

Backcountry Camping on the Pine Mountain Trail in FDR State Park



By signing your backcountry permit, as permit holder are agreeing to follow FDR State Park and GA State parks/DNR rules and camp along the trail accordingly. You are responsible for passing along these rules to those camping with you and for their actions at the campsite. All campsites have a named wooden sign at the access trail entrance of them. Camp/set up in the designated named campsite backcountry site (s) you have a permit for. Camp/set up tents-hammocks, near existing designated fire-ring (sign nearby, set up camp within 50' of fire ring) Some campsites have RED signs on perimeters reading "Don't camp beyond this sign". If you cut your trip short and cannot stay at a camp, CALL the park office and let a clerk know, or if after hours the park emergency number.. **You cannot camp at sites not on your permit**, nor change sites, unless you CALL and get ok to do so from the park office clerks or park managers DURING office hours. You have a permit for a *backcountry site*, meaning **be prepared to carry in & out in/on your backpack, everything you bring in ONE TRIP/LOAD!** NOT multiple trips to camp from your vehicle. **No large tents-coolers-gas grills-folding chairs-blow up mattresses (which are left on the trail a lot).** **NO wheeled anything allowed on trails including carts, wagons, wheeled coolers, grills, nor strollers.**

If building a campfire (when allowed) use existing fire-ring. Most sites have a metal fire ring now. **Do not bring rock in from nearby woods into camp for any reason. Need something to sit on if no logs? Bring a stool or chair. IF rock fire ring : Do not build a new rock one, move one/ add to or move/rearrange rocks around them.** Use only dead, downed wood for campfires. Use **small 1-2'x4 inch max logs**. No cutting of or on any standing trees/bushes of any size dead or living. Suggested, is you use a small hand saw to saw up dead-downed wood. **NOTE:** there are NO campfires at Sassafras Hill Campsite (unless you SEE water in the nearby creek **west** of camp by the bridge) and due to distance to limited water, not suggested at Whiskey Still Campsite. Bumble Bee Ridge Campsite is a WAYS from water, so be prepared to haul 2-3 gallons of water **777'** up the steep trail/hill to that site. At any campsite **DO NOT USE/bring charcoal or "Fire Logs"**. Do NOT burn cans/aluminum foil (or food packets with foil liners)-glass-wax candles or plastic in campfires. **Burn only paper items totally.** All trash must be taken out and disposed of at your home (including baby diapers- female "products")."Go" at least 100' from camp **and cover toilet paper with leaves.** Before you leave a camp, drown fire with several gallons of water, stir and then drown again till no steam appears. Don't leave ugly half burned logs in or near the fire ring. Have a fire at night but not in morning? **Drown the fire-ring in the morning anyway** (coals under ashes can stay hot for a couple of days.) **DON'T pile rocks in on a fire-ring or throw dirt on fire, USE WATER. DO NOT** build any structures (ie: lean-to, tables, tripods etc) or leave anything man made at a campsite. Look around camp before you leave it, for every speck of trash (including cord tied on trees.). **Fluff up the leaves** where you put your tents/hammocks. This fluffing helps the area from becoming compacted. Main thing, leave a campsite in better shape than you found it.



NOTE: If upon arrival at a campsite you find trash- abandoned equipment in the camp or fire smoldering/hot...**OR if someone is set up at the camp you have a permit for CALL right then FDR Rangers/managers.** Use the emergency phone numbers on the back of your trail map which are 706-663-4256 or 706-801-5006. The rangers will come and have them move out/leave so you can use the site you have permit for. Again, take all trash out you make (and if you find some left by previous campers, take it with you please).....

****IMPORTANT NOTICE: Campsite areas are checked regularly.**

If a camp is found with trash or abandoned equipment, a smoldering fire, trees hacked on or cut down, **permit holder staying at a camp last, can receive citations for actions. Citations generally run over \$140.00 per code section violations-** Citations for leaving a fire or trash/abandoned gear at a PMT backcountry campsite are based on Georgia DNR code sections: 16-7-43- It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to dump, deposit, throw, or leave or to cause or permit the dumping, depositing, placing, throwing, or leaving of litter on any public or private property in this state or any waters in this state. 391-5-1-.04 (1) (a) 8- Ignite or attempt to ignite any fire except in places provided or designated for such purposes, under the continuous care and direction of a responsible person. All fires, and smoldering material must be completely extinguished after use. During periods of high fire danger, the park manager may issue a Fire Ban for all or individual sites and thus stove use only.

Alcoholic beverages of any type are **NOT** allowed in FDR State Park along the trails (including backcountry campsites) nor at roadside and trailhead picnic areas.

Backcountry camping/building a campfire where and when allowed are a privilege. Help by doing the right things all the time. READ the PMT map (especially the back FAQ section) and sections on the PMTA website about Backpacking, Frequently Asked Questions, Site Description, Trail Description for other rules/guidelines and information.....

Please report any blown-down trees or trail situations along the trail, to the Pine Mountain Trail Association at www.pinemountaintrail.org or text photos and Google map screen-shot locations to

Jim Hall 706-325-4113. The Pine Mountain Trail was built by and is maintained only by volunteers of the Pine Mountain Trail Association.

A Pine Mountain Trail trash bag will be given to every backcountry permit holderfor free..... Revised 7/3/2024