

General Camping Policies

1. Camping without a valid Camping Permit issued by the Forest District Manager or designee is prohibited.
2. A Camping Permit will be valid for no more than 7 consecutive nights. After occupying a site for 7 consecutive nights, the camper must vacate the campsite for a minimum of 48 hours.
3. A Camping Permit will not be issued to anyone under age 18.
4. All field privies (cat holes or slit trench latrines) must be at least 6 inches deep and at least 200 feet from a lake, stream, spring, or other open water source. Self-contained portable toilets are encouraged and may be required to be used at some designated dispersed campsites. They must be emptied at an approved disposal site. There are no human waste disposal facilities in Clear Creek State Forest.
5. Only downed and dead wood within the immediate area of the campsite may be gathered for camp firewood. Power saws are not permitted without a valid Fuelwood Permit. Live trees or standing dead trees are not to be cut.
6. Use of camp stoves is encouraged. Stone fire rings are not permitted when a steel ring is provided. Campfires must be attended at all times. Campfires must be thoroughly extinguished when leaving the site.
7. Open fires are prohibited when the forest fire danger is determined by the District Forester to be High, Very High, or Extreme, and from March 1 through May 25 without authorization from the District Forester.
8. Proper disposal of trash, in addition to human waste, is the responsibility of the camper. Burning or burying garbage, trash and litter is strictly forbidden. All trash and refuse resulting from camping must be carried out. There are no trash receptacles in Clear Creek State Forest.
9. Pets must be controlled at all times. No more than two (2) dogs are allowed per campsite. Chains, or any other restraint, cannot be attached to a tree.
10. No live vegetation (shrubs, trees, etc.) is to be cut or damaged in any way. No nails or screws are to be placed into trees.
11. All camping equipment must be removed from campsite at time of departure.
12. Loud music or noise that disturbs the peace and quiet of the natural setting is not aloud.
13. Random shooting and target practice with firearms is not allowed.

14. Camp sites are open to inspection at all times, whether attended or not, by designated Department personnel.
15. Violators of this camping policy may have camping permits revoked or denied.

Motorized Camping Policies

Motorized Camping is overnight camping in or near the vehicle where the vehicle continues to be used for storage or transportation.

1. A fee-based camping permit is required, regardless of the length of stay.
2. Motorized campsites are identified by a signpost with campsite name.
3. No restrooms, utilities, or water available. Fire rings and picnic tables are provided.
4. Check-in and check-out time is **3:00 p.m.**
5. Sites available by **reservation only.**

Contact Reserve America: 888-727-2757 Mon.-Sat. 7:00a.m.-5:00p.m. up to 12:00 p.m. on the date of arrival or reserve online at, <https://www.reserveamerica.com>. Reservations can be made up to 11 months in advance.

Primitive Camping Policies

Primitive Camping is overnight camping where all equipment is transported manually (by foot, bicycle, horse, or watercraft) and where a motorized vehicle is not located near or part of the camping experience.

1. Primitive campers may not use motorized campsites without a valid camping permit.
2. All campsites must be at least 25 feet from the nearest edge of a trail.
3. All campsites must be at least 200 feet from any stream or other open water source and 300 feet from buildings.
4. Primitive camping is permitted along all trails, except the Beartown Rocks Trail.
5. Primitive campers staying only one night at a given location are not required to have a camping permit.

Group Camping Policies

Group Camping is more than 10 people in a unit while over-night camping, either motorized or primitive. Written Authorization must first be obtained from the Forest District Manager or designee. A camping permit and Letter of Authorization are issued to the group and both must be displayed at the campsite. Additional restrictions may be required.

The forestry staff of Clear Creek State Forest have a responsibility to the citizens of Pennsylvania to protect the natural character of the state forest. Low density, low impact, dispersed recreational activities are regarded as appropriate recreational activities on the forest. The intent is to provide as many recreational opportunities as possible without negatively impacting the natural resources. A camping policy is the means by which forestry staff accomplish this goal and integrate camping with other forest activities. As a camper and forest user, your cooperation, by following the policy and consideration for other forest users, will help make everyone’s recreational experience in Clear Creek State Forest more enjoyable.

Dual Certified Forest

The state forest system is certified under Forest Stewardship Council™ and Sustainable Forestry Initiative© standards. Dual certification ensures that Pennsylvania’s state forests are managed to the highest third-party standards.

Leave No Trace

By taking the time to practice responsible outdoor ethics we can ensure that our state forests remain premier camping destinations for generations to come. <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Recreation/LeaveNoTrace/Pages/default.aspx>

Care for the Land

State forests belong to all Pennsylvanians. Take time to enjoy them, but know the rules and regulations designed to protect the forests and you. Please be careful with fire, keep our forests litter free and don’t damage trees and other plants.

For more information

Clear Creek State Forest
Resource Management Center
158 South Second Avenue
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-1901



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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

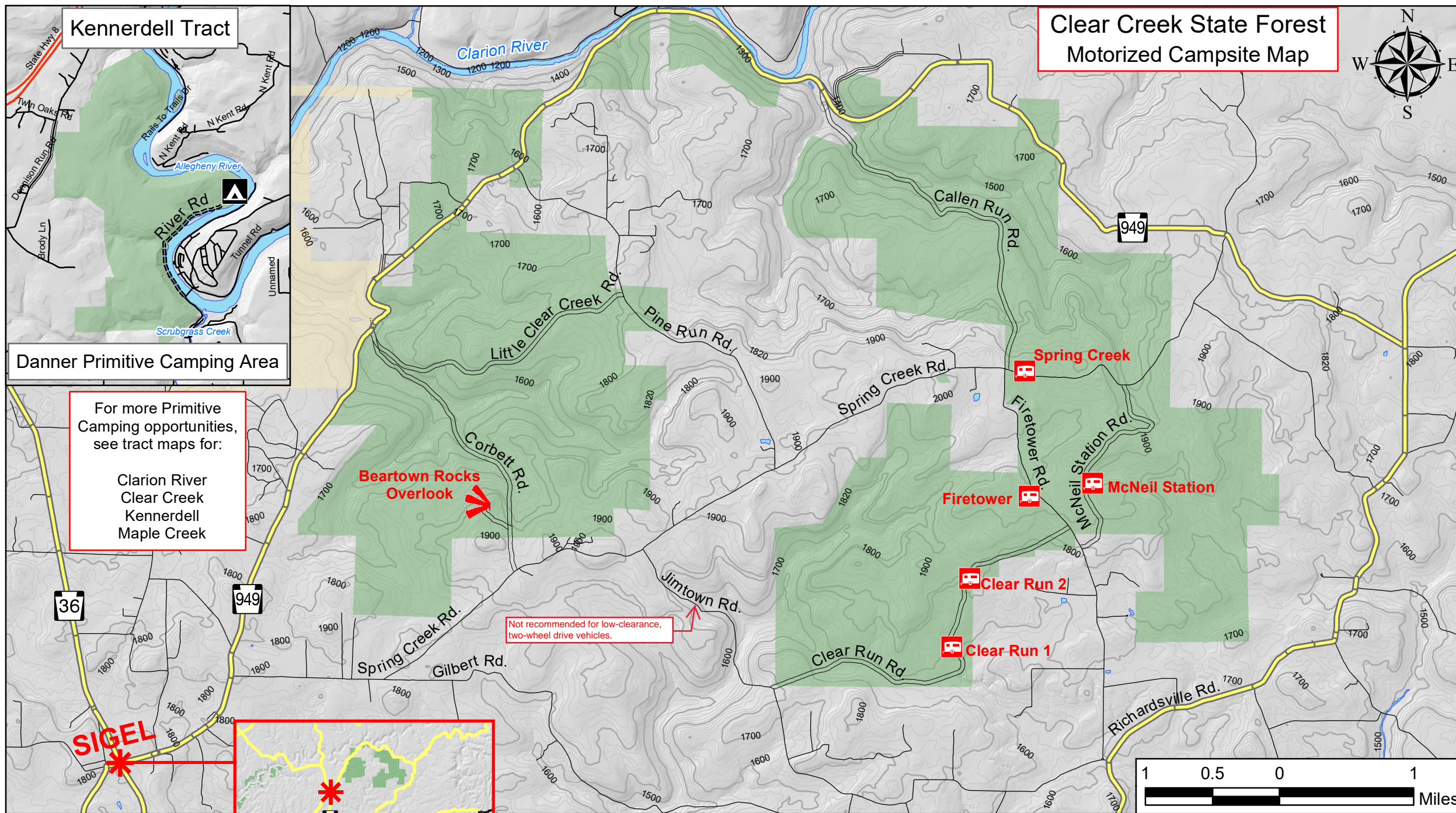
Clear Creek State Forest Camping Policy

Camping in Clear Creek State Forest is the perfect way to heighten your experience and soak in more of what makes it so unique. Whether your passion leads you to a solitary backpacking excursion, river paddling with friends, or gathering with family along a back-country road; Clear Creek State Forest is the place for you to pursue your adventure.



For those who like to “rough it,” pick your means of escape by foot, bicycle, or horseback down a trail to your favorite spot. Add by boat to the list for the Danner Primitive Camping Area located along the bank of the Allegheny River. If “car camping” is more your speed. There are 5 motorized campsites for you to enjoy.

Pennsylvania’s vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health, productivity, and to conserve native wild plants. Clear Creek State Forest comprises 16,727 acres in Clarion, Jefferson, Mercer, Forest and Venango counties. With such a vast array of nature calling, you might just find your niche right here.



Kennerdell Tract

Clear Creek State Forest
Motorized Campsite Map

Danner Primitive Camping Area

For more Primitive
Camping opportunities,
see tract maps for:

Clarion River
Clear Creek
Kennerdell
Maple Creek

Not recommended for low-clearance,
two-wheel drive vehicles.



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Legend

- Motorized Campsite
- Clear Creek State Forest