



## Shawnee National Forest Eclipse 2017 Things You Should Know

### Shawnee National Forest Sites Best Suited for Eclipse Viewing

Check out these open areas for a great view.

- Camp Cadiz Campground ○
- Johnson Creek Recreation Area ○
- Lake of Egypt \*◇ *opening Thursday, August 17*
- Oakwood Bottoms Interpretive Site \*◇ *opening Monday, August 14*
- Pennant Bar \*◇ *opening Monday, August 14*
- Pounds Hollow Recreation Area ○
- Tower Rock Campground \*○
- Turkey Bayou Campground \*◇ *Friends of the Bayou say Turkey Bayou is full.*

Although much of the Shawnee is covered in forests, there are open areas that provide good locations for viewing the eclipse. National forest land extends across southern Illinois from the Ohio River to the Mississippi River and is intermixed with private land, so be sure you are on public land before setting up your camp or picnic.

### Go Camp!

You can camp at these sites too! With little or no trees, they are ideal locations for your eclipse experience.

#### Other Campgrounds in Shawnee National Forest:

- Bell Smith Springs Recreation Area ○
- Garden of the Gods Recreation Area ○
- Lake Glendale Recreation Area ○
- Pine Hills Campground ○

○ Developed campground.

\*No fee campground.

◇ For the convenience of campers, these non-developed camping areas will have portable toilets and garbage pick-up during *Eclipse 2017*. These areas do not have drinking water and are patrolled regularly.

### No reservations accepted.

Instructions for paying campsite fees are located at the entrance of the campground. Campgrounds are patrolled regularly. Please note that some of the campgrounds do not have drinking water. For a list of developed campground amenities and fees, visit our Recreation webpage under *Quick Links*.

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### **Dispersed Camping Options**

Primitive camping is allowed on National Forest land ¼ mile outside the boundaries of developed campgrounds and picnic areas. Primitive camping is NOT allowed within Natural Areas, Research Natural Areas, on trails or within 150 feet of a lake or stream. There is no fee for primitive camping in the general forest areas, however visitors are limited to camping a maximum of 14 continuous days.

### **Forest Roads**

Rural roads in the Shawnee include roads that are under state, county and Forest Service jurisdiction. County and Forest Service roads are usually unpaved and narrow. Parking along Forest Service roads is allowed, but drivers should not block traffic or cause resource damage from parking on wet or soft soils.

Detailed road maps are available on our website, by mail order or at Shawnee office locations in Vienna, Harrisburg and Jonesboro. For a list of current road closures, go to *Alerts* on our website.

### **Eclipse Safety**

Use proper eye protection when viewing the eclipse. For more information about the proper safety while viewing the eclipse, visit NASA's safety website: [www.nasa.gov/content/eye-safety-during-a-total-solar-eclipse](http://www.nasa.gov/content/eye-safety-during-a-total-solar-eclipse)

### **Outdoor Safety**

- **Call 911** if you have an emergency.
- Plan ahead and prepare for your visit.
- Let someone know your travel plans.
- Obtain maps or GPS locations of the area that you are planning to visit.
- Carry plenty of water and food.
- Be aware of changing weather conditions, high temperatures and humidity.
- Be aware of your surroundings. High bluffs, abandoned cisterns and dead standing trees are present throughout the forest.
- Cell phone reception may be weak or non-existent in parts of the Shawnee.
- Ticks and other insects are abundant. Insect repellent is recommended.
- Poison ivy is widespread. Learn what it looks like so that you can avoid it. Wash skin and clothing after coming in contact.
- Venomous snakes occur in southern Illinois. Be cautious, watch where you step or place your hands.
- Practice the Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics: [www.Int.org](http://www.Int.org)
- For more information visit our safety webpage: [www.fs.usda.gov/main/shawnee/learning/safety-ethics](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/shawnee/learning/safety-ethics)



United States Department of Agriculture

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### **National Forest Rules & Restrictions**

Find *Rules & Restrictions* under *Quick Links* on our Eclipse information website.

Help keep Shawnee National Forest free of tree-killing pests by not moving firewood. Buy it where you burn it. Learn more at <https://www.dontmovefirewood.org/>.

### **Other Viewing Locations and Events**

NASA, our federal partner for *Eclipse 2017*, is holding a marquee event at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale: [www.eclipse.siu.edu](http://www.eclipse.siu.edu)

Southern Illinois *Eclipse2017*—Lodging, restaurants and events:  
[www.southernillinoiseclipse.com](http://www.southernillinoiseclipse.com)

### **Logistic Updates**

On August 21, there will be limited Cedar Lake parking in the lot at the end of Boat Dock Road. We will be closing half of the lot to accommodate emergency crews.