

Wayne National Forest

Trail Permits and Fees Temporarily Waived

Release Date: Mar 19, 2018

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Off-highway vehicle, horse, and mountain-bike trails will reopen on Friday, April 13, 2018, at 12:01 a.m.

NELSONVILLE, Ohio (March 19, 2018) – Today, Wayne National Forest Supervisor Tony Scardina announced that trail permits and fees for off-highway vehicles, horse, and mountain-bike trail use will be temporarily waived until further notice.

“Last year we proposed trail permit fee changes and conducted public involvement on that proposal. Our next step is to share this proposal with the Regional Recreation Resource Advisory Committee, which will not convene until April 20th. As a result, I have decided to waive the fees until the advisory committee reviews our proposal and a decision is made by the Regional Forester for the Eastern Region. I hope this will reduce confusion as we typically begin selling permits on April 1st, and we would like to avoid changing fees just a few weeks after the permits go on sale.”

If approved, the fee change proposal would eliminate trail permits and fees for horse and mountain-bike trail users, and reduce the annual fee for off-highway vehicles from \$45 to \$35, and from \$24 to \$20 for a 3-day pass. There would no longer be a one-day permit.

“Our hope is that we have a final decision by April 30th and can implement the changes if they are approved”, said Scardina. “We will provide more information to the public towards the end of April when we are made aware of the advisory committee’s recommendation and Regional Forester’s decision. We hope riders of all types enjoy this opportunity to experience the wide-range of great trails on the Wayne National Forest.”

All off-highway vehicle, horse, and mountain-bike trails will reopen on Friday, April 13, 2018, at 12:01 a.m. They will close on Sunday, December 16, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. Trails are open year-round for hiking.

Riders are reminded that all other rules and regulations still apply, such as staying on designated trails, wearing a helmet and eye protection if riding an off-highway vehicle, only double riding if the off-highway vehicle is designed for two riders, and no alcohol on National Forest System lands.

For more information, visit our website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/wayne>. Follow us on Twitter: [@waynenationalfs](https://twitter.com/waynenationalfs) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/waynenationalfs).

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The U.S. Forest Service manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands

the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/.