

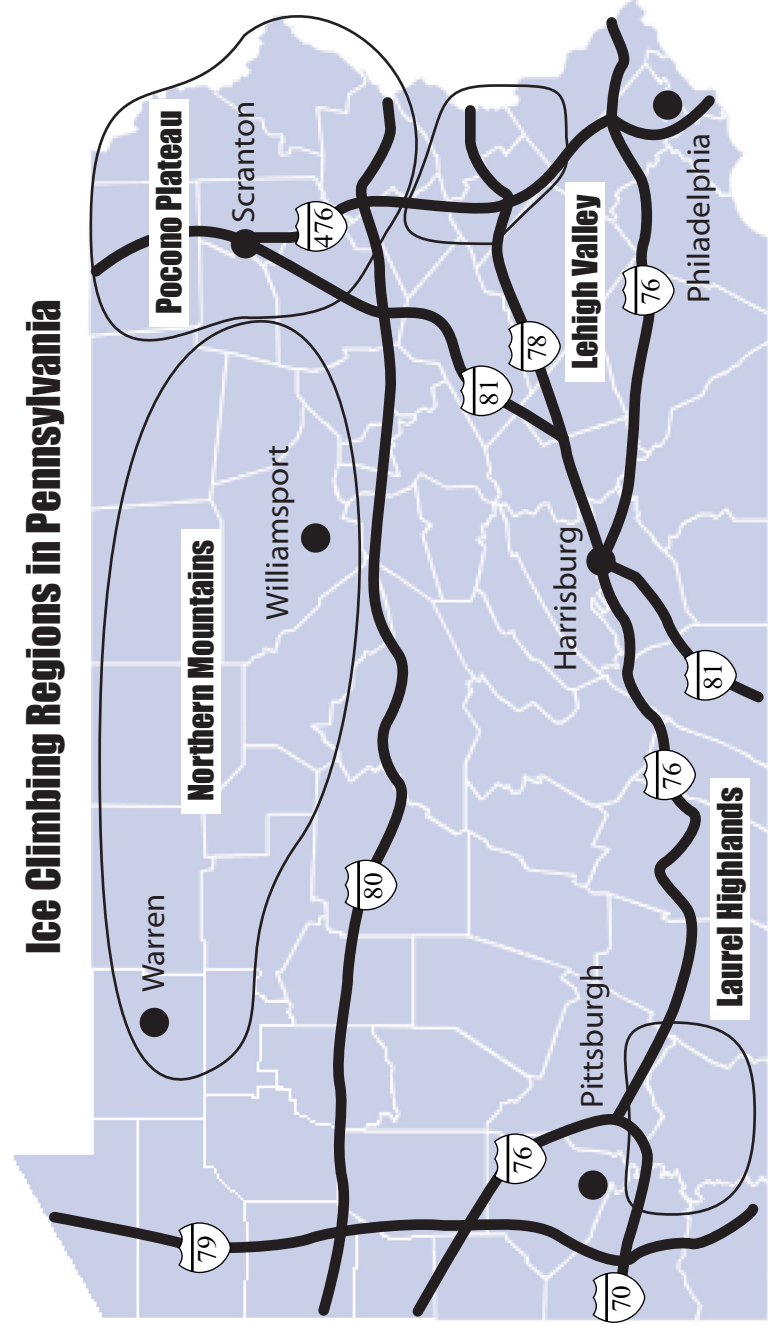


 **Black Diamond™**

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## Ice Climbing Regions in Pennsylvania



## How to use the Guide

The master state map, denoting regional areas, is found on page 9. This map will help locate the region where a particular climb can be found. Opposite the map is (will be) the guidebook legend, which denotes the meaning of the various symbols used in the guidebook. Each climb or climbing area will have specific driving directions from a prominent location to the trailhead of a climbing area or individual route. When a hiking approach is involved, there will be specific directions to the route plus a GPS location of the actual route. The land status and access of the route will be listed and contact information will be provided if available. A description of the route and descent will be included in the paragraph that follows, as well as any special gear or conditions found on the route. Most routes contain pictures of the climb, which will may also label any bolts, pins and/or the descent. Emergency information will be listed at the beginning of each of the four regional introductions and know that statewide, calling **911** will contact emergency services.

### **REMEMBER, THIS A RAW OUTLINE OF ICE CLIMBING PA!**

#### **Heading Information**

**Name:** The name of the route given to identify and clarify the actual route and its location.

**Ice Grade:** The Ice Grade will be listed as a WI (Water Ice) grad. The grade is given to denote the hardest section encountered in the route. Due to early/mid/late season formation and other environmental factors, this rating is just a baseline to work from. A WI3 route in early season conditions can easily be WI4+ X horror show. Assess the route personally once you arrive, ice is a transient medium so make good decisions.

**Length:** Route length approximately given in feet.

#### **Route Information**

**Driving Directions:** Specific driving directions given from a prominent location easily found on any Pennsylvania Transportation Map or atlas, to a climbing area or specific climb. It is best to invest in a Pennsylvania Gazetteer outdoor atlas to aid you in finding climbing areas.

**GPS:** GPS location information for the actual ice route.

**Access:** Lists information of the owner and land manager of the climb location and the status of the climb. If the climb is on private property, "Private Property" is all that will be listed. Some climbs may be on public lands but are currently closed to climbing. A list of public contact information for state agencies will be listed in the index.

**Aspect:** The direction the ice route faces and its reliability. Reliability will listed as; "Reliable" "Semi-reliable" or "Unreliable" and may include further notes as an "early" or "late" season climb. For example, a route can be listed as "Reliable, early", meaning that the route forms early in the season and usually forms every year. A route listed as "Unreliable, late" means that the route usually has difficulty forming fully and that later in the season is when it typically will form, if it forms at all. These types of climbs typically require some snow pack and/or freeze-thaw temperatures to build.

**Approach:** Hiking directions to the climbing area. Will include an approximate one-way mileage of the hike.

**Climb:** A short description of the route, possible alternative starts and finishes and any other information about the climb.

**Descent:** Basic descent information and possible rope length recommendations. It is recommended that you lead climb with two ropes for safety and ease of rappelling if a route is 70 feet or taller.

**Gear:** Any special gear aside from a standard ice rack consisting of 8-10 screws and quickdraws.