Shawnee State Forest
Bear Lake Horse Camp
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How long am I allowed to camp at the Horse Camp?**
   You are only permitted to camp 14 days out of any given 30 days at any State Forest, regardless if you camp continuously or not.
   OAC 1501:3-3-06 Camp Occupancy

2. **How many am I allowed to have at my campsite?**
   Only 10 persons are permitted per site.
   OAC 1501:3-3-06 Camp Occupancy

3. **Can I save a campsite for a friend?**
   No, the Horse Camp is on a first come basis. You are not permitted to save a site for a friend.
   OAC 1501:3-3-02 Camp Registration

4. **Can I register for a friend, or register multiple sites?**
   No, you're only permitted to register one campsite, and you are also not permitted to register for a friend.
   OAC 1501:3-3-06 Camp Occupancy

5. **If I were registered at the Horse Camp, would it be o.k. if family stopped by to camp with me as well?**
   The Horse Camp is only permitted for persons camping with horses, as long as you do not go over 10 persons per site.
   OAC 1501:3-3-06 Camp Occupancy

6. **When is "quiet time" in the camp?**
   Quiet time is between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 8 a.m. Noise complaints will be promptly addressed.
   OAC 1501:3-3-06 Camp Occupancy

7. **What's the rule on alcohol in the Horse Camp?**
   The rule is as follows: No person shall consume, display, or possess any alcoholic beverage in any State Forest.
   OAC 1501:3-2-11 Use or Possession of Intoxicating Beverages.
   *****This rule is strictly enforced*****

8. **Can I ride my horse at night?**
   Yes, however the Forest does close at 11:00 p.m. and you must be back at your campsite by then.
   OAC: 3-2-01 Hours Closed

9. **Who cleans up the manure?**
   We ask the campers to clean up their own manure and place it in the manure bins.
   *****This rule is strictly enforced*****

10. **Can I tether or tie my horse to a tree, as long as he cannot reach that tree?**
    No, you are not permitted to tether or tie your horse to any tree or vegetation in any State Forest.
    OAC 1501: 3-2-18 Animals and Pets in State Forests

11. **Why aren't there any over flow sites for holidays and busy weekends?**
    Bear Lake Horse Camp provides 60 campsites. When it is full to capacity, the facility, horse ties, space and latrines simply can't handle more campers. It would be irresponsible to crowd the camp beyond its capacity. It's not fair to the campers either. Camping there is free of charge, and we can't physically and administratively handle more campers than sixty sites will hold.

12. **How close to the Horse Camp am I allowed to hunt?**
    When a legal hunting season is in, you are not permitted to hunt by any means within 400 feet of any camping area, residence, barn, service building, latrine, or other structures, or shoot on, from, or across any road or driveway within the forest.
    OAC 1501:3-6-01

13. **Can I gather firewood in the woods around the camp?**
    Yes, small branches and limbs are permitted.

14. **Where is the closest store for supplies?**
    Pitt Stop Convenient Mart located on US Highway 52 (across the road from the forest headquarters).

15. **Whom should I contact in case of an emergency?**
    Contact the Scioto County Sheriffs Department by 911 or 740-354-7566. Shawnee State Park Lodge is the nearest public phone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shawnee State Forest
13291 U.S. Highway 52
West Portsmouth, OH 45663-8906
(740) 858-6685

Southern District Forest Office
345 Allen Ave.
Chillicothe, OH 45601-1699
740-774-1596

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