

start of squirrel season and ends one day after the close of grouse season. It is operational again fourteen days before the start of spring wild turkey season and closes the day after the season ends.

SHOOTING RANGE

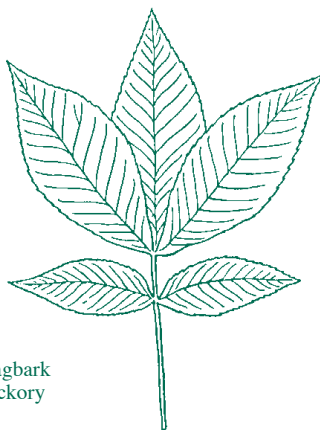
The shooting range is located on St. Rt. 278, just north of the forest headquarters. There are nine (9) - twenty five-yard shooting lanes with benches. Hours of operation are 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset.

HOPE SCHOOL HOUSE

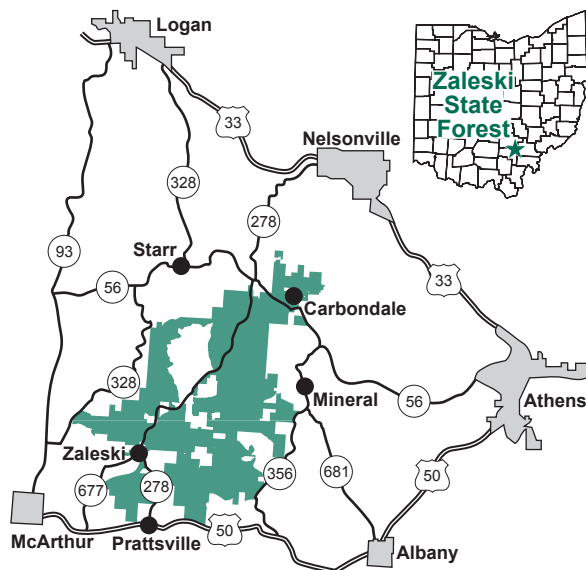
This 1930's era one room school house, owned by the Division of Forestry, has been renovated through a cooperative effort between the Vinton County Chamber of Commerce, Vinton County Commissioners, Rural Ohio Appalachia Revisited Group, Zaleski Civilian Conservation Corps, Lake Hope State Park and the Zaleski State Forest. The primary purpose of the Hope School House is to serve as an interpretive center to enhance recreation, the arts, cultural history, heritage, as well as economic development in Vinton County. The school house is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day.



Shagbark
Hickory



LOCATION MAP



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ZALESKI STATE FOREST
Division of Forestry
Zaleski, Ohio 45698
Phone: 1-877-247-8733

LAKE HOPE STATE PARK
Division of Parks & Recreation
Zaleski, Ohio 45698
Phone: (740) 596-4938

WATERLOO WILDLIFE
& EXPERIMENT STATION
Division of Wildlife
New Marshfield, Ohio 45766
Phone: (740) 664-2745

Division of Forestry • Fountain Square • Columbus, Ohio 43224
website address: www.ohiodnr.com

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ZALESKI STATE FOREST

WELCOME TO THE ZALESKI STATE FOREST

Zaleski State Forest is Ohio's second largest state-owned forest, covering 28,000 acres. It is situated in an area with a varied and interesting history. During the 1800's, the region supported a vibrant iron ore industry. Iron was produced in furnaces that were fired by charcoal. Making of charcoal required large supplies of wood, resulting in widespread removal of timber from surrounding hillsides.

Coal mining replaced iron production as the region's main industry in the late 1800's. Most of the coal was mined from small "drift" mines, and old entries are still visible today. Acid drainage from many of these old mines degraded water quality. During this same period, subsistence farms began to appear. The steep slopes and thin soil typical of the area made farming very unproductive. Soil fertility declined and poor agricultural practices contributed to sedimentation of watersheds.

In an effort to return the eroded hill country farms to productivity, during the 1930's the Federal Government initiated a program called the Resettlement Administration. Through this program unproductive and abandoned farmlands were acquired. Restoration was begun through application of erosion control devices and planting of tree seedlings. Other improvements, including 35 miles of roads, numerous



Silver Maple

firebreaks, wildlife ponds, and public facilities were constructed, many with the assistance of such programs as the WPA and CCC. A number of these and later projects became what is now Lake Hope State Park.

Through these early efforts, Zaleski State Forest has become a thriving, productive forest. Water quality is improved through reduced sedimentation and less acid mine drainage. The forest provides habitat for a diversity of wildlife and a number of threatened/endangered plants and animals. The attributes of the area provide a backdrop for a variety of recreational pursuits, and support of local tourism.

Managed through application of the multiple use concept, the forest continues to improve and sustain many products and benefits. Water, soil, habitat, and aesthetics, are among the many variables considered during the land management process. Foresters are able to enhance areas for visitors to enjoy many outdoor activities including hiking, camping, wildlife watching, hunting, fishing and horseback riding. These benefits are in addition to growing highly desirable timber for wood products, which are shipped throughout the U.S. and the world.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

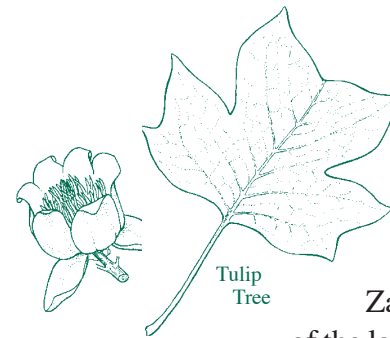
The Zaleski State Forest maintains two wildlife management areas; the Grouse and the Turkey. The Grouse management area's primary objective is to work with the Division of Wildlife and the Ruffed Grouse Society in maximizing a favorable habitat on the 1,100 acre area that is conducive to the reproduction of the Ruffed

Grouse. Cooperative agreements have been established between the Division of Wildlife and the Division of Forestry in the Turkey management area, to manage over 4,000 acres of Zaleski State Forest with the primary objective of creating favorable conditions for wild turkey reproduction. Both of these management areas are open to hunting.

SAWMILL

Zaleski State Forest operates the only state owned sawmill in Ohio. The mill produces rough sawn lumber for use by Ohio's state forests and state parks as well as other government agencies.

WATERLOO STATE FOREST



Tulip
Tree

Waterloo State Forest consists of 447 acres that have been incorporated into the overall management of Zaleski State Forest. Some of the largest White Pine in Ohio can be found at Waterloo. This area was one of the first state forest land acquisitions, making it one of the oldest areas of the state that has received continuous forest management.

HUNTERS CAMP

The Atkinson Ridge Hunters camp is located on the north end of the Grouse Management Area on Township Road 5. The campground offers latrines, picnic tables and fire rings. Sites are available on a first come first serve basis. The Hunters Camp is operational one day before the

