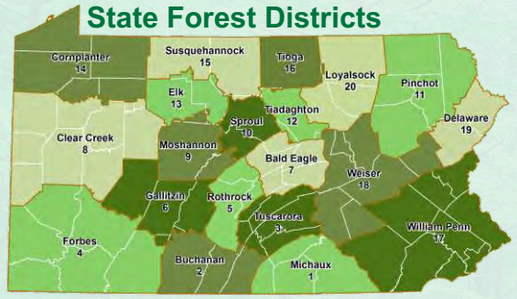
DCNR—Bureau of Forestry
State Forest District Offices

#1 Michaux	10099 Lincoln Way East Fayetteville, PA 17222-9609	717-352-2211
#2 Buchanan	440 Buchanan Trail McConnellsburg, PA 17233-8204	717-485-3148
#3 Tuscarora	4455 Big Spring Road Blain, PA 17006-6173	717-536-3191
#4 Forbes	P.O. Box 519 1291 Route 30 Laughlintown, PA 15655-0519	724-238-1200
#5 Rothrock	181 Rothrock Lane Huntingdon, PA 16652-1100	814-643-2340
#6 Gallitzin	155 Hillcrest Drive Ebensburg, PA 15931-0506	814-472-1862
#7 Bald Eagle	18865 Old Turnpike Road Millmont, PA 17845-9376	570-922-3344
#8 Clear Creek	158 South Second Avenue Clarion, PA 16214-2404	814-226-1901
#9 Moshannon	3372 State Park Road Penfield, PA 15849-1722	814-765-0821
#10 Sproul	15187 Renovo Road Renovo, PA 17764-9521	570-923-6011
#11 Pinchot	1839 Abington Road North Abington Twp., PA 18414	570-945-7133
#12 Tiadaghton	10 Lower Pine Bottom Road Waterville, PA 17776-9678	570-753-5409
#13 Elk	258 Sizerville Road Emporium, PA 15834-3944	814-486-3353
#14 Cornplanter	323 North State Street North Warren, PA 16365-4867	814-723-0262
#15 Susquehannock	P.O. Box 673 3150 East Second Street Coudersport, PA 16915-0673	814-274-3600
#16 Tioga	One Nessmuk Lane Wellsboro, PA 16901-9700	570-724-2868
#17 William Penn	845 Park Road Elverson, PA 19520-9523	610-582-9660
#18 Weiser	P.O. Box 315 16 Weiser Lane Aristes, PA 17920-0315	570-875-6450
#19 Delaware	2174A Route 611 Swiftwater, PA 18370-7746	570-895-4000
#20 Loyalsock	6735 Route 220 Dushore, PA 18614-8101	570-946-4049

State Forest Districts



Hemlock Mountain Vista—Tiadaghton State Forest

Many of the best hunting grounds, finest fishing streams, and grandest views in Pennsylvania are found throughout our state forests.

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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G1857-Nov15

tread lightly!®
LEAVING A GOOD IMPRESSION

A Camping Permit may be required from the local forest district office.

Contact your local forest district office for suggestions on where to camp.

Most sites have no fee for a Camping Permit.

iCONSERVE
PENNSYLVANIA
take conservation personally

Visit iConservePA.org for ideas on how you can take simple steps that will help conserve your local state forest and community.

Pennsylvania
Bureau of Forestry

Motorized and Primitive Camping Guidelines and Ethics

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry

Pennsylvania State Forests

Terms and Definitions

Motorized Camping= overnight camping in or near the vehicle where the vehicle continues to be used for storage or transportation.

Primitive Camping= overnight camping where all equipment is transported manually (by non-motorized vehicle methods, including watercraft, bicycle, horse), and where a motorized vehicle is not located near or part of the camping experience.

Group Camping= more than 10 people in a unit overnight motorized or primitive camping. A Letter of Authorization must first be obtained from the District Forester. A Camping Permit and Letter of Authorization are issued to the group.

Designated Dispersed Campsite= a relatively small, distinctly defined area, accessible from a State Forest road or drivable trail, to accommodate one or a maximum of two vehicles, a fire ring and space for the camping unit. Each site is identified with a vertical post indicating the site number at its entrance. The use of designated dispersed campsites will reduce wide spread soil compaction, loss of vegetation, negative riparian effects, and accumulation of trash and human waste.

General Camping
Guidelines and Ethics

www.lnt.org

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare:
~Camping without a current Camping Permit issued by the District Forester or his designee is prohibited, unless you are primitive backpack camping at your site for no more than one night. There is no fee for the Camping Permit.

~A Camping Permit will not be issued to anyone under the age of 18.

~A Camping Permit will be valid for no more than seven consecutive nights. Individuals must vacate a site for at least 48 hours before reapplying. Camping Permits will not be issued for individuals staying more than 30 days in a calendar year.

~A Camping Permit will be issued no more than 90 days in advance on a first come, first serve basis. The Camping Permit holder must notify the Forest District Office of any changes in their arrival or departure dates. The permit holder must occupy the site listed on the Camping Permit within 24 hours of the arrival date listed on the Camping Permit.

~If more than 10 people are in your group, a Letter of Authorization is required, in addition to a Camping Permit, from the District Forester. Allow 30 days to process your request.

~The District Forester or designee may revoke a valid Camping Permit if the Camping Permit holder is found in violation of State Forest Rules and Regulations or permit conditions. Camping privileges can be suspended for up to 90 days. Applicants shall receive written notification following a permit denial.

~Check with your local forest district for additional guidelines.

2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces:

~Make sure your campsite is in a well-drained area and where you don't need to clear vegetation. Keep your campsite small.

3. Dispose of Human Waste Properly:

~Deposit solid human waste in cat holes dug 4-6 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails. Cover and disguise the cat hole when finished. Self-contained portable toilets are encouraged and may be required to be used at designated dispersed campsites.

~Wash yourself, your dishes and your clothes using a container. Washing in a spring, lake or waterway is prohibited. Dispose of waste water at least 200 feet from water resources.

~All trash and refuse must be carried out. Leave the camping area better than you found it.

~Remember; It's Carry In—Carry Out.

4. Leave What You Find:
~Preserve the past; Leave natural and cultural features undisturbed; Avoid spreading non-native plants.

~Cutting, picking, digging, damaging or removing living or dead plant material is prohibited. Edible wild plants, nuts and berries may be gathered for one's own personal or family consumption.

5. Minimize Campfire Impacts:
~Use of camp stoves or grills is encouraged. Charcoal fires are permitted in appliances designed for them, provided hot charcoal is disposed of in a facility designed for charcoal disposal.

~Campfires are permitted inside a non-combustible fire ring (constructed to be less than two feet in diameter), and fire rings or fireplaces provided by the Department for cooking and warming purposes **EXCEPT** when the fire danger is high, very high or extreme, and from March 1 through May 25, unless authorized by the Department. Attend to your fire at all times.

Only You Can
Prevent Forest Fires

~Put your fire OUT COLD. and scatter the stone fire rings at campsites before leaving. Leave stone fire rings intact at established and designated dispersed campsites. You assume the liability for damages, extinction costs, fines, and can face criminal charges if you cause a wildfire.

~Only downed and dead wood within the immediate campsite may be gathered for firewood. Collect only the amount needed for your stay. Power saws are not permitted without a Fuelwood Permit.

~Do not bring firewood with you. Use firewood that you gather or purchase locally. Burn any firewood before leaving. Do not take firewood with you. Help save our forests from devastating insects like the emerald ash borer, Asian long-horned beetle, and Sirex wood wasps.

6. Respect Wildlife:
~Do not feed wildlife. Store food and trash securely.

~Observe wildlife from a distance

~Avoid sensitive times and habitats.

~If you bring pets, keep them quiet and in control at all times.

7. Be Considerate of Other Users:
~Respect other visitors and let nature's sounds prevail.

Additional **Primitive Camping**
Guidelines and Ethics

~Primitive campers spending no more than one (1) night at a campsite do not need a Camping Permit. However, a Camping Permit is required if:

(A) you desire an emergency point-of-contact;

(B) you stay at a campsite more than one night;

(C) a campfire is desired during spring fire season;

(D) you camp using a vehicle for storage or transportation;

(E) you are "group camping";

(F) you camp within the Pine Creek Gorge/Canyon in Tiadaghton or Tioga State Forests; or;

(G) you desire to camp at a designated dispersed campsite.

~All camping must be at least 100 feet from any stream or other open water source.

~All campsites must be at least 25 feet from the nearest edge of a trail, and the camp should be out of sight of the trail where possible.

Additional **Motorized Camping**
Guidelines and Ethics

~Prior to your motorized camping trip, **you must: check with the local forest district office to determine where to camp or if designated dispersed campsites are available; in some forest districts, you must camp at designated dispersed campsites; acquire a Camping Permit**; have knowledge of the rules and regulations, and tell someone of your trip plans.

~In forest districts without designated dispersed campsites, the campsite must be within 300 feet of a road open to public travel or a trail designated for motorized use. Vehicles may not be driven off of the traveled portion of the road or trail. Make sure it is a well-drained area and where you don't meet to clear vegetation. Keep your campsite small.

~All motorized camping within 300 feet from any building, Natural Area or State Forest Picnic Area requires the written authorization from the District Forester or designee, in addition to a Camping Permit.

~All motorized camping must be more than one road-mile from an entrance to a State Park having camping facilities or from a commercial campground.

Most State Forest campsites will accommodate large units. There are no modern facilities, water, dump stations or utility hook-ups on State Forest lands.

Additional **Equestrian** Guidelines

~Camping with horses may be restricted to designated sites. Contact the forest district for details.

~Camping Permit holders must not tie horses or mules directly to trees. Acceptable methods to tie your horse or mule include:

High lines with tree savers
Tied to your trailer
Hitching rails, if provided, or
Stalls, if provided
Exceptions to this list require authorization issued by the Forest District Manager or designee

~Manure must be removed from the campsite upon departure.