

Before Your Arrive

- Obtain a map of your destination and bring a compass or GPS.
- Make a plan and check the weather.
- Bring water and emergency supplies.
- Tell someone where you are going and for how long.



Before You Leave

- Remove all manure and hay from parking areas and campsites.
- Pack out what you pack in. Take your trash home with you.
- Leave the area as good as or better than you found it.



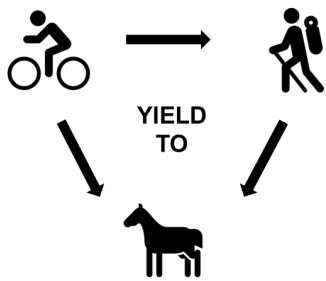
While You Ride

- All users must abide by the State Forest Rules and Regulations. They are posted in parking areas, the district office, and on the DCNR website.
- To reduce trail damage, ride in single file, do not cut switchbacks, and avoid riding when the trails are extremely wet and muddy.
- Water horses in single file and in areas where stream banks can withstand hard use.
- When stopping, cross tie or highline horses. **Do not** tie them to a single tree.
- Be courteous to all other trail users. Let other trail users know what is needed to keep you, the horse and others safe when passing on narrow trails.
- Be especially cautious on trails and roads open to motorized use.
- Trail users are advised to wear fluorescent orange during hunting season.
- Follow leave no trace practices: leave nothing on the ground but footprints and take nothing from the trail but memories.

Share the Trail

While on the trail, follow the shared-use trail guidelines below to create a safe experience for everyone.

- Everyone yields to horseback riders.
- Bicyclists yield to hikers.



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 do not damage trees and other plants.

Dual Certified Forest

Pennsylvania’s 2.2-million-acre state forest system is one of the largest dual certified forests in North America. The forest is certified under Sustainable Forestry Initiative® and Forest Stewardship Council™ standards.

The FSC® is an independent organization supporting environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial, and economically viable management of the world’s forests.

SFI® certification focuses on protection of water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk, and forests with exceptional conservation value. Dual certification ensures that Pennsylvania’s forests are managed to the highest third-party standards.



For more information

Michaux State Forest  
10099 Lincoln Way East  
Fayetteville, PA 17222  
(717) 352-2211  
Office Hours: Weekdays 7:30am-3:30pm  
fd01@pa.gov  
[www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov)



Horseback Riding

Michaux State Forest



Michaux State Forest comprises nearly 90,000 acres in Cumberland, Franklin and Adams counties for you to use, enjoy, and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry manages this forest to ensure its long-term health and to conserve native plants.

Michaux State Forest provides opportunities for **horseback riders** to camp and ride on over 60 miles of shared-use trails. Our red-blazed shared-used trails are open to horseback riding and range in difficulty.





Where to Ride

Horses may be ridden on all the state forest roads and shared-use trails. Horses are **not permitted** on the following trails and locations:

- Appalachian Trail
- Hiking Only Trails
- Ski Trails
- Old Forge Picnic Area
- Long Pine Reservoir Parking Area

The trail heads and intersections have been marked with wooden posts. Along the trails are vertical rectangular blazes painted on trees to reassure the user that they are on the mapped trail. The color of the blaze also indicates the designated use of the trail. The color coding for trails is defined below.

- Shared-Use Non-motorized  
(Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding)
- Cross Country Ski Trail (No Horseback Riding)
- Hiking Only – Local District
- Hiking Only – State Forest
- Appalachian Trail – Hiking Only



Flat Rock Trail System and ATV Trails

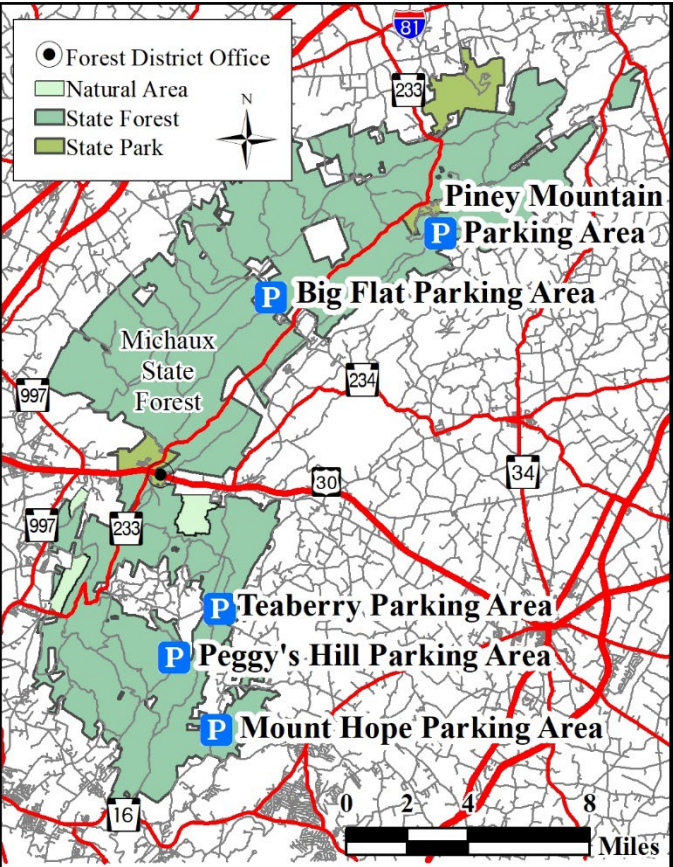
Flat Rock Trail system is in the center of Michaux State Forest between US 30 and Shippensburg Road. It provides 38 miles of shared-use trails (hiking, biking and horseback riding). The main trailhead is off Shippensburg Road at the **Big Flat Parking Area**. The ATV trails are open to horseback riding year-round from the Piney Mountain Parking Area. We recommend riding when the ATV trails during annual closures to ATVs in the spring and fall.

Southern Michaux

South of PA Route 30 there are several shared-use trails open to horseback riding. **Teaberry Parking Area** and **Peggy’s Hill Parking Area** provide access to these trails.

Mount Hope Trail System

The Mount Hope Trail System is located in the southern portion of the Michaux State Forest. From the **Mount Hope Parking Area** there is approximately 19 miles of shared-use trails.



Directions

**Piney Mountain Parking Area**  
1721 Bendersville Road  
Gardeners, PA 17324  
*From Pine Grove Furnace State Park:* Take Bendersville Road south for approximately 3 miles. ATV parking lot is on the right.  
GPS coordinates: 40.01834, -77.29580

**Big Flat Parking Area**  
1975 Birch Run Road  
Biglerville, PA 170307  
*From Caledonia State Park:* Head north on PA Route 233 for 6 miles. Turn left onto Shippensburg Road for 1 mile. Parking area is on the left.  
GPS coordinates: 39.98832, -77.40139

**Teaberry Parking Area**  
3205 Cold Springs Road  
Orrtanna, PA 17353  
*From Caledonia State Park:* Head south on PA Route 233 for 4 miles. Turn left onto South Mountain Road and continue for 5 miles (South Mountain Road continues into Cold Springs Road). Parking area is on the left.  
GPS coordinates: 39.84045, -77.43455

**Peggy’s Hill Parking Area**  
Old Forge Road  
South Mountain, PA 17261  
*From Caledonia State Park:* Head south on PA Route 233 for 4 miles. Turn left onto South Mountain Road and continue for approximately two miles. Turn right onto Old Forge Road and continue for two miles. The parking area is on the left.  
GPS coordinates: 39.81729, -77.46259

**Mount Hope Parking Area**  
*From Caledonia State Park:* Head east on US 30 for 6 miles. Turn right onto High St for a half mile before turning left onto Old Route 30. Take the next right onto Orrtanna Road and continue for 6.5 miles. Turn right onto Mt. Hope Road for 5.5 miles. The parking area is on the right.  
GPS coordinates: 39.78273, -77.43671

Camping

Motorized camping with horses is **only** permitted at the following sites:

- Big Flat Parking Area
- Piney Mountain Parking Area
- Teaberry Parking Area
- Peggy’s Hill Parking Area
- Swift Run

The following guidelines apply to camping with horses:

- Tether lines must be used when horses are kept on site. Horses may not be tied directly to trees or shrubs.
- Horses may not be tied in or near streams or other water sources.
- Manure must be removed from all designated motorized camping sites, and all parking areas.

For the complete camping guidelines and more information on camping in Michaux State Forest visit [www.dcnr.pa.gov](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov).

Volunteering

If you would like to play a role in helping us maintain our trail system, please consider signing up as a conservation volunteer. For more information and an application visit:

[www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us)

