

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

CHAPTER 390-X-7
STATE FOREST VISITOR REGULATIONS

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390-X-7-.01 Use Of Facilities.

(1) Alabama State Law requires that all persons registering at any cabin or campsite in any State Forest shall record the name and address of each responsible party in a registration book or upon a guest register card, or a permit provided for such use. Persons under eighteen years of age shall be permitted to register for a cabin or campsite only as agents acting for their parents. Any person who willfully makes an erroneous entry in such registration shall be in violation of this regulation.

(2) Upon leaving any cabin the renter thereof shall wash all dishes and cooking utensils and shall turn off all electric appliances, oil or gas heaters and stoves, extinguish all fires except pilot lights, and leave the premises in a clean and sanitary condition.

(3) It shall be unlawful to erect or occupy any site with unsightly or inappropriate camping equipment.

(4) Pitching tents or parking trailers or other camping or recreational equipment in areas not designated for such purposes shall be unlawful.

(5) No person shall picnic in any area in any State Forest or on any State Forest way except in the designated places without the specific approval of the Forest Manager.

(6) It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or use, at any State Forest swimming area, any container which is subject to break, shatter, fracture, disintegrate, or become fragmented, including, but not limited to, glass, breakable plastics, etc.

(7) Abandoned personal property shall be subject to disposal in accordance with law.

(8) It shall be unlawful to leave unattended at any State Forest any person under the age of fourteen (14). For the purpose of this paragraph, "unattended" shall mean without direct adult supervision.

(9)(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to enter any State Forest for which a fee is charged or levied for admission to, or use of, any area or facility contained therein without a valid permit in their possession. A valid permit can be obtained one of two ways:

(1) From a self serve station located at the entrance of a state forest. The patron must take an envelope, place the required fee in the envelope, tear off the corresponding stub of the envelope and place the envelope containing the fee in the provided receptacle. The stub shall serve as the permit and proof of fee payment; or

(2) From a forestry commission employee who will collect the appropriate admission/use fee(s) and will issue the patron the appropriate permit which may be in the form of a numbered ticket or other form as directed by the State Forester.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to produce for inspection any permit required by this regulation to any Alabama Forestry Commission employee upon demand.

Author: Charles T. Conway

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005. **Amended:** Filed February 2, 2010; effective March 9, 2010.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.02 Swimming, Fishing And Boating.

(1) Visitors shall swim or wade only in areas designated for such use.

(2) All persons fishing in any of the State Forests shall abide by the fishing regulations promulgated by the State Forester and by other fishing laws and regulations that are in force in the State of Alabama. Appropriate permits must be purchased or obtained prior to fishing in any state forest lake.

(a) A person so fishing shall, upon demand, exhibit his catch, fishing license, or permit to any agent or employee of the Alabama Forestry Commission or to any Conservation officer for inspection.

(b) No fish shall be placed in the State Forest lakes or waters except with permission of the State Forester.

(c) The daily creel limits are posted in a conspicuous place at each State Forest lake. Any person who catches, takes or has in his or her possession more fish than allowable by the posted creel or possession limits shall be in violation of this regulation.

(d) Live minnows used for bait shall be limited to the following species: Goldfish minnows, commonly called "Indiana" minnows; golden shiners, commonly called "Shinners," and fathead minnows, commonly called "Toughies." No person shall release any minnow whatsoever, either dead or alive, by emptying from a minnow bucket or any other method. All minnow buckets or other receptacles for holding minnows used shall at all times be open to inspection by Forestry Officers, Conservation Officers, or other agents of employees of the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(e) Fish shall be taken by rod and reel or pole and line only, in State Forest lakes or waters. Use of other methods of fishing such as trot lines, set hooks, gigs, nets, seines, spear guns, bow and arrow, etc., is prohibited.

(3) Gasoline powered vessels are prohibited on any of the waters of the State Forests unless by special written permission from the State Forester.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.03 Fees. It shall be a violation of this regulation for any person to evade or attempt to evade by any method or means any fee or other charge which may be levied for admission to, or use of, any State Forest area or facility contained therein.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.04 Operation Of Vehicles.

(1) Driving motor vehicle in excess of posted speed shall be unlawful. The maximum speed limit for any power driven vehicles shall be 25 miles per hour unless otherwise posted.

(2) Driving any vehicle carelessly and heedlessly disregarding the rights or safety of others, or without due caution and at a speed, or in a manner so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property shall be unlawful.

(3) Riding on the hood, roof, fenders, or trunk, or other exterior portion of automobiles, or riding on the roof, fenders, hood, bumper of trucks, while traveling on forest roads or other forest premises shall be unlawful.

(4) Motor bikes, all-terrain vehicles, minibikes, motorcycles, motor scooters, go-carts, any other type motorized vehicle and bicycles shall not be driven in any areas or on any trails not designated for their use. Only licensed vehicles shall be allowed to be utilized by the public on State Forest roads.

(5) No motorized vehicles of any kind or bicycles shall be allowed on horse trails, hiking trails or beach areas in any State Forest, except where specifically permitted.

(6) Operating a motor vehicle at any time without a muffler in good working order, or operating a motor vehicle in

such a manner as to create excessive or unusual noise or annoying smoke, or using a muffler cut off, by pass, or similar device shall be unlawful.

(7) No person shall park any vehicle, camper, trailer or any towed conveyance in any area not specifically designed for said vehicle.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.05 Pets And Animals.

(1) Bringing a dog, cat or other animal into a State Forest unless it is crated, caged or upon a leash not longer than 6 feet or otherwise under physical restrictive control at all times, shall be unlawful, except that animals used in legally authorized hunting activities are exempt.

(2) No person shall keep a noisy, vicious, or dangerous dog or animal or one which is disturbing other persons, in a State Forest and remain therein after he has been asked by a State Forest officer to leave.

(3) No animal of any type shall be allowed in any cabin or forestry building, or at any swimming area in any State Forest. This rule shall not prohibit the use of helping animals by disabled persons.

(4) Bringing saddle, pack or draft animals into a site which has not been developed to accommodate them and posted accordingly shall be unlawful.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.06 Sanitation.

(1) Failure to dispose of all garbage, including paper, cans, bottles, waste materials, and rubbish by removal from the site or area, or disposal at places provided for such disposition shall be unlawful.

(2) No person shall dump any refuse or waste from any trailer or other vehicle except in places or receptacles provided for such use.

(3) Cleaning of fish or food, or washing clothing or articles of household use in any stream, pond, lake or at any hydrant or faucets located in restrooms shall be unlawful.

(4) No person shall pollute or contaminate any water or water supply used for human consumption.

(5) No person shall use State Forest refuse containers or other state forest refuse facilities for dumping household or commercial garbage or trash brought as such from private property.

(6) No person shall deposit, except into receptacles provided for that purpose, any body waste in or on any portion of any comfort station or any public structure, or deposit any bottles, cans, cloths, rags, metal, wood, stone, or other damaging substance in any of the fixtures in such station or structures.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.07 Conduct.

(1) It shall be unlawful to incite or participate in riots, indulge in boisterous, abusive, threatening, indecent or disorderly conduct in any State Forest area. Anyone in violation of this regulation may be forcibly ejected from the forest or arrested and shall not be entitled to a refund of any fee or rental.

(2) Failure to maintain quiet in campground and cabin areas between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. shall be unlawful.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, deface or remove any native wild or domesticated tree, shrub, plant or wildflower in any State Forest.

(4) Destroying, injuring, defacing, removing or disturbing in any manner any real, personal or public property in any State Forest shall be unlawful.

(5) No person shall solicit, sell or advertise in any State Forest without the written authorization of the State Forester.

(6) It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy, disturb, deface, collect or remove any natural, cultural, historical, archeological, geological, mineralogical, etc., objects or artifacts from any Alabama State Forest.

(7) It shall be unlawful for any person in control of or operating a motor vehicle or portable stereo equipment to permit sound from the sound system, including but not limited to a radio, tape player, compact disc player, or other musical device, whether or not affixed to the vehicle, to be operated at a volume so as to be audible at a distance greater than fifty (50) feet from said equipment.

Author: Charles T. Conway

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005. **Amended:** Filed February 2, 2010; effective March 9, 2010.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.08 Prohibited Devices.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person other than a duly authorized law enforcement officer to possess or carry into any State Forest or any property owned by the Forestry Commission any form of firearm without written permission of the manager in charge of the State Forest visited, except those areas designated as a Wildlife Management Area or Handicapped Hunting Area in conjunction with the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and then only firearms for the appropriate hunting season. No person shall possess, discharge or set off on or within a State Forest any firecrackers, torpedoes, rockets, cap pistols, or other fireworks.

(2) All automobiles, ice chests, coolers or other containers that enter into any state forest are subject to inspection by any Forestry Commission law enforcement officer or other employees authorized by the State Forester for prohibited devices and alcoholic beverages. For purposes of this regulation, "prohibited devices" shall include, in addition to alcoholic beverages, all fireworks of any kind and any firearm except as provided in Section 1 of this rule. Any person that refuses to allow inspection of the above named articles shall be in violation of this regulation.

Author: Charles T. Conway

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005. **Amended:** Filed February 2, 2010; effective March 9, 2010.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-x-7-.09 **Fires.** Building a fire outside of stoves, grills, fireplaces, or other places provided for such purposes shall be unlawful. All fires shall be attended at all times and upon abandonment of same the fire shall be completely extinguished.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-x-7-.10 **Hours Of Operation.**

(1) It shall be unlawful to enter or use a site or area, or portion of a site or area, which is closed to public use.

(2) Only registered overnight guest shall be admitted or allowed to remain in any State Forest after the designated closing hour unless such person has special written permission of the manager of said Forest.

(3) Leaving a camp unit unoccupied or unattended for a period of more than 24 hours without permission from the manager shall be in violation of State Forest regulations.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.11 Disclaimer Of Liability.

(1) The Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be responsible for any accident or injury to any person while on State Forest property or when using any State Forest facility. Any person coming within a State Forest or using a State Forest facility shall by such entrance or use waive any claim against the State or its agents for any accident or injury occurring while on or within a State Forest.

(2) Subject to the other provisions of state law, the State of Alabama shall not be responsible for any property or article lost or stolen from any cabin, campsite, bathhouse, parking area, or any forestry building or facility.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.12 Designated Wildlife Sanctuaries. Each State Forest or other Forestry Commission property now in existence, and those which may be hereafter designated as same, which are not in a designated Wildlife Management Area or Handicapped Hunting Area by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, are hereby designated as game and wildlife sanctuaries and it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, pursue, catch or kill any wild bird or wild animal in any of the places herein mentioned, unless specifically approved by the State Forester.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.

390-X-7-.13 General.

(1) The words "State Forest" as used in any regulation shall include and embrace all land or water under the supervision of the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(2) All State and Federal laws now in force and laws which may hereafter be enacted shall be maintained in all State Forests, and it shall be a violation of this regulation for any person to break or attempt to break any State or Federal Law.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

390-X-7-.14 Possession Of Consumption Of Alcoholic Beverages At Certain State Forest Areas. It shall be unlawful to possess or consume any alcoholic beverage on State Forests.

Author: Alabama Forestry Commission

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-3-9.

History: New Rule: Filed April 12, 2005; effective May 17, 2005.

PENALTY: As provided by Section 9-13-10, Code of Ala. 1975.