

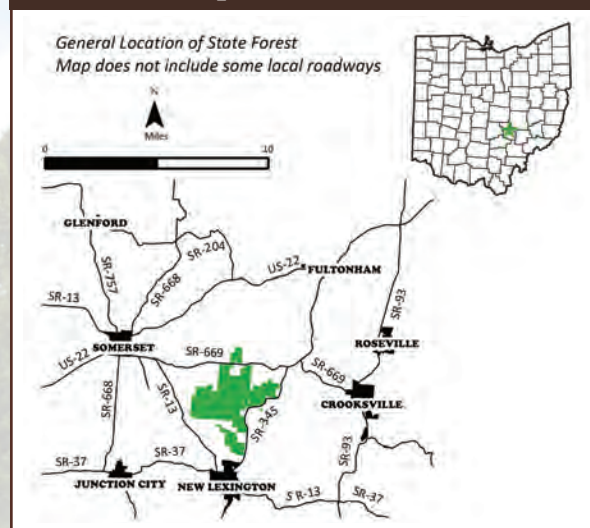


Perry State Forest Rules

1. Perry State Forest is open daily to visitors between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. Legal campers, if applicable, hunters, and anglers may be present during other times.
2. Operation of motor vehicles is restricted to roads provided for such travel except as permitted in the APV area. The speed limit on state forest roads is 30 mph unless otherwise posted. Vehicles may not be parked where traffic or access to division service roads or trails will be obstructed.
3. Horses may be ridden only along forest roads or on designated bridle trails.
4. Fires are not permitted, except in grills or fire rings provided or in portable stoves. Fires must be attended at all times.
5. Trash may be disposed of only in receptacles provided or "pack-it-in/pack-it-out."
6. Camping is not permitted on Perry State Forest.
7. Public display or consumption of any alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
8. Disturbance, defacement or destruction of any structure, property, natural feature, tree, shrub or wildflower is prohibited. Berries, nuts and mushrooms may be gathered and removed, except from tree seed orchards or posted areas.
9. The use of bait to attract or hunt wild birds or deer on state forest land is prohibited.
10. At all times, deer stands shall either have a waterproof tag or be stamped with the user's name and mailing address in legible English letters or bear the user's State Hunter Identification Number.
11. At all times, game cameras shall either have a waterproof tag or be stamped with the user's name and mailing address in legible English letters or bear the user's State Hunter Identification Number.
12. State forest boundaries are indicated with yellow blazes on the trees and/or posted signs.

Complete rules for state forests are found in the Ohio Administrative Code Section 1501:3.

Location Map



Additional Information

BLUE ROCK STATE FOREST
6665 Cutler Lake Road
Blue Rock, Ohio 43720-9740
740-674-4035 ext. 1

OHIO DIVISION OF FORESTRY
Athens District Office
360 East State Street
Athens, Ohio 45701-1852
740-272-8519

APV PARKING AREA LOCATION:
5865 Twp. Rd. 154 NE
New Lexington, Ohio 43764

Perry County Sheriff: 740-342-4123

ohiodnr.gov

877-247-8733

EMERGENCIES: Call 911

ODNR DIVISION OF FORESTRY MISSION:
Promoting and applying management for
the sustainable use and protection of
Ohio's private and public forest lands.



Ohio Department of
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**



Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
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PERRY

STATE FOREST



Ohio Department of
NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY



History of Ohio's State Forests

Acquisition of the first state forests began in 1916, originally to be used as testing grounds for reforestation of tree species. Land acquisition later broadened to include land of scenic and recreational values and to restore forest cover to land that had been abandoned and abused. Today, Ohio's 24 state forests cover more than 200,000 acres and provide an abundance of benefits for everyone to enjoy. With the advantage of decades of management, Ohio's foresters are enhancing nature's growth cycle and continuing to produce some of the finest hardwood trees in the world on state forest lands. Forest management activities such as timber stand improvement, prescribed fire, and harvesting are employed to enhance the health, vigor, and natural regeneration of the forest. But foresters' concerns go well beyond the trees. Evaluations of water, soil, wildlife habitat, age and condition of the vegetation, recreational opportunities, and aesthetics are considered in preparation of area management plans. This process ensures that visitors may enjoy many outdoor activities including camping, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife watching, hunting, and scenic touring.

Welcome to Perry State Forest

Acquisition of the land that became Perry State Forest started in 1961 with the purchase of 4,400 acres from Sunnyhill Coal Company, an affiliate of Sunnyhill Mining Company of West Virginia. From 1961 to 1965, the area was known as Perry Reclamation Area and was one of three reclamation areas in Ohio administered by the Division of Reclamation. In 1966, the three reclamation areas became state forests, including Perry State Forest.

Whether you come to Perry to ride APVs (all purpose vehicles), go horseback riding, hunt or just visit, you will have an enjoyable state forest experience. Much of Perry State Forest was strip mined for coal prior to existing reclamation law, resulting in very rugged, sometimes barren terrain. Since the state acquired the area in 1961, some reclamation has been accomplished, including a large area along County Road 48. Several reforestation and test tree plantings have been established on the forest.

Perry APV Area

The Perry State Forest APV area is one of four state forest APV areas in Ohio. It was established in 1972. This APV area is the only state-owned scramble area on approximately 1,800 acres. The APV area is a "ride at your own risk" area. Within the APV scramble area, Perry State Forest boasts more than 24 miles of marked and challenging APV trails. There are also unmarked user-developed trails in the scramble area where riders are urged to use caution and not exceed their riding capabilities. The Perry APV area is one of the most popular public riding areas in Ohio. Picnic tables and latrines are provided at the parking area.

Perry State Forest APV Area Rules

1. Vehicles permitted in the all purpose vehicle area are off highway motorcycles, all purpose vehicles (four wheelers) and utility vehicles (side by side) with APV registration pursuant to ORC 4519.04. Dual sport motorcycles may be operated if they display a current highway registration (no other types of road or highway registered vehicles are permitted). Bicycles are also permitted and excluded from any registration requirements. You should bring a copy of your registration with you.
2. APVs shall be operated only within the designated area.
3. No person shall operate an APV having a width greater than 62 inches.
4. The APV area is open for riding from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
5. The APV area at Perry State Forest is subject to seasonal closure in compliance with OAC 1501:3 - 4 - 15.
6. All transport vehicles and trailers should be parked in the designated parking area for safety concerns.
7. Maximum speed limits are 5 mph in the parking area. At no time shall an APV be operated at a speed greater than that necessary to stop the vehicle in the assured clear distance.
8. All operators shall wear protective headgear and eye protection in compliance with OAC 1501:3 - 4 - 14.
9. All operators shall have a valid, current motor vehicle operator's license, except that minors less than 16 years of age may operate an APV if they are accompanied by a licensed parent or guardian 18 years of age or older.
10. All vehicles shall be equipped with adequate brakes, mufflers, and spark arrestors.
11. No person who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs of abuse shall operate an APV.
12. No person shall operate an APV in such a manner as to willfully damage or destroy vegetation and trails, or for the purpose of chasing, capturing or killing wildlife.
13. Operators of APVs are not to carry or transport any firearms or other weapons that are not unloaded and securely encased except as permitted in ORC 2923.16 - Improperly handling firearms in a motor vehicle.

14. No APV shall be used to carry more passengers than the vehicle was designed to carry. Contact your manufacturer for ride capacity.
15. No races or contests are permitted in the APV area.
16. Operators must report any accidents to the forest headquarters within 24 hours. For accidents at Perry State Forest, please call the Blue Rock State Forest Headquarters (740) 674-4035 ext. 1. This is in addition to the reports necessary to be made to the local law enforcement authorities. Call 911 in an emergency.
17. For more information on titling and registering your APV, visit bmvo.ohio.gov and choose "Vehicle Registrations>Other Types" OAC 1501:3-4 Motor Vehicles

Horseback Riding

Perry State Forest has a very scenic, 6.2 mile day-use bridle trail system. Parking for horse trailer rigs is provided along County Road 48. The Miles Lake water is suitable for horses.

Hunting and Fishing

The diversity of forest cover encourages a variety of wildlife species and hunting opportunities on Perry. Hunting and fishing are permitted within Perry State Forest as regulated by the Division of Wildlife. Shooting is prohibited from or across any road or driveway and discharge of any firearm, except during lawful hunting, are also not permitted.



