

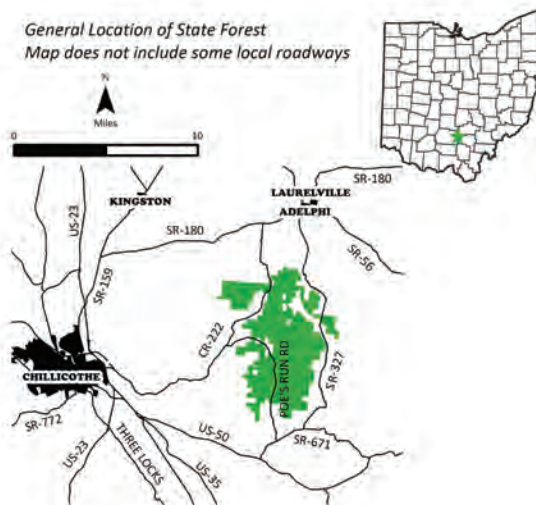
TAR HOLLOW

STATE FOREST



Ohio Department of
NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

General Location of State Forest
Map does not include some local roadways



Emergency Phone Numbers

EMERGENCIES: 911

Ross County Sheriff 740-773-1185

Hocking County Sheriff 740-385-2131

Vinton County Sheriff 740-596-5242

Additional Information

OHIO DIVISION OF FORESTRY SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE

360 East State Street

Athens, Ohio

740-272-8519

TAR HOLLOW STATE PARK

16396 Tar Hollow Road

Laurelville, Ohio 43135

740-887-4818

HOCKING STATE FOREST

19275 State Route 374

Rockbridge, Ohio 43149

877-247-8733

forestry.ohiodnr.gov



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry

2045 Morse Rd., Building H-1

Columbus, OH 43229 - 6693

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Welcome to Tar Hollow State Forest

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 over 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 the state forests continue to produce some of the finest hardwood trees in the world. 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.

Forest History

Land acquisition for Tar Hollow State Forest began in 1937 as the Ross-Hocking Land Utilization Project. During the 1930s, the federal government formed the Resettlement Administration to address the impoverished conditions on marginal agricultural areas across the nation. The initial purpose of the program was to relocate families to more productive land, thereby enabling them to better sustain a living. Following the relocation the Resettlement Administration initiated the Land Utilization Program. Through this program, unproductive and abandoned farmlands were acquired to promote forest management and provide recreational opportunities. The area around Tar Hollow State Forest was one of these resettlement areas. Restoration was started through the application of erosion control devices and the planting of the tree seedlings.

Other improvements, including roads, numerous firebreaks, wildlife ponds and public facilities, were constructed, many with the assistance of such programs as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). For example, the CCC planted trees and constructed a fire tower at Tar Hollow State Forest. Operational control of this

area was turned over to the Division of Forestry in 1939.

In 1949, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) was formed, and management of adjoining lake and other recreational facilities (Tar Hollow State Park) were transferred to the ODNR Division of Parks. The Division of Forestry was transferred from the Agricultural Experiment Station to the new ODNR. Management of the forest remained with the ODNR Division of Forestry. In September 1958, surface ownership of both park and forest land was transferred to ODNR from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The BLM retained 75 percent of the mineral ownership under this land. Tar Hollow State Forest has become one of Ohio's most beautiful and productive forests. Tar Hollow is Ohio's third largest state forest, containing 16,120 acres.

Recreation

A wealth of recreational activities is available at Tar Hollow State Forest. A 46-site primitive horse camp is located at the south end of the forest on Poe Run Road. Latrines are provided at the camp, but electricity and drinking water are not available. Radiating from the horse camp are 33 miles of bridle trails. All bridle trails are south of the fire tower.

A 22-mile network of hiking trails is located in the northern half of the forest. Seventeen miles of paved forest roads and 14 miles of gravel forest roads provide a great opportunity for a scenic drive and allow good access to all areas of the forest. Spend a day or a week at Tar Hollow, and explore the many opportunities available at your state forest.

Hunting

Tar Hollow is known state-wide for its excellent hunting opportunities. Hunting success for white-tailed deer and wild turkey has been very good in recent years. Hunting opportunities for squirrel, rabbit, and ruffed grouse also exist.

Hunting and fishing are permitted under the ODNR Division of Wildlife regulations. Shooting on, from, or across any road or driveway is prohibited on state forests. Discharge of any firearm is not permitted except during lawful hunting season. Hunting is prohibited in Tar Hollow State Park.

Ruffed Grouse Management Area

The Division has set aside 1,700 acres in Coey Hollow as a special grouse management area located in the extreme northwest section of the forest. The Division is working with the Division of Wildlife and the National Ruffed Grouse Society to design management practices that improve grouse habitat.

Mushroom Hunting

No discussion of hunting would be complete without mentioning morel mushrooms. Every spring during April and May, hundreds of hopeful hunters scour the hills of Tar Hollow for the delicious morel.

General Rules for Forest Visitors

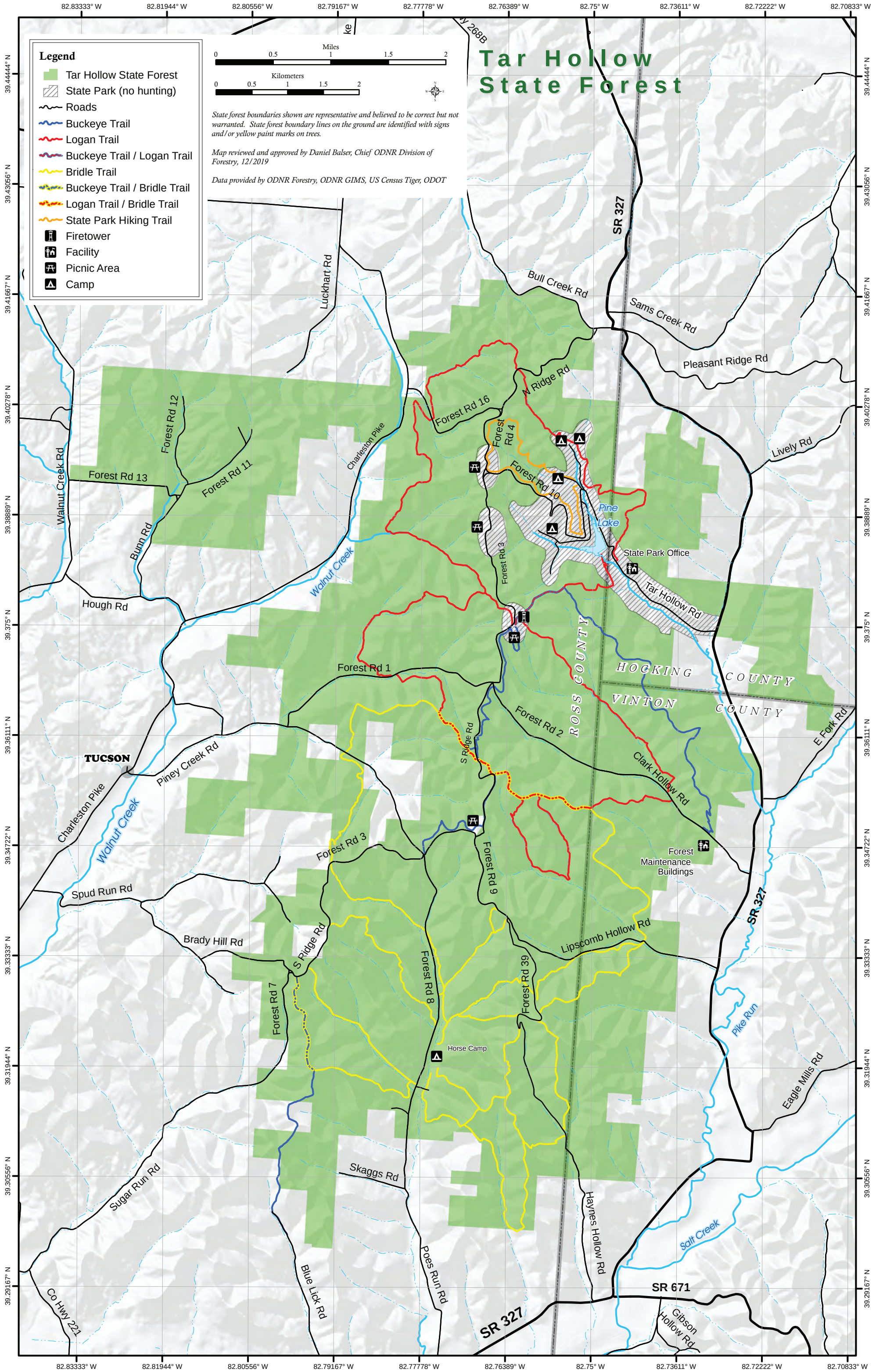
1. Tar Hollow State Forest is open daily to visitors between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. Legal campers, hunters and fishermen may be present during other hours.
2. Operation of motor vehicles is restricted to roads provided for such travel. The speed limit on state forest roads is 30 mph unless otherwise 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 permitted only in areas provided and designated for such use.
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 and 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.
11. State forest boundaries are indicated with yellow blazes on the trees and/or posted signs.

Rules found in the Ohio Administrative Code Section 1501:3

Area Parks and Forests

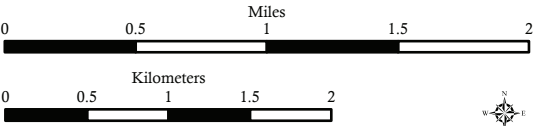
Tar Hollow State Park's 620 acres lie within the forest. The park offers a 15-acre lake with swimming area; Class B, Primitive, and Group campgrounds; a group lodge; and several picnic areas. For information, contact Tar Hollow State Park at 740-887-4818.

Other nearby parks and forests include: Scioto Trail State Forest and State Park, Hocking State Forest and Hocking Hills State Park, Zaleski State Forest, and Lake Hope State Park.



Legend

- Tar Hollow State Forest
- State Park (no hunting)
- Roads
- Buckeye Trail
- Logan Trail
- Buckeye Trail / Logan Trail
- Bridle Trail
- Buckeye Trail / Bridle Trail
- Logan Trail / Bridle Trail
- State Park Hiking Trail
- Firetower
- Facility
- Picnic Area
- Camp



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, 12/2019

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

Tar Hollow State Forest