



Backcountry Camping on the Pine Mountain Trail in FDR State Park

By signing your backcountry permit, you as permit holder are agreeing to follow FDR State Park and GA DNR rules and camp along the trail accordingly. As permit holder you are responsible for passing along the rules to those camping with you and for their actions at the campsite. Backpackers are to camp in the designated named campsite(s) they have a permit for. All campsites have a named wooden sign at the access trail entrance of them. Camp/set up tents, near existing fire-rings (near meaning within 50' in most cases.) Most campsites have RED signs on some perimeters reading "Don't camp beyond this sign". If you cut your trip short and not stay at a camp, CALL the park office and let a clerk know. You cannot camp at a site not on your permit, unless you call and get ok to do so from the park office clerks or park managers.

If building a campfire (when allowed) use existing fire-rings. **Do not build a new one, move one/ add to or move/rearrange rocks around them.** Use only dead, downed wood for campfires. **No cutting of or on any standing trees/bushes of any size dead or living.** **Axes, large knives or machetes are not allowed in the park (nothing larger than a pocket knife or pocket multi-tool.)** You may use a small hand saw to saw up dead-downed wood. NOTE: there are NO campfires allowed at Sassafras Hill Campsite in warmer/dry months (unless told otherwise by FDR clerks), and due to limited water, not suggested at Whiskey Still Campsite. Bumble Bee Ridge Campsite is also a WAYS from water, so be prepared to haul water a ways uphill to the site.

Do not use/bring charcoal, burn cans-aluminum foil (or food packets with foil liners)-glass-wax candles or plastic in campfires. All trash must be taken out and disposed of at your home. If someone has left trash at the camp, help out and take it out with you. Before you leave a camp, campfires need to be "drowned" with several gallons of water, stirred and then drowned again till no steam appears. Have a fire at night but not in morning? **Drown the fire-ring in the morning anyway** (coals under ashes not drowned are likely still hot and can stay that way for a couple of days.) DON'T pile rocks in on a fire-ring.

Do not build any structures (ie: lean-to, tables etc) or leave anything at a campsite. Look around camp before you leave it, for every speck of trash please (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 in the camp or fire smoldering/hot...CALL the park office/manager right away (take photos and text those to manager upon request. Phone number on the back of your trail map) Again, take all trash with you that you find at a camp.

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

If a camp is found with trash, a smoldering fire, trees hacked on or cut down, **permit holder staying at a camp last can receive a citation for actions. Citations generally run over \$140.00 per code section violations- Citations for leaving a fire or trash 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, matches, and smoldering material must be completely extinguished after use. During periods of high fire danger, the site (park) manager may close all or a portion of a site to lighting or maintaining fires.

No alcoholic beverages of any type are allowed in FDR State Park along the trails or picnic areas.

Backcountry camping and building a campfire where allowed are a privilege. Help by doing the right things all the time when backpacking.

Please report any blown-down trees or trail situations along the trail, to the FDR Park Office or email the Pine Mountain Trail Association at www.pinemountaintrail.org . The Pine Mountain Trail was built by and is maintained by volunteers of the Pine Mountain Trail Association. Pine Mountain Trail trash bags are available at the FDR Park Officefor free.....FDR State Park phone numbers (emergency and non-emergency) are on the BACK of the Pine Mountain Trail map.

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