



NEWS RELEASE

February 5, 2024

Contact:

Kirby Woolfolk

Kirby.Woolfolk@DOF.Virginia.gov

(434) 995-8096

NEW MULTI-USE TRAIL OPENS AT CHARLOTTE STATE FOREST

New trail features 8.5 miles of forest and wetland scenery

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) has opened the Charlotte Multi-Use Recreational Trail at Charlotte State Forest in Charlotte County. Featuring both northern and southern loops, the trail showcases 8.5 miles of beautiful forests and wetlands in a rough “figure 8” shape path. The trail is suitable for hiking, wildlife observation, mountain biking and horseback riding.

The 5,688-acre Charlotte State Forest is open every day from dawn until dusk. Access and parking for the new trail is available on Saxkey Road and on Double Bridges Road. Visitors who wish to ride bikes or horses on the new trail will need a State Forest Use Permit, which are good for one year. State Forest Use Permits are available for purchase for \$15 at GoOutdoorsVirginia.com.

“The Virginia Department of Forestry invites Virginians to start the new year by enjoying our newest trail at Charlotte State Forest,” said Prince Edward-Gallion and Charlotte State Forest Manager Kirby Woolfolk. “Winter is a great time to see different views of our forests and observe uncommon wildlife, especially migrating waterfowl visiting Charlotte State Forest’s 800 acres of wetlands.”

Visitors are asked to adopt a “leave-no-trace” ethic when visiting the forest, as trash cans and restrooms are not available. For more information and maps of Charlotte State Forest, visit DOF’s website: <https://dof.virginia.gov/education-and-recreation/state-forests/virginia-state-forests/charlotte/>

DOF manages 26 state forests that total approximately 75,000 acres across Virginia. State forests ensure operation and maintenance of forest resources, boost local economies, preserve water quality, protect wildlife habitats, provide demonstration sites for scientific forest management practices, and provide recreational opportunities for the public. More information about [visiting Virginia’s state forests](#) is available on DOF’s website.

###

About the Virginia Department of Forestry

The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) protects and develops healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. With 16 million acres of forestland and more than 108,000 Virginians employed in forestry and related industries, Virginia forests provide an overall economic output of more than \$23 billion annually. Headquartered in Charlottesville, the agency has staff assigned to every county to provide citizen service and public safety protection across the Commonwealth, which it’s been doing now for more than 100 years. DOF is an equal opportunity provider.