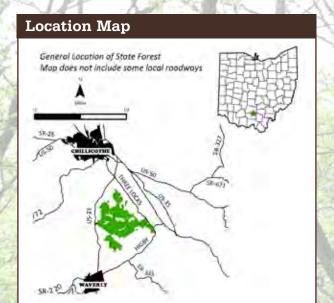
#### **Forest Rules**

- Scioto Trail State Forest is open daily to visitors between the hours of 6 a.m. and 11 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.
- 3. 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 state forest trails are marked with white blazes, the Buckeye Trail is marked with blue 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 or pack it in - pack it out.
- Camping is permitted only in the state park 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. Only berries, nuts, and mushrooms may be gathered and removed.
- The use of bait to attract or hunt wild birds or deer on state forest land is prohibited.
- 10. Deer stands must have a waterproof tag at all times identifying the user and user's address or hunter's state identification number in legible English.
- 11. State forest boundaries are marked with yellow blazes on trees and/or posted signs.
- 12. OAC section 1501:3 Division of Forestry http://codes.ohio. gov/oac/1501:3



## **Additional Information**

#### **OHIO DIVISION OF FORESTRY**

District Five 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.gov

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.





Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
2045 Morse Road, Building H-1
Columbus, OH 43229 - 6693
An Equal Opportunity Employer - M/F/H
printed on recycled content paper





#### **Welcome to Scioto Trail 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 more than 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 continuing to produce some of the finest hardwood trees in the world on state forest lands. 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.

# **History of the Forest**

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. 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 Caldwell Lake.

Acquisition 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 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 approximately 9,600 acres.

#### Recreation

Scioto Trail State Forest maintains 26 miles of trail for day use by mountain bikes, horseback riders and hikers. Six miles of paved roads and 18 miles of gravel roads provide good access to all areas of the forest and are also popular with bicyclists. Approximately 4.5 miles of the Buckeye Trail cross the state forest as well. 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 on the forest and are the sites of many reunions and family outings.

#### Scioto Trail State Park

Nestled within the beautiful 9,000-acre Scioto Trail State Forest in Ross County, Scioto Trail State Park's 218-acres are a wooded refuge just south of Chillicothe. The ridgetops and winding forest roads offer breathtaking vistas of southern Ohio's Scioto River Valley. The beauty and remoteness of Scioto Trail offers the best of escapes to park visitors. Camping, fishing, and paddling are just a few of the adventures awaiting outdoor enthusiasts

## **State Facilities Nearby**

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

