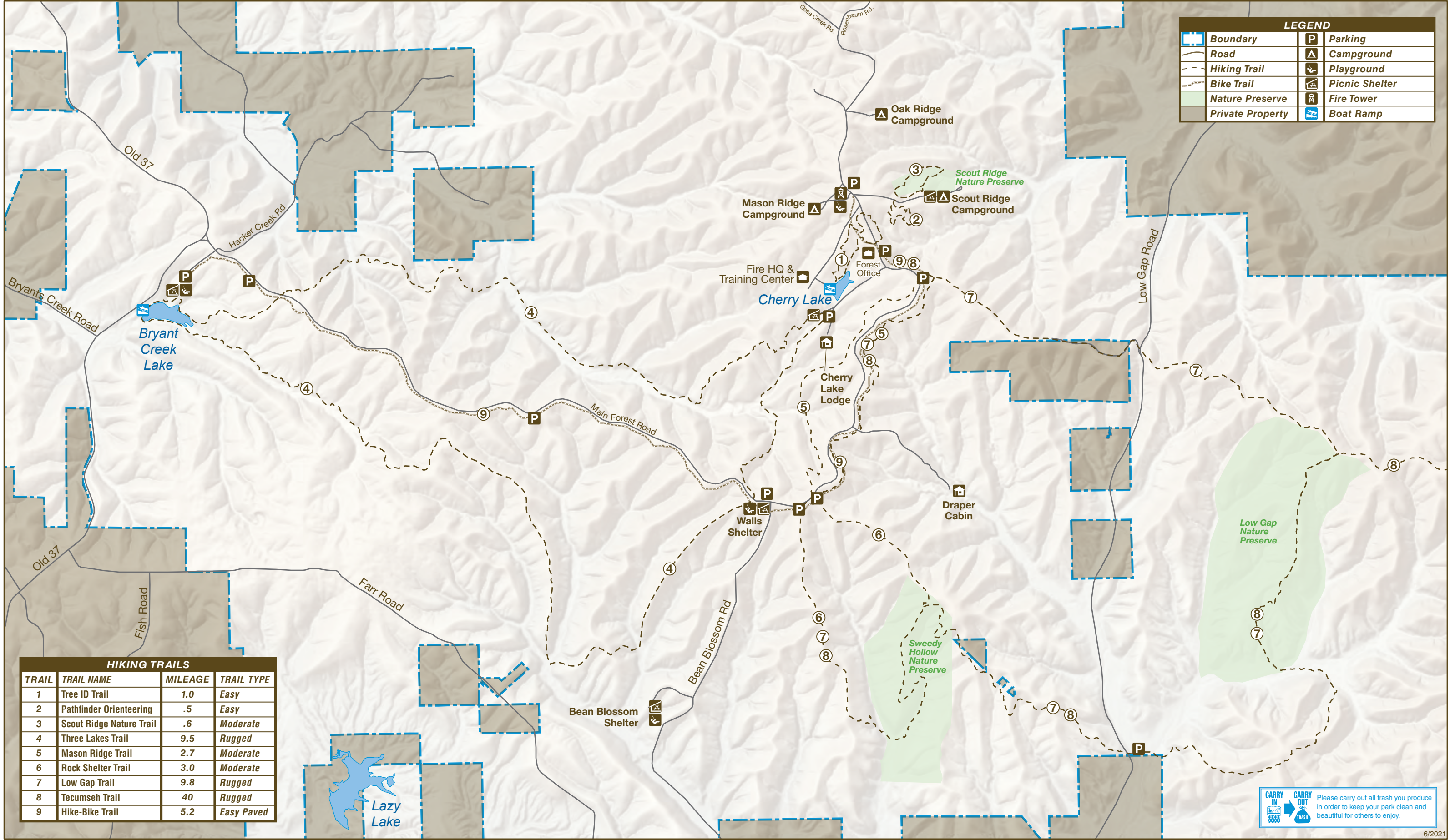


Morgan-Monroe State Forest



DESCRIPTION OF HIKING TRAILS

All trails are loops, except the 40-mile Tecumseh Trail, which follows part of the Low Gap Trail. Trails are marked with numbered posts, decals on posts, or painted blazes (double blazes indicate a turn). The Tecumseh Trail is marked with T at trail intersections. Short trails not listed connect the campground and office parking area to hiking trails. No horses, bikes or ATV's are allowed on hiking trails.

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE	DIFFICULTY
Tree Identification Trail	1 miles	Easy

The trailhead is located at the forest office parking area. This trail includes 26 labeled trees, and an identification booklet is available at the forest office. Following part of the shore line of Cherry Lake.

Pathfinder Orienteering Trail	.5 mile	Easy
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The trailhead is located south of Scout Ridge Campground. Grab a compass and follow the course through the forest to find all the points. Booklets may be picked up at the office.

Scout Ridge Nature Trail	.6 mile	Moderate
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The trailhead is located behind the shelter house at Scout Ridge Campground. An information booklet is available at the forest headquarters. This half mile trail winds through the 15-acre nature preserve, which is mostly dominated by beech and maple. Glacial boulders can be found along the stream bed.

Three Lakes Trail	9.5 miles	Rugged
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Trailheads are located at Cherry Lake Shelter and at Bryant Creek Lake Shelter. This trail loops around the three lakes on property, including Cherry Lake, Bryant Creek Lake, and Bean Blossom Lake, which was drained when the levee failed after several days of heavy rain in November 1993. This trail has lots of elevation change.

Mason Ridge Trail	2.7 miles	Moderate
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This trail loops along each side of Main Forest Road, and follows Mason Ridge with little elevation change. Trailheads are located at Orcutt Road and Landram Ridge on Main Forest Road.

Rock Shelter Trail	3 miles	Moderate
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This loop trail follows along a rocky creek bed for about a mile. This will lead you to a large rock shelter along the trail. Along the trail you will find a small wildlife pond. The trailhead is on Forest Road at Landram Ridge. The trail follows the first part of Low Gap Trail.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

permits, and HIP number). Trapping is only authorized in designated areas and by permit only. Contact the property manager for details. Hikers are advised to wear hunter orange or other bright clothing while on trails during hunting season.

LAKES

Three forest lakes, Bryant Creek Lake (9 acres), Cherry Lake (4 acres) and Prather Lake (4 acres) are all open to fishing; a valid Indiana fishing license is required. Boat ramps are located on Bryant Creek and Cherry Lakes; boat motors are limited to electric trolling motors only. Beanblossom Lake drained when the levee failed after several days of heavy rain in November 1993. Swimming is not permitted in any of the lakes.

PICNICKING

Several picnic areas and picnic shelters are available for day use. Picnic shelters are located at Cherry Lake, Bryant Creek Lake and Scout Ridge Campground. The Walls Picnic Shelter with a large picnic area and playground is located at the junction of Forest Road and Beanblossom Road. Shelter houses can be reserved online. Visit camp.IN.gov for pricing and reservations. For more information on shelter use please call Morgan-Monroe State Forest office at 795-792-4654. Other picnic areas, with picnic tables and grills, are located throughout the forest.

FACILITIES

CHERRY LAKE LODGE

Nestled deep in Morgan-Monroe State Forest you'll find the solitude you seek, while still having a comfortable bed in which to sleep, hot and cold running water, indoor restroom and shower, and full kitchen facilities. This recently renovated lodge is everything you'd expect in a woodland retreat at a very affordable rental rate. It's a place where the whole family can explore the woods all day, and relax to a warm fire at night. To make reservations or check availability go on-line to camp.IN.gov or call 1-866-622-6746.

DRAPER CABIN

Draper Cabin is a primitive, wooden-floored log cabin that takes visitors 100 years back in time to the days before electricity, vehicles and modern plumbing. Reservations for the cabin are accepted from the first weekend in April to the weekend before Thanksgiving. The cabin

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION	DISTANCE	DIFFICULTY
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Low Gap Trail	9.8 miles	Rugged
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This is the only trail that loops through the Back Country Area, east of Low Gap Road, where overnight backpack camping is permitted. The trailhead is located along Forest Road just east of the turn for Bean Blossom Road and the Walls Picnic Shelter. Although there is no fee for camping, you must register at the forest office before camping in the Back Country Area.

Tecumseh Trail	40 miles	Rugged
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This long-distance trail incorporates several existing trails at Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood State Forests. The trail follows ridge tops, climbs into and out of numerous peaceful wild hollows, and crosses many streams. Along this trail in permitted areas camping is allowed, including 3 trail-side shelters.

Hike-Bike Trail	5.2 miles	Accessible
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Paved path starts at the forestry office and winds through forest ending at Bryant Creek Shelter House. ADA accessible.

CAMPING

Primitive camping is available for a fee; campers must register for camping at the forest office. Mason Ridge Campground, located behind the fire tower north of the forest office, has vault toilets and seasonal drinking water available. There is a picnic table and grill located on each of the campground's 19 sites. On busy weekends, overflow camping is available at Oak Ridge Campground. Oak Ridge has 10 sites and the same facilities as Mason Ridge.

Scout Ridge Youth Tent Campground is available for scouts or other groups. The six sites in Scout Ridge Campground are larger than regular campground sites and there are several picnic tables and grills available. Scout Ridge Nature Preserve is located in this area.

Backcountry camping is available. All campers must register with State Forest Office via person, email at morgansf@dnr.IN.gov, at the kiosk, or phone (765-792-4654). Please note the phone is not recommended because the office is closed in evenings and on Sundays. Users must indicate the general region of planned camping. During periods of high fire danger the area may be closed by the property manager. Camping groups are restricted to either family units or groups not exceeding six persons. No campsite may be established within 1/4 mile of access points into the area. Use of the area is restricted to a maximum of three nights by any individual. Morgan-Monroe State Forest has a carry-in, carry-out trash policy, i.e., what you carry in you must

may be rented on a day by day basis, depending on weather conditions, during the winter. Call 1-866-622-6746 or go on-line to camp.IN.gov to view availability or make a reservation.

FORESTRY TRAINING CENTER

As recently as 2011, this was an old storage building. Nestled in the middle of Morgan-Monroe State Forest, this now beautifully renovated facility features state-of-the-art technology surrounded by warm Indiana native hardwood paneling. The center can be rented by any organization or agency whose mission is related to managing and conserving Indiana's natural resources. Reservations can be made through the Morgan-Monroe State Forest Property Manager at 765-792-4654.

State Forest Mission

To manage, protect and conserve the timber, water, wildlife, soil and related forest resources for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, and to demonstrate proper forest management to Indiana landowners.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM



Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free.

Call: **1-866-6campIN** (1-866-622-6746)
Online: **camp.IN.gov**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Write: Morgan-Monroe State Forest
6220 Forest Rd.
Martinsville, IN 46151

Call: (765) 792-4654

Online: on.IN.gov/morganmonroesf



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!

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The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural Resources, Executive Office, 402 W. Washington Street, W256, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-4020.

carry out. Additionally, the backcountry area is restricted to only minimal-impact camping/hiking in order to preserve the natural state of Morgan-Monroe State Forest.

CAMPFIRES

Small campfires are allowed while backcountry camping, but the DNR recommends using a portable backpacking stove for cooking instead of a campfire. A portable stove will cook your meal long before a fire is ready. Another advantage is that it helps prevent fire-blackened rocks in areas where people camp. If using a campfire, make sure a campfire is allowed during the time of your trip. Different properties may have different rules regarding campfires. Even properties that generally allow campfires may ban them on a temporary basis because of dry conditions. Use only small dead and downed wood where permitted. Do not break or cut tree limbs or trees, even dead ones. Dead trees provide habitat for many birds and animals. Do not stockpile wood. While this was once considered a friendly gesture in remote areas, today it is one more way of reducing the spirit of solitude and independence that people seek when backcountry camping. Any campfire in a backcountry area should be in a pit 12 inches or less in diameter, and a 3-foot diameter area should be cleared to mineral soil around the fire. Before leaving an area where a campfire was built, mix ashes with the soil (100% extinguished), fill the pit, and cover the cleared area with the humus layer that was originally removed.

GOLD PANNING

Panning for gold is permitted on Morgan-Monroe and Yellowwood State Forests. A gold panning permit is required! The permit, which can be obtained free of charge, allows for panning gold on a hobby basis. The displacement of any material through use of a pick, shovel or sluice is not allowed due to concern for water quality. Archaeological evidence found, such as projectile points, pottery or bones must be reported to the Forest Office to determine if a major archaeological site is in the vicinity. To obtain a permit, visit or call the Forest Office at 765-342-4026.

HUNTING

Pursuit of all legal game during designated Indiana hunting seasons is allowed with a valid hunting license issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (and applicable stamp privileges, federal stamps or

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

MORGAN-MONROE
STATE FOREST

HIKING TRAILS



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