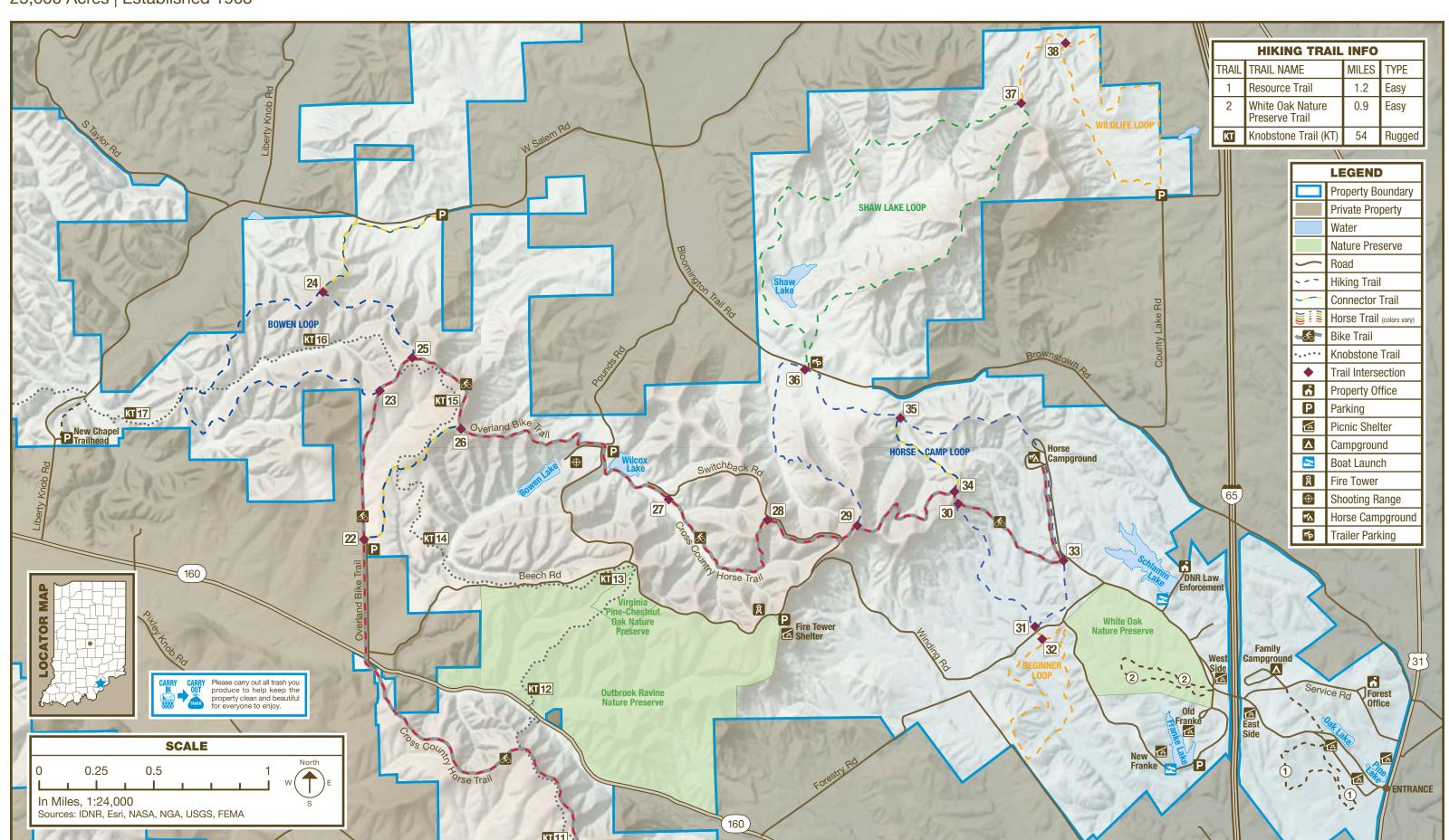
# **CLARK STATE FOREST - NORTH RECREATION AREA**



2 Service Road | Henryville, IN 47126 | 812-294-4306 25,600 Acres | Established 1903



Clark State Forest, established in 1903, is the oldest state forest in Indiana. The original purchase included 2,000 acres. Clark State Forest now comprises 25,600 acres in Clark, Scott, and Washington counties. Clark State Forest blends a unique combination of forest management and recreational activities. Guests can camp, picnic, hike, bikie and ride horses on 70 miles of trails, and shoot at the shooting range.

## HORSE TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Riding horses on state property requires a daily or annual horse tag. You may purchase the tags at the property office during business hours.

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE COLOR DIFFICULTY

**Beginner Loop** 2 miles Orange Easy

This wider trail is built for beginning horses and riders. **Bowen Loop** 3.1 miles Blue Moderate

Features several scenic vistas while traveling through

upland forests that contain chestnut oak and pine trees.

Easy to **Cross Country Trail** 17.7 miles Red Very Rugged

Allows access for adventurous day-long rides from campground to campground accented by various types of scenery, terrain, and wildlife.

4.9 miles Blue **Horse Camp Loop** Rugged Good scenery, crosses one creek, goes by several vistas, switches back and cuts around knobs.

Shaw Lake Loop 4.2 miles Green Very Rugged Scenic trail borders Shaw Lake. High vistas with two steep areas

Wildlife Loop 2.3 miles Orange Easy Area has wide trails enhanced by wildlife openings and ponds.

Blue & **Connector Trails** varies Yellow

Connects riders to other trails.

## MNT. BIKE TRAIL DESCRIPTION

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION COLOR(S) DISTANCE **Overland Trail** 20 miles Gray

Uses parts of several horse trails, including the Cross Country trail. It offers bikers several opportunities to make loops or travel from campground to campground. The Overland Trail winds through upland forests, travels next to bottomlands and creeks, and offers views of the aftermath of a tornado. Bikers can see numerous spectacular views into the ravines and valleys common throughout Clark State Forest, including a vista of Deam Lake from a high ridge.

## HIKING TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Hikers are advised to wear hunter orange or other bright clothing while using the trails, especially during hunting season. Check with the forest office or visit the property website for announcements or advisories.

**TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE** DIFFICULTY 1. Resource Trail 1.2 miles Easy

This self-guided interpretive loop features 14 stops. The trail head can be accessed from the Oak Lake Shelter.

This trail loops through the nature preserve. The trailhead can be accessed off the south side of Winding Road, west of I-65, and parking is available at West Shelter.

0.9 miles

3. Knobstone Trail 54 miles Rugged

Indiana's longest footpath traverses land with extreme relief distinguished by narrow, relatively flat-topped ridges. It includes 32 miles in Clark State Forest, 4 miles in Elk Creek Public Fishing Area, and 18 miles in Jackson-Washington State Forest.

#### **KNOBSTONE TRAIL**

2. White Oak Nature

**Preserve Trail** 

The Knobstone Trail (KT) is Indiana's longest footpath - a 54-mile backcountry-hiking trail passing through Clark State Forest, Elk Creek Public Fishing Area, and Jackson-Washington State Forest. These state resource properties contain more than 42,000 acres of rugged, forested land in Clark, Scott and Washington counties in southern Indiana. The trail extends from Deam Lake, just north of State Road 60 in Clark County, to Delaney Park, just east of S.R. 135 in Washington County. The initial 32-mile segment of the trail was opened in 1980.

#### PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.



## PLEASE LET WILD ANIMALS REMAIN WILD.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Feeding wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

## CAMPFIRES AND CAMPFIRE SAFETY

- . Make sure campfires are allowed during the time of your trip. Dry conditions may cause temporary burn bans.
- · Use only small dead and downed wood. Do not break or cut tree limbs or trees, even dead ones. Dead trees provide habitat for many birds and animals.
- Do not stockpile wood. While this was once considered a friendly gesture in remote areas, today it is one more way of reducing the spirit of solitude and independence that people seek when backcountry camping.
- Any campfire in a backcountry area should be in a pit 12 inches or less in diameter, and a 3-foot diameter area should be cleared around the fire.
- DNR recommends using a portable backpacking stove for cooking instead of a fire. A portable stove will cook your meal long before a fire is ready. Using a portable stove also prevents fire-blackened rocks from marring areas where people camp.
- Leave No Trace-Before leaving an area where a campfire was built, mix ashes with the soil to make sure it is extinguished, fill the pit, and cover the cleared area with the humus layer that was originally removed.

#### **HORSEBACK RIDERS' RULES AND ETIQUETTE**

- A DNR Horse Tag required for each horse present.
- One horse trailer is permitted per campsite.
- In the Horse Campground, horses must be tied to hitching rails. Tying horses to trees or spigot lines, or setting up corrals or electric fences is prohibited.
- . The owners of unruly animals that cause a disturbance or safety hazard may be asked to remove such animals from the property without refund.
- · Horseback riding is prohibited on all forest roads and roadsides unless designated as a horse trail. The only exception is the roads within the Horse Campground, on which horseback riding is allowed.
- Wagons and buggies are prohibited from using forest roads and trails.
- Horses are prohibited in the family campground, picnic areas, and forest office/service area.
- Please be courteous to other horseback riders and hikers while using the forest trails.
- Leave no litter on the horse trails.
- Clean your campsite of manure, hay, and bedding before leaving. Manure bins are conveniently located throughout the Horse Campground.
- Horses are prohibited on the Knobstone Trail and all other hiking-only trails.

## **ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES**

**BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING**—Available along the Knobstone Trail. During periods of high fire danger, the area may be closed by the property manager. Camping groups are restricted to either family units or groups not exceeding six persons. No campsite may be established within a quarter mile of access points into the area. Use of the area is restricted to a maximum of three nights by any individual. Guests must carry out any trash they carry in to Clark State Forest. Additionally, the backcountry area is restricted to minimal-impact camping/hiking in order to preserve its natural state.

**BOATING**—Schlamm Lake and Franke Lake offer concrete boat ramps. A current DNR Lake Permit is required for all private boats at Clark State Forest. Lake permits can be purchased from the property office during operating hours. Trolling motors are allowed, but gasoline engines are not. Swimming is not allowed in any of the lakes on property.

**CAMPFIRES**—Small campfires are allowed while backcountry camping. Use only small dead and downed wood. Do not break or cut tree limbs or trees, even dead ones. Make sure campfires are allowed during the time of your trip. Properties that generally allow campfires may ban them on a temporary basis because of dry conditions. For more information see Campfires and Campfire Safety.

**CAMPING**—Clark State Forest offers two primitive campgrounds that are available first-come, firstserved. Each campground site has a picnic table and a fire pit. In the Horse Campground, hitching posts are available at each site. There are pit toilets throughout each of the campgrounds, and water is available year-round. A dump station in the Horse Campground is available for use by guests staying in either campground. Guests staying in either campground are required to self-register and pay at the property office.

FISHING—There are seven fishing lakes: Bowen (7 acres), Franke (12 acres), Oak (2.5 acres), Pine (2 acres), Schlamm (18 acres), Shaw (13 acres), and Wilcox (5 acres). A valid Indiana fishing license is required. Fishing licenses may be purchased at on.IN.gov/INHuntFish or in person at more than 500 retailers statewide.

HORSE RIDING—Clark State Forest and Deam Lake State Recreation Area offer 70 miles of horse trails. Trails are marked with colored symbols on posts. Horse riders on DNR properties, including Clark State Forest, must purchase and carry a \$5 daily horse tag or a \$20 annual horse tag. Both are available at the property office.

**HUNTING**—Clark State Forest is a favorite destination for many white-tailed deer hunters. Squirrels and raccoons are also commonly hunted on property. A valid hunting license is required. Designated trails are available for disabled hunter access. Disabled hunters must have the necessary permits and license. Hunting and trapping regulations can be found in the printed version of the DNR Hunting and Trapping Guide or at on.IN.gov/huntingguide.

MOUNTAIN BIKING—An Off-Road Cycling Permit is required on mountain bike trails on state property. Permits can be purchased at the property office during operating hours. Bikers will share this trail with horseback riders and hikers. Mountain bikers and hikers should yield right-of-way to horseback riders.

**PICNICKING**—Clark State Forest offers multiple picnic areas throughout the forest. Picnic areas are equipped with tables and grills for public use.

PICNIC SHELTERS—Clark State Forest offers eight shelters located throughout the forest. Picnic shelters are equipped with tables and grills for public use. The shelters may be reserved for day use at camp.IN.gov or 1-866-622-6746.

**SHOOTING RANGE**—Clark State Forest offers an outdoor firearms range featuring two 25-yard lines and one 50-yard line. Guests must bring their own paper targets and dispose of the targets they use. Only paper targets are allowed. All range guest older than 18 must have either a \$5 day pass or a \$25 annual permit. Guests under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Permits are available at the property office. All range guests must sign in and out on the sheet posted on the exterior of the property office building.

## **CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM**



Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free.

1-866-6campIN (1-866-622-6746) Call: Online: camp.IN.gov

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



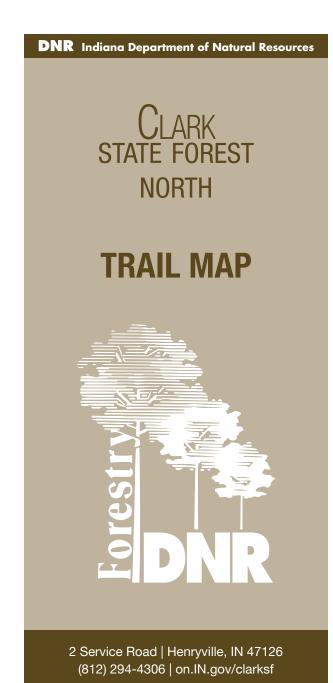
Write: Clark State Forest P.O. Box 119 Henryville, IN 47126 812-294-4306 Call: Email: ClarkSF@dnr.in.gov



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your property clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

Subscribe to Outdoor Indiana magazine today, INDIANA Visit OutdoorIndiana.org or call 317-233-3046.

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STATE FOREST MISSION

To manage, protect and conserve the timber, water, wildlife, soil and related forest resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, and to demonstrate proper forest management to Indiana landowners.