

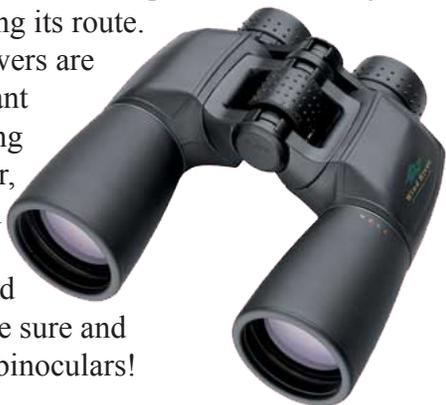


The **Monroe Outlook** is maintained as a wildlife area in a joint effort between Wayne National Forest and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The area was selected as a destination site due to the 360 degree view it provides and it's wildlife watching opportunities. A short trail was developed in a partnership between Wayne National Forest, The Little Cities of the Forest Collaboration, and Miller High School.

Another nearby trail, the 15-mile Wildcat Hollow Hiking Trail, also provides some good wildlife viewing opportunities. This trail traverses upland forests, stream bottoms, pine plantations, and meadows. White-tailed deer, wild turkeys, forest songbirds and numerous reptiles and amphibians are likely to be seen along its route.

Wildflowers are also abundant during spring and summer, and autumn colors are vibrant. Bird watchers, be sure and bring your binoculars!



Vicinity Map:



The Monroe Outlook is managed out of the Nelsonville office of the Wayne National Forest:

Athens Ranger District
13700 U.S. Highway 33
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Phone: 740-753-0101

Federal relay system for the deaf and hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339

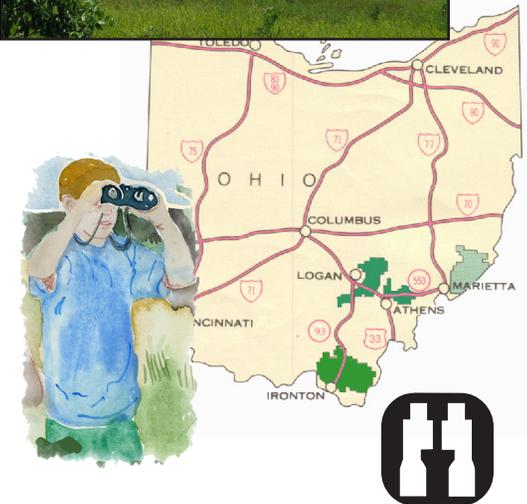
website: fs.usda.gov/wayne

Monroe Outlook was developed and is maintained as a collaborative effort with The Little Cities of the Forest, Ohio Department of Natural Resources- Division of Wildlife, and the Wayne National Forest.



6/2010

Monroe Outlook on the Wayne National Forest



America's Great Outdoors

Forest  Service
United States Department of Agriculture



Take a Journey through Succession --
When plant communities are disturbed either through human activities or natural disasters, seeds and roots sprout quickly to revegetate the area. The grasses and shrubs are gradually replaced by taller plants that live longer.

This plant community replacement process is called plant succession. The final and most stable combination of plants is called the climax community. The climax community normally stays in place until another major plant disturbance occurs. Various locations and climates have different climax communities.

In southeast Ohio, plant succession goes through several predictable stages. Disturbed soil will first be covered by grasses and herbaceous (non-woody) plants. Gradually these plants are replaced by shrubs. Over time, young trees (saplings) begin to grow among the other plants. Mature and over-mature trees form the climax community in the Wayne National Forest.

Each wildlife species has different requirements for food, water, and shelter (habitat).



Many species require different types of habitat at different times of their live or different times of the year.

In order to provide for a diverse mix of wildlife, the Wayne maintains permanent wildlife openings. Wildlife openings are kept in an early stage of plant succession (or progression) and are prevented from developing into a mature forest. A mix of grasses, forbs, shrubs, and tree saplings are encouraged to grow in openings.

Ground-nesting birds such as the ruffed grouse and woodcock may be found in wildlife openings and hawks use the areas for hunting grounds. Wild turkey, bluebirds, and black bear forage in areas like this opening for insects and berries. Rabbits may use the area for nesting, food and cover. Whitetail deer and other species occupy openings during different seasons of the year.



This location at Monroe Outlook, is purposely maintained in the early stage of succession by the Wayne National Forest for wildlife that requires early succesional habitat.



Please follow these rules:

Check bulletin board each visit for warnings of dangerous conditions and updates.

- Pets must be restrained on leash. Please clean up after your own pet.
- Pack it in/Pack it out applies to all areas of the Wayne National Forest. Trash can be placed in designated trash cans.
- Discharging firearms, fireworks or explosives is not allowed in the recreation area.
- Parking is permitted in parking lots and areas only.
- No camping in parking lots.
- Please do not feed wild animals.
- Streams and rivers have not been tested for drinking water use. We do not recommend using any surface water source for drinking water.
- Permits are not required for hiking.
- No target practice on forest lands.
- Firing a gun is not allowed:
 - In or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site, or occupied area.
 - Across a road or body of water.
 - In any circumstance whereby any person may be injured or property damaged

