Highland Forest offers spring turkey hunting with bow or shotgun on a restricted basis in designated areas. Hunting for turkeys during the spring season is permitted on weekdays only. The park is closed to ALL spring hunting on weekends.

HIGHLAND FOREST SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASON

MAY 1 - MAY 31
MONDAY - FRIDAY (closed weekends)
Fall Turkey Season - CLOSED

1. Permits: A Highland Forest Turkey Hunting Permit is necessary to hunt in the park during the spring season. To obtain a permit card, present your small game license (including spring turkey permit) at the Skyline Lodge Office. The fee for the permit is $10.00. Permits are issued between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily beginning approximately four weeks prior to the opening of the spring turkey season in May. The turkey permit card is valid only during the spring season. Highland Forest is closed to all gun hunting during the Fall. To hunt deer or small game with a bow during the Fall you must obtain a Fall hunting permit. Fall permits are also $10.00 each.

2. Park Entry Fee: Individuals who have purchased a Highland Forest Hunting Permit are exempt from paying the daily park entry fee.

3. Sign In/Sign Out: Once in possession of the Highland Forest Spring Turkey Hunting Permit you must sign in and sign out at the register station located at the Information Booth in the main parking lot or the Skyline Lodge. You are required to do this each day you come to the park to hunt.

4. Hunter Access: Spring hunting is allowed at Highland Forest from 5:30am-12noon. Your hunting privilege permits you to drive only on the Main Park Roads. All side roads whether locked or unlocked are closed to all hunter vehicles. Exceptions will be made for handicapped hunters who possess a valid Special Access Permit (available at the Skyline Lodge Office). There is no access to Highland Forest from the Schlict Road. Please do not attempt to enter the park from this location. Hunters may use the park on a day use basis only. Overnight camping is prohibited. Areas marked in red on the map are closed to hunting. These include cabins shelters and service areas.

5. Park Boundaries/Posted Land: The perimeter of Highland Forest Park is completely marked with metal boundary markers and posted signs. Please be alert for these signs so as not to encroach on neighboring landowners.

6. Firearms Policy: Rifles or pistols may NOT be carried into the park or possessed at any time, whether you have a pistol permit or not. Bringing guns into the Skyline Lodge Office while registering or carrying guns (loaded or unloaded) into the park office or picnic areas is prohibited.

7. Hunting Laws: Hunters must abide by all New York State Conservation and Game Laws and at all times wear their state hunting license on the back of their outer garment. Help us keep hunting a safe and enjoyable experience at Highland Forest. If you witness or suspect an illegal hunting act has occurred within the park boundaries, please report it to the Skyline Lodge Office. If possible, record the hunting license number from the back tag of the individual (s) involved.

8. Park Records: Please report any turkey taken to the Skyline Lodge Office.

9/15
HUNTING GUIDELINES

Hunter traffic is limited to the Main Park Road. All side roads are closed to vehicular traffic. Hunter's Access is prohibited.

AREAS MARKED IN RED ARE CLOSED TO HUNTING AT ALL TIMES

Times listed are based on average hiking speed of 2.5 to 2.7 mph. Individual ability and trail conditions should also be taken into consideration.

LIMESTONE TRAIL
0.8 miles / 1.28 km
20 minutes

NATURE TRAIL
1.36 miles / 2.19 km
30 minutes

SHORT CUT TRAIL
0.6 miles / 0.97 km
15 minutes

HISTORY TRAIL
1.76 miles / 2.83 km
2 hours 30 minutes

PHIL SUTERS MEMORIAL MAIN TRAIL
0.62 miles / 1.0 km
1 hour 15 minutes

NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL
4.9 miles / 7.9 km
110 minutes

A section of the North Country National Scenic Trail traverses Highland Forest from Cowles Settlement Rd on an eastern exit heading towards DeRuyter Lake. Called the Onondaga Trail, this is also part of the Finger Lakes Trail System.

REFERENCE POINTS
Reference markers are located throughout the park enabling you to determine your exact position.

OTHER MARKERS ALONG THE TRAILS
Diamond Markers
Skiing/Mountain Biking Trails

DIRECTIONS TO HIGHLAND
I-81 to Tully (Exit 14), 11 miles east on Rte 80 to entry road

LEGEND
Buildings
Public Roads
Maintenance Trails
Powerline
Parking Lots
Streams
Water Bodies
Trail Shelter
Reserved Shelter
Picnic Area
Park Boundary
County Lines
Start of Trails
Restrooms

Scale: 1:10,300
0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
m 330 660 990 1320 1650 1980 2310
N 5" 10" 15" 20" 25" 0