

= Pennsylvania Route 563 =

Pennsylvania Route 563 (PA 563) is a state highway in the U.S. state of Pennsylvania . The route runs 21 @. @ 1 mi (33 @. @ 96 km) from PA 63 in Upper Salford Township northeast to PA 412 in Nockamixon Township . The road runs through mostly rural areas in the northern parts of Montgomery and Bucks counties . Along the way , the route passes through the northern part of Perkasio and forms a concurrency with PA 313 in East Rockhill Township . North of here , PA 563 runs through Nockamixon State Park , running to the north of Lake Nockamixon .

PA 563 was first created in 1928 to connect Bergey to Harrow , following its current alignment to PA 313 before continuing straight along Ridge Road and continuing to PA 412 . By 1940 , construction of the road into a state highway was completed . In the early 1970s , PA 563 was moved to its current alignment north of PA 313 as a result of the creation of Lake Nockamixon , which severed the original alignment .

= = Route description = =

PA 563 begins at an intersection with PA 63 in Upper Salford Township , Montgomery County and heads in an easterly direction on two @-@ lane , undivided Ridge Road . The route passes through wooded areas with some homes , turning southeast at the Township Line Road intersection and forming the border between Salford Township to the northeast and Upper Salford Township to the southwest . PA 563 makes a northeast turn at the Barndt Road ? Moyer Road junction , continuing northeast on Ridge Road into Salford Township .

The road passes over the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I @-@ 476) and PA 563 turns east and heads into the community of Tylersport , where it crosses Allentown Road . After leaving Tylersport , the route heads northeast into more rural areas .

Upon crossing County Line Road , PA 563 enters West Rockhill Township in Bucks County and heads into a mix of farms and woods . After running to the southeast of James Memorial Park , the route intersects Lawn Avenue , which provides access to the PA 309 freeway at an interchange . PA 563 passes over the freeway a short distance after this intersection . The route continues east @-@ northeast and crosses Bethlehem Pike and Old Bethlehem Pike in a commercial area . A short distance past the intersection with the latter , the road crosses into Perkasio and passes near residential neighborhoods , running along the top of a ridge . Farther to the northeast , PA 563 passes to the southeast of Penridge Airport . At this point , the road continues into East Rockhill Township and heads through a mix of farmland , woodland , and a few residences .

PA 563 comes to an intersection with PA 313 , where it turns northwest to form a concurrency with that route on Dublin Pike , with Ridge Road continuing northeast . The two routes head through more rural land before PA 563 splits from PA 313 by turning northeast onto Mountain View Drive . Along this road , the route heads into forested areas with occasional homes and enters Nockamixon State Park , a park which contains Lake Nockamixon . Upon crossing the Tohickon Creek , the road continues into Haycock Township . In this area , PA 563 skits along the northwest edge of the state park . A short distance following the Deerwood Lane intersection , the road passes the main entrance to the park . PA 563 crosses an arm of the lake into Nockamixon Township . In this township , the route leaves the state park and passes through rural areas before ending at PA 412 .

= = History = =

When Pennsylvania first legislated routes in 1911 , present @-@ day PA 563 was not given a number . In 1928 , PA 563 was designated to run from PA 63 near Bergey northeast to PA 412 near Harrow , following its current alignment south of PA 313 . From this point , it continued northeast on Ridge Road , passing near Weisel and eventually continuing northeast to Harrow . At this time , the route was unpaved . By 1930 , the route was paved south of PA 313 . At this time , the sections of the route between Tylersport and southwest of Perkasio and north of PA 313 were under construction as state highways . All of PA 563 was completed by 1940 .

In the 1960s , construction began to create Lake Nockamixon along the Tohickon Creek near PA 563 in northern Bucks County . The Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters , Maurice K. Goddard , proposed the lake as part of a goal for every Pennsylvania resident to be within 25 miles (40 km) of a state park . Lake Nockamixon was intended to fill a gap in between the Philadelphia and Lehigh Valley areas . As a result of building the dam and creating the lake , the northernmost portion of PA 563 had to be relocated to a new alignment to the north of the planned lake as it would sever a portion of the route north of Kellers Church . Between 1970 and 1972 , construction took place on the new alignment of the route . As a result , PA 563 was routed to follow PA 313 to get from Ridge Road to its new alignment .

= = Major intersections = =