

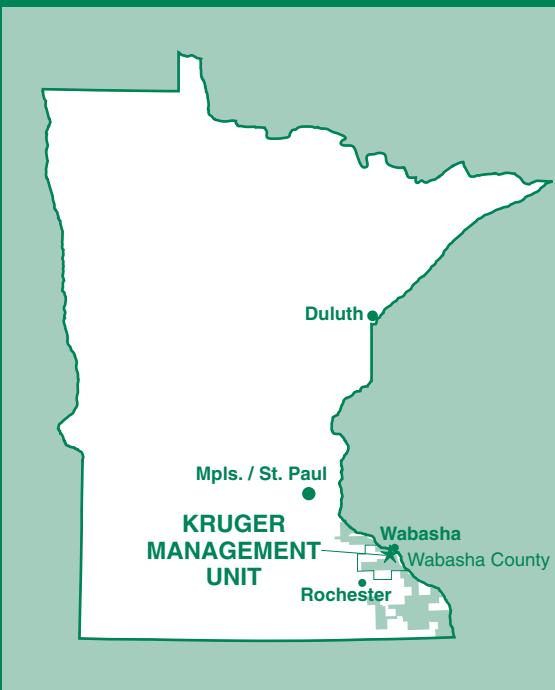
RICHARD J. DORER MEMORIAL HARDWOOD STATE FOREST

TRAIL MAP

KRUGER MANAGEMENT UNIT

Minnesota Department
of Natural Resources

*This information is available in
alternative format upon request.*



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30% post-consumer material.



The Kruger Management Unit is located approximately five miles west of Wabasha, just off State Highway 60 on County Highway 81. The Unit can also be reached by taking County Highway 81 from Kellogg.

The Kruger Management Unit is part of the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest which was established by the legislature in 1961. The Unit is named for Willis Kruger, a former warden and long time conservationist in Wabasha County. Public acquisition of the 1,332 acre tract began in 1962, making this one of the first management units in the forest.

Much of the Unit is on steep slopes overlooking the Zumbro River. Forest cover types include immature pine and black walnut plantations; intermediate-sized maple, basswood and cherry stands; and mature oak, ash and walnut stands. Pockets of aspen and birch are found along the edges of fields while silver maple, cottonwood and willow grow on the bottom lands.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Minnesota's state forests were established to produce timber and other forest crops, provide outdoor recreation, protect watersheds, and perpetuate rare and distinctive species of native flora and fauna. The Department of Natural Resources applies stewardship management principles to produce sustained yields of renewable resources from state forests. Management activities on the Kruger Unit include timber and fuel wood harvesting, reforestation, timber stand improvement and recreational development. Fences have been constructed to prevent woodland grazing, and water control structures have been installed to slow run off and reduce soil erosion.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Kruger Management Unit is maintained as a primitive area. As such, ALL motorized vehicles, except snowmobiles on posted trails, are prohibited.

The Kruger Campground and Day Use Area, which is maintained by Frontenac State Park, provides a variety of recreational facilities. The campground has 19 campsites, each with parking, fire ring and picnic table. Water pumps and outdoor toilets are provided. The adjacent day use area has two shelters and picnic tables. There is an access to the Zumbro River nearby. All day use facilities close at 10:00 P.M.. Only registered campers are permitted to spend the night. A fee is charged for overnight camping.

Three marked trails start near the campground and day use areas. The 3/4 mile Easy Wheeling Nature Trail is accessible to handicapped persons. This Trail has gentle slopes and a blacktop surface. A two-mile hiking and ski touring trail provides a more challenging extension of the nature trail. Horses and all motorized vehicles are prohibited on both of these trails. The third trail, about five miles in length, is open to all users except motorized vehicles. It traverses the bluffs and valleys along the Zumbro River. A horse trailer unloading and parking area is provided near the southwest corner of the Unit. No horse camping is allowed in the campground.

The Zumbro River, which flows past the Kruger Unit, is a canoe and boating route. An access to the river is located across the road from the picnic area.

STATE FOREST RULES

State forest lands are generally open for all types of outdoor recreation including, hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, and picking fruit and mushrooms.

Rules and laws regulate some activities on forest lands. A partial list is included below. A complete list is available from the Department of Natural Resources.

Firewood - Dead wood may be gathered for campfires on site. Cutting or removing wood or forest products for home or commercial use requires a permit.

Campfires - Recreational fires of less than 3 ft. diameter, in an area cleared of combustible materials for 5 ft. around the fire, do not require a permit. Other open burning is regulated by permit.

Firearms - Firearms may be discharged in compliance with the law on forest lands that are not posted closed. Firearms must be unloaded and cased while in and within 200 feet of a forest recreation area (campground, day use area, parking area, etc.)

Camping - Camping on forest lands outside of developed campgrounds is permitted with some conditions. See complete rules.

Personal property - Personal property may not be left or positioned so as to obstruct use of a road or trail. Personal property left unattended for 14 days shall be deemed abandoned.

Special rules apply in forest campgrounds and day use areas. They are not included here.

TRAILS -Motor vehicle and off road rules

Classified Forest Lands. State forest lands are classified by the commissioner for purposes of motor vehicle use. Motor vehicle use is regulated as follows:

State Forest Lands Classified as **Managed**:

- Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads and forest trails **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.

State Forest Lands Classified as **Limited**:

- Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads, **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.

- Motor vehicles may operate **ONLY** on forest trails or areas that are **posted and designated open**.

- Exception: Persons lawfully engaged in hunting big game or constructing hunting stands during October, November and December, or trapping during open seasons, may use ATVs off forest trails in a manner consistent with the general operating restrictions. This exception does not apply in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest.

* Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest is classified as **LIMITED**.

- **Special Provision** - Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest: Motor vehicles and snowmobiles may operate only on forest roads that are not posted closed and on forest trails that are designated for motorized use. **No motorized travel is allowed off of designated trails under any circumstances.**

State Forest Lands Classified as **Closed**:

- Motor vehicles and snowmobiles are **not allowed** except:

* Vehicles licensed for highway use may use forest roads that are not posted or gated closed.

* Vehicles may operate on frozen public waters where it is not otherwise prohibited.

* Snowmobiles may operate on designated trails.

General Operating Restrictions

- **anywhere on state forest lands that motor vehicles are allowed.**

- No motor vehicle operation is allowed on designated non-motorized trails, unless also posted open for a motorized use.

- No motor vehicle operation is allowed on or over the beds of lakes, rivers or streams except:
 - * when the water body is ice covered.
 - * on a bridge, culvert or designated low water crossing.

- Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate on forest lands in a manner that causes erosion or rutting, damages, or destroys trees or growing crops. The rutting provision does not apply on designated motorized trails.

- Motor vehicles or snowmobiles may not operate within the boundaries of an area that is posted and designated as closed to such use.

- Motor vehicles on state forest roads must travel at a reasonable and prudent speed; obey posted speed limits, parking and traffic regulation signs; observe road closures; and may not operate in a manner that causes damage to the road, land or other natural resources.

- No person shall construct an unauthorized permanent trail on forest lands.

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS- Trails are generally open to non-motorized uses, but may be limited by postings

which must be observed. In the Richard J. Dorer, horses and bicycles may travel only on designated trails.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry/Information Center
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

651-296-6157 (Metro Area)

1-888-MINNDNR (MN Toll Free)

TTY Metro Area: 651-296-5484
TTY Outstate Toll Free: 1-800-657-3929

Area Forest Supervisor
1801 S. Oak St.
Lake City, MN 55041
(651) 345-3216

Park Manager
Frontenac State Park
29223 Co. 28 Blvd.
Frontenac, MN 55026
(651) 345-3401

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES - DIAL 911
Law Enforcement/Wabasha County Sheriff
(651) 565-3361

Nearest Hospital
St. Elizabeth's Hospital
Wabasha, MN 55981
(651) 565-4531

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