

NORTH WOODS TRAIL SYSTEM

Pennsylvania contains about 17 million acres of forestland. Of this total, over two million acres are in the state forest system, which is publicly owned and managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry. The Forbes State Forest comprises over 60,000 acres located in Westmoreland, Somerset, and Fayette Counties.

State Forests provide clean water, recreation, habitat for plants and animals, places to enjoy the tranquility of nature, and produce some of the most valuable timber in the world.

TRAIL INFORMATION

This area contains many miles of maintained trails designed for hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and equestrian use.

Because of the size of our land base, the Forbes State Forest provides a unique opportunity for dispersed low-density recreation that cannot be obtained from small forests or private ownership. Increasing recreational use is having a greater impact on our resources. It is the goal of the Bureau of Forestry to minimize conflicts among State Forest users, and to ensure that natural resources will be managed in an environmentally sound manner—now and in the future.



SUMMER RECREATION

The most common recreational use of this area spring through fall is for hiking, mountain biking, hunting, exploration, and some equestrian use. Please note that tether lines must be used when horses are kept on site, and they may not be tied directly to trees or shrubs. Manure must be removed from all parking areas, and all designated motorized sites.



WINTER RECREATION



Winter enthusiasts come to the North Woods area to hike, cross-country ski, snowmobile, and snow shoe.

A warming hut is located along the Shafer Run access road, which contains a wood stove and picnic tables so you may dry out, warm up, eat lunch, or take a break. Overnight use of the warming hut is prohibited. It is open year-round.

WINTER TRAIL ETIQUETTE

- Do not walk on ski trails or permit pets to walk on trails.
- Snowmobiles only on snowmobile trails, for the safety of all users.
- Be tolerant and respectful of other winter recreationists.
- Yield to faster skiers and snow-grooming equipment.



CAUTION:
TUNNEL ROAD IS OPEN FOR USE BY MOTOR VEHICLES AND SNOWMOBILES. EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN USING THIS ROAD.

TRAIL BLAZES

Blue—shared-use trails that are maintained with a wider corridor and flatter tread for cross-country skiing. Open to non-motorized use.

Red—shared-use trails, usually with a narrower corridor and rockier tread. Open to non-motorized.

Yellow—trails open to **foot traffic ONLY** such as hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

CAMPING INFORMATION

- Camping is restricted to backpack-type camping, except for several designated motorized sites.
- Camping out of vehicles or campers is not permitted.
- Permits are required only if campers stay more than one night at any campsite, or camp in a motorized site. All campers are encouraged to obtain a permit in case you are overdue or someone needs to reach you.
- Camp > 100' from any stream or open water source;
- Camp > 200' and out of sight of roads & parking lots
- Camp > 25' from and out of sight of any trails;
- Keep field privies > 200' from any water source;
- Pack out all trash;
- No campfires when wildfire danger is high.

For more information



Check out 'Forbes State Forest' on Facebook!

Bureau of Forestry
Forbes Forest District 4
1291 Route 30, P.O. Box 519
Laughlintown, PA 15655-0519
Tele: (724) 238-1200 • Email: FD04@pa.gov
Website: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/stateforests/forbes/index.htm>

In the event of an emergency, contact a state forest employee or dial 911.

If you become lost: stop, stay calm, stay put, & dial 911.



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Revised 12/2015

Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry

North Woods Trail System

Forbes State Forest



North Woods Trail System

Legend

-  Gate
-  Trail_Shared_Use
-  Trail_Shared_Use_X_C_Ski
-  Laurel Highlands Trail
-  Stream
-  Contour Line
-  Forbes State Forest
-  State Park
-  Parking
-  State Highway
-  Improved Gravel Road
-  Administrative Road

Mtn. Streams Map

