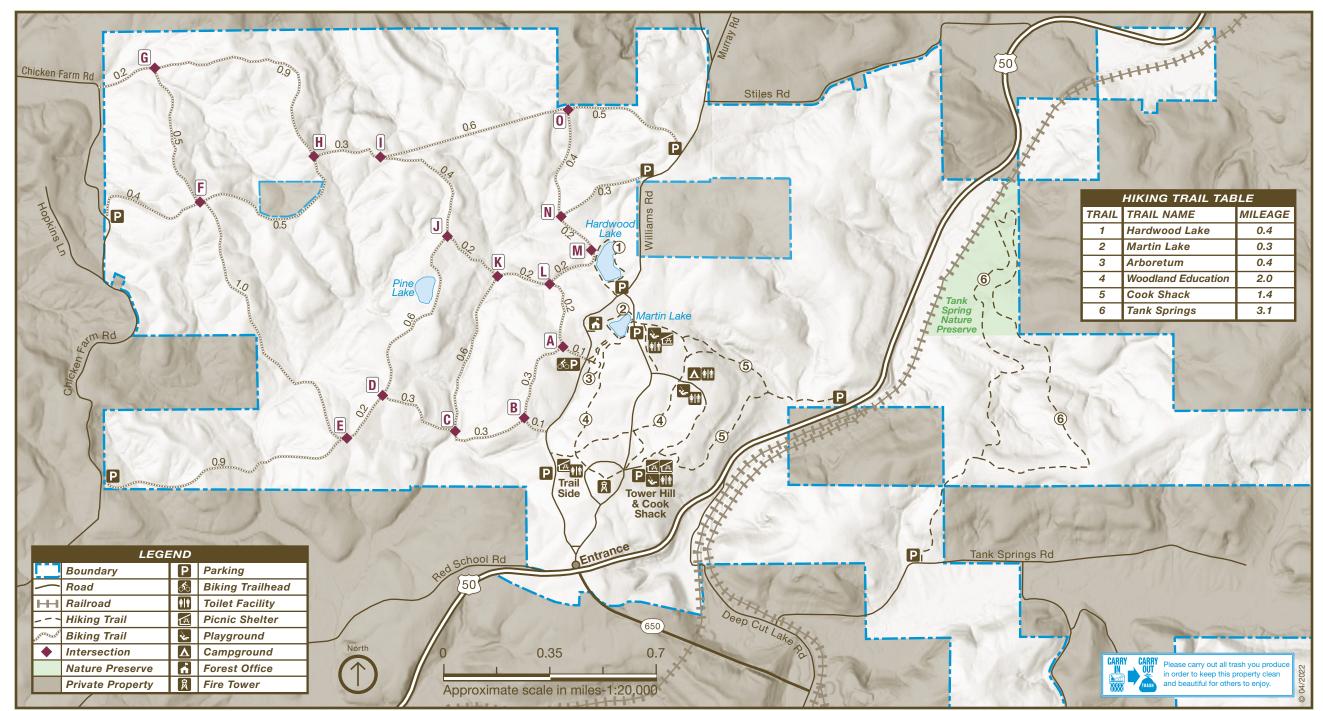
# **Martin State Forest**





#### **DESCRIPTION OF HIKING TRAILS**

### TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY

1. Hardwood Lake Trail 0.4 miles Easy

An easy hike around Hardwood Lake with access points to fishing spots around the lake. Benches have been placed for visitors to rest and enjoy the mixed hardwood forest of beech, oak, maple, and hickory.

#### 2. Martin Lake Trail 0.3 miles Easy

An easy walk around Martin Lake leading through a planted pine stand on a portion of the trail. Included are several access points to the lakeside, providing licensed anglers the chance to catch the stocked bluegill, catfish, and bass.

#### 3. Arboretum Trail 0.4 miles Easy

The arboretum contains about three acres with a winding loop trail. Various tree species have been added to those already naturally present in what was an existing wooded area. The collection currently contains about 60 different species identified by signs along the trail. A short segment of the trail is wheelchair-accessible in dry weather.

#### 4. Woodland Ed. Trail 2.0 miles Easy

This self-quided trail starts and ends at the Martin Lake parking area. Informational signs along the trail share interesting facts about the woodland environment and provide hikers an opportunity to better understand the multiple-use management of Indiana's state forests. Easily accessible from the trail via short spurs are the Willow Valley Fire Tower and the Tower Hill Shelterhouse, structures that were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

#### 5. Cook Shack Trail 1.4 miles Moderate

Starts behind the Cook Shack Shelter and follows the contours east and north before dropping downhill almost to the creek, where a spur trail takes off to the east toward Highway 50. The Cook Shack Trail continues northwest until it intersects the Woodland Education Trail. To return to the Cook Shack Shelter, follow the Woodland Education Trail south for a half-mile.

#### 6. Tank Spring Trail 3.1 miles Mod. Rugged This trail leads to the Tank Spring Nature Preserve, which was established in 1997. The area contains a high-quality example of moderately moist (i.e., mesic) upland forest community, sandstone cliffs, and a permanent freshwater spring. Although the area is undeveloped except for the trail, it is not a backcountry area-no camping or fires are allowed.

## PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

For trail closure info please call the State Forest office at 812-247-3491.

#### **ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES**

BIKING TRAILS—Martin State Forest offers 10 miles of mountain bike trails. Mountain biking is limited to only those designated trails. Several nesting loops are located within the forest, and additional loops can be created using segments of Chicken Farm Road and Williams Road. Trail intersections have been marked with letters to assist with orientation. The segment between markers D and J passes by Pine Lake, which is approximately 1.7 acres.

CAMPING-Primitive (class C) camping is available for a fee. There are 26 designated campsites with pit toilets and drinking water nearby. A self check-in station is located in the campground. All camping is first-come, firstserved. Reservations are not available.

FISHING—Martin State Forest has three lakes. Hardwood Lake is 4 acres, and Martin and Pine lakes are 3 acres each. Martin and Hardwood lakes are open to fishing with a valid Indiana fishing license. Species of fish are channel catfish, bluegill and largemouth bass, as well as some crappie and redear. While Pine Lake is usually too heavily vegetated to fish, it can be a nice area for viewing wildlife. Boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors. Swimming is prohibited in all lakes.

HUNTING—In-season white-tailed deer, turkey, gray squirrel, rabbit, and raccoon hunting is available. A valid Indiana hunting license is required.

PICNICKING—Several picnic areas, with picnic tables and grills, are located throughout the forest. Four picnic shelters are available for day use.

### 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.

#### **RULES GOVERNING USE**

Public lands are managed for the long-term use of our citizens. To protect these lands and assure their ability to provide multiple benefits forever, certain activities are prohibited, including use off-road motorized vehicles, carelessness with fires, destruction of private or public property. unauthorized vegetation or fauna destruction, and unauthorized trail-making. Hunting and shooting is prohibited within 400 feet of recreation areas and across any roadway or trail. Please take care of your public lands and enjoy them.

#### Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

#### **HELP PREVENT WILDFIRES**

- Build fires only in designated areas.
- Be sure to properly dispose of all smoking materials.
- Report any violation of fire regulations to property officials at once.
- Leave only footprints. Take only memories.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Martin State Forest 14040 Williams Rd.

Shoals, IN 47581 (812) 247-3491

Online: on.IN.gov/martinsf



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









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**DNR** Indiana Department of Natural Resources

# MARTIN STATE FOREST

# TRAIL MAP



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