

Welcome to Shade River State Forest

Nestled in the rolling hills of southeastern Ohio, Shade River State Forest encompasses 2,475 acres of mostly wooded country. Native hardwoods grow on what was formerly abandoned, unproductive farmland.

In the 1950s, a few abandoned field areas were planted with different species of pines including white, red and loblolly pine. In addition, many acres of native Virginia pine, shortleaf pine and pitch pine are present. Modern forestry practices are evident throughout the forest. Large blocks of Virginia pine are being harvested for conversion to hardwood species, which are more beneficial and have greater commercial value.

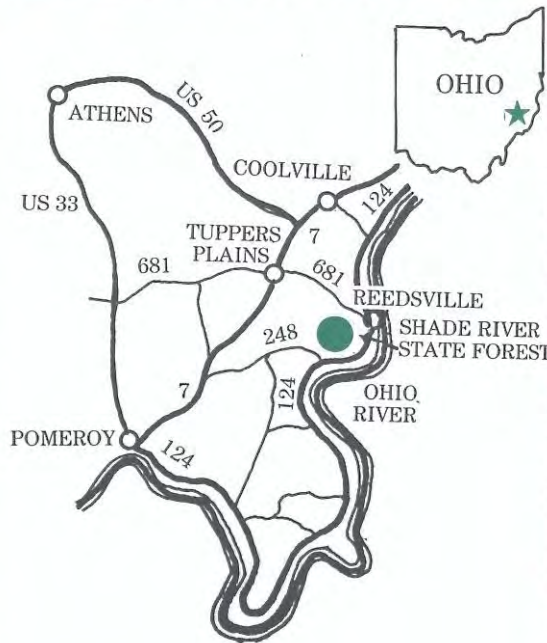
The forest is open year-round to hunting, hiking and general sight-seeing. Wildlife is abundant; deer, turkey and grouse are the major game species. Many non-game species also thrive in this area. Camping, swimming and fishing are available in nearby Forked Run State Park. Portions of the forest are within sight of the Ohio River near the Belleville Locks and Dam at Reedsville. Truck farming is common on the rich floodplain soil near the river. Crops of cabbage, tomatoes, sweet corn and cucumbers are produced.

Rules

1. Shade River State Forest is open daily to visitors between the hours of 6a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
2. Motor vehicles are restricted to roads provided for such travel. State forest roads have a speed limit of 30 mph.
3. Camping and building of fires are not permitted.
4. Horseback riding is permitted only along roads or on designated bridle trails.
5. 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

Gifford State Forest

17221 SR 377

Chesterhill, Ohio 43728-9604

(740) 554-3177

District 4 Forestry Office

360 East State Street

Athens, Ohio 45701-1852

(740) 593-3341

Forked Run State Park

P.O. Box 127

Reedsville, Ohio 45772-0127

(740) 378-6206



Division of Forestry • Fountain Square • Columbus • Ohio • 43224

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer M/F/H

SHADE RIVER STATE FOREST

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SCALE



MILES

To Toppers Plains

SR-681

SR-681

SR-681

To Reedsville

SR-248

T-272

FORKED RUN STATE PARK

Long

Bottom

OHIO RIVER

Joppa Road

Boston Hollow



LEGEND

- State Highway
- County (C) or Township (T) Road
- State Forest Road
- State Forest Land
- Church
- Stream, Creek
- Point of Interest, Facility
- Hiking Trail
- Campground
- Parking
- Private Land
- State Park Land (No Hunting)

State forest ownership shown is 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.