

CONESVILLE COAL LANDS PUBLIC HUNTING AREA

HISTORY AND LOCATION: The Conesville Coal Lands are a part of AEP's public recreational areas. This 14,639-acre area is located five miles southeast of Coshocton, Ohio in Coshocton and Muskingum Counties. The area provides over 100 lakes and ponds for fishing and a great place for hunting. In addition to public hunting and fishing areas, the ownership has a dedicated Equine Trail Area known as Fallon Park, located on County Road 429. Available at the trailhead is a shelter for public events and picnics, and primitive camping (for horse owners only). The area offers a diverse mixture of habitat types from highwalls and reclaimed grasslands to rolling terrain and deep ravines. The Conesville Coal Lands area is considered day-use only. The area is also under an agreement made in 1985 with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Wildlife. This recreational area is accessed by State Routes 83 & 93 and the county and township roads that pass through it.

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER RECREATION AREAS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Permits are required for using lands which AEP has made available for recreational use. These areas are Ohio Power Company's ReCreation Land and Avondale Wildlife Area and Columbus Southern Power Company's Conesville Coal Lands and Poston Plant Lands. The user must have the appropriate permit for the recreation area he/she is using. The permit covers only the above designated recreation areas; it does not cover any other AEP lands. A free permit may be obtained by sending a request to American Electric Power Company, 59 W. Main Street, McConnellsville, Ohio 43756 or online at <http://aep.com/RecreationLand>
 - The permit must be carried at all times or placed on the dash of the user's vehicle.
 - An individual permit covers an individual 18 years of age or older who is not covered under an organization permit.
 - A family permit covers husband and wife and their legal children/grandchildren under the age of 18; all persons under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/grandparent or legal guardian who has a permit.
 - An organization permit covers groups, clubs or organizations for a one-time use of landowner's Recreation Areas for a specified event, and must be issued by the McConnellsville office. This permit does not cover personal use.
 2. Respect the rights and signs of the property owner:
 - Do not trespass upon posted land.
 3. Wading, bathing, swimming and scuba diving are prohibited.
 4. Motorized vehicles:
 - All motorized vehicles must conform to State of Ohio Licensing and Registration Laws.
 - Snowmobiles, trail bikes, three and four wheelers, dune buggies and all-terrain vehicles are prohibited.
 - Motor vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails or other areas that have been posted to restrict vehicular access.
 - No off-road use (mud-running) is permitted.
 5. Watercraft:
 - All watercraft must comply with the Ohio Division of Watercraft regulations.
 - The use of boat motors over 9.9 horsepower is prohibited.
 6. The use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
 7. Hunting, trapping and fishing:
 - Valid Ohio Fishing, Hunting or Trapping Licenses and deer and turkey permits are required for these activities.
 - Groundhog hunting is prohibited.
 - Target practice of any kind is prohibited.
 - Beaver trapping on Ohio Power Company lands is controlled and requires a special Beaver Trapping Permit from the landowner, in addition to this user's permit.
 - Fishing with floats, jugs and trot lines is prohibited.
 8. Rappelling, rock climbing and hang gliding are prohibited.
 9. The cutting or damaging of trees or shrubs is prohibited.
 10. Litter or trash:
 - The improper disposal of litter or trash is prohibited.
 11. Offensive language and excessive noise is prohibited.
 12. The use or possession of fireworks is prohibited.
 13. Camping at the Equine Trail Area (for horse owners only) is permissible while riding horses. (3 day limit) All recreational users are responsible for all trash disposal. There is no potable water in this area. There is a watering trough and tie lines available at the trailhead.
 14. Horse back riding is permitted only on the designated trail area. No off-trail use is permitted.
 15. Mountain Bike Trail Areas: Helmets required; ride on open trails only; leave no trace. control your bicycle; always yield the trail; never scare animals; plan ahead. **Mountain bikers should be aware that hunting is also allowed in this area. Please use caution during all hunting seasons.**
 16. No person shall dig, harvest, or otherwise collect wild ginseng or yellow root from its natural habitat. Ginseng and yellow root collection is prohibited.
- Failure to be aware of the rules is no excuse; violation of rules may result in loss of privileges to use AEP's Recreation Areas and may lead to arrest. Regular patrols are conducted by the Recreation Lands Manager, the County Sheriff's Department, and The Ohio Division of Wildlife.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Further information may be obtained from: Wildlife District Four, 360 E. State Street, Athens, Ohio 45701-1895; telephone 740-589-9930.

TURN IN A POACHER: Ohio's TIP (Turn in a Poacher) program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline: 1-800-POACHER.