



Backcountry Camping on the Pine Mountain Trail in FDR State Park

Backcountry permits must be obtained from the park office before hitting the trail. If you make online/800# reservations, you must still go to the park office the day you arrive and tell of your reservation and obtain actual permit at least two hours before sunset/dark arrival day.

By signing your backcountry permit you obtain at the park office, you are agreeing to follow FDR State Park and GA DNR rules and camp along the trail accordingly. Backpackers are to camp in the designated named campsite(s) they have a permit for. All campsites have a named wooden sign at the entrance of them. Camp near the existing fire-rings. Most campsites have signs on perimeters posted telling “don’t camp beyond this sign”.

If building a campfire use existing fire-rings. **Do not build a new one or move one or move rocks around them.** Use only dead, downed wood for campfires. No cutting of or on any 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 Ridge Campsite is a ways from water.

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 not drowned are likely still hot and can stay that way for a couple of days.)



Do not build any structures or leave **anything** at a campsite. Look around camp before you leave it, for every speck of trash please. Fluff up the leaves where you put your tents. This 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.) Again, take all trash with you that you find at a camp.

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

Whose ever name is on the backcountry permit is responsible for passing along the rules of the trail to those camping with them. If a camp is found with trash, a smoldering fire, trees hacked on or cut down, **that permit holder can receive a citation for actions.** Citations generally run over \$140.- 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 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