Flat Rock Trail System

The Flat Rock Trail System is comprised of 4 miles of State forest hiking trails (hiking only), 1.3 miles of local hiking trails (hiking only) and 38 miles of shared-use trails (hiking, biking & horseback riding).

The trails are marked with wooden posts and rectangular blazes on trees to reassure the user that they are on the mapped trail. The color of the blaze indicates the designated use of the trail. Color coding for the trails is defined in the image below.

For Your Safety & Enjoyment

To make use of the trails safe and enjoyable, please obey the following regulations:

1. All users must abide by the State Forest Rules and Regulations. They are posted in parking areas, the district office and can be found online at www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry.
2. Obey the standard “yield” practices for shared-use trails; bikers yield to hikers and horses, and hikers yield to horses.
3. The Appalachian Trail (white blaze), Rocky Knob Trail, and the Beaver Trail are open to hikers only.
4. What you bring in, please bring out. Keep the trails clean for yourself and other users.
5. Follow leave no trace practices; Leave nothing on the ground but footprints, and take nothing from the trail but memories.
6. When encountering wildlife, please remember that you are a visitor in their home.
7. Trail users are advised to wear fluorescent orange during hunting season.
8. Be courteous to all forest users.
9. Remove all horse manure and hay from parking areas.
10. Equestrians, when stopping please cross tie or high line horses. No single tree tying.

Your cooperation is necessary to help protect state forest land and assure that other public values and recreational uses are not adversely affected.

Camping Information

Camping opportunities available on the Michaux State Forest:

- Michaux State Forest offers 24 designated campsites dispersed throughout the state forest.
- Camping without a current camping permit is prohibited, unless primitive backpack camping at a site for no more than one night. There is no fee for the camping permit.
- Requests for permits can be made online at www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/recreation/camping or by contacting the forest district office.
- If more than 10 people are in a group a letter of authorization is required, in addition to a camping permit from the forest district. Allow 30 days to process your request.
- Permits are issued on a first come, first serve basis no more than 90 days in advance.
- A camping permit will be valid for no more than seven consecutive nights, at which time the campsite must be vacated for a minimum of 48 hours.
- All campsites must be at least 25 feet from the edge of a trail, and the camp should be out of sight of the trail where possible.
- Campfires are permitted inside a non-handi capable fire ring EXCEPT from March 1st through May 25th and/or when the fire danger is HIGH, VERY HIGH or EXTREME. Campfires may be held liable for damages due to escaped campfires.
- Gather only downed and dead wood within the immediate campsite for firewood.

Primitive Camping

- All camping must be at least 100 feet from any stream or 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.
- Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6-8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.

For a complete listing of camping guidelines and ethics contact the forest district office or visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/recreation/camping.

Volunteering

If you would like to play a role in helping us maintain our trail system, please consider signing up as a conservation volunteer. For more information and an application visit: www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us

Care for the Land

State forests belong to all Pennsylvanians. Take time to enjoy them, but know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. Please be careful with fire, keep your forests litter free and don’t damage trees or other plants.

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.

iConservePA

To learn more about the state’s natural resources and what you can do to help protect and enjoy them, log onto iConservePA.org.

For more information

Michaux State Forest
10099 Lincoln Way East
Fayetteville, PA 17222
(717) 352-2211
fd01@pa.gov
Office hours: Weekdays 7:30am-4pm

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The Flat Rock Trail System, located in the heart of the Michaux State Forest, provides users with a variety of hiking, biking, and horseback riding options. Situated between PA Route 30 and Shippensburg Road the trail system consists of 38 miles of shared-use trails and 5 miles of hiking only trails.