Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery

195 Lebo Road, Carlisle, PA 17013

Visitor Hours
8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Monday through Friday)
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (Saturday and Sunday)

www.fishandboat.com
Visitors Center and Administration Building

The Visitors Center features a “living stream,” where trout can be viewed in a setting that resembles the natural habitat of trout. Visitors learn about Pennsylvania fishes, trout raised at the hatchery, venomous and nonvenomous snakes, as well as the history of the hatchery.

Trout Hatch House

Eggs are taken from brood stock trout beginning in July, fertilized and placed in incubators where eggs are immersed in a constant flow of clean, cold water. The trout hatch in 28 to 40 days, depending on species, and are nourished from the egg sac attached to the underside of the body for 2 to 4 weeks. Then, as fry, the trout begin taking dry feed for the first time. Now contained in indoor tanks, trout will be moved outside into the raceways after the first 8 to 10 weeks.

Raceways

The raceways are home to thousands of trout, moved from the trout hatch house as fingerlings, about 3 inches long. Each 200-foot raceway can hold about 20,000 adult trout. The exact number fluctuates as fish are graded and sorted according to size several times throughout hatchery life.

Brood Stock Fish

Brood stock trout are select fish used for egg production at the hatchery. These large fish, selected by experienced fish culturists for their outstanding physical and biological characteristics, are held here until late summer through late fall when fish once again produce offspring.

Oxygen Tank

A large liquid oxygen tank provides oxygen to the raceways through a series of Low Head Oxygenators.

Bulk Feed Storage

Thousands of pounds of dry feed are stored in large bulk storage bins. The commercially prepared feed is easily loaded into trucks designed to drive between raceways. Moving along each raceway, the proper amount of food is automatically dispensed from the truck.

Aerator

This device adds oxygen to the water flowing through the hatchery. It also removes excess nitrogen and other gases from the water, a condition harmful to the fish. From here, the water is distributed to the raceways and trout hatch house.
Established in 1932, the Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery is contained on approximately 80 developed acres out of 167 total acres of land owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and managed by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission. Supported by the sales of fishing licenses, the Commission’s hatcheries and fishery management programs are well known and respected throughout the nation.

Water supply to the facility is obtained primarily from multiple springs for raising trout species. Concrete raceways are used for trout production prior to stocking in Pennsylvania’s waterways.

The Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery is one of 13 hatcheries operated by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission. Depending on the time of year, it may be possible to observe spawning procedures as well as the incubating and rearing of various species of the trout. The trout produced are stocked, according to accepted fishery management procedures, in waters open to public fishing in Pennsylvania.

Located in Huntsdale, the hatchery is 10 miles southwest of Carlisle, near the intersection of Route 233 and Interstate 81. It is a short distance from Pine Grove Furnace State Park, Cumberland County, and Caledonia State Park, Adams and Franklin counties. You’re in the middle of the famous Cumberland County limestone region and at the headwaters of the widely acclaimed Yellow Breeches Creek.

Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery is a trout hatchery designed for peak efficiency to serve the anglers of Pennsylvania. More than 900,000 trout are annually produced at this hatchery.

Fish Raised at this Hatchery

**Rainbow Trout**
*Oncorhynchus mykiss*

**Golden Rainbow Trout**
*Oncorhynchus mykiss*

**Brown Trout**
*Salmo trutta*

**Brook Trout**
*Salvelinus fontinalis*