

Route 6 Through Crawford County Tour

*"It is good to be out on the road, and going one not knows where,
Going through meadow and village, one not knows where or why"*

John Masefield



If you head west on 6 across Pennsylvania you'll be entering Crawford County just north of Cambridge Springs at the Erie/Crawford County line. Route 6 will wind it's way through approximately 40 miles of Crawford County's natural beauty and interesting sights before exiting into Ohio. This is a beautiful drive to take any time of year. Whether through the delicate green of spring, the lush landscapes of summer, the vibrant colors of autumn or the stark beauty of winter, Route 6 is an invitation to explore and experience Crawford County.

Following Route 6 towards Cambridge Springs, one of the first points of interest we'll come to is the Riverside Golf Club, located approximately two and half miles south of the county line. This 18 hole course is open to the public from spring through autumn and is an

enjoyable challenge for golf enthusiasts. About a mile past the Riverside Golf Club, we'll come to our first traffic light. Turning left at this light will take you to the Riverside Inn, a century old health spa that has been transformed into a first class hotel, restaurant and diner theater. You might want to stop here to relax in the beautiful gardens and treat yourself to an excellent dining experience before continuing on our journey.



Going straight through the light will keep us on 6 and take us across a steel bridge

into the town of Cambridge Springs. This will be the first of a series of steel bridges we'll cross on this trip. Once across the bridge, bear to the right and follow Route 6/19 through Cambridge Springs towards the village of Venango. Routes 6 and 19 will be running together until we get west of Meadville.



In Venango, we'll come to a blinking traffic light where we'll take a left at this light and follow 6/19 towards Saegertown. Between Venango and Saegertown, Route 6 will run along the banks of French Creek, similar to a path once followed by George Washington in the French and Indian War. At certain bends in the river, when the sun is just right, the water appears like a sheet of glass, reflecting the beautiful colors that line it's banks.



About twelve miles south of the county line, we'll come to the borough of Saegertown. This town, originally named McGills' Settlement by the early pioneers who settled there in 1793 is a quaint community with maple lined streets that burst with color in the fall. Stop for a few minutes and explore an antique shop or get a bite to eat before heading on.

At about 15 miles from the county line Routes 6 and 19 will bear to the right on a four lane arterial highway that goes around the city of Meadville, the county seat of Crawford County. At this point the road will take us through a more urban section for a

few miles. After 3 to 4 miles on the bypass, we'll come to the intersection of 6/19 and Arch Street. If you take a left here it will take you into Meadville's business district, featuring the Meadville Market House, the oldest continuously operating market house in Pennsylvania. The Academy Theatre, a restored 19th century playhouse is also located here. It is regionally renowned for it's quality theatrical performances and eclectic musical concerts.



The arterial ends where routes 6 and 19 join with Route 322. These three routes will run together for approximately 3 miles. As we head west past Meadville, we will be traveling through a strip area featuring a variety of lodging and dining establishments. Whether you like steak, seafood, Chinese, Mexican or Italian cuisine you can find it in this stretch of highway. If you're ready to stop for the day, there are a number of established hotel chains here as well.



Route 19 will split to head south as Routes 6 and 322 continue west towards Conneaut Lake. The road will remain four lanes until entering Conneaut Lake, approximately 26 miles south of the county line. The town of Conneaut Lake is located on the shores of Pennsylvania's largest body of natural water. The lake, which covers 17,088 acres, is great for

fishing, boating, and water and jet skiing. The town is also famous for Conneaut Lake Park, one of the oldest operating amusement parks in the United States. You might also want to stop for a tour of Conneaut Cellars Winery located right on Route 6 as you enter the borough.

Continuing west past Conneaut Lake we'll be heading towards Linesville. Route 6 will part from 322 and revert back to two





lanes and will cut through a beautiful rural area. About six miles past Conneaut Lake or 33 miles south of the county line, Route 6 will come to a "T" at a stop sign. Al's Melons Farm Stand will be directly in front of you. You will turn left towards Linesville, but first take a few minutes to stop at Al's and pick up some fresh local produce.

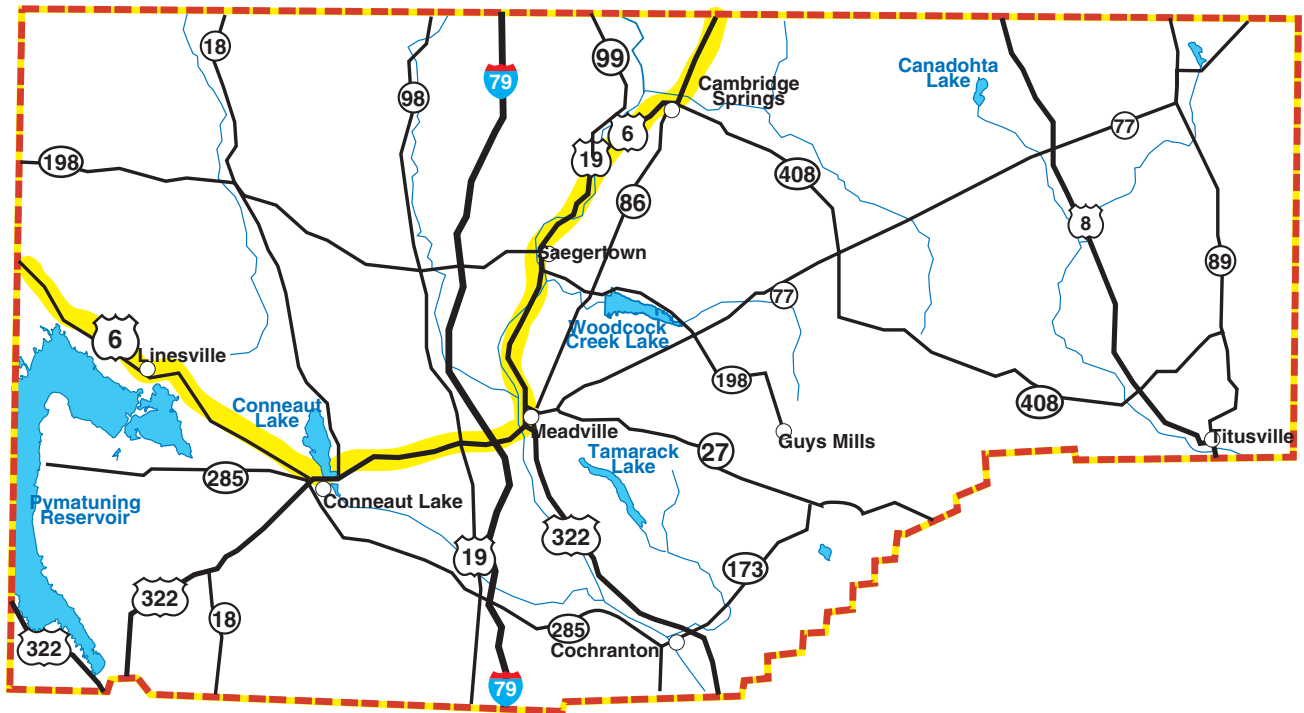
If you enter Linesville in the fall, you will notice the autumn colors as you enter town. The hearty maple and other hardwood trees that line Route 6 as it goes through town turn orange, red and yellow as fall progresses. Linesville is located near Pymatuning Lake, Pennsylvania's largest lake, which attracts hunters and anglers from all over the country. You might want to visit Pymatuning State Park,

which features swimming, camping and fishing before continuing west. The Spillway, a place in the lake where fish fill the water so densely that ducks can walk across their backs, is another point of interest. As you go through the business district, pull over and stretch your legs. Check out a few of the gift shops and other stores or head over to Rose Marie's for a cup of coffee and piece of pie.

After you got through Linesville's one and only stoplight, follow 6 as it bears to the right and heads west. From here it

approximately 6 miles to the village of Penn Line, where Crawford County ends and Ohio begins. Our trip has take approximately 41 miles and has hopefully created some pleasant memories.





Towns visited: Cambridge Springs, Venango, Saegertown, Meadville, Conneaut Lake, Linesville, Pennline

Routes Taken: PA Route 6

Points of interest: Riverside Golf Club, Riverside Inn, Meadville Market House, Academy Theatre, Conneaut Lake, Conneaut Cellars Winery, Conneaut Lake Park, Pymatuning State Park, Linesville Spillway





