Online Information

Online information for all Maine Public Lands sites:
- www.parksandlands.com
- Camp at State Park Campgrounds: www.campwithme.com
- Best Lookup listing - www.maineparks.gov/bestlookup

Programs

Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands: www.parksandlands.com
- Timber Management on Maine's Public Lands
- Range Management
- District Offices
- Visitor Centers
- Special Considerations

Know applicable laws:
- The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) deer season dates and zone open and closed dates, duck hunting seasons, land-based harvest seasons, and ANDV and recreational seasons. To learn more about hunting, fishing, and other recreational seasons, visit maine.gov.

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Help stop the spread of invasive species:
- Clean all watercraft before they enter and after:
  - FWA
  - RVs
  - ATV
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Hiking Trails

Hikers can choose from many one-day or multi-day hikes on 30 miles of the blue-blazed Appalachian Trail and the white-blazed side trails. A popular, though strenuous, day-hiking loop runs via the Fire Warden's Trail, Appalachian Trail, and Horns Pond Trail for a total of 12.3 miles. This loop includes several scenic vistas and Old Man's Head, a point of interest just below Avery Peak on a southward spur off the AT.

**Appalachian Trail (AT)** (strenuous/difficult, 17.6 miles) traverses the seven peaks of the Bigelow Mountain range along 17.6 miles of this National Scenic Trail. This classic ridge walk includes significant elevation gain and loss. Eastern section is commonly referred to as the Little Bigelow Trail, a moderate to difficult route passing a lean-to, a series of pools, and wonderful views of the Bigelow Range. In addition, there are 14.8 miles of blue-blazed side trails managed as part of the AT system. Access: East Flagstaff Road and Safford Brook Trailheads.

**Fire Warden's Trail** (moderate to difficult, 4.6 miles) provides the shortest route to Avery Peak or West Peak from the south side of the Bigelow Range. Follow Stratton Brook Pond Road 0.4 mile east to Stratton Brook and another 0.4 mile east to the fork. Take the north fork (0.3 mile) to the old roadhead-clearing. The trail becomes difficult along an old road and ascends gradually to the intersection with the Hikers Pond Trail. Moose Falls Campsite is located about 1 mile further up the Fire Warden's Trail. Shortly after this, the trail ascends steeply for the last 0.7 mile until the Fire Warden's Trail ends at the AT. Access: East Flagstaff Road off Stratton Brook Pond Road.

**Esker Trail** (easy, 4.0 miles) is a flat ungroomed singletrack forested trail that follows the old 1960’s haul road. Built for mountain bike use and maintained by NEMBA. Access: Fire Warden's trailhead.

**Range Trail** (moderate to difficult, 4.6 miles) begins at the western end of the Bigelow Range on a wooded trail. A gradual climb begins at 0.5 miles along a wide logging road and rises to Cranberry Peak at about 5 miles, passing the waterless Arnold’s Well, then up the ledges to several views before topping out at Cranberry Peak. The eastern section is equally short and steep before moderate terrain leads to the north shore of Cranberry Pond before meeting the AT. Access: Currie Street off Route 16/27.

**Eades Brook Trail** (moderate to difficult, 2.2 miles) climbs gradually through forested lands, passing Safford Brook about 0.7 miles above East Flagstaff Road. The trail progressively steepens until it reaches the junction with the Appalachian Trail near Safford Brook, an area renowned for its “hundreds of boulders.” Access: East Flagstaff Road off Route 16/27.

**Safford Notch** (moderate to difficult, 0.35 miles) is a popular trail for hikers and mountain bikers, located near the junction of the Appalachian Trail and the Range Trail. Access: Currie Street off Route 16/27.

**The Approach** (easy, 1.75 miles) follows an old road for an easy 0.5 miles before reaching the junction to the hike and connecting with Cotton's Hut and Trails routes. Access: Safford Brook Trail off Route 16/27.