

# Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest

## Forest History

The Virginia State Forest system had its beginning in 1919 when Emmett O. Gallion bequeathed 588 acres to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. Gallion donated his property to advance the course of forestry in the southern piedmont of Virginia. This donation is the core of the Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest, which was established to demonstrate good forest management, provide a land base for applied forest research, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, and to provide for outdoor recreation.

In the mid-1930s, much of the land in Virginia's Piedmont had become unproductive and was highly eroded. At that time, the federal government began purchasing marginal farmland under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, enacted to help conserve and restore the health of the land. Much of this purchased land was soon leased to the state and in 1939 became Prince Edward Gallion State Forest. In 1954, the federal government deeded the land to the Commonwealth of Virginia, adding to the original land bequeathed by Mr. Gallion. Under the Virginia Department of Forestry's management, the forest grew to its present 6,461 acres. Remnants of the area's farming past can be seen in the old cemeteries and homesteads scattered throughout the forest.

## Forest Management

When the Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest was originally acquired, the land was in a depleted condition, having been used almost exclusively for agriculture. The Forest has continually improved due to the application of scientific forest management practices and good conservation practices. The site quality of previously denuded soils has improved considerably, the quality of water originating from the forest is excellent, and biodiversity has significantly improved.

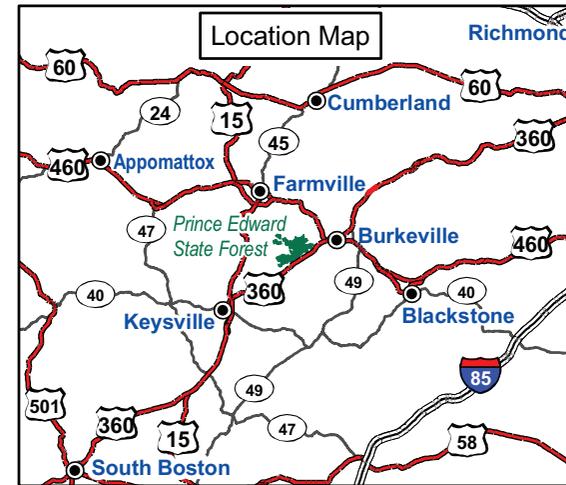
The State Forest will continue to be managed to develop diverse timber stands that support biodiversity, as a demonstration of scientific forest management, to protect water quality, provide forest diversity for wildlife, and opportunities for outdoor recreation.

## About Your State Forests

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDof) manages 19 State Forests and other state lands, totaling 55,275 acres. Virginia's State Forests are managed for multiple uses: water quality, recreation, forest products, wildlife and scenic beauty. The primary management goals of individual State Forests may vary, usually depending on the wishes of the donor of the land.

The State Forests of Virginia are self-supporting and receive no taxpayer funds for operation. Operating funds are generated from the sale of forest products. In addition, up to 25 percent of the revenue received from the sale of forest products is returned to the counties in which the forests are located. You can support educational programs on your State Forests by donating a portion of your state tax refund to Virginia's State Forests Fund.

## LOCATION



## MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about what your state forests have to offer and to get directions to any state forest, visit [www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### State Forest Main Office:

Phone: (804) 492-4121 ; FAX: (804) 492-9213  
751 Oak Hill Road, Cumberland, VA 23040-2511



### Virginia Department of Forestry

Central Office  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
[www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov)  
Phone: (434) 977-6555  
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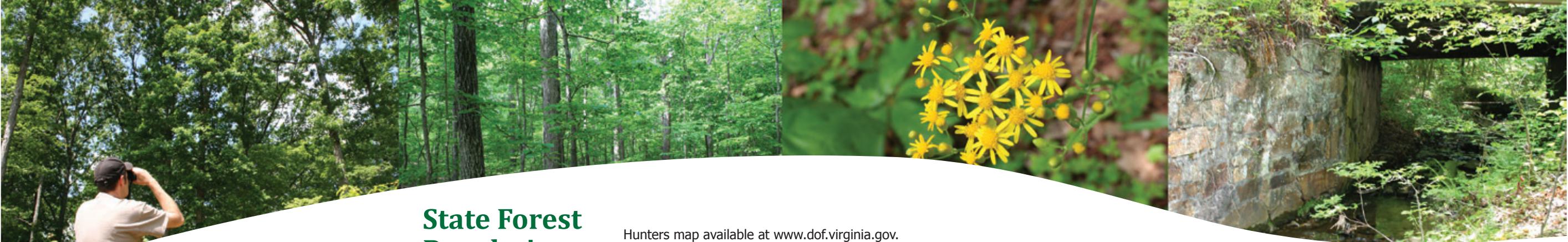
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# PRINCE EDWARD-GALLION STATE FOREST

~ 6,461 Acres ~  
Prince Edward County



Virginia Department of Forestry  
[www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov)



## Forest Recreation

The Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest is open from dawn to dusk. Recreational opportunities include hiking, wildlife watching, biking, horseback riding, hunting and fishing. Visitors are asked to adopt a "leave no trace" ethic when visiting the forest, as there are no restrooms or trashcans on the forest itself. The eight-mile Prince Edward-Gallion Multi-Use Trail can be accessed from a parking area near Stony Knoll House on Route 689. The trail is closed except on Sundays from early November through mid-January due to heavy use by hunters. Hikers may also use the network of forest roads and trails that traverse the forest. Twin Lakes State Park, operated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, is located within the forest and provides a good starting point for visiting the State Forest.

### Prince Edward-Gallion State Forest Features:

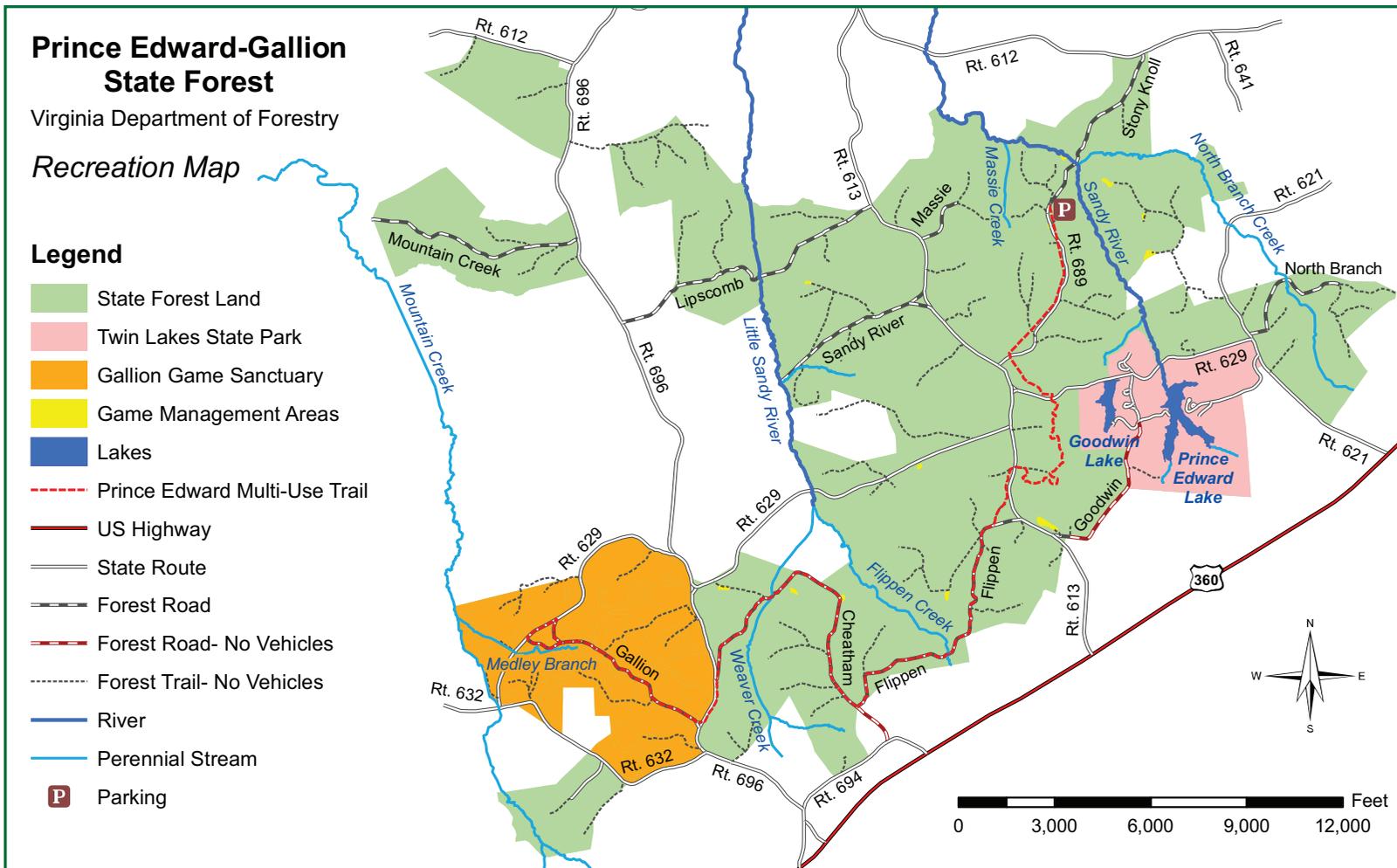
- Trails: 8.4 miles
- Vehicle Roads: 11.9 miles
- Gated Vehicle Trails: 28 miles
- Ponds/Lakes: 0
- Hunting/Fishing: Yes
- Picnic Shelter: 0
- Restrooms: No

## State Forest Regulations

- No removal of any tree, plant or mineral.
- Remove all trash.
- No camping, ATVs or public display of alcohol.
- No fireworks, campfires or open air fires of any type.
- Firearms are prohibited except for hunting purposes.
- Hunting with state forest hunting permit in accordance with state hunting regulations.
- Fishing in designated areas only in accordance with state fishing regulations.
- Gasoline motorized boats are not permitted.
- Vehicular traffic on established roads only; not permitted on gated roads.

For a complete listing of State Forest Regulations, go to [www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov).

Hunters map available at [www.dof.virginia.gov](http://www.dof.virginia.gov).



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