

Camping is available for recognized and organized groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, School Groups, Church Groups and Camp Fire Girls.

YOUTH GROUP CAMPING RULES AND GUIDELINES:

LEADERS Leaders must be at least 21 years of age. One adult leader must be with the group at all times and is responsible for group conduct and safety.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT Check-In is available at the Skyline Lodge until 5:30 p.m. If arriving after 5:30 p.m., please go directly to your reserved area which will be unlocked and ready for use. Please check in the following morning no later than 9:00 a.m. at the Skyline Lodge to register your group. Check-Out is no later than 2:00 p.m., unless otherwise authorized.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS Cancellations and refunds will not be accepted unless the group leader notifies the Onondaga County Parks Reservation Office in writing either by fax(315)453-6764, e-mail (reservations@ongov.net), or by mailing to Onondaga County Parks, 106 Lake Drive, Liverpool, NY 13088 at least 60 days prior to the date of the reservation or unless the area can be reserved by another group on a short notice. \$25.00 or the entire fee if less than \$25.00, is non-refundable.

TELEPHONE/EMERGENCY Skyline Lodge is open and staffed 8:30 a.m-5:30 p.m. in the event of an emergency. It is recommended that groups carry a cellular phone with them and leave that number with the staff at Skyline Lodge. In an emergency, call the Park Office (315) 683-5550 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., after hours call (315) 696-0027 or (315) 263-5485.

ACCIDENTS Please report all accidents to park office. In the event of an emergency, please call 911.

GROUP CONDUCT All groups must confine their camping to the areas assigned, whether cabin or tent sites. Other areas not occupied by your group are off-limits, unless you receive an invitation from the group assigned the site.

No firearms, B-B guns, or archery equipment is permitted in cabins or tent areas. After dark, groups should limit their activities to the area assigned them and not be roaming around. An exception to this is an organized activity accompanied by an adult leader. In general, evenings should be quiet. Leaders should attempt to minimize group noise after sundown.

ALCOHOL POLICY No alcoholic beverages of any kind will be permitted in camping areas. This alcohol ban includes not only the young people, but the group leaders as well.

WATER Drinking water may be obtained from a faucet in back entry of the Skyline Lodge. During the summer months water may also be obtained from faucets in the picnic area. The pond and water hole areas at Highland Forest are devoted to fire protection and wildlife use. This water is not suitable for drinking. No swimming is permitted.

FIRE Use care with fire -- keep your cabin fires under control. A fire permit is required for any group wishing an outdoor fire. Secure permits at Skyline Lodge. Stove ashes should be left in stoves with dampers almost closed (leave open slightly).

FIREWOOD Firewood from outside the park is not permitted. Firewood is provided at each building site for use only in the stove within the cabin or warming hut. Wood for outdoor fires should be gathered from the dead and down material within the surrounding forest. Cutting or damaging living trees or plants is strictly prohibited. The firewood provided in the woodsheds has been cut and/or split for ease of handling and to promote drying. It may therefore be necessary to split it to a smaller size so it will fit into your particular stove. Firewood splitting or chopping within cabins or warming huts is prohibited. All woodcutting should be done outside.

CLEAN - UP Take home what you bring in. All garbage should be removed from Highland Forest when your group leaves. Do not bury garbage or dump it in toilets. Plastic trash bags are available at Skyline Lodge should you need them. Dishwater should normally be dumped into sinks. In winter months, however, it should be poured outside on the ground away from buildings and paths. (It may freeze if poured into sinks.) A mop, wringer and pail are located in each camp for cleaning the floor. It is particularly important during the winter months to clean the floor while the cabin is still warm. Additional water and soap can be obtained at the Skyline Lodge. All cabins, tent sites and adjacent areas must be left in a clean condition. Restrooms should be cleaned by the group before leaving. Please try to leave the area better than you found it.

PETS No pets are allowed in the camping areas. Please leave your pets at home.

TRAILERS Use of camping trailers is prohibited.

CONDITION OF AREA All cabin and tent areas are inspected after each group leaves. Users will be responsible for damages and billed accordingly.

Cabins. Groups are limited to two cabin reservations during the school year (Sept. - June). During summer months (July - Aug.) there is no limit on the number of cabin reservations a group may have. The maximum capacity of a cabin is the same as the number of bunks.

Tenting Areas. Reservation procedure for use of the tenting area is the same as for the cabins. There is no limit on the number of times a group may use the tenting area per year.

Warming Huts. The warming huts that are provided in the tenting area may be used by reservation only. The huts are not intended to be used as cabins, but simply as warming and drying areas for groups that are tenting.

The condition of the area left by the group and observance of camping rules while staying at Highland will affect future reservations.

Please do your part to keep camping at Highland Forest an enjoyable, healthy experience for all by abiding by the rules and leaving a neat, well-ordered campsite.

Onondaga County Parks reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or relocate any scheduled activity where in its sole opinion there exist factors that may jeopardize the public and/or facilities involved. In addition, Onondaga County Parks will not be held liable for any damages/loss of services created by acts of nature on the date of the scheduled facility use

Endorsement

In making my payment, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the above terms and conditions. I further verify that I am 21 years of age or older and assume all responsibility for the actions of my group.

For additional information on reserved picnic services, maps and directions to parks, and special events/programs which are scheduled on days of use/interest, please access our official web site at onondagacountyparks.com

Please bring permit on day of event to verify approved access to respective reserved area(s).

Have a nice time, and please complete visitor satisfaction rating form (available onsite) after the event to assist us in assuring optimal service.

Thank you.
Brian Kelley, Park Superintendent
Highland Forest Park

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