

Camping Information

Camping in the Forbes State Forest is restricted to backpack-type camping, except for several designated motorized sites. Camping out of vehicles or campers is not permitted. Permits for camping are required only if campers stay more than one night at any campsite, or camp in a designated motorized site. All campers are encouraged to obtain a permit in case you are overdue or if someone needs to reach you. Campers must:

- Camp > 100' from streams or open water
- Camp > 200' and out of sight of roads & parking areas;
- Camp > 25 feet from & out of sight of any trails;
- Keep field privies > 200' from any water source;
- Pack out all trash;
- Not have campfires when wildfire danger is high.

Areas closed to camping in the Blue Hole Division include Blue Hole, Cole Run Falls, Parking lots, along the Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail.

Barron Tract

The Barron Tract was acquired by the Bureau of Forestry in 2008. It totals about 2,300 acres. This property contains a number of HQ-CWF designated use streams. They include Laurel Hill Creek and two of its direct tributaries—Sandy Run and Whipkey Run. A majority of the Sandy Run tributary is found on the property. Parts of the Harbaugh Run and Flugey Hollow, tributaries to Sandy Run, are also on the property.

Locations & Addresses

- Blue Hole CCC Camp
902 Fall Run Rd, Rockwood, PA 15557
- Motorized Campsite #5
562 Cole Run Rd, Rockwood, PA 15557

Blue Hole Division

The Blue Hole Division of the Forbes State Forest is located in southwestern Pennsylvania, in the heart of the Laurel Highlands. The division lies on the eastern slope of Laurel Ridge. It received its name from Blue Hole Creek, which flows through this area, on which there is a deep hole where the water has a crystal blue appearance. The division lies in Middlecreek Township, Somerset County, except for a few acres which cross the ridge into Fayette County. Nearby landmarks include Seven Springs Ski Resort to the north, Laurel Hill State Park to the east, and Kings Mountain Golf Course to the south.

Trail Information

- **Red**—shared-use trails, usually with a narrower corridor and rockier tread. Open to non-motorized use.
- **Yellow**—trails open to **foot traffic ONLY** such as hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.
- ◆ **Orange**—designated trails **open to snowmobiles ONLY during snowmobile season, no other use. See the Laurel Highlands Snowmobile System Map.**

CAUTION

GARY's RUN TRAIL IS A SNOWMOBILE TRAIL DURING SNOWMOBILE SEASON.

GLADE, COLE RUN, BLUE HOLE and part of PLETCHER ROADS ARE OPEN FOR USE BY MOTOR VEHICLES AND SNOWMOBILES. EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN USING THESE ROADS.

Trail Information & Other Highlights

Cole Run Trail—Although this trail is only 2 miles long, visitors can make a moderate, 3-mile loop by incorporating Cole Run Road into the hike. Park at Cole Run Falls and follow the trail south along Cole Run. The trail will turn back to the northwest following Blue Hole Creek before it leaves the creek and heads north to a parking lot on Cole Run Road. Follow Cole Run Road back to the parking lot at the falls.

Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail—This 70 mile long trail, administered by Laurel Ridge State Park, crosses the Blue Hole Division along its northern border. Access to the trail can be gained on Pletcher Road, as well as Pritts Distillery Road. Please contact the state park for trail regulations and shelter information.

Cole Run Falls—A beautiful waterfall located on Cole Run, just south of the Cole Run Road.

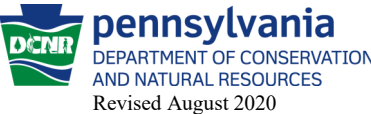
Blue Hole—A deep hole within the stream where the water appears blue, located on Blue Hole Creek near the mouth of Gary Run.

CCC Camp S-98—The remains of CCC Camp S-98 in operation from 1933 to 1936.

For More Information

Bureau of Forestry
Forbes Forest District 4
1291 Route 30, P.O. Box 519
Laughlintown, PA 15655-0519
Tele: (724) 238-1200 • Email: FD04@pa.gov
Website: <http://www.dcnr.pa.gov>

In the event of an emergency, contact a state forest employee or dial 911.
If you become lost: stop, stay calm, stay put, & dial 911.
The further you walk the longer it will take to find you.



Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry

Blue Hole Division & Barron Tract



Blue Hole Division and Barron Tract



Legend

- Shared Use Trail
- Hard Surface Road
- Improved Gravel Road
- Administrative Road
- Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail
- Stream
- Forbes State Forest
- State Park
- State Gamelands
- Contour Line
- County Boundary
- State Highway
- Parking

