

Five Tips

1. Keep your wheels where they belong: on roads and trails open to vehicles. Please don't drive cross country. Driving off roads and trails is illegal and does damage especially to wet areas. You can help keep topsoil in place by keeping your wheels in the right place.
2. Help fight weeds: use only certified weed-seed-free hay and feed. Noxious weeds like spotted knapweed take over and leave wildlife without a home or food.
3. Be careful with fire. Don't let cool weather fool you: our biggest season for human-caused fires is right now. Make sure your fires are dead out when you leave them.
4. Leave your campsite better than you found it. Scatter stock manure and fire rings, repair scars on the land, and dismantle things you built.
5. Know the rules: carry a Forest Service travel map and state hunting regulations.

Offices of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest

All Area Code 406:

Butte, 494-2147
Deer Lodge, 846-1770
Dillon, 683-3900
Ennis, 682-4253
Philipsburg, 859-3211
Sheridan, 842-5432
Whitehall, 287-3223
Wisdom, 689-3243
Wise River, 832-3178

Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/bdnf/>

Camping

You can camp most anywhere in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, with just a few exceptions. Please be a good neighbor and don't set up your gear at campsites you aren't really using.

There's a 16-day limit on camping in any one site. If that's in a campground, then you have to leave the campground for at least two days before returning.

If you're camping somewhere other than a campground, after 16 days you must move your camp at least five miles for at least the next two weeks.

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U S D A F O R E S T
S E R V I C E

HUNTING SEASON

Beaverhead- Deerlodge National Forest



U S D A F O R E S T
S E R V I C E

Hunting Season

Get a Map

Stop in at a Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management office to get the latest maps and information. You'll find Forest Service offices in Dillon, Butte, Wise River, Whitehall, Wisdom, Sheridan, Ennis, Philipsburg, and Deer Lodge. You can get a ticket if you don't follow the travel rules on the map.

Rules for Vehicles

The Forest Service and BLM have many roads and trails open to motorized travel, but some roads and trails are closed in hunting season. All vehicles must stay on existing routes and not drive cross-country on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest or on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

You may drive up to 300 feet off a road or trail only to reach a temporary camping spot, but otherwise, including for firewood cutting, keep your wheels on the road.

Special rules in the Gravelly and Snowcrest ranges in Madison County allow driving off roads at designated spots only to reach a designated camping spot. Ask at the ranger stations in Sheridan or Ennis for information on where those designated camping spots are.

ATVs

Remember, too, that state law requires that drivers and vehicles must be licensed and "street legal" when on numbered Forest Service roads. ATV's and motorcycles on designated Forest Service trails don't have to be licensed or street legal, but must have a state "OHV sticker."

Food Storage

Special rules apply for storing food in the Madison, Snowcrest, Tobacco Root and Gravelly mountain ranges, mostly in Madison County. There you must store food and other items that could attract bears either in hard-sided vehicles, bear-resistant containers, or 10 feet up and four feet out from a tree.



If you have an animal carcass, keep it at least 100 yards from your camp, a trail, or any place people will sleep. Between 100 yards and one-half mile from your camp, you must hang or store your animal carcass just like other items that can attract bears.

You can leave a carcass on the ground if it's at least one-half mile from camping areas and at least 200 yards from a trail. Storing carcasses in a hard-sided horse trailer 100 yards away is okay, too.

Storing food out of a bear's reach keeps the bear wild and at a distance, where it belongs. No matter where you are, though, never assume that you'll never see a bear!

WEEDS!

Remember, only certified, weed-free hay, straw, seed, and feed can be brought into the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest. You can help preserve wildlife habitat and stop the spread of noxious weeds by making sure your feed is clean. To qualify, your hay bales must be tagged. Letters from growers won't be accepted.

Noxious weeds, like spotted knapweed, have the potential to destroy the habitat that makes Southwest Montana's hunting among the country's finest. Please report patches of weeds you find on public lands to the nearest Forest Service or BLM office.

Leave No Trace!

Pack it in—Pack it out! Bury human waste six inches deep and 100 feet away from water.

Leave what you find. Please don't collect items from the forest.

Use "Leave No Trace" techniques for campfires. Outside of campgrounds, when you're done with your fire, dismantle your fire ring.

Do not tie your horse directly to trees; use durable surfaces, and please don't tie up stock within 200 feet of a lakeshore or running water.



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