

### Welcome to Morgan-Monroe State Forest

Morgan-Monroe is located 5 miles south of Martinsville and 16 miles northeast of Bloomington on State Road 37. Most of the forest's 24,000 acres consist of steep, forested hardwoods. The original settlers of the area cleared and attempted to farm the ridges, but were frustrated by rocky soil unsuitable for agriculture. The state purchased the eroded, abandoned land to create Morgan-Monroe State Forest in 1929.

### State Forest Management Policy

State forests are managed under a policy of multiple use in order to obtain benefits of recreation, forest products, watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics. The growth and harvest of timber is planned to be compatible with recreation activities, and to retain the watershed protection that forests naturally provide.

### Facilities

Several picnic areas and picnic shelters are available for day use. Picnic shelters are located at Cherry Lake, Beanblossom Lake, Bryant Creek Lake, and Scout Ridge Campground. The Wall Picnic Shelter with a large picnic area and playground are located at the junction of Main Forest Road and Beanblossom Road. Use of all shelters is on a first come first serve basis and Cherry Lake Shelter can be reserved through the forest office.

Other picnic areas, with picnic tables and grills, are located throughout the forest. Some areas are small and may accommodate only a single group while other areas are larger. Check the forest map for picnic area locations.

### Draper Cabin and Cherry Lake Lodge

Draper Cabin is a primitive, wood-floored log cabin that takes visitors 100 years back in time to the days before electricity, vehicles, and modern plumbing. Reservations are accepted for any night from the first weekend in April-weekend before Thanksgiving. The Cabin may be rented on a day by day basis, weather dependent in winter.

Cherry Lake Lodge is a renovated historic 1930's woodland cabin with all the comforts of home. It comfortably sleeps six people. Reservations for this relaxing getaway are made through the Forest Office.

### Camping

Like most other state forests, Morgan-Monroe has no entrance gate and charges no entrance fees. Primitive camping is available for a minimal fee; campers must register for camping at the forest office. Mason Ridge Campground, located behind the fire tower north of the forest office, has pit toilets and seasonal drinking water available. There is a picnic table and grill located on each of the campground's 19 sites. On busy weekends, overflow camping is available at Oak Ridge Campground. Oak Ridge has 10 sites and the same facilities as Mason Ridge.

Scout Ridge Youth Tent Campground is available for scouts and other groups. Sites in Scout Ridge Campground are larger than regular campground sites and there are several picnic tables and grills available. Scout Ridge Nature Preserve is located in this area.

### Hiking

Seven trails cover more than 28 trail miles in Morgan-Monroe State Forest. Although there is no fee to camp, you must register at the forest office before camping in the Back Country Area. For a detailed map of the Back Country Area, obtain a Morgan-Monroe State Forest trail map or purchase a topographical map of the Hindustan quad.

### Lakes

Three forest lakes are open to fishing; a valid Indiana fishing license is required to fish at Morgan-Monroe. Bryant Creek Lake (9 acres), Cherry Lake (4 acres), and Prather Lake (4 acres) are all open to fishing. Boat ramps are located on Bryant Creek and Cherry Lakes; boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only. Beanblossom Lake drained when the levee failed after several days of heavy rain in November 1993. Swimming is not permitted in any of the lakes.

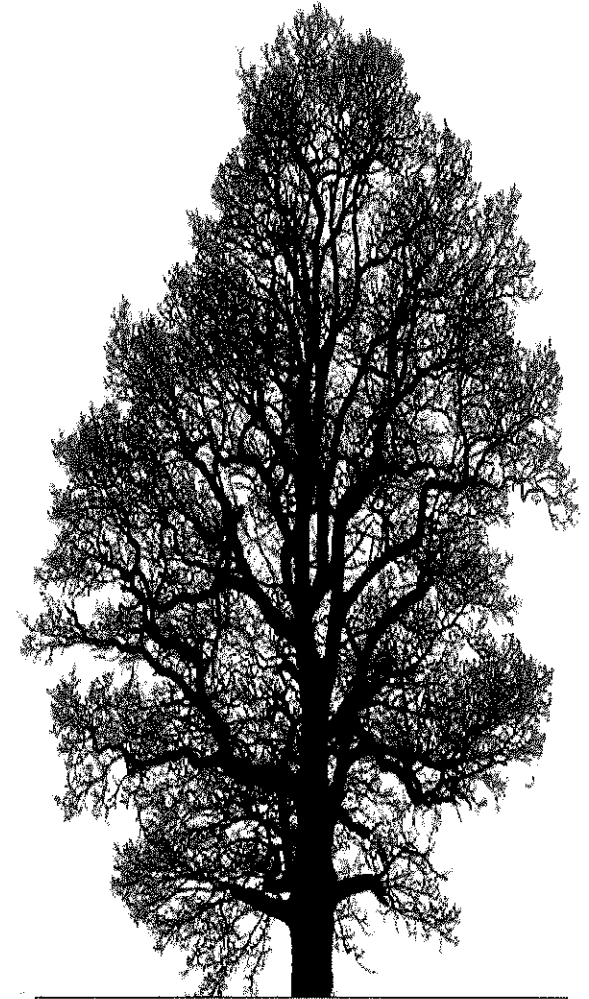
## Morgan-Monroe State Forest

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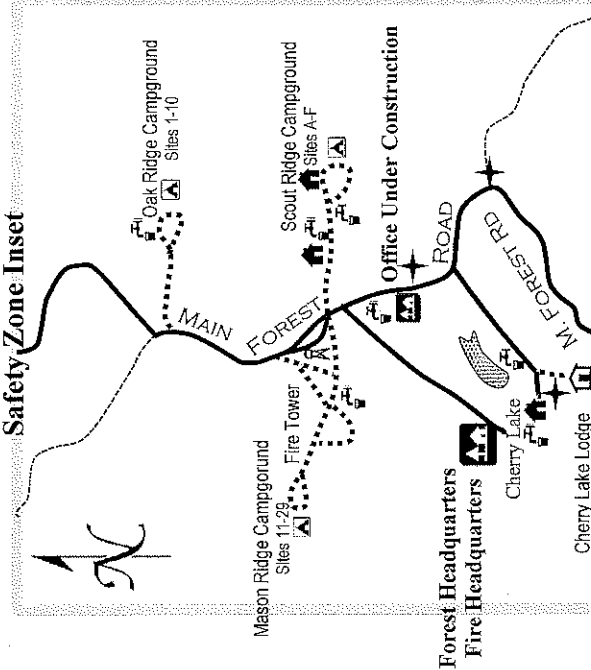
### The Division of Forestry

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forest lands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for present and future generations.



**Morgan-Monroe**  
STATE FOREST

**Safety Zone Inset**



To ensure the enjoyment of all visitors to the state forest, please help protect the land by following these few rules:

- ◆ Carry out all garbage and trash
- ◆ Off-road vehicles, mountain bikes and snow-mobles are not permitted on fire lanes or trails
- ◆ Remember Smokey Bear and be careful with fire! Never leave a campsite unattended.

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