

Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest

Forest History

The land that now comprises Virginia's largest State Forest, Appomattox-Buckingham, had a long history of farming. Evidence of the land's former inhabitants can be seen in the cemeteries and old homesteads scattered throughout the forest. By the mid-1930s, much of this land 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. In 1954, the federal government deeded land to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest was born. Under the Virginia Department of Forestry's management, the forest grew to its present 19,808 acres, spanning parts of Appomattox and Buckingham counties.

Forest Management

One management goal on the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest is sustainable timber production. Management activities on the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest demonstrate good forestry and conservation practices and serve as sites for applied research in forestry. Wildlife habitat, recreation and watershed protection are all compatible with sound timber management strategies.

In the 1930s, much of today's forest was open farmland. When farming ceased, native pines colonized the abandoned fields. The Forest has continually improved due to the application of scientific forest management practices and good conservation practices. Management of the forest has resulted in the development of diverse forests containing a wide variety of different tree species of varied ages and as a result biodiversity has significantly improved.

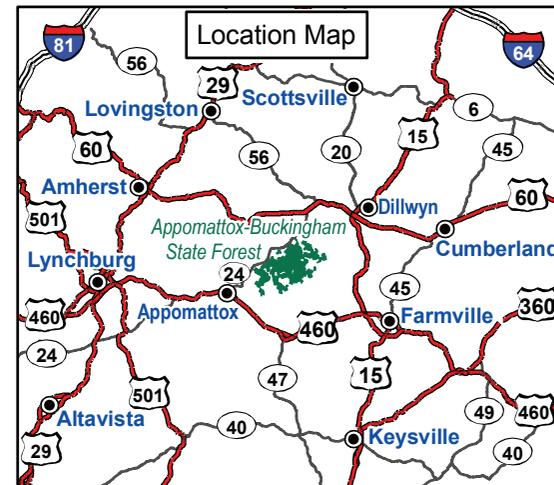
The Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest will continue to be managed to develop diverse timber stands that support biodiversity, as a demonstration of scientific forest management, to protect water quality, provide forest diversity for wildlife, and opportunities for outdoor recreation.

About Your State Forests

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDof) manages 19 State Forests and other state lands, totaling 57,685 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

State Forest Main Office:

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

Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest Office:

Phone: (434) 983-2175
1685 Francisco Road, Dillwyn, VA 23936



Virginia
Department of Forestry
Headquarters
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 800
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
www.dof.virginia.gov
Phone: (434) 977-6555
Fax: (434) 296-2369

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APPOMATTOX- BUCKINGHAM STATE FOREST

~ 19,808 Acres ~
*Appomattox and
Buckingham Counties*



Virginia Department of Forestry
www.dof.virginia.gov



Forest Recreation

The Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest is open from dawn to dusk and offers opportunities for hiking, wildlife watching, biking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, geocaching, and picnicking. Visitors are asked to adopt a "leave no trace" ethic when visiting the forest, as there are no restrooms or trashcans. Holliday Lake 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. The Carter-Taylor multiple use trail begins in the park and makes a 12-mile loop through the forest. Hikers may also use the network of forest roads and trails that traverse the forest.

A State Forest Use Permit is required for hunting, trapping, fishing, bike riding and horse riding on Virginia State Forests. Permits are required for individuals age 16 and older, and can be purchased online for \$15.00 at <http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/> or where hunting licenses are sold.

Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest Features:

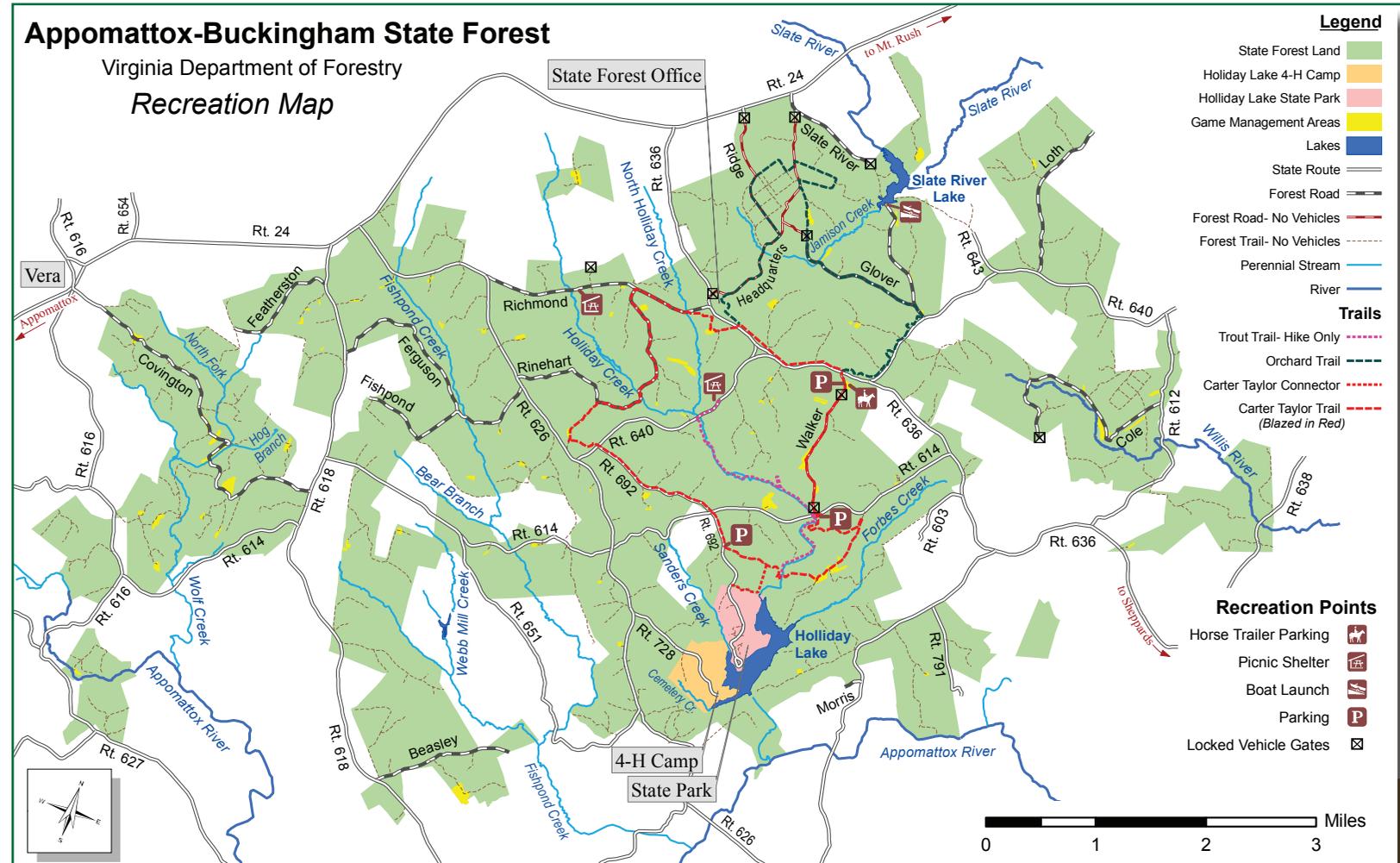
- Trails: 20.4 miles
- Vehicle Roads: 22 miles
- Gated Vehicle Trails: 92.5 miles
- Ponds/Lakes: 2
- Hunting/Fishing: Yes
- Picnic Shelter: 2
- Restrooms: No

State Forest Regulations

- Hunting and trapping with State Forest Use Permit in accordance with state hunting regulations.
- Fishing in designated areas only with State Forest Use Permit in accordance with state fishing regulations.
- Biking and horse riding in designated areas only with State Forest Use Permit.
- State Forest Use Permits required only for anyone age 16 and older.
- 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.
- 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.

Hunter's map available at www.dof.virginia.gov.



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