

Welcome to Scioto Trail State Forest

During World War I, the area that is now Scioto Trail State Forest was used as an artillery range for Camp Sherman. Seventy-five millimeter guns and six-inch howitzers were set up at the mouth of Stoney Creek on the Scioto River and fired at targets in the general area of Stewart and Caldwell lakes.

The purchase of land for the Scioto Trail State Forest began in 1922, and most of the present forest area was purchased by 1937. The first 9,088 acres cost an average of \$7.70 per acre. The forest was named after the Scioto Trail, a Native American trail that ran from what is now Chillicothe to Portsmouth. Route 23 follows the path of the trail. The major development of the area took place in the 1930s when the Civilian Conservation Corps built most of the roads, lakes, and early recreational facilities. The forest now covers 9,600 acres.

Recreation

Scioto Trail State Forest maintains 26 miles of bridle trails for day use by horseback riders and hikers. Mountain bikes are also permitted on these trails.

Six miles of paved roads and 18 miles of gravel roads provide good access to all areas of the forest. Scenic vistas and overlooks on several of the roads attract many visitors year-round, but especially during the fall-color season.

Populations of deer, wild turkey, squirrel, and grouse encourage many hunters to pursue their favorite sport at Scioto Trail State Forest. Mushroom hunting in the spring is attracting more and more visitors to the forest each year. A fire tower and picnic area are located next to the old forest office, and are the sites of many reunions and family outings.

Scioto Trail State Park

The 250-acre Scioto Trail State Park consists of two areas in the middle of the state forest. Two 15-acre lakes, a campground, two primitive camping areas, picnic areas, trails, and a sled hill are all located within the park.

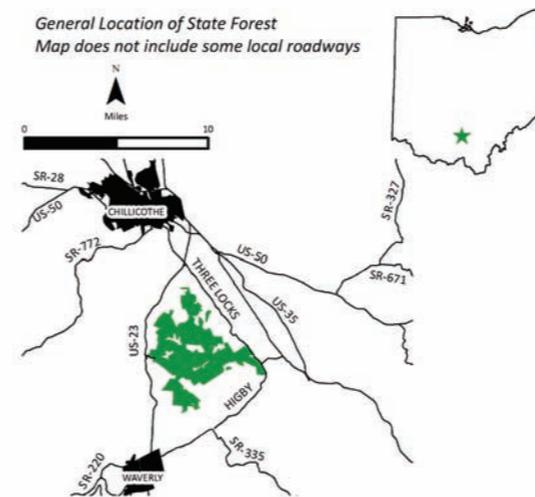
Other State Facilities Nearby

Pike State Forest, Tar Hollow State Forest, Tar Hollow State Park, Lake White State Park, Great Seal State Park

Forest Rules

- Scioto Trail State Forest is open daily to visitors between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. Legal campers, hunters and anglers may be present during other hours.
- Operation of motor vehicles is restricted to designated roads. 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.
- Horses and bicycles may be ridden only along forest roads or on designated trails. Most trails are designated as multi-use and are available to hikers, horses, and bicycles. Designated trails are marked with white blazes. Numbered location markers are located at all road crossings and trail intersections. Find the corresponding location number on the map to determine your location.
- Fires are not permitted, except in grills or fire rings provided or in portable stoves. Fires must be attended at all times.
- Trash may be disposed of only in receptacles provided.
- Camping is permitted only in areas provided and designated for such use.
- Public display or consumption of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
- 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.

Location



Additional Information

Ohio Division of Forestry
Southern District Office
345 Allen Ave.
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
(740) 774-1596

Scioto Trail State Forest
2731 Stoney Creek Rd.
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
(740) 663-2538

ohiodnr.com/forestry
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.



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