Camping

**Motorized Camping** is camping in or near a vehicle where the vehicle continues to be used for storage or transportation. A free permit is required.

- All motorized camping must be more than a road width from any commercial or state park campground.
- All motorized camping must be 100 feet from any stream or open water source unless approved by the District Forester.
- Deposit human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 20 feet from water, campsites, or trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Make sure your campsite is cold before you leave.
- Do not burn glass, plastic or metal in your campfire.
- All stone fire rings should be dismantled when done except at permanent campites.
- Target shooting is not permitted unless authorized in writing by the District Forester.

**Non-Motorized Camping** is overnight camping along a trail, stream or in the Forest away from your car or truck. If you are staying only one night at a site no permit is required. If you are staying more than one night at a site a free permit is required. Camping is permitted along the ATV trail.

- Camping permits can be acquired by contacting the Forest District Office at (814) 274-3600 or emailing fallriver@pa.gov.
- All motorized camping must be within 300 feet of a road open to public travel, or a trail designated for motorized use. Vehicles may not be driven more than 50 feet from the road surface.
- All motorized camping must be more than 300 feet from any building or a state forest leased campsite except with the lessee’s permission.
- All motorized camping must be more than a road width from any commercial or state park campground.
- All motorized camping must be 100 feet from any stream or open water source unless approved by the District Forester.
- Deposit human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 20 feet from water, campsites, or trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Make sure your campsite is cold before you leave.
- Do not burn glass, plastic or metal in your campfire.
- All stone fire rings should be dismantled when done except at permanent campites.
- Target shooting is not permitted unless authorized in writing by the District Forester.

Wildlife Watching

The extensive forests of north central Pennsylvania abound with wildlife of all shapes and sizes. Black bear, white-tailed deer and wild turkey are most commonly seen, but there are many more animals that live in these forests that are secretive and difficult to spot – like bobcats, fishers and river otters. Take a moment when you stop for a drink or snack to look around and listen to the birds. The variety of leaves on the forest floor may be a timber rattlesnake quietly trying to sneak away. A coyote may respond to the siren of a nearby fire station or passing emergency vehicle. A musky smell on the breeze may be from a gray fox’s scent markings or a black bear somewhere upwind. The sounds from large birds of prey like barred owls, goshawks and red-shouldered hawks, can be loud and unerringly sounding, especially if you surprise them. Watch for the distinctive tracks of a snowshoe hare or river otters after a fresh snowfall. If you find tracks in a meadow near your trail visit, plan a morning or evening trip when most animals are active.

The Working Forest

The Susquehannock State Forest is a “Working Forest”. Working forests provide us many environmental, social, and economic benefits. In every direction, you can see the benefits of the working forest. Forests build soil, filter groundwater, keep stream healthy, create oxygen, and provide shelter and food for plants and animals. They yield important resources we use every day, like lumber, firewood, and natural gas. They offer beauty, solitude, and the opportunity to recreate. When we manage forests carefully, they stay healthy and productive.

Lodging

Make a weekend of it. Information on local lodging and tips may be obtained from the Potter County Visitors Association: 1-888-POINTER or www.visitmapcounty.com.

Certified “Well Managed”

Pennsylvania state forests are certified to FSC® standards. The Forest Stewardship Council® is an independent organization (supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests).