



# Fall for Crawford County

Autumn usually hits Crawford County in full force around the second or third week of October. All it takes is a hard frost to draw out the vibrant fall colors that signal the true end of summer. Then almost overnight the trees seem to explode with vivid yellows, reds, pinks, and oranges. It is one of the best times of the year to take a driving tour through Crawford County's beautiful landscapes.

On this tour we'll enter the county at the Ohio/Pennsylvania state line on **Route 198**, a pleasant two-lane road that winds through the Pennsylvania countryside. Like most of the secondary roads in the county, it cuts through a combination of farm country and wooded areas populated with a mix of evergreen and hardwood trees that will show off their brilliant colors of reds and yellows. This tour will highlight the natural beauty of Crawford County.

After following Route 198 about five miles you'll come to the village of **Palmer**, a tiny four-corner community designated only by **Palmer United Methodist Church**. After Palmer, the road will twist and turn for another three miles until you come to a "T" in the road. At this stop sign turn left. You are now in Conneautville. Within a few tenths of a mile you will cross over Conneaut Creek and the Bessemer Railroad and come to another stop sign; turn right on Routes 198 and 18 which join here briefly. **Samuel's Market** is at this corner and is a good place to gas up or grab snacks for the road. Founded in 1844, this small community was located along the banks of the **Erie Canal** and was a thriving farming and manufacturing town.

Follow Routes 198 and 18 about a mile through town until Route 198 splits off to the left. Take this left and follow Route 198 east towards Saegertown. The next few miles of road are lined with hardwood forests and the rustic colors of the maples and oaks make this a particularly pleasant part of the drive.

As we head east, the next village we'll come to is Norrisville, another four corners village marked by a Methodist church. A few miles beyond Norrisville, the road will begin a fairly steep descent for about a half a mile, at the bottom of this hill is a stop sign and flashing red light at the intersection of Routes 198 and 98; continue straight onto Route 198. The road will begin to ascend again. At the top of the ascent we will pass under Interstate 79 at approximately 18 miles since we began at the state line.

The road between here and **Saegertown** is very winding with several sharp bends, so take your time and enjoy the scenery. As we approach Saegertown,





we will go over a bridge spanning French Creek and will then come to a stop sign at a “T”; take a right. At this turn Route 198 will run with Routes 6 and 19 through town for about a mile. At the Saegertown Plaza we will follow Route 198 to the left.



Heading east, about two miles further, we will come to a stop sign at the intersection of **Routes 198 and 86**. Turn right and then take an almost immediate left as Route 198 continues east.

After taking our left we will be entering the [Woodcock Dam and Reservoir area](#). There are picnic areas, hiking trails and camping facilities along with boating and fishing in the Woodcock Reservoir. If you have packed a picnic lunch or dinner Stainbrook Park is a perfect spot to stop. If you want to stretch your legs, you can walk across the flat, paved surface of Woodcock Dam, which is great for a leisurely stroll, jogging, and rollerblading. This is great to take a beautiful fall photo for great memories. For a more challenging hike try the [Bossard Nature Trail](#) at the [Bossard Nature Center](#). The hike, which takes about an hour, follows a loop along the ridges about Woodcock Creek and then descends into the creek valley where you’ll find a series of small waterfalls.



[Woodcock Lake Park](#) is also located in this area and offers boating, camping and picnic facilities; just turn right at the sign; about a mile and a half down the road from Bossard. Access to all these attractions are close together and easy to find.



About four miles on ahead, we come to **Blooming Valley** at the intersection of Routes 198 and 77. Nearby, you will find [Blooming Valley Landscaping](#) and [Howles Family Maple Products](#) for a tasty treat. A few miles further east, we’ll come to Guys Mills, which will be the end of the road for this tour. Route 198 continues on towards Titusville. There you can take a Fall Train ride on the [Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad](#). We covered 50 miles of road and enjoyed a lot of autumn color in a wonderful, enchanted time of year in Crawford County Pennsylvania. NOTE: if you do not go to Titusville a must see is the [Davenport Fruit Farm](#) which is located on Townline Road, Meadville. Pick your own apples or buy them and grab some tasty cider.

This concludes our fall driving tour! Please visit us again at [VisitCrawford.org](http://VisitCrawford.org) to download driving directions and map. You can also find more fun driving and motorcycle tours as well as more things to do in Crawford County. Also feel free to call us at 814-333-1258 or 800-332-2338