

Ohio's State Forests

Acquisition of the first state forests began in 1916, originally to be used as testing grounds for reforestation 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 20 state forests cover more than 185,000 acres and provide an abundance of benefits for everyone to enjoy.

With the advantage of 80 years 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. 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 insures that visitors may enjoy many outdoor activities including camping, hiking, horseback riding, wildlife watching, hunting, and scenic touring.

Welcome to Tar Hollow

Tar Hollow State Forest originated from the Ross-Hocking Land Utilization project of the 1930s. The purpose of the program was to locate families to more productive land, thereby enabling them to better sustain a living. Following termination of the project, the land was leased to the Division of Forestry, and finally transferred to the State in 1958. 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.

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.

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.

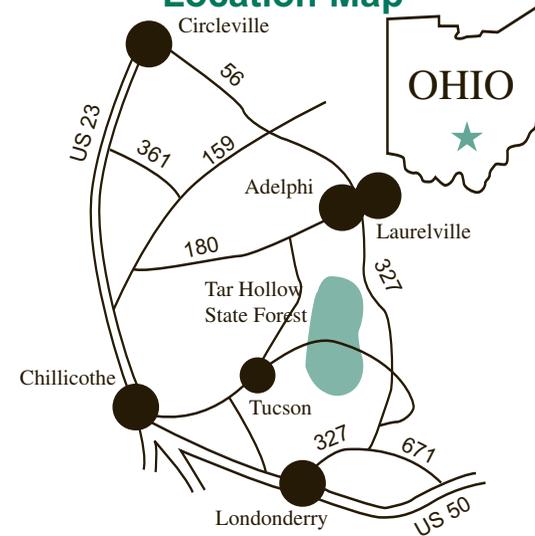
No discussion of hunting would be complete without mentioning the morel mushroom. Every spring during April and May, hundreds of hopeful hunters scour the hills of Tar Hollow for the delicious morel. A Mushroom Festival is held each year in April. Information can be obtained by writing to the forest address.

Spend a day or a week at Tar Hollow, and explore the many opportunities available at your state forest.

Forest Rules

1. Tar Hollow State Forest is open daily 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. Litter may be disposed of only in receptacles provided.
6. Camping is permitted only in areas provided and designated for such use.
7. Public display or consumption of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
8. Disturbance or defacement 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. Hunting and fishing are permitted under Division of Wildlife regulations. Shooting is prohibited within 400 feet of any building, facility, or recreation area and from or across any road or driveway. Discharge of any firearm except during lawful hunting is also not permitted.

Location Map



Additional Information

Tar Hollow State Forest
2731 Stoney Creek Rd.
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
877 24STREE

ohiodnr.com/forestry

EMERGENCIES
Call 911

Area Parks and Forests

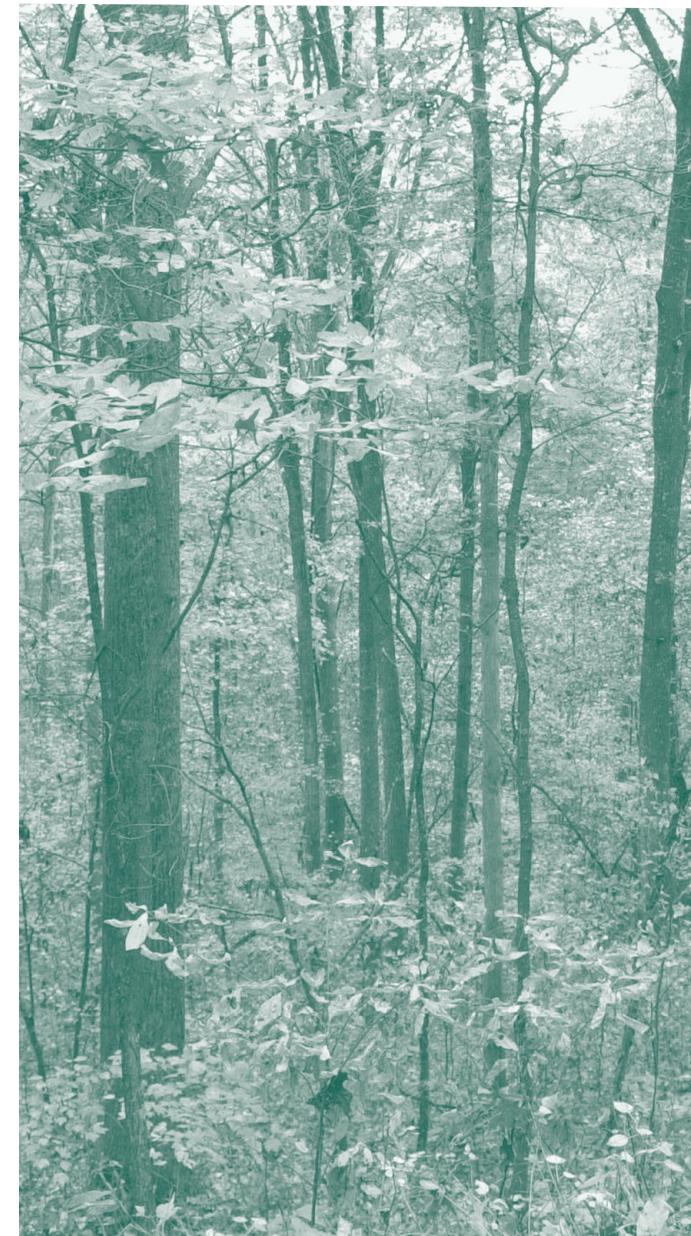
Tar Hollow State Park's 620 acres lie within the forest. The park offers a 15-acre lake with swimming area; Class B, Primitive, and Group campgrounds; a group lodge; and several picnic areas. For information, contact Tar Hollow State Park at (740) 887-4818.

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.



Division of Forestry
2045 Morse Rd., H-1 • Columbus, Ohio 43229
Equal Employment Opportunity Employer M/F/H

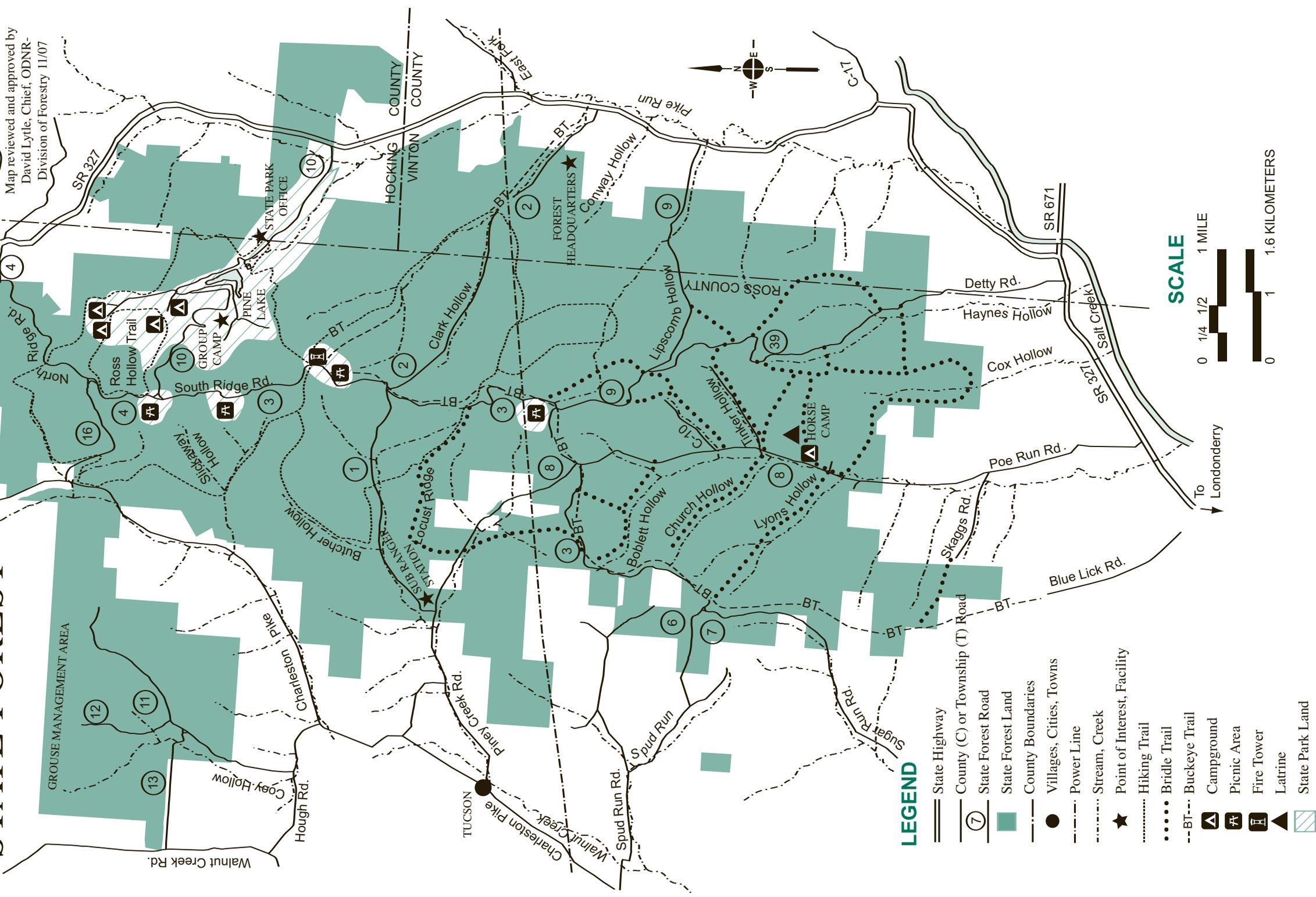
TAR HOLLOW STATE FOREST



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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.

Map reviewed and approved by David Lytle, Chief, ODNR-Division of Forestry 11/07



LEGEND

- State Highway
- County (C) or Township (T) Road
- State Forest Road
- State Forest Land
- County Boundaries
- Villages, Cities, Towns
- Power Line
- Stream, Creek
- Point of Interest, Facility
- Hiking Trail
- Bridle Trail
- Buckeye Trail
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Fire Tower
- Latrine
- State Park Land

SCALE

