Explore the Eastern Continental Divide Loop

**Do the Loop! On foot, by kayak, raft and bicycle**

Western Maryland and southwestern Pennsylvania feature exceptional access to public lands, rivers, streams, reservoirs, trails, and state parks creating the ultimate outdoor recreation experience.

Paddle the quiet Savage River Reservoir. Hike the scenic Monroe Run and Meadow Mountain trails.

Bicycle along Deep Creek Lake to the Youghiogheny River. Fish a section of river, and raft the exciting Class IV/V section to Friendsville, Maryland. Paddle to Confluence, Pennsylvania, and bike on the Great Allegheny Passage and local roads to a trailhead for the Big Savage Mountain Hiking Trail.

Hike or backpack to the Savage River. That’s the Loop!

The approximately 150-mile Eastern Continental Divide Loop is a portal to explore unique habitats, communities and historical landmarks, connecting the area’s most scenic viewpoints through a continuous network of trails, waterways, and routes while traversing the Allegheny Front and the divide between the Atlantic and Mississippi watersheds.

**Places to explore**

State parks and forests and the Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic River provide exceptional access to water, trails, scenic vistas and, due to various micro-climates, an impressive diversity of flora and fauna.

The Youghiogheny Scenic and Wild River, managed to protect the exceptional range of natural, cultural and outdoor recreational resources, cuts a northward path through some of the most rugged topography in the region.

Deep Creek Lake State Park, includes a challenging network of mountain biking trails and a well-marked trail system includes a hike to a lookout tower with exceptional views of western Maryland. The Discovery Center mixes learning and fun with exhibits on turtles, foxes, black bears and an on-site aviary of rescued and rehabilitated birds of prey.

Maryland’s highest free-falling waterfall, the 53-foot Muddy Creek Falls, is one of four waterfalls within Swallow Falls State Park, also popular for a stand of hemlock trees over 300 years old.

New Germany State Park, near Grantsville, features 10 miles of multi-use trails; campsites and cabins; and a small lake for fishing, swimming, and non-motorized boating.

Casselman River Bridge State Park, a 4-acre parcel east of Grantsville, is a popular area for fly fishermen, photographers, and history enthusiasts.

Youghiogheny River Lake includes three campgrounds from primitive to modern.

Great Allegheny Passage is a 150-mile rail-trail between Cumberland, MD–Milepost 184.5 of the C & O Canal Towpath–and Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh.

**Plan your visit**

Based on a "proof of concept tour in 2015," a continuous venture assumes the use of outfitters and/or some other kind of support. You should also check the dates that water is scheduled for release from Deep Creek Lake, which makes rafting/paddling “the Yough” possible. Between April and October, releases generally happen on Monday and Friday and on some Saturdays.

Garrett Trails  garretttrails.org

Garrett County Chamber & Visitors Center  www.visitdeepcreek.com & 301 387 4386
15 Visitors Center Drive, McHenry, Maryland 21541

Mountain Side of Maryland  www.mdmountainside.com & 844-425-2067
lodging, outfitters in the area & more

American Whitewater
www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Calendar/view-event/event/2734/
see Deep Creek Lake water release dates for the Upper Youghiogheny River

Maryland Department of Natural Resources  www.dnr.maryland.gov
Savage River State Forest  Youghiogheny Wild and Scenic River
Deep Creek Lake State Park  New Germany State Park

Youghiogheny River Lake
www.ptr.usace.army.mil/AMissions/Recreation/Lakes/Youghiogheny-River-Lake/
814-395-3166 (recreation information)

Allegheny Trail Alliance  www.gaptrail.org
information for travel between Confluence & Meyersdale (and beyond)

Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail National Park Service  www.nps.gov/pohe

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**Eastern Continental Divide Loop Overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loop Segment</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Miles/Km</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Savage River Reservoir</td>
<td>🚶‍♂️</td>
<td>2.6 mi/4.2 km</td>
<td>1–3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monroe Run Trail + to Meadow Mtn. Overlook</td>
<td>🚴‍♂️</td>
<td>9 mi/14.4 km</td>
<td>4–7 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCL State Park VC – Hoyes Run</td>
<td>🚶‍♂️</td>
<td>11.5 mi/18.5 km</td>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoyes Run – Sang Run</td>
<td>🚴‍♂️</td>
<td>3.5 mi/5.6 km</td>
<td>2–4 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sang Run – Friendsville</td>
<td>🚴‍♂️</td>
<td>9.9 mi/16 km</td>
<td>5–6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendsville – Confluence</td>
<td>🚶‍♂️</td>
<td>13.5 mi/21.7 km</td>
<td>4–7 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Allegheny Passage: Confluence – Frostburg</td>
<td>🚴‍♂️</td>
<td>47 mi/75.6 km</td>
<td>4–6 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frostburg – BSM Trailhead</td>
<td>🚶‍♂️</td>
<td>7 mi/11.2 km</td>
<td>1–2.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Savage Mountain Hiking Trail</td>
<td>🚴‍♂️</td>
<td>17 mi/27 km</td>
<td>1–2 days</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Where is the Loop?**

Bisected by Interstate 68, “the Loop” lies within Garrett County, MD, and Somerset County, PA.