Camping opportunities in the Governor Knowles State Forest include family camping, group camping, equestrian camping and backpack camping.

**Family camping** is available year-round at the St. Croix Family Campground, which has 30 sites and drinking water, hiking and biking opportunities. Electrical hookups are available for an additional fee at some sites. Vault toilets are provided for campers and firewood is available for purchase. The campground is not plowed during the winter months. First come, first served sites are available, as are reservable sites, which may be reserved through Reserve America (see camping permits on back page).

**Group Camping** is available at the Sioux Portage Group Campground. Drinking water, picnic tables, a fire ring, trash cans, vault toilets and hiking and biking trails are available for campers. The site is accessible from the St. Croix River (0.2 mile uphill hike) or by road. This group campsite is primarily a tent-only facility and can accommodate up to 60 campers. Reservations are available through Reserve America. Contact the State Forest Headquarters for special permission for recreational vehicle/camper use at this location.

**Equestrian Camping** and more than 40 miles of horse trails are accessible from the Trade River Equestrian Campground. The 40 camping sites provide picnic tables, fire rings, vault toilets and horse tie posts. Electrical hookups are available for an additional fee at some sites and firewood is available for purchase. On-site self-registration or advanced reservations though Reserve America are available for campers. The campground and trails are open year-round, but roads are not plowed during the winter months. A Wisconsin State Trail Pass is required for riders 16 years and older. Trail Passes can be obtained through self-registration at the trailhead or at a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Service Center. Trade River Day Use Area provides on-site trail maps, water, restrooms, horse lines and trail pass self-registration. A parking area with maps is available along the northern portion of the horse trail located on 340th Street.

**Backpack Camping** is available at hike-in campsites located throughout the State Forest. Fire rings and picnic tables are provided. Drinking water is not provided at any of these campsites, however each site is located near a small stream (water purification is required prior to use). There is no fee for these remote sites, but a permit is required. Contact the State Forest Headquarters at least two days prior to occupying the site to obtain your free permit. Be sure to pack out all litter and completely extinguish fires before leaving.
### Campgrounds – Governor Knowles State Forest

**For Emergency, DIAL 911**

For additional information contact the Governor Knowles State Forest Headquarters at 325 West State Road 70 Grantsburg, WI 54840. Telephone 715-463-2898.

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**Camping Privileges:** Fellow campers and State Forest staff appreciate your cooperation and compliance with these regulations. Violation may result in citations and/or loss of camping privileges.

### Camping Permits
- For reservations during the summer camping season, contact Reserve America anytime at 1-888-947-2757 or [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com). Reservations can be made up to 48 hours prior to arrival and no more than 11 months in advance.
- Only one wheeled camping unit is allowed per site. There is no limit on the number of tents, provided they fit within the perimeter of the campsite.
- **All campers must obtain a camping permit.** Backpack campers must obtain a free permit from the forest headquarters at least two days prior to camping; permits can be obtained by calling the office at 715-463-2898.
- Maximum camping duration is **14 days within any 21-day period.**
- A **non-family group may not exceed 6 persons.** A “family” is limited to parent(s) and dependent children and not more than two guests.
- Camping permits are valid from **3 pm of the first day to 3 pm of the last day.** Check out time is 3 pm.
- Electrical hookups are available at some sites for an additional fee. The fee is the same whether you use the amenity or not.

### Campfires
- **Contain fires within the metal fire ring** provided at each site. For the health of your fellow campers please **don’t burn trash.**
- Don’t leave your fire unattended and be sure to **extinguish it completely** before leaving your campsite.
- Firewood is available for sale at the St. Croix Family Campground and the Trade River Equestrian Campground. To protect our forest, firewood must be purchased **within 10 miles** of the campground, DATCP-certified firewood or gathering dead and down wood on the state forest is also permitted. For the health of the forest, **do not cut live trees or brush.**
- Charcoal and gas grills are allowed. Carefully dispose of used charcoal.

### Sanitary Facilities
- **Campground campers:**
  - To maintain safe drinking water, **don’t wash dishes at the pump.**
  - Sanitary dump stations are located near the registration buildings at both the St. Croix Family Campground and the Trade River Equestrian Campground.
  - Safe drinking water is provided at all campgrounds.
- **During traditional camping seasons,** a dumpster is located at the St. Croix Family Campground near the registration building for registered campers.

### Pets
- **Pets must be on a leash** no longer than 8 feet in campgrounds and other designated areas. **Please clean up after your pets.**

### Motor Vehicles
- **All vehicles in the Trade River Equestrian Campground and the St. Croix Family Campground must have a Wisconsin State Parks and Forest admission sticker or pay the required daily use fee.**
- No more than **two vehicles** may be parked at the campsite. Keep vehicles on gravel pads.
- Park extra vehicles at the registration building.

### Noise
- At no time may the noise in your campsite interfere with the enjoyment of your fellow campers. Campers may operate generators between the hours of 7 am to 8 pm. Permission to operate generators may be revoked if generators are excessively loud. Please respect your fellow campers and only use generators when necessary.

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**Come back soon! – and be sure to visit Wisconsin’s other Northern State Forests**

1. **Governor Knowles State Forest** 715-463-2898
2. **Brule River State Forest** 715-372-5678
3. **Flambeau River State Forest** 715-332-5271
4. **Northern Highland American Legion State Forest** 715-542-3923
5. **Peshtigo River State Forest** 715-757-3965
6. **Black River State Forest** 715-284-4103
7. **Coulee Experimental State Forest** 608-785-9007
dnr.wi.gov (search keyword “state forest”)

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This publication can be made available in alternative formats (large print, Braille, audio tape, etc) upon request. Please call (608) 267-7494 for more information. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.