

Black River State Forest Hunter Camping

The Black River State Forest has over 68,000 acres of state-owned land open for public hunting with the following exceptions:

1. No hunting is allowed in campgrounds, day use areas or any other areas that are signed and designated as closed.
2. No hunting is allowed on private lands within the state forest boundary unless permission is expressly given by the landowner (exception: private tax law lands designated as "open").

STATE FOREST CAMPGROUNDS:

**A state park/forest vehicle *admission sticker* is required to camp at these facilities.
A *camping fee* is charged for each night's stay.**

The Black River State Forest has three designated campgrounds. Water, vault toilets and firewood are available at each campground.

Castle Mound: 22 sites, 6 with electricity
East Fork: 24 sites
Pigeon Creek: 38 sites

**OFF-SITE CAMPING (allowed only during the 9-day deer gun season):
You are encouraged to apply for a camping permit *after* Labor Day and *before* deer season begins.**

1. Camping outside designated campground areas is *prohibited* except during the 9-day deer gun season. Camping is not allowed in designated picnic areas, at the Wildcat and Smrekar trail head parking lots, or at Oxbow Pond.
2. During the 9-day deer gun season, a **permit is required *prior* to setting up camp.**
3. Off-site camping is allowed beginning the Thursday prior to the opening of the 9-day deer gun season through the end of the 9-day season.
4. One permit is required for each camping unit. The off-site camping permit is free of charge.
5. An off-site camping permit may be obtained on-line at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/StateForests/SF-BlackRiver/BlackRiver-rec-camp.htm> or in person during business hours at the DNR Black River Falls Service Center or by writing: Black River State Forest, 910 Hwy 54 East, Black River Falls, WI 54615.
6. You must provide the following information on your permit application: name, address, and vehicle year, make and license number, camping dates, number of people in the camping party, type of camping unit, and your specific camp location.
7. Fire danger may cause suspension of camping permits.
8. Citations will be issued to campers who have not obtained a permit prior to setting up camp.

TRAILS:

1. Snowmobile and ATV trails are closed to vehicular traffic.
2. Trails that have earthen embankments, gates, posts, fallen timber or are posted against vehicular traffic, are closed.
3. Logging roads or trails that are not gated or otherwise designated as closed are open for your use.

STATE FOREST REGULATIONS:

1. Do not block roads, trails or gates in any manner.
2. Extinguish all fires before leaving your campsite.
3. **Remove all garbage and temporary structures from your site (This includes: deer "hanging" poles, toilets, and any campfire debris);** please leave your site cleaner than when you arrived.
4. Keep out of closed areas.
5. Only dead and down firewood may be gathered in the general area of your camp.
6. ATV use on trails during the 9-day deer gun season is restricted to disabled hunters holding a permit issued specifically for the Black River State Forest.

For more information contact Black River State Forest at 715-284-4103 or visit the Black River State Forest web site at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/>

