Hiking trails

All trails are loops, except the 41-mile Tecumseh Trail, which follows part of the Low Gap Trail. Trails are marked with numbered posts, decauls on posts or painted blazes (double blazes indicate a turn). The Tecumseh Trail is marked with “T” at trail intersections. Short trails not listed connect the campground and office parking area to hiking trails. No horses, bikes or ATV’s allowed on trails.

1. Tree Identification Trail — 1 mile (easy)
   The trailhead is located at the forest office parking area. A tree identification booklet is available at the forest headquarters.

2. Pathfinder Orienteering Trail/ Course — 6 mile (easy)
   The trailhead is located south of the Scout Ridge campground. Obtain course booklet at the forest headquarters. Control-point key available at the forest office.

3. Scout Ridge Nature Trail — 5 mile (moderate)
   The trailhead is located behind the shelter house at Scout Ridge campground. An information brochure is available at the forest headquarters.

4. Three Lakes Trail — 10.1 miles (rugged)
   Trailheads are located on the road to Cherry Lake, Sluice, at the sluice and at Bryant Creek Lake Shelter.

5. Mason Ridge Trail — 2.9 miles (moderate)
   Trailheads located on Circuit Road and Landram Ridge on main forest road.

6. Rock Shelter Trail — 3.1 miles (moderate)
   The trailhead is on Forest Road at Landram Ridge. The trail follows the first part of Low Gap Trail.

Low Gap — Back Country Trail — 10 miles (rugged)
   Trailheads are located on main Forest Road at Landram Ridge and at the parking area on Low Gap Road. Camping permitted in the Back Country Area located east of Low Gap Road.

OUR MISSION

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

The Division of Forestry will continue to provide consumptive and nonconsumptive outdoor recreational opportunities. Developments will not take precedence over natural resources, conservation and protection and will continue to be structured on the natural rather than the "built" environment.

Firearms, including handguns, are permitted in the forest when used according to hunting regulations. They may not be used for target shooting, in safety areas, or within 200 feet of trails.

MORGAN-MONROE STATE FOREST

The forest is located southwest of Indianapolis, 35 miles south from I-465 via SR-37 (between Martinsville and Bloomington). The forest consists of steep, forested ridges and valleys which support some of the state's finest hardwoods. The original settlers of the area cleared and attempted to farm the ridges, but were frustrated by rocky soil unsuitable for agriculture. The result was many acres of eroded, abandoned land. The state purchased 24,000 of these acres to create Morgan-Monroe State Forest at the onset of the Great Depression in 1929.

The Back Country Area was created in 1981 for those seeking a wilderness experience similar to that on federal properties. Although hunting and single-tree harvesting are permitted, the area contains 2,700 contiguous acres free of developed roads.

To enhance the wilderness experience for all visitors, users are asked to observe the philosophy of disturbing as little as possible in the natural woodland ecosystem.

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Division of Forestry
Indiana Department of Natural Resources