

# Zumbro Bottoms Management Unit

## FACILITIES

-  Parking
-  Campground
-  Shelter
-  Picnic Shelter
-  Overlook
-  Canoe carry-in
-  Canoe Camping
-  Rescue Point

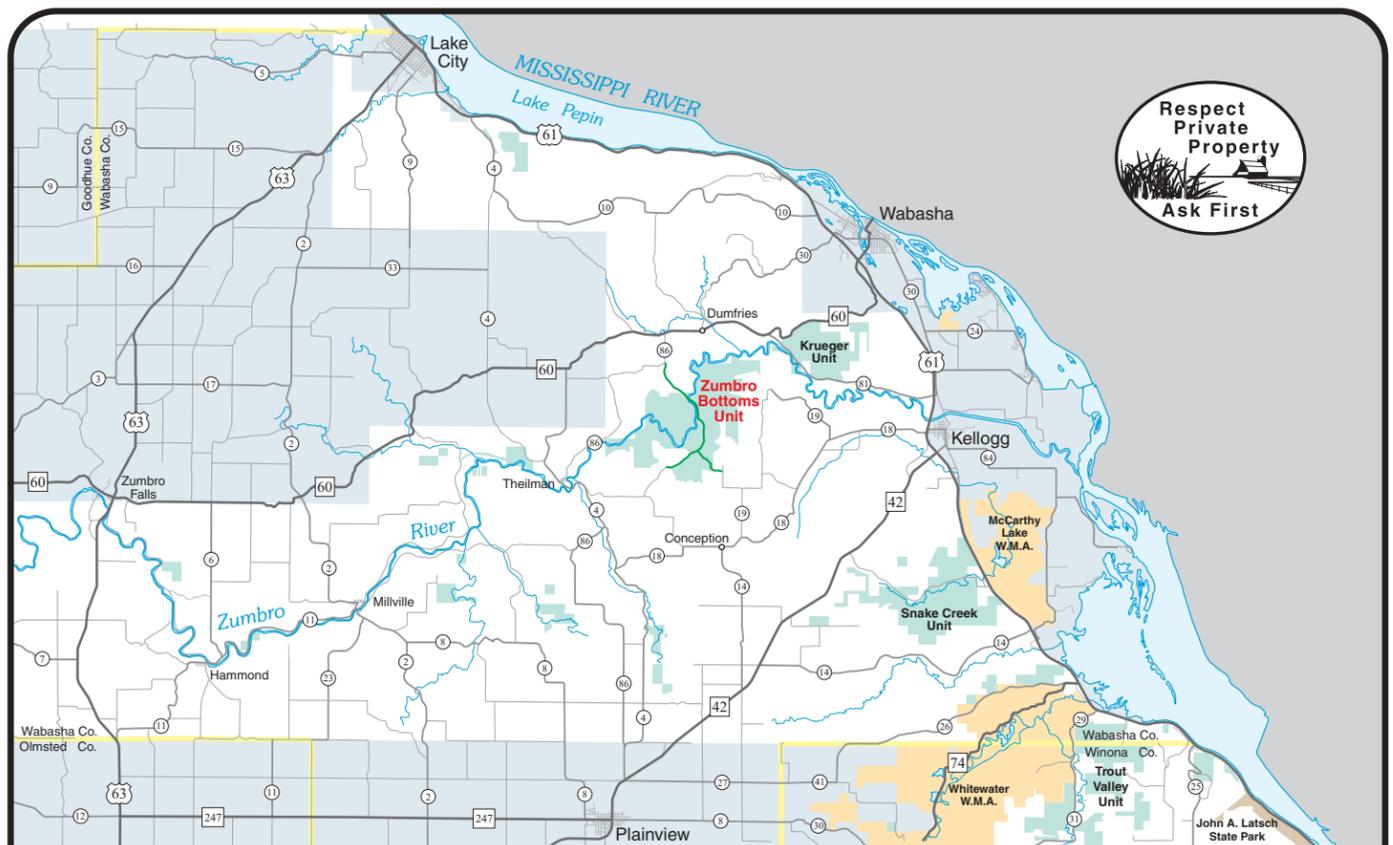


## TRAILS AND DESIGNATIONS

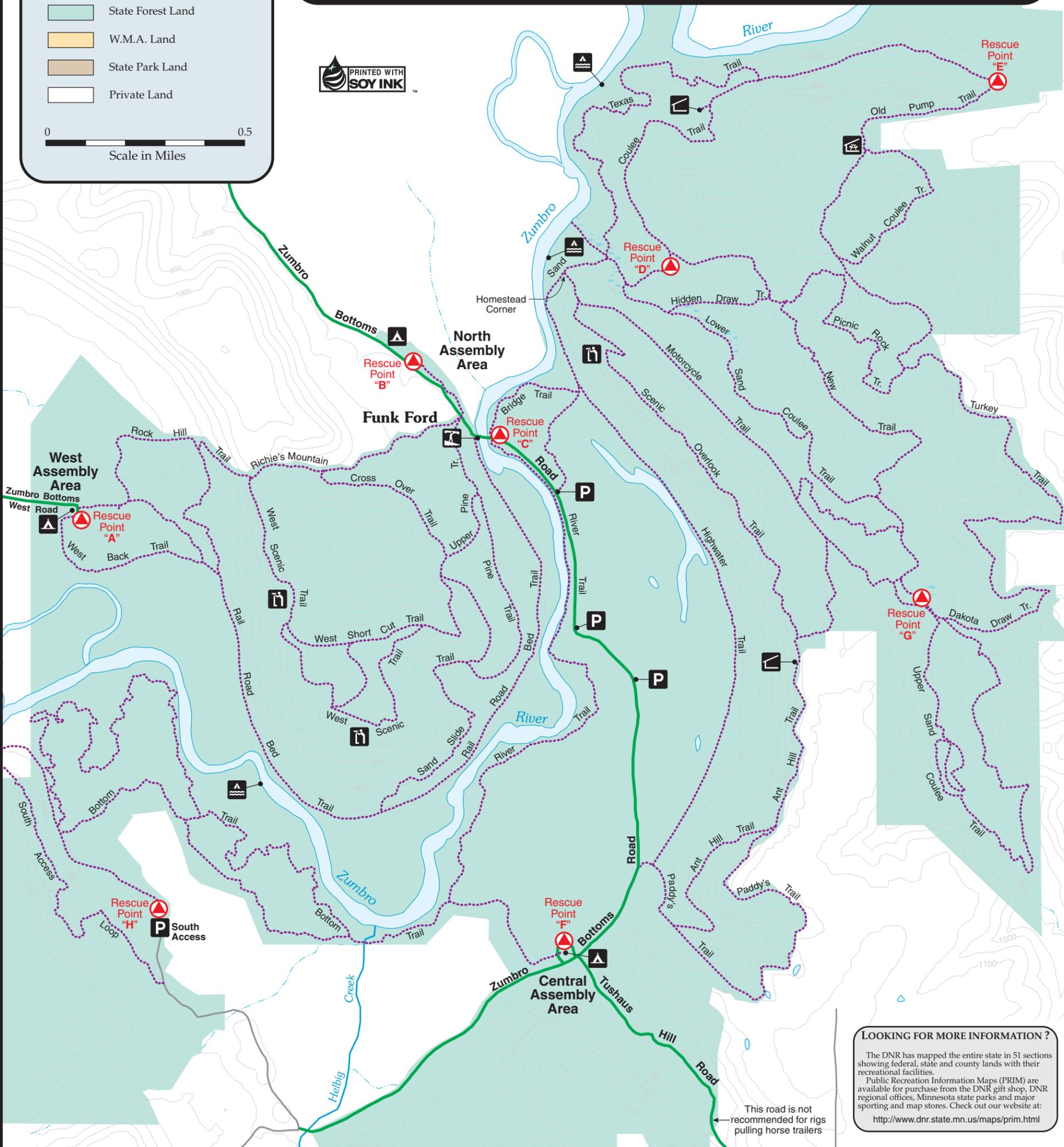
-  Non-Motorized Trails (Horseback)
-  State Forest Road

## OWNERSHIP

-  State Forest Land
-  W.M.A. Land
-  State Park Land
-  Private Land



a portion of **Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest**



**LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ?**

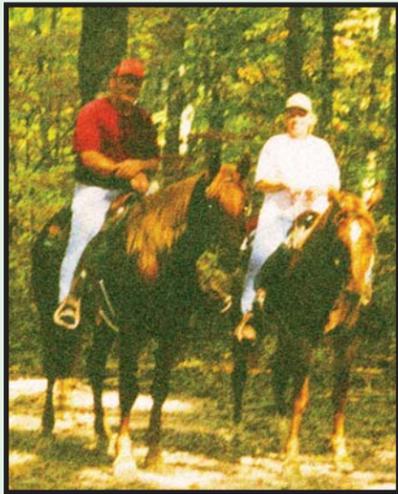
The DNR has mapped the entire state in 51 sections showing federal, state and county lands with their recreational facilities.

Public Recreation Information Maps (PRIM) are available for purchase from the DNR gift shop, DNR regional offices, Minnesota state parks and major sporting and map stores. Check out our website at: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/prim.html>

This road is not recommended for rigs pulling horse trailers

# Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest

*A guide to recreational opportunities  
in Minnesota State Forests*



## ZUMBRO BOTTOMS MANAGEMENT UNIT



Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, age, or disability. Discrimination inquiries should be sent to the MNDNR, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031; or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington D.C., 20240.

The Zumbro Bottoms Management Unit of the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest is located in Wabasha County along the Zumbro River between the two tiny communities of Theilman and Dumfries. There are three main access points to the unit, which all lead to campgrounds. The primary access point (the West Campground) is reached by following County Road 4 south off Highway 60 3-1/2 miles to Theilman and then 2-1/2 miles east on County Road 86 to the unnumbered township entrance road. The Central Campground is accessed off Highway 61 at Kellogg by taking County Road 18 west seven miles to its junction with an unnumbered township road (there are signs at this junction). Turn on the township road and follow two miles to a junction with a state forest road (there are signs at this junction too). Follow this road for two miles to the campground. The North Campground is accessed by following County Road 86 south off Highway 60 for one mile to the state forest road (sign at the junction). Turn on the state forest road and follow one mile to the campground.

Most of the road systems serving the area are located in the flood plain and are subject to damage during wet periods. Gates have been erected to restrict traffic during such times. When environmental conditions force such actions, parking at the gates and traveling by foot through the area is permitted.

### 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 multiple-use management principles to allocate state forest resources to meet the needs of Minnesota citizens. Management actions are planned to maximize sustained yields of renewable resources while maintaining or improving the forest's productive capacity.

The Zumbro Bottoms Management Unit has been and will continue to be the location of various timber management activities. The most noticeable of these are the large timber sales in the flood plain. These were done primarily to salvage the dying elm trees while there was still merchantable value in them. Post-sale treatment will occur in these areas to assure their regeneration to desirable species.

The trail system traverses many plantations that have been established. Most notable of these are the hilltop oak planting on the north side of the river and the walnut along the former township road. Other planting sites include old fields of marginal value for cropland or brushy areas converted from low-quality trees to more commercially valuable species. Many shrubs are also planted for wildlife food or cover.

### RECREATION FACILITIES

The major recreation facility in the Zumbro Bottoms is its extensive trail system. There are numerous connecting loops so you can ride all day and rarely see the same country twice.

The primary summer trail use is horseback riding. The trails have been marked with brown signs showing appropriate uses. While the bulk of the trails are signed and cleared for horseback traffic, other user groups may travel wherever the trail signs show their logo. Bike riding is permitted at Hay Creek, Kruger, and Snake Creek Management Units in addition to areas managed by The Nature Conservancy at Cannon Falls.

The county grants-in-aid snowmobile trail system enters the Zumbro Bottoms at three areas. This corridor system is signed with orange blazers.

Camping is permitted at the West, Central, and North Assembly areas. The campgrounds provide vault toilets and water is available. The camping fee is collected through self-registration envelopes at the entrance to each campground. The campgrounds are first come, first served, with no reservations available.

## 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 complete list is available from the Department of Natural Resources. A partial list is included below:

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 feet in diameter, in an area cleared of combustible materials for 5 feet 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. For more information on rules covering state forests, check the DNR Web site at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_forests/rules.html">www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_forests/rules.html</a>
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.**

## FOREST TRAIL RULES

**NONMOTORIZED TRAILS** - Trails are generally open to nonmotorized uses, but may be limited by postings that must be observed. In the Richard J. Dorer, horses and bicycles may travel only on designated trails

**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 **Limited**:

- Motor vehicles may operate on forest roads, **unless** they are posted and designated **closed**.
- Motor vehicles may operate on forest trails or areas that are **posted and designated open**. Trails that are not posted open for motor vehicles are designated as non-motorized.

**Richard J. Dorer State Forest** is classified as **LIMITED**.

### 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
  - \* Vehicles may operate on frozen public waters where it is not otherwise prohibited. Snowmobiles may operate on designated trails.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Information Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
[www.mndnr.gov/forests](http://www.mndnr.gov/forests)  
651-296-6157 (Metro Area)  
1-888-MINNDNR (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications Device for Deaf)  
651-296-5484 (Metro Area)  
1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

Camping Information:  
Frontenac State Park  
29223 County 28 Blvd.  
Frontenac, MN 55026  
1-651-345-3401

Trails Information:  
DNR Trails and Waterways  
2300 Silver Creek Road NE  
Rochester, MN 55906  
1-507-285-7176

General Forestry Information:  
Lake City Area Forester  
1801 South Oak Street  
Lake City, MN 55041  
1-651-345-3216

### General Operating Restrictions - anywhere on state forest lands that motor vehicles are allowed.

- 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, or damages or destroys trees or growing crops. The rutting provision does not apply on designated motorized trails.
- No motor vehicle operation is allowed on designated nonmotorized trails, unless also posted open for a motorized use.
- 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.

**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 not designated for motorized use. No motorized travel is allowed off of designated trails under any circumstances. Motorized trails are open for ATV and OHM use from May 1 to November 1.

### EMERGENCY SERVICES - 911

Wabasha County Sheriff  
618 Broadway  
Wabasha, MN 55981  
1-651-565-3361

St. Elizabeth's Medical Center  
1200 Grant Blvd. West  
Wabasha, MN 55981  
1-651-565-4531

**MINNESOTA  
HORSE  
TRAIL PASS  
REQUIRED HERE**

*M.S. 85.46 No person 16 or older may ride, lead or drive a horse on this trail without a valid horse trail pass. Violations are a misdemeanor and subject to fine.*

Horse trail pass fees are dedicated for acquisition, development and maintenance of horse trails and equestrian facilities.

Horse trail passes can be purchased at any Minnesota electronic licensing system (ELS) location, or see [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us) or call toll free 1-888-MINNDNR.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



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