

# WELCOME



Photo by Midwestern Events

## to Cedarville State Forest!

Located at the headwaters of Maryland's largest freshwater swamp, the Zekiah, Cedarville State Forest invites exploration and adventure of its diverse natural, recreation and historic features. Rare carnivorous plants that catch and eat insects are uniquely found here. Hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians can enjoy 19 miles of trails, developed in the 1930s by a Civilian Conservation Corps comprised mostly of African Americans. Over 50 species of trees thrive in an actively managed 3,510-acre forest, demonstrating an array of beneficial and experimental forestry practices.



Photo by Midwestern Events

### Nature Appreciation

A unique feature of the forest is the Cedarville Bog, which is within the headwaters of the Zekiah Swamp. The bog supports a unique array of plants, such as sphagnum moss and rough boneset that favor very wet, acidic conditions. Please remain on the specially constructed boardwalk, which protects this sensitive bog, and refrain from collecting any of the plants you observe. Remember, it is illegal to collect plants or animals from state public lands.



Photo by Midwestern Events

Skunk cabbage

Of special interest in this bog are several species of insect-eating plants, including the roundleaf sundew and the northern pitcher plant. Throughout the summer, spy the leaves of these carnivorous plants, which attract insects with their reddish color and entrap them with sticky or bristly hairs. Showy wildflowers also dot the open meadow next to the bog. Look for the pink blooms of Maryland meadow-beauty and milk-wort and the purple flowers of Hyssop skullcap.

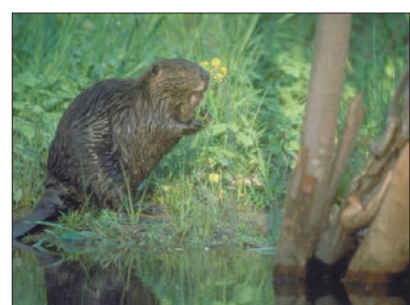


Photo by Midwestern Events

American beaver

Most of Cedarville is forested with over 50 species of trees, including white and loblolly pine plantations. Areas of wet, wooded bottomland containing holly, magnolia, lowbush blueberry and mountain laurel also characterize large expanses of the forest. Wildlife, such as white-tailed deer, American beaver and wild turkey are abundant. Forestry management practices, which have created successional forest habitats, also enhance birding opportunities. Birds of prey, such as the commonly seen red-tailed hawk and the great horned owl, may both be seen throughout the day. Seasonally, the yellow-throated vireo, pine warbler and eastern bluebird can be viewed in the forest during their migration routes.



Photo by Midwestern Events

Northern Mockingbird



Photo by Midwestern Events

Pink Lady Slippers

### Forestry

Cedarville State Forest uniquely showcases the full array of natural resource protection and management techniques utilized by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Fishery scientists, wildlife biologists, foresters and park managers work together to preserve, protect and manage all of the natural resources in Cedarville.

In particular, the forest provides interested citizens and private landowners with an opportunity to observe and learn about a variety of forestry practices. Forestry Demonstration Areas illustrate the effects of clear cutting, replanting, prescribed burning, thinning and tree plantations on tree growth and the creation of wildlife food and cover.

### Heritage

Historical records show that the Piscataway Tribe made this region of Southern Maryland their winter camping and hunting ground because of the mild climate and abundance of game. Legend has it that there is a Native American burial ground in Cedarville, but to date it has not been located. In the 1930s, the State began purchasing land



Photo by Midwestern Events

Beaver Dam

in an effort to create a forest demonstration area. Under the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the renowned Civilian Conservation Corp (C.C.C.) developed Cedarville's roads and trails for fire protection and future recreation development. From 1933 to 1935, approximately 160 men of the C.C.C., mostly African Americans from Baltimore and Washington, D.C., worked at Cedarville. Five barracks, originally located across from the current forestry buildings, housed up to 50 men each. The government paid Corps workers \$30 per month, with most of the pay sent home to support their families. Across the nation, the C.C.C. offered jobs to thousands of unemployed men during the Great Depression. They reforested thousands of acres of land, built park roads, erected dams and bridges, restored historic sites and fought forest fires nationwide.

Cedarville operated three charcoal kilns in the 1950s, burning wood from the forest to produce up to 3,600 pounds of charcoal each week. The charcoal was used in many other state parks throughout Maryland to produce heat. One kiln, located on the Heritage Trail, remains as a demonstration of the historic method of producing wood charcoal.

## TRAILS

### Please Play Safe!

It is your responsibility to have the necessary skills, knowledge, and equipment for a safe and environmentally sensitive visit. Wearing florescent orange is recommended during hunting seasons. Please call the Forest Visitor Center for more information at: (301) 888-1410 or 1-800-784-5380.

Cedarville's 19 miles of trails are mostly flat, with a few gentle rollers and an occasional steep, but short pitch. Some areas can become extremely wet, particularly during spring. Due to the forest's coastal location, however, there is hardly a rock in sight, making these trails more accessible for the novice hiker and biker.

### Blue Trail

3.5 miles - easy  
This trail has some short hills with streams and springs. Pass abandoned farmland and the charcoal kiln.

### Orange Trail

7 miles - easy  
This trail may be wet at times. You will see holly, magnolia, marsh plants and flowers.

### Brown Trail

2.5 miles - easy  
This trail is generally level and dry, passing an abandoned pine plantation and a four-acre pond.

### Green Trail

2 miles - easy  
This trail passes through the headwaters of Zekiah Swamp.

### White Trail

4 miles - easy  
This trail passes through hardwood forest and pine plantations - ideal for bird watching.

### Fishing

The forest's four-acre pond, which is open for bank fishing only, has stocked bluegill, catfish, sunfish and bass. A Maryland non-tidal sportfishing license is required for persons 16-years and older.

A Fish Hatchery Visitor Center is open for public tours. Hours vary seasonally. For information call: (301) 888-2423.

### Hunting

An area of the State Forest is designated for hunting seasonally. The Maryland Hunting & Trapping guide provides information on required licenses, game, seasons and rules and regulations.

### Camping

Camping at the State Forest can be enjoyed seasonally. Campsites are equipped with a picnic table and a fire ring. The bathhouse is centrally located. Walk-ins are permitted on a first-come basis. Youth group camping is available year-round with youth group passes honored. Reservations must be made in advance.



Hikers pause on one of Cedarville's foot-bridges to catch a glimpse of the forest's many bird species, including some that migrate from South America.

Photo by Midwestern Events

### Archery

Cedarville boasts two archery ranges. The range located on Cross Road is open to the public and is accessible to disabled visitors. This range has three target butts with distances varying from 10 to 40 yards.

The second range, located on the blue trail, is a Pro/Am field and hunter competition course certified by the Maryland Archery Association (MAA) and the National Field Archery Association. The course consists of 28 targets of varying difficulty. The range is open during MAA sanctioned events.



Photo by Midwestern Events

### Volunteers

The Friends of Cedarville State Forest Inc., a non-profit group, in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources Forest and Park Service work with the staff of the Southern Maryland Recreational Complex (SMRC) to help maintain and operate Cedarville State Forest. For volunteer information contact: SMRC Volunteer Coordinator at 1-800-784-5380 or (301) 888-1410.

## LEAVE NO TRACE

Cedarville State Forest is enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year. Please help protect the forest's natural and historic resources by following these **Leave No Trace** ethics. For more information on Leave No Trace, visit their website at: [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)



- Plan ahead and prepare.
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
- Dispose of waste properly.
- Leave what you find.
- Minimize campfire impacts.
- Respect wildlife.
- Be considerate of others.

Remember that all of Maryland's State Parks are **Trash Free** – so pack out what you pack in! Thanks for being a good steward of Maryland's outdoors.

### Trail Stewardship

You can help support trails at your favorite forest or park by volunteering on trail projects or purchasing a tax-deductible trail stewardship sticker. Your support helps maintain and construct trails to protect the environment and benefit trail users.

### Park Watch

The State Forest and Park Service's Park Watch program encourages visitors and neighbors to take an active role in protecting personal property and preserving the park. If you observe suspicious activities, vandalism or safety hazards, please report these problems to any park employee or call: (301) 888-1410.

### Guides and Outfitters

As part of DNR's Nature Tourism Program, the park office can provide information on commercial guides and outfitters or organizing group outings at (301) 334-9180.



Photo by Midwestern Events

Please protect our forest and stay on the trails.

### DIRECTIONS

Located in Prince Georges and Charles Counties, Cedarville State Forest is about 25 miles south of Washington, D.C. From the Washington Beltway I-495/95, take exit #7A, Route 5 south (Branch Ave.) towards Waldorf. Follow Rte. 5 until it ends at Rte. 301 in Brandywine. Follow Rte. 301 south. Turn left at stoplight onto Cedarville Road (look for State Forest sign). Turn right into Forest entrance at Bee Oak Road.

**Cedarville State Forest**  
10201 Bee Oak Road Brandywine, MD 20613  
(301) 888-1410 or 1-800-784-5380

Cedarville State Forest is open year-round. Please support your Forest by paying the service charge, which is paid individually at an honor box located on the entrance road.

**State Forest & Park Service general information:**  
1-800-830-3974  
TTY: 1-800-735-2258  
Email address: [Park-Cedarville@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:Park-Cedarville@dnr.state.md.us)

Plan your outdoor adventure on our website!  
[www.dnr.state.md.us](http://www.dnr.state.md.us)

### RESERVATIONS

To make picnic, pavilion and camping reservations spring through fall, call Park Reservations at 1-888-432-CAMP (2267). Or, make your reservation on the Internet: [reservations.dnr.state.md.us](http://reservations.dnr.state.md.us)

For Youth Group Camping reservations call the forest office at: 1-800-784-5380.



"Protecting the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's many other environmental treasures is a cornerstone of Smart Growth. We want to leave a legacy for our children and grandchildren so that they may continue to enjoy the beauty and majesty of the Free State."

Parris N. Glendening, Governor  
Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Lt. Governor



For a free vacation guide and coupon book, call: 1-877-333-4455 or visit: [www.mdisfun.org](http://www.mdisfun.org)



Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
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# Maryland

## Cedarville State Forest



## TRAIL GUIDE















BIKING • BIRDING • HIKING  
HORSEBACK RIDING






to Route 5

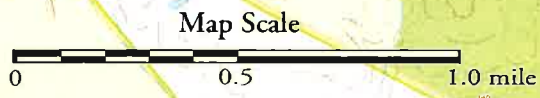
to Route 381

Park Entrance

# Cedarville State Forest

-  Park Office
-  Campgrounds
-  Parking Area
-  Bathroom
-  Picnic Spot
-  Pavilion
-  Playground
-  Disabled Accessible Pavilion
-  Fishing Pond
-  Hunter Parking
-  Archery Range
-  Disa Accessible Hunting
-  Horse Trailer Parking
-  Hunting Allowed

-  Gate
-  Roads
-  Trails (color indicates blaze)
-  Gravel/Dirt Road
-  Park Boundary



Maryland Park Service  
[dnr.maryland.gov/pub/lands](http://dnr.maryland.gov/pub/lands)  
[customerservice.dnr@maryland.gov](mailto:customerservice.dnr@maryland.gov)

