The forestry staff on the Loyalsock State Forest has a responsibility to the citizens of Pennsylvania to protect the natural resource opportunities afforded to us by the state forest. Low density, low impact, dispersed recreational activities are expected as appropriate rotational activities on the forest. The intent is to provide as many recreational opportunities as possible without negatively impacting the resource. A camping policy with camping guidelines is the control which allows the forestry staff to manage camping and to integrate camping with other forest activities. As a camper and forest user, your cooperation, by following the policy and guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry, will help make everyone’s recreational experience on the Loyalsock State Forest more enjoyable.

Temporary camping in accordance with State Forest Rules and Regulations (Chapter 21) is permitted on the Loyalsock State Forest. camping permits may be obtained at the Resource Management Center in Laporte, weekdays 8am-4pm, and at the Hillsgrove Forest Management Headquarters (when open).

General Camping Policies

1. Camping without a current Camping Permit issued by the Forest District Manager or designee is prohibited.
2. A Camping Permit will be valid no more than 7 consecutive nights and will not be issued no more than 90 days in advance. After occupying a site for 7 consecutive nights, the camper must vacate the campsite for a minimum of 48 hours. Exceptions to this requirement are available from the Forest District Manager or designee. A Camping Permit will not be issued to anyone under age 18. THE YELLOW COPY OF THE PERMIT MUST BE DISPLAYED AT THE CAMPSITE.
3. All field parties (cat holes or site trench latrines) must be at least 6 inches deep and at least 200 feet from any stream or other open water source. Self contained portable toilets are encouraged and may be required to be used at certain designated dispersed camping area sites. They must be emptied at an approved disposal site. There are no human waste disposal facilities on the Loyalsock State Forest.
4. Only downed and dead wood within the immediate area of the campsite may be gathered for campfirewood. Power saws are not permitted without a FSC Live Wood Permit. Live trees or standing dead trees are not to be cut.
5. Use of camp stoves is encouraged. Stone fire rings are to be scattered before leaving a non-designated campsite and are not permitted when a steel ring is provided. Campfires must be attended at all times. Campfires must be thoroughly extinguished and the ashes scattered or removed before leaving the site.
6. Proper disposal of trash, in addition to human waste, is the responsibility of the camper. Burning or burying garbage, trash and litter is prohibited. All trash and refuse from overnight camping must be carried out. There are no trash receptacles on the Loyalsock State Forest. All campsites must be at least 25 feet from the nearest edge of a building, natural feature, or road.
7. Horses may not be tied directly to trees. Horses will be tied in a manner which they cannot reach and damage trees. Horse manure in camping area must be deposited in composting facility or removed from State Forest land.
8. All camping must be 300 feet or more from any building, Natural Area or State Forest Picnic Area. The only exception is camping near or part of the camping experience.
9. Pets must be controlled at all times. No more than two (2) dogs are permitted in the camping area. Chains, or any other restraint, cannot be attached to a tree.
10. No live vegetation (shrubs, trees, etc.) is to be cut or harmed in any way. No nails or screws are to be placed into trees.
11. All strings, ropes and wires are to be removed prior to departure. Fences, chairs or other furniture must not be left on the site.
12. Loud music or noise that disrupts the quiet and peace of the natural setting is not allowed. Random shooting and target practice with firearms is not allowed.
13. Camp sites are open to inspection at all times, whether attended or not, by designated Department personnel.
14. Violators of this camping policy may have camping permits revoked or denied.

Pennsylvania’s vast state forest system comprises 2.2 million acres for you to use, enjoy and explore. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Bureau of Forestry manages these forests to ensure their long-term health and to conserve native wild plants and animals.

Loyalsock State Forest comprises 115,000 acres in Bradford, Lycoming and Sullivan counties.

Camping Policy Loyalsock State Forest

Roads Closed to Motorized Camping

Rondeau Road
Loydsville Co./Sullivan Co.

Sewell Road
Loydsville Co.

Sewell Road
Sullivan Co.

Stein Road
Sullivan Co.

Spruce Run Road
Sullivan Co.

Walker Run Road
Sullivan Co.

Designated Sites Only—Reservation Only

Bear Willow Road
Sullivan Co.

Coal Mine Road
Sullivan Co.

Dry Run Road
Sullivan Co.

Fire Tower Road
Sullivan Co.

High Knob Road
Sullivan Co.

Hillsgrove Road
Sullivan Co.

Hillsgrove Stream Road
Sullivan Co.

Shanerburg Road
Sullivan Co.

South Grey’s Run Road
Lycoming Co.

Yowly Dog Road
Lycoming Co.

Non-Designated Sites

Budine Mountain Road
Lycoming Co.

Bush Run Road
Lycoming Co.

Cove Road
Lycoming Co.

Creekside Road
Lycoming Co.

Dry Run Road (Twp Rd)
Lycoming Co.

Gray’s Run Road
Lycoming Co.

Hogeran Run Road
Lycoming Co.

Holler Run Road
Lycoming Co.

Camping Policy

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission manages these forests so that the outdoor recreation industry can continue to flourish. The Loyalsock State Forest site is designated for scattered, low impact camping. The site is the only camping location within the Loyalsock State Forest and the only camping location within the state of Pennsylvania that is managed by the Bureau of Forestry. By taking the time to practice responsible outdoor ethics we can ensure that our state forests remain premier camping destinations for you.

Leave No Trace

By taking the time to practice responsible outdoor ethics we can ensure that our state forests remain premier camping destinations for you. Please be careful with fire, keep our forests litter free and don’t damage trees and other plants.

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