

Sproul State Forest at a Glance

District Office



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District Facts

- Named for William C. Sproul, Governor of Pa. from 1919 to 1923.
- Comprised of 307,140 acres, largest state forest land area in Pa.
- Found mostly in Clinton and Centre counties
- Part of Allegheny Plateau
- Predominantly mixed-oak forest type

Hiking



Chuck Kiper Trail

- The Chuck Kiper Trail is a 50-mile, double-loop trail that explores Fish Dam and Burns Run Wild Areas.
- At over 90 miles, the Donut Hole Trail extends from Farrandville to Sinnemahoning and connects to three other major trail systems.
- Numerous other trails crisscross the district (map and compass are recommended).
- Maps available at district office

Camping

- Primitive backpack camping (at undeveloped sites) is permitted throughout the state forest; a permit is required to camp for more than one night at one location (please follow Bureau of Forestry guidelines).
- Motorized camping is available at nearby Kettle Creek, Hyner Run, and Bald Eagle state parks.



Sightseeing

- Numerous scenic vistas can be found in the forest district, many of which overlook the Susquehanna River Valley.
- Unique ecosystems like cranberry and tamarack swamps can be observed in natural areas.
- Touring the district forest's 300+ miles of gravel roads to observe brilliant fall foliage and abundant wildlife is very popular.



Hyner Run vista

Hunting

- Game opportunities include deer, bear, turkey, squirrels, rabbits, and grouse.
- Hunting is permitted throughout state forest; please obey all regulations.
- DMAP permits are periodically available in certain areas of the forest district.



Fishing

- Young Woman's Creek in northeastern Clinton County is a renowned trout fishing stream.
- The district harbors native brook trout in 12 designated Wilderness Trout Streams.
- Good bass and panfish opportunities are found on West Branch Susquehanna River.
- PA Fish and Boat Commission regulations apply.



Native brook trout

Wild and Natural Areas

- Cranberry Swamp Natural Area can be observed from the Chuck Kiper Trail.
- East Branch Swamp Natural Area features old-growth hemlock trees.
- Tamarack Swamp Natural Area is home to eight different wetland types.
- Burns Run Wild Area features the namesake as an exceptional value stream.



Cranberry Swamp Natural Area

Motorized Recreation

- Whiskey Springs and Bloody Skillet ATV trails are 75 combined miles open for public riding.
- ATV trails are open during two specific seasons (check district site for details).
- Snowmobiling is offered at Hyner Mountain Snowmobile Trail and on some state forest roads (maps and trail conditions available on district website).



Riders enjoying snowmobile trail

Other Recreation

- Mountain biking and horseback riding are permitted on most forest roads and trails.
- The 21-mile Eagleton Mine Camp Shared-Use Trail is specifically designed for mountain biking.
- A canoe access is available south of the Karthaus Bridge on route 879.
- The Hiding Bear Ski Trail offers cross-country skiing near Hyner Run State Park.



More Information

For more information on Sproul State Forest, please contact:

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