

CARING FOR YOUR STATE PARKS AND FORESTS

Pennsylvania's parks and forests are visited by tens of millions of people each year. That is a lot of wear and tear on these precious assets. We all play a role in being good stewards of these shared resources. Below are a few tips to help ensure that Pennsylvania's parks and forests remain available for generations to come.



PARKING

Park only in designated parking areas. If a parking area is full, look for another lot. Parking on grass can lead to erosion. Parking on tree roots compacts the roots, causing damage to the tree.



REFUSE

If waste receptacles are unavailable, pack out trash. Plan by having a bag as part of the items packed for the day.

TRAILS

With 11,000 miles of trails available, it is easy to find a trail to meet almost any form of recreation. With so many trails, there is no need to create new ones. Please stay on designated trails.



TREES

Ouch! Carving into trees creates pathways for disease and insects and may also lead to girdling of the tree. Sign the guestbook, not trees, rocks, bathroom stalls, etc.



CAMPFIRES

Campfires are great when they are built in designated fire rings, are attended at all times, and fully extinguished upon retiring or leaving. Otherwise, they are fire hazards.



STONES

Creating cairns with stones may unintentionally impact the habitat of an aquatic organism when in the water or the home of other organisms on land. Leave stones where they lay.