Pennsylvania includes music, performances by local schools and organizations, art exhibits by local artists, and a large showcase of vendors.

FIRST FRIDAY, SCRANTON

This nonprofit agency organizes a free art walk held on the first Friday of every month at dozens of galleries and businesses around Downtown Scranton. First Friday features a wide variety of cultural events found in some of the city's best restaurants and cafes, as well as galleries, boutiques, and other small businesses.

GREAT TASTES OF PENNSYLVANIA WINE AND FOOD FESTIVAL

This annual event is held at Lake Harmony on the grounds of Split Rock Resort in the Poconos. The two day festival is comprised of a wide selection of wine, food, and musical entertainment.

HARFORD FAIR

The Harford Fair has been an annual event for nearly 160 years. Nestled in the hills of Susquehanna County, the Harford Fair offers a week of events, food, rides, games and entertainment, including a rodeo with participants from across the country.

LA FESTA ITALIANA

Created in 1976, La Festa Italiana is one of NEPAs largest festivals. Held over Labor Day weekend on Courthouse Square in Downtown Scranton, La Festa draws thousands of visitors and includes live entertainment and an abundance of food.

LACKAWANNA RIVER CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION RIVERFEST

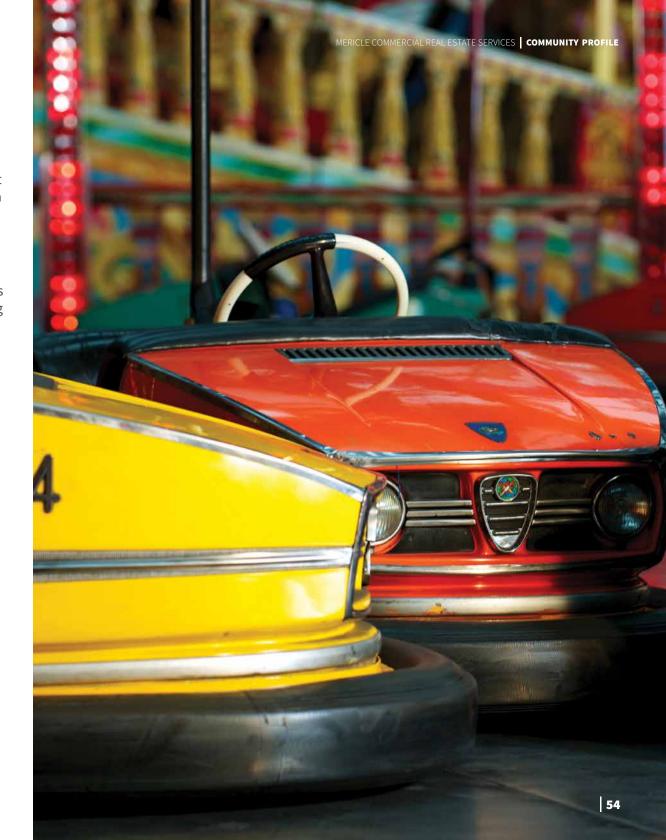
The LCRA hosts an annual RiverFest to celebrate the river that runs through the Lackawanna Valley.

LUZERNE COUNTY FAIR

The annual county fair is held in Dallas for five days in September. The fair includes a vast selection of food, continuous musical entertainment, a multitude of contests, and the annual selection of the fair queen.

NORTHEAST FAIR

This annual Fair is held in Pittston just off S.R. 315. The five day event includes a wide variety of contests, shows, rides, food, and drinks. Entertainment ranges from magic shows, to musical performers, to wine tasting.





PITTSTON TOMATO FESTIVAL

Known for its massive "Tomato Fight", the Festival is a weekend long event every August in Downtown Pittston. The Tomato Festival includes a wide variety of food and draws thousands of attendees.

THE RACE OF THE SAINTS

St. Ubaldo Day is a very colorful and enthusiastic celebration in which three Saints' statues, St. Ubaldo, St. George, and St. Anthony are placed atop two connected octagonal wooden prisms and are quickly carried throughout the streets of the town. Gubbio, Italy, and Jessup, PA are the only places in the world that play host to this celebration.

SAINT ANN'S SOLEMN NOVENA

Thousands of pilgrims from all corners of the world come to The Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Ann in Scranton every July to honor St. Ann.

SANTA PARADES

Thousands of families come to Downtown Scranton and Downtown Wilkes-Barre each November to attend this parade and welcome Santa to the area.



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARADES

Thousands visit the downtowns in **Scranton**, Pittston, and Wilkes-Barre every March to attend Saint Patrick's Day parades and celebrations. Scranton's celebration is a nationally acclaimed event with more than 12,000 participants and is considered one of the largest Saint Patrick's Day Parades in the country. The parade has been held annually since 1962.

SECOND FRIDAY ART WALK, PITTSTON

Pittston holds a Second Friday Art Walk during the summer months on Main Street in Pittston. The event includes outdoor art galleries, artistic demonstrations, live music, and more. Restaurants and bars found along Pittston's "Restaurant Row" also participate in the event.

THIRD FRIDAY, WILKES-BARRE

Third Friday Wilkes-Barre is a free art walk held the third Friday of every month at galleries and businesses in Downtown Wilkes-Barre. The event is coordinated by the Wyoming Valley Art League and features a variety of cultural events found in the city's galleries, boutiques, restaurants, cafes, and other small businesses.

WAYNE COUNTY FAIR

With more than 150 years of tradition, the Wayne County Fair in Honesdale offers a week of events, rides, games, food, and much more. Many talented entertainers have performed at the Fair.

WYOMING VALLEY RIVERFEST

The Wyoming Valley Riverfest is a weekend festival held at the River Commons at the Susquehanna River in Downtown Wilkes-Barre. The festival includes live musical performances, boat

For more information about area festivals visit www.festivalsinpa.com.

COVE HAVEN

Known as a romantic getaway, Cove Haven Resorts operates three locations in NEPA. Many world renowned entertainers come to Cove Haven to entertain guests. Horseback riding, golf, skiing, water skiing, and many other attractions make Cove Haven a great retreat for couples.

MOHEGAN SUN CASINO AT POCONO DOWNS

Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in Plains Township has grown into one of the biggest gaming destinations on the East Coast and features more than 2,300 slot machines, more than 80 table games, and live harness racing. The beautiful 82,000 square-foot gaming floor includes a luxurious high-limit slot room and a private player's lounge. The complex also features several fine dining restaurants.

MOUNT AIRY CASINO

Mt. Airy Casino is a resort located in the Poconos. It contains an Ultra Pool, a nightclub, and a Summer Stage, along with a full casino and hotel.

WOODLOCH

The Country Club at Woodloch Springs is an 18-hole championship golf course that has been nationally recognized by *GOLF* Magazine and given 4.5 Stars by Golf Digest's Best Place to Play. The Lodge at Woodloch is a premier destination spa resort with nearly 60 guestrooms and suites, a 40,000 square foot spa, and many other relaxing accommodations.

For more information on lodging and things to do in Northeastern Pennsylvania, visit:

The Lackawanna County Convention and Visitors Bureau

www.visitnepa.org

The Luzerne County Convention & Visitors Bureau

• www.tournepa.com

The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau

• www.800poconos.com

CASINOS AND RESORTS Need a short getaway, but don't want to travel far? Are you looking

CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

for a place to relax or hold company gatherings? Or maybe you are interested in "rolling the dice" in hopes of hitting it big. NEPA is home to two large casinos and several highly regarded resorts and lodges that offer something for everyone.

LINKS INDEX

INTRODUCTION

Mericle Commercial Real Estate - www.mericle.com

LOCATION & TRANSPORTATION

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport - www.flyavp.com Hazelton Municipal Airport - www.hazletonfbo.com/default.htm

Pocono Mountains Municipal Airport - www.mpoairport.com

Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Airport - www.airnav.com/airport/WBW

Lehigh Valley International Airport - www.flylvia.com

Martz Trailways - martztrailways.com

Norfolk Southern Railway - www.nscorp.com/content/nscorp/en.html

Canadian Pacific Railway - www.cpr.ca/en

Luzerne & Susquehanna Railroad - www.lsry.net

Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad - www.rbmnrr.com PA Northeast Regional Railroad Authority - www.pnrra.org

Center for Workforce Information and Analysis - www.paworkstats.state. pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/home/19890

EDUCATION

Abington Heights School District - www.ahsd.org Carbondale Area School District - gateway.ca.k12.pa.us Crestwood School District - www.csdcomets.org Dallas School District - www.dallassd.com **Dunmore School District** - www.dunmoreschooldistrict.net

Greater Nanticoke School District - www.gnasd.com Hanover Area School District - www.hanoverarea.org

Greater Hazleton Area School District - www.hasdk12.org

Lake Lehman School District - www.lake-lehman.k12.pa.us Lakeland School District - lakelandsd.schoolwires.net

Mid Valley School District - www.mvsd.us

North Pocono School District - www.npsd.org

Northwest Area School District - www.northwest.k12.pa.us/wordpress Old Forge School - www.ofsd.cc

Pittston Area School District - www.pittstonarea.com Riverside School District - www.riversidesd.com

Scranton School District - www.scrsd.org

Valley View School District – www.valleyviewsd.org

Wilkes-Barre Area School District - www.wbasd.k12.pa.us Wyoming Area School District - www.wyomingarea.org

Wyoming Valley West School District - www.wvwspartans.org

PRIVATE AND CHARTER SCHOOLS

Abington Christian Academy - abingtonacademy.com Bais Yaakov of Scranton - jewishscranton.org/blog Bear Creek Community Charter School - www.bearcreekschool.com Bnos Yisroel High School - jewishscranton.org/blog Fell Charter Elementary School - fellcharter.com Howard Gardner School - howardgardnerschool.com Immanuel Christian School – www.icshazleton.org MMI Preparatory School – www.mmiprep.org

Milton Eisner Yeshiva High School - www.greatschools.org/pennsylvania/ scranton/3900-Milton-Eisner-Yeshiva-High-School

Scranton Hebrew Day School K-8 – jewishscranton.org/blog Scranton Preparatory School – www.scrantonprep.com

The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children - www.thescran-

tonschool.org

Wyoming Seminary - www.wyomingseminary.org Yeshiva Bais Moshe – www.jewishscranton.org/blog

Catholic Schools - www.dioceseofscranton.org/catholicschools

HIGHER EDUCATION

Bloomsburg University - www.bloomu.edu East Stroudsburg University - www.esu.edu

Johnson College - www.johnson.edu Keystone College - www.keystone.edu

Kings College - www.kings.edu

Lackawanna College - www.lackawanna.edu

Luzerne County Community College - www.luzerne.edu

Marywood University - www.marywood.edu

Misericordia University - www.misericordia.edu

Northampton Community College (Monroe Campus) - www.northampton.edu

Penn State Hazleton - www.hn.psu.edu

Penn State Wilkes-Barre - www.wb.psu.edu Penn State Worthington Scranton Campus - www.sn.psu.edu

Summit University - www.bbc.edu

The Commonwealth Medical College - www.tcmc.edu

University of Scranton - www.scranton.edu

Wilkes University - www.wilkes.edu

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County – www.ctclc.edu

Fortis - www.fortis.edu

Hazleton Area Career Center – www.hasdk12.org/Domain/875

ITT Technical Institute - www.itt-tech.edu

McCann School of Business and Technology – www.mccann.edu New Horizons Computer Learning Center – www.newhorizons.com

West Side AVTS - www.wsctc.net

Wilkes-Barre Area Career and Technical Center – www.wbactc.org

HEALTHCARE

Allied Services – www.allied-services.org

Clarks Summit State Hospital - www.dhs.state.pa.us/foradults/statehospitals/

clarkssummitstatehospital/index.htm

Community Health Systems Inc. - www.chs.net Commonwealth Medical College - www.tcmc.edu

Geisinger Health System - www.geisinger.org

Lehigh Valley Health Network - www.lvhn.org

Saint Joseph's Center - www.stjosephscenter.org

Wilkes-Barre Veterans Affairs Medical Center - www.wilkes-barre.va.gov

SHOPPING & DINING

Arena Hub Plaza, Wilkes-Barre Township - www.tfplimited.com/arena-hub-plaza.html

Crossings Premium Outlets, Tannersville - www.premiumoutlets.com

The Mall at Steamtown, Scranton - www.themallatsteamtown.com

Shoppes at Montage, Moosic - www.shoppesatmontage.com Viewmont Mall, Dickson City - www.shopviewmontmall.com

Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre Township - www.shopwyomingvalley-

Breaker Brewing Company - www.breakerbrewingcompany.com Susquehanna Brewing Company - www.sbcbeer.com

Lion Brewery, Inc. - www.lionbrewery.com

Nimble Hill Brewing Company - www.nimblehillbrewingcompany.com

SPORTS & RECREATION

SPORTING EVENTS, ATTRACTIONS, & VENUES

Berwick Run for the Diamonds - www.runfordiamonds.com

Camelbeach - www.camelbeach.com

Great Wolf Lodge - www.greatwolf.com/poconos/waterpark

Harness Racing at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs - www.mohegansunpo-

H2Oooohh! Family Indoor Waterpark - www.splitrockresort.com Kalahari Resorts - www.kalahariresorts.com/pennsylvania

The Komen Race for the Cure - www.komennepa.org

Montage Mountain Waterpark - www.montagemountainresorts.com Pocono Raceway (NASCAR Sprint Cup) - www.poconoraceway.com

Riverfront Sports - www.riverfrontsports.com

Scranton Half Marathon – www.scrantonhalf.com

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders - www.swbrailriders.com

SkvZone - www.skvzone.com/scranton

Steamtown Marathon - www.steamtownmarathon.com

Toyota SportsPlex - www.toyotasportsplex.com

Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins - www.wbspenguins.com Wilkes-Barre Triathlon - www.wilkesbarretriathlon.com

Wyoming Valley Sports Dome - www.wyomingvalleysportsdome.com

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Adventure Center at White Water Challengers – www.whitewaterchalleng-

Aylesworth Park - www.lackawannacounty.org

Camp Kresge - www.wbymca.org

Francis E. Walter Dam - www.delawareandlehigh.org

Luzerne County Sports Complex - www.luzernecountysportscomplex.com Kirby Park - www.wilkes-barre.pa.us

Knoebles Amusement Resort – www.knoebels.com

The Lands at Hillside Farms - www.thelandsathillsidefarms.org

McDade Park - www.lackawannacounty.org Merli Sarnoski Park - www.lackawannacounty.org

Moon Lake Park - www.tournepa.com

Roba's Family Farm - www.RobaFamilyFarms.com

Seven Tubs Nature Park - www.delawareandlehigh.org

Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (LHVA) - www.lhva.org/green-

The Back Mountain Trail in Dallas, Luzerne County - www.traillink.com/ trail/back-mountain-trail.aspx

The Countryside Conservancy – countrysideconservancy.org/trails/trollev-trail.html

Alpine Mountain - www.alpinemountain.com Blue Mountain - www.skibluemt.com

Camelback - www.skicamelback.com Eagle Rock - www.eaglerockresort.com/leisure-activities/ski

Elk Mountain Ski Resort - www.elkskier.com Jack Frost Big Boulder Ski Resort: Poconos - www.jfbb.com

Montage Mountain - www.montagemountainresorts.com Shawnee Mountain – www.shawneemt.com

Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club, Luzerne County - www.blueridgetrail.com Country Club of Scranton, Lackawanna County - www.ccscranton.com Country Club of the Poconos, Monroe County - www.ccppagolf.com Eagle Rock Resort, Luzerne County - www.eaglerockresort.com Edgewood in the Pines, Luzerne County - www.edgewoodpinesgc.com Elkview Country Club, Lackawanna County – www.elkviewgolf.com Elmhurst Country Club, Lackawanna County – www.elmhurstcc.com The Leonard - www.theleonardtheater.com

Emanon Country Club, Wyoming County – www.manoncc.com Fox Hill Country Club, Luzerne County - www.foxhillcountryclub.net Glen Oak Country Club, Lackawanna County - www.glenoakcountryclub.org

Glenmaura National Golf Club, Lackawanna County - www.gngc.net Hideaway Hills Golf Club, Monroe County – www.hideawaygolf.com Hidden Valley, Schuylkill County - hidden.distinctgolf.com

Huntsville Golf Club, Luzerne County - www.golf-huntsville.com Irem Country Club, Luzerne County - www.iremgolf.com

Jack Frost National Golf Club, Monroe County – www.jackfrostnational.com Mount Airy Casino Resort Golf Club, Monroe County - www.mountairycasino.com Mountain Laurel Golf Club, Carbon County – www.mountainlaurelgolfclub.com Mountain Valley Golf Course, Schuylkill County – www.mtvalleygolf.com

Paupack Hills Golf and Country Club, Pike County - www.paupackhills.com Pine Hills, Lackawanna County - www.pinehillsgolf.com Pocono Farms Country Club, Monroe County – www.poconofarms.com

Pocono Manor Inn & Golf Resort, Monroe County – www.poconomanor.com Sand Springs Country Club, Luzerne County - www.sandspringsgolf.com Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort/Great Bear Golf Club, Monroe and Pike County -

www.shawneeinn.com/pa-golf-courses/great-bear-golf-club Shadowbrook Inn & Resort, Wyoming County - www.shadowbrookresort.com Schuylkill Country Club, Schuylkill County - www.schuylkillcc.com

Skytop Lodge, Monroe County - www.skytop.com/golf Split Rock Resort & Golf Club, Carbon County – www.splitrockresort.com Stonehedge Country Club, Wyoming County - stonehedge-golf.com Stone Meadows Golf Course, Luzerne County - www.stonemeadowsgolf.com Sugarloaf Gold Club, Luzerne County - www.sugarloafgolfclub.com

The Valley Country Club, Luzerne County – www.thevalleycountryclub.com Wilkes-Barre Municipal, Luzerne County - www.wilkes-barregc.com Woodloch Pines, Wayne County - www.woodloch.com/things-to-do/golf Wyoming Valley Country Club, Luzerne County - www.wyomingvalleycountryclub.

VENUES AND GROUPS

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts - www.bethelwoodscenter.org Broadway Theatre League of Northeast PA - www.broadwayscranton.com Cinemark - www.cinemark.com

Dietrich Theater - www.dietrichtheater.com

Dorothy Dickson Darte Center – www.wilkes.edu

F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts - www.kirbycenter.org

Garden Drive-in - www.gardendrivein.com Little Theater of Wilkes-Barre – www.ltwb.org

The Theater at Lackawanna College - www.lackawanna.edu/newsevents/the-theater/community-concerts

Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza - www.mohegansunarenapa.com

Music Box Dinner Playhouse – www.musicbox.org Northeastern PA Philharmonic – www.nepaphil.org

Penn's Peak - www.pennspeak.com

Pavilion at Montage Mountain - www.thepavilionatmontagemountain.

RC Wilkes-Barre Movies 14 – www.rctheatres.com/loc_wilkesbarre.asp Regal Dickson City Stadium 14 & IMAX - www.regmovies.com

Scranton Civic Ballet - www.scrantoncivicballet.com Scranton Cultural Center - www.scrantonculturalcenter.org

HISTORICAL SITES, MUSEUMS, & GALLERIES

AFA Gallery - www.artistsforart.org

Artworks Gallery & Studio - www.artworksnepa.com

Everhart Museum - www.everhart-museum.org Hope Horn Gallery - www.scranton.edu/academics/hope-horn-gallery

Mahady Gallery - www.marywood.edu/galleries

Maslow Study Gallery - www.marywood.edu/galleries

Pauly Friedman Art Gallery/MacDonald Gallery - www.misericordia.edu Sordoni Art Gallery - www.wilkes.edu/arts/sordoni-art-gallery

Schulman Gallery - www.luzerne.edu/schulmangallery Suraci Gallery - www.marywood.edu/galleries

Widmann Art Gallery - www.kings.edu Wyoming Valley Art League – www.wyomingvalleyartleague.org

Eckley Miner's Village – www.eckleyminersvillage.com The Electric City Trolley Museum - www.ectma.org/museum.html

Everhart Museum - www.everhart-museum.org Forty Fort Meeting House - www.fortyfortmeetinghouse.org

Frederick Stegmaier Mansion - www.stegmaiermansion.com Holocaust Museum and Research Center - www.visitpa.com/pa-muse-

ums/holocaust-education-resource-center National Register of Historic Places - www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/pa/luzerne/state.html

Houdini Tour & Magic Show - www.houdini.org

Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour - www.lackawannacounty.org Lackawanna Historical Society/The Catlin House - www.lackawannahis-

Luzerne County Historical Society Museum – www.luzernehistory.org Nathan Denison House – www.luzernehistory.org

PA Anthracite Heritage Museum – www.anthracitemuseum.org Patrick J. Solano Environmental Education Center - www.dcnr.state. pa.us/stateparks/findapark/francesslocum/index.html

Steamtown National Historic Site - www.nps.gov/stea/index.htm Swetland Homestead – www.luzernehistory.org

Scranton Iron Furnaces – www.anthracitemuseum.org

Tripp House - www.tripphouse.com

Co-op Farmers Market, Scranton – www.coopfarmersmarket.com

Fine Arts Fiesta Wilkes-Barre - www.fineartsfiesta.org

Great Tastes of Pennsylvania Wine and Food Festival - www.splitrockresort.com

La Festa Italiana - www.lafestaitaliana.org

Lackawanna River Corridor Association RiverFest - www.lrca.org

Northeast Fair - www.northeastfair.com

The Race of the Saints - www.stubaldodav.com

Santa Parade, Scranton - www.santaparade.net

Santa Parade, Wilkes-Barre - www.wilkes-barre.pa.us/christmasparade.php

Scranton - www.stpatparade.com

Pittston - www.pittstoncity.org/saint-patricks-day-parade

Third Friday Wilkes-Barre - www.thirdfridaywb.com

Wilkes-Barre's Saint Patrick's Day Parade - www.wilkes-barre.pa.us/stpats.php

CASINOS & RESORTS

Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs – www.mohegansunpocono.com

The Lackawanna County Convention and Visitors Bureau - www.visitnepa.org The Luzerne County Convention & Visitors Bureau - www.tournepa.com

CULTURE & ENTERTAINMENT

Ballet Northeast - www.balletnortheast.com

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Farmers Market Wilkes-Barre - www.wilkes-barre.pa.us/farmersm.php

First Friday Scranton - www.firstfridayscranton.com

First Night Scranton - www.firstnightscranton.com

Harford Fair - www.harfordfair.com

Luzerne County Fair - www.luzernecountyfair.com

Pittston Tomato Festival - www.pittstontomatofestival.com

Saint Ann's Solemn Novena - www.stannsmonasterybasilica.org

Saint Patrick's Day Parades – www.pittstoncity.org/saint-patricks-day-parade

Wilkes-Barre - www.wilkes-barre.pa.us/stpats.php Second Friday Art Walk, Pittston – www.pittstoncity.org/second-fridays

Wavne County Fair - www.wavnecountyfair.com

Cove Haven - www.covepoconoresorts.com

Wyoming Valley Riverfest - riverfrontparks.org

Mount Airy Casino – www.mountairycasino.com Woodloch - www.woodloch.com

The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau - www.800poconos.com

