HISTORY OF THE FOREST

DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION, between 1936 and 1942, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built numerous structures in the forest, often using durable American chestnut wood from trees that succumbed to a blight that nearly wiped out the species. Eleven of these structures, including the rustic picnic shelters near the overlook, have been placed in the National Register of Historic Places.

GROUPS

Motorcoach, tour groups and educational field trips welcome!
Group/Tour information is posted online. Contact the forest business office by phone or e-mail well in advance when planning visits of large groups.

CLIMBERS

Climbers must register at park business office or the concession stand/trading post prior to activity.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

- Cheat Lake (boating and swimming)
- Chestnut Ridge
- Forks of Cheat Winery
- Lakeview Golf Resort and Conference Center
- Mon River Rail Trail System
- West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- Whitewater Rafting (Cheat River)

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ACCOMMODATIONS

Campground
- 25 sites
- Electric hookups
- Bathhouse with hot showers
- Playgrounds
- Picnic tables and cooking grills
- Firewood available for a nominal fee
- Open May through deer hunting season

Hunting/Fishing
- Six-acre lake
- State license required
- Designated area for hunting
- No hunting within 500 feet of recreational facilities

Overlook Area
- Scenic overlook
- Concession stand and gift shop
- Open May through October
- Climbers sign in here

Picnic
- Three reservable shelters
- Numerous sites
- Table with nearby grills
- Drinking water
- Restroom facilities
- Playground area

CAMPING INFORMATION

Up to 50 percent of the campsites at Coopers Rock State Forest are designated and available for reservations, while the remainder sites are rented on a first-come, first-served basis. Campsite reservations are taken in advance for designated sites from the Friday before Memorial Day through Labor Day. Outside the reservable dates, all sites become first-come, first-served basis.

Only mail-in reservations will be accepted from February 15 through March 14. Site reservation application forms for the current year are available online to download. Mail-in reservations must be postmarked on or after February 15, or they will be returned. The site application form is available online or by mail and has additional details. Beginning March 15, phone reservations will be accepted during office hours. Mail-in, call-in and walk-in reservations will be accepted from April 1 through Labor Day Weekend.

Reservations may be made at least two days in advance and held by a deposit of the entire camping fee plus a $5 handling fee. Reservations may be made by calling Coopers Rock directly or by dialing 1-800-CALL WVA and asking for Coopers Rock State Forest. This toll-free line may be used anywhere in the continental United States or any Canadian province in the Eastern time zone. A minimum stay of two nights, up to a maximum of 14, is required. Campsite numbers will not be guaranteed; however, every effort will be made to assign the reservable campsite requested. Payment may be made by check or money order. Major credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover and Diners Club) also are accepted for all reservations.

The campground is generally open mid-April through mid-December (weather permitting). Only one tent or trailer is allowed per site. Pets (dogs and cats) are permitted. Leash guidelines must be observed. Check-in time is 1 p.m. and check-out is at noon.

NOTE: Policies, rates and fees are subject to change.