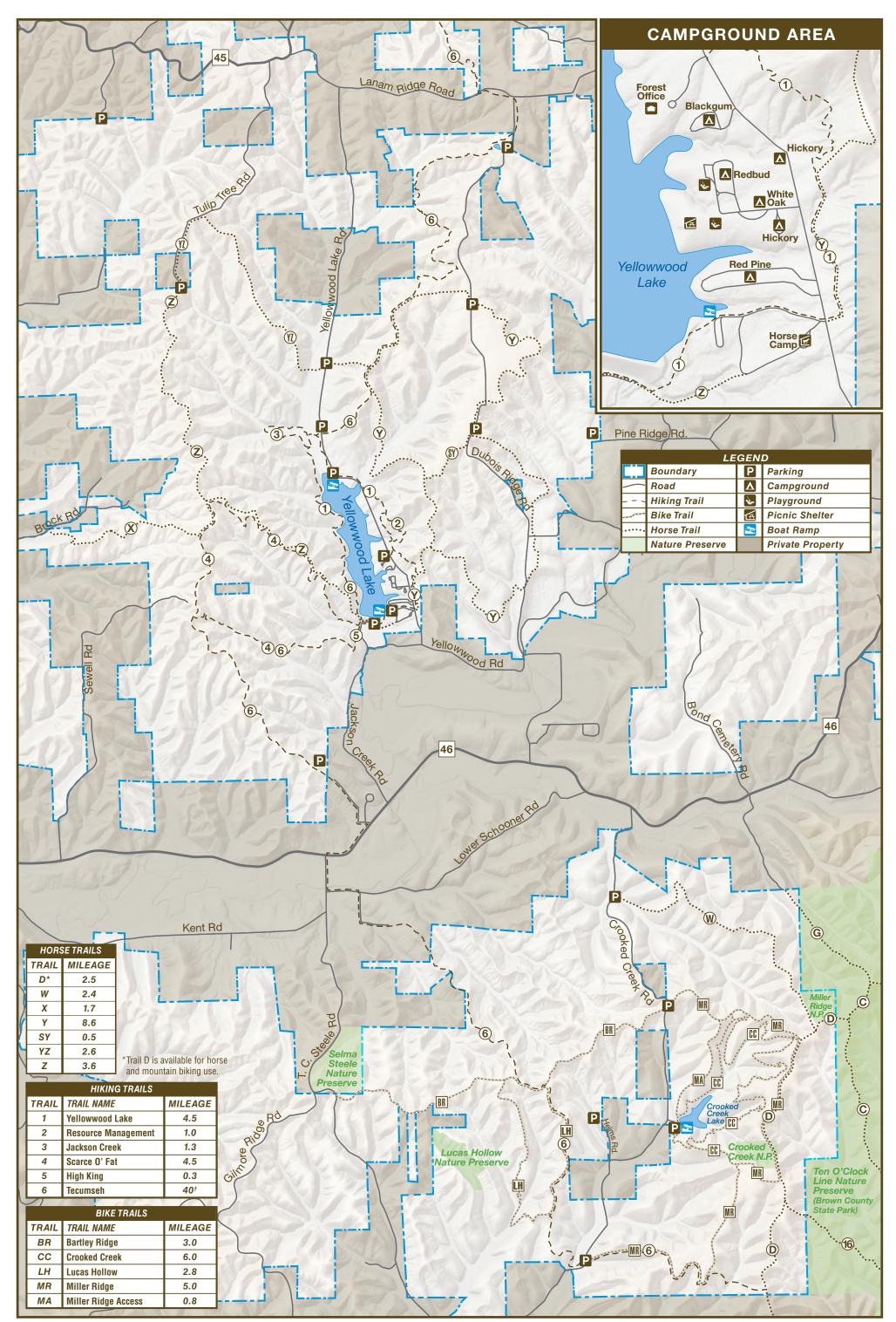
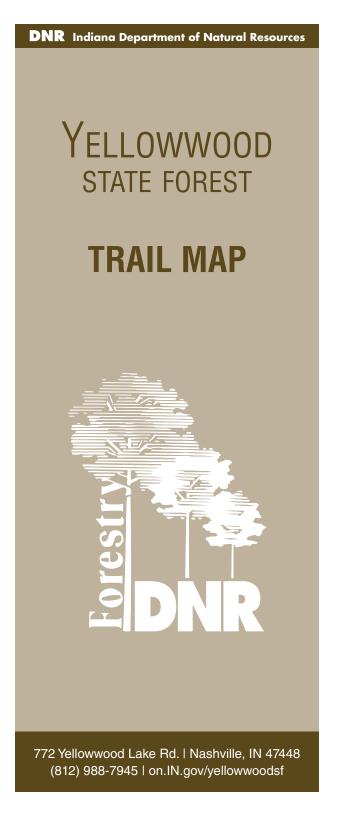
Yellowwood State Forest







DESCRIPTION OF HIKING TRAILS

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY

Yellowwood Lake Trail 4.5 miles Moderate

This trail loops completely around Yellowwood Lake. The trail uses several segments of other marked trails, so take caution to make sure you follow the proper trail. The path also requires you to navigate a shallow stream crossing at the spillway.

Resource Management Trail 1.0 mile Moderate

This self-guided interpretive trail goes through one area harvested in 2007 and another harvested in 1995. Along the trail, there are 30 stops to introduce you to the forest, explain timber management, and illustrate the multipleuse management philosophy. A brochure on forest management is available at the property office.

Jackson Creek Trail 1.3 mile

This self-guided interpretive trail takes you through a variety of habitat types, including marsh, pine, and central hardwood forest. There are 23 stations marked along the trail that feature trees and other natural features. A brochure is available at the at the property office.

Scarce O' Fat Trail 4.5 miles Rugged

This t rail forms a complete loop in conjunction with the High King Trail. The trail follows narrow ridgetops and descends into secluded hollows through high-quality southern Indiana hardwood forest. Some parts follow fire trails, so watch for trail markers.

High King Trail 0.3 miles Moderate

This is a steep trail cut through a heavily forested hillside. Climb the switchbacks up to an exceptional scenic view of Yellowwood Lake. From there hikers can descend the same path to return to its starting point or continue on the Scarce O' Fat Trail.

Tecumseh Trail 40 miles* Rugged

This long-distance trail incorporates several existing trails at Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood state forests. The trail follows ridgetops, climbs into and out of numerous peaceful wild hollows, and crosses many streams. This trail includes three trail-side shelters. Camping in designated areas is allowed along this trail.

*The Tecumseh Trail is currently closed between State Road 45 and Indian Hill Road (north of this map's extent).

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

Camping

Primitive campsites are centrally located within the forest around Yellowwood Lake. There are numerous designated campsites south of the property office, including Red Pine (30 sites), White Oak-Hickory (21 sites), Redbud (11 sites), and Black Gum (15 sites). A picnic table and grill are located on each site. Vault toilets and drinking water are available near the campsites, and a playground is located within the campground area. Tents-only camping is available at the north end of Yellowwood Lake. A Class C Horsemen's Camp with 12 sites is located south of the primitive campsites. This camp is convenient to the many miles of horse trails through the forest. Please register for camping at the property office; camping reservations are not taken.

Backcountry camping is available. All campers must register with property office in person, via email at morgansf@dnr.IN.gov, at the kiosk, or by calling 765-792-4654. Please note the phone is not recommended because the office is closed in evenings and on Sundays. Users must indicate the general region of planned camping. During periods of high fire danger, the area may be closed by the property manager. Camping groups are restricted to either family units or groups not exceeding six persons. No campsite may be established within quarter mile of access points into the area. Use of the area is restricted to a maximum of three nights by any individual. Yellowwood State Forest has a carry-in, carry-out trash policy, i.e., what you carry in, you must carry out. Additionally, the backcountry area is restricted to only minimal-impact camping/hiking in order to preserve the natural state of Yellowwood State Forest.

Campfires

Small campfires are allowed while backcountry camping, but the DNR recommends using a portable backpacking stove for cooking instead of a campfire. A portable stove will cook your meal long before a fire is ready. Another advantage is that it helps prevent fire-blackened rocks in areas where people camp. If using a campfire, make sure a campfire is allowed during the time of your trip. Different properties may have different rules regarding campfires. Even properties that generally allow campfires may ban them on a temporary basis because of dry conditions. Use only small dead and downed wood,

where permitted. Do not break or cut tree limbs or trees, even dead ones. Dead trees provide habitat for many birds and animals. Do not stockpile wood. While this was once considered a friendly gesture in remote areas, today it is one more way of reducing the spirit of solitude and independence that people seek when backcountry camping. Any campfire in a backcountry area should be in a pit 12 inches or less in diameter, and a 3-foot diameter area should be cleared to mineral soil around the fire. Before leaving an area where a campfire was built, mix ashes with the soil (100% extinguished), fill the pit, and cover the cleared area with the humus layer that was originally removed.

Gold Panning

Panning for gold is permitted on Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood state forests. A gold panning permit is required. The permit, which can be obtained free of charge, allows for panning gold on a hobby basis. The displacement of any material through use of a pick, shovel or sluice is not allowed due to concern for water quality. Archaeological evidence found, such as projectile points, pottery or bones must be left in place and reported to the property office to determine if a major archaeological site is in the vicinity. To obtain a permit, visit or call the property office at 812-988-7945.

Horse Trails

Horseback riding is allowed at Yellowwood State Forest only on designated horse trails. An annual horse use permit is required. During hunting season, horseback riders are advised to wear hunter orange or other bright clothing while on trails.

Hunting

Pursuit of all legal game during designated Indiana hunting seasons is allowed with a valid hunting license issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (and applicable stamp privileges, federal stamps or permits, and HIP number). Trapping is only authorized in designated areas and by permit only. Contact the property manager for details. Hikers, bikers and horseback riders are advised to wear hunter orange or other bright clothing while on trails during hunting season.

Lakes

The 133-acre Yellowwood Lake offers excellent fishing; a valid Indiana fishing license is required. A boat launch is located at both the north and south end of the lake. Boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only; gas motors must stay out of the water, including loading and unloading. Rowboat and kayak rentals are available seasonally. Bear Lake and Crooked Creek Lake are also popular recreation and fishing areas on the forest property. Camping is not permitted at these two lakes, and swimming is not permitted at any lake.

Picnicking

There are picnic areas and one picnic shelter available for day use. Picnic tables and grills are located at most picnic sites. You can reserve the shelter by contacting the property office.

The Yellowwood Tree

Yellowwood State Forest is named for a tree common in the mid-south but rare this far north. The yellowwood tree (Cladrastis kentukea) has bright yellow heartwood that is hard and dense. The tree flowers abundantly but only every three to five years in the spring with loose clusters of pea-like, fragrant white flowers. Seeds are in bean pods similar to those of its cousin, the black locust. The leaves are compound, and the bark is similar to that of the American beech.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Yellowwood State Forest 772 Yellowwood Lake Rd. Nashville, IN 47448

(812) 988-7945 Online: on.IN.gov/yellowwoodsf

State Forest Mission

To manage, protect and conserve the timber, water, wildlife, soil and related forest resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, and to demonstrate proper forest management to Indiana landowners.



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!



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