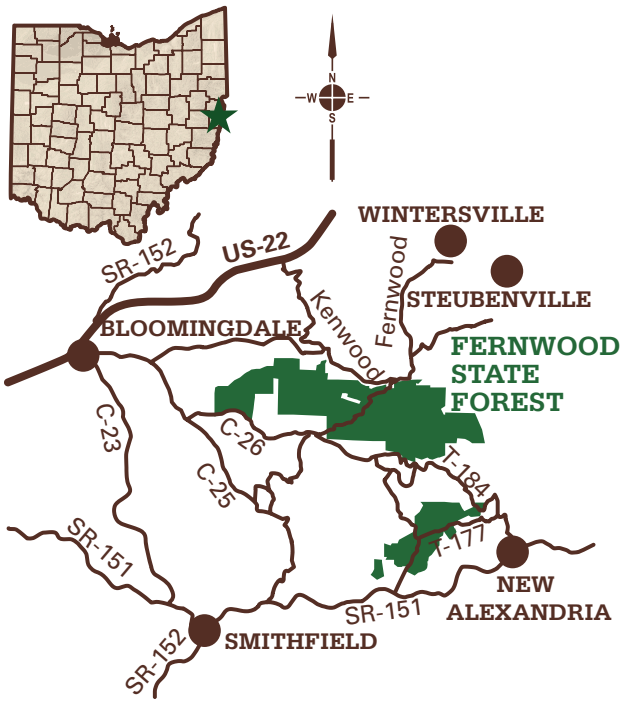
Target Range Rules

1. Designated ranges are open to public use on a first come, first serve basis.
2. All rules of gun safety, firing only downrange toward the backstop and loading weapons only on the range or benches, shall be strictly observed at all times.
3. Hours of use are one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset.
4. Maximum number of shooters permitted at any one time shall be determined by the capacity of the shooting lanes provided.
5. The range may be closed for maintenance or other reasons at any time as determined by the chief or his authorized agent.
6. No persons shall use targets made of material other than paper or clay, without written permission from the chief or his authorized agent.
7. Persons using ranges are responsible for removal of debris from the range, which includes but is not limited to, paper and cardboard targets, target stand brought by the shooter, shell casings, and litter which was generated by the shooter's activity. Excepting ranges which provide receptacles for debris disposals, shooters must remove all debris from state forest property upon completion of their activity.
8. Persons shall use or fire on ranges only those weapons permitted for legal hunting in Ohio as defined by statute, rule or order of the Division of Wildlife or as approved by the chief or his authorized agent.
9. No person shall use or fire centerfire rifles on ranges of fifty yards or less in length.
10. No person shall use or fire automatic weapons of any kind on a range without written permission from the chief or his designated agent.
11. All tracer and explosive rounds are prohibited.
12. All shooters must wear eye and ear protections.
13. Shooters may use only ranges designated for their specific type of shooting activity (trap range, pistol range, and rifle range).
14. The use of shotgun slugs is prohibited at trap ranges.

Location Map



General location map of Fernwood State Forest. Map does not include some local roadways.

Additional Information

Fernwood State Forest
11 Township Rd. 181
Bloomingdale, OH 43910
740-266-6021

EMERGENCIES - DIAL 911

1.877.247.8733
forestry.ohiodnr.gov

Ohio | Division of Forestry

Division of Forestry · 2045 Morse Rd. Bld H1 · Columbus, Ohio 43229
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Welcome to Fernwood State Forest

The 3,023 acre Fernwood State Forest is located 5 miles southwest of Steubenville. Acquisition of the forest began in 1961 with the purchase of 2,107 acres. The remaining 916 acres were acquired in 1996.

A substantial portion of the land has been strip mined for coal. However, the production of acid mine water is minimal because of the neutralizing effect of limestone deposits. The majority of unstripped lands are located on forested ridges and valleys. Subsequent reforestation and installation of recreation facilities were funded through the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 and the Ohio Capital Improvements program. The land has been restored to a beautiful, healthy forest, providing visitors with many outdoor recreational opportunities.

Camping

Hidden Hollow Campground has 22 family campsites equipped with picnic tables, fire rings, non-potable water, and vault latrines. Campers self-register by filling out cards at the comment box. Law enforcement officers patrol the area, and can familiarize visitors with camping regulations. There is no charge for camping.

Two short hiking trails, each approximately ½ mile in length, are located along the perimeter of the Hidden Hollow Campground. The trails are part of a collaborative effort between the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry, the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Jefferson County Conservation Education Committee to promote natural resource conservation practices and environmental education in the region.

Day-Use Activities

A three mile loop hiking trail starting near the forest headquarters offers a variety of scenic and wildlife viewing opportunities, as well as the Little Round Top Picnic Area, where forest users can relax, eat, and enjoy Fernwood's natural beauty.

Two scenic vistas along Township Road 181 east of the Forest Headquarters provide outstanding views of the surrounding countryside. Parking areas are located throughout the state forest.

Fishing and Hunting

Fernwood State Forest is open to public fishing and hunting under ODNR Division of Wildlife regulations.

Many ponds are scattered throughout the area, and are stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish. Hunters may pursue white-tailed deer, turkey, and many small game species.

Hunting is not permitted within the Hidden Hollow Campground Area. The No Hunting Zone boundary around the campground is marked with red paint. Firearms may not be discharged from or across any road or driveway.

Three shooting ranges are located on the west end of the forest. There are separate areas for pistol, rifle, and trap shooting. Users need to furnish their own targets (paper or clay only), and must clean up their casings and debris before leaving. Ranges are open daily from one half-hour before sunrise to one half-hour after sunset. Users must wear eye and ear protection. Range rules are posted.



Forest Rules

1. Fernwood State Forest is open to visitors between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily. Legal campers, hunters, and anglers may be present during other times.
2. Operation of motor vehicles is restricted to roads provided for such travel. 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 is obstructed.
3. Fires are not permitted except in grill rings or fire rings provided, or in portable stoves. Fires must be attended at all times.
4. Trash must be disposed of in receptacles provided.
5. Camping is only permitted in designated areas for such use.
6. Hunting and fishing are permitted in most state forests as regulated by the Division of Wildlife. Shooting is prohibited from or across any road or driveway. Discharge of any firearm is not permitted except during lawful hunting.
7. Public display or consumption of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
8. Disturbance, defacement, or destruction of any property, material, natural feature, or vegetation is prohibited. Berries, nuts, and mushrooms may be gathered and removed except from posted areas.
9. State forest boundaries are indicated with yellow blazes on the trees and/or posted signs.

Ohio State Forests

"Promoting and applying management for the sustainable use and protection of Ohio's private and public forest lands."

FERNWOOD
STATE FOREST

11 Township Road 181
Bloomingdale, Ohio 43910
(740) 266-6021

HIDDEN HOLLOW CAMPGROUND
RIFLE
TRAP
PISTOL
VISTA
VISTA
LITTLE ROUND TOP PICNIC AREA
FERNWOOD OFFICE
ST. JAMES CEMETERY
LONG CEMETERY
Gunyon Hollow Run
Kenwood Rd.
T-166
Barnham Ridge Rd.
T-34
T-33
C-26
Wintersville Rd.
Solter Rd.
T-181
C-25
Jefferson Sportsmens Lake
Fernwood Bloomingdale Rd.
Cross Creek
Smithfield Station-Weems Rd.
McIntyre Rd.
T-191
Lake Betsy Rd.
Lake Betsy
T-189
Dawson Rd.
T-184
Mingo Sportsmen Club Lake
Slabcamp Creek
Slab Run
Hill Rd.
Browns
Rup e Rd.
T-179
T-177
Shale Rd.
McIntyre Creek
C-74
SR 151

N
W
E
S

LEGEND

- Fernwood State Forest Land
- Lake Area
- Hiking Trails
- Streams/Rivers
- Railroad Tracks
- Roads (Local Name or Forest Road #)
- Highways
- Forest Headquarters
- Parking Lot
- Latrine
- Picnic Area
- Points of Interest
- Campground
- Cemetery
- Shooting Range
- Non-potable Water

Miles
0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Kilometers
0 0.5 1 1.5 2

1:55,000

State forest boundaries shown are representative and believed to be correct but not warranted. State forest boundary lines on the ground are identified with signs and/or yellow paint marks on trees.

Map reviewed and approved by Daniel Balser,Chief, ODNR Division of Forestry, 11/2022

Data provided by ODNR Forestry, ODNR GIMS, US Census Tiger, ODOT

80°48'30"W 80°48'0"W 80°47'30"W 80°47'0"W 80°46'30"W 80°46'0"W 80°45'30"W 80°45'0"W 80°44'30"W 80°44'0"W 80°43'30"W 80°43'0"W 80°42'30"W 80°42'0"W 80°41'30"W 80°41'0"W

40°20'30"N 40°20'0"N 40°19'30"N 40°19'0"N 40°18'30"N 40°18'0"N 40°17'30"N 40°17'0"N