

Organised Activities

The Forestry Commission welcomes many organised activities such as orienteering or club photography but these events do need special permission. Events involving 20 people or more should be notified to the Forestry Commission beforehand. The Forestry Commission can advise on the most suitable areas for the event to minimise disturbance to others and to safeguard the environment.

- Fishing - Forestry Commission permits are required for fishing. These are available from a number of local outlets.

For further information on 'permissions', contact the Forestry Commission at The Queen's House, Lyndhurst. Tel. 023 8028 3141



Kite Flying

Small kites may be flown in the forest, providing other users and animals are not disturbed. Power and traction kites over 2m² are not permitted.

- Kites can frighten animals – please keep kites **well away** from livestock and horse riders
- Be considerate to other forest users
- Sorry - no kite buggies or wheelboards

Barbecues

Raised, non-disposable BBQs can only be used at the following car parks:

Anderwood; Blackwater; Bolderwood; Burley; Hatchet Pond; Linford Bottom; Whitefield Moor; Wilverley Plain and Wilverley Inclosure.

Disposable BBQs can only be used at Bolderwood and Blackwater car parks. Place these on the metal plates fixed to the picnic tables where they can be used safely.

Ensure that BBQ waste is cold after use and dispose of it safely. Take it home or put cold waste in a bin. Be careful not to start any fires.

For BBQ parties of 10 people or more, consider using the purpose-built facilities at Anderwood or Wilverley. For more details, contact the Forestry Commission at The Queen's House, Lyndhurst. Tel: 023 8028 3141



Putting the Forest First

On your visit to the area please...

GUARD.....against all risk of fire

PROTECT...trees, plants and wildlife

LEAVEthings as you find them

TAKEnothing away except your litter

Other codes that you may find useful:

- Horse Riding in the New Forest
- Dog Walking in the New Forest
- Cycling in the New Forest

For further information please contact:

**Forestry Commission
The Queen's House
Lyndhurst
Hampshire SO43 7NH**

Tel: 023 8028 3141

Fax: 023 8028 3929

Email: enquiries.new.forest@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.forestry.gov.uk/newforest

This code has been compiled by a forum of local people, representing both conservation and recreation interests, under EU Interreg IIIB funding. The code is endorsed by the New Forest Verderers, the Commoners' Defence Association and the Forestry Commission.



Out and About In The New Forest



A guide to help people enjoy the New Forest



Conserve • Protect • Enjoy

Enjoy your Visit

The New Forest is a beautiful place for quiet recreation with mature trees, shaded streams, wild open heathland and peaceful paths. William the Conqueror set aside the forest for hunting over 900 years ago. Centuries of grazing by deer, ponies and cattle, combined with forestry, have shaped the landscape into what you see today.

Each year, many thousands of local people and visitors enjoy the beauty and tranquillity of this unique place. However, the New Forest is an important nature conservation area with many rare habitats and wildlife species.

We want to protect the landscape and ensure that it remains beautiful and safe for everyone who visits. If you follow this code of conduct, you will enjoy yourself and do your bit to help protect this wonderful forest.

Help us to keep the New Forest a special place.

Remember that local byelaws apply in the New Forest

PLEASE FOLLOW THE CODE →



New Forest General Code

1

Be safe and plan ahead - follow any signs and aim to be out of the forest by dusk.



2

Close all gates behind you unless they have been fastened open.

3

Do not pick or remove plants or flowers.



4

Do not feed or disturb the common stock – ponies, cattle and donkeys. Give them space and do not touch them.

5

Take your litter home and do not light fires.



6

Keep to the existing tracks on the forest when birds nest on the ground (1 March - 31 July). At this time, keep your dog close by or you may be asked by a forest ranger or keeper to put it on a lead.

7

Keep below the forest speed limit (40 mph) and slow down when approaching walkers, riders or livestock.



8

Do not park on verges or in gateways. Use one of the many car parks.

9

Keep well away from any forestry work and obey the warning signs.



How can you Help?

The main appeal of the New Forest is that you can get away from it all, enjoy the peace and quiet and be closer to nature. Please take time to read the useful guidelines below.

Ponies and cattle

Yes, they are lovely and you may want to pet them or feed them, but these animals are wild and should be left alone. They can kick or bite unexpectedly and feeding encourages them to come near people, roads and traffic, which can result in accidents and animal deaths.

Remember to drive a little slower in the forest (below the speed limit of 40 mph). The animals often walk across roads and can be difficult to see, especially at night.

Forestry

The forest is a working environment. Some forest operations can be dangerous, such as tree felling or timber extraction. Obey the Forestry Commission warning signs and avoid work sites.

Dogs

The forest is a lovely area to exercise your dog. You are welcome to walk your dog, providing you keep it close by and under control. Many birds nest on the ground from 1 March to 31 July and disturbance by uncontrolled dogs can result in deserted nests and abandoned chicks.

Dog fouling on footpaths and around car parks is offensive and creates serious health risks. Think of others and remove the waste - take it home for disposal or bag it and bin it.

Parking

There are car parks all across the forest, including around 130 sites maintained by the Forestry Commission. Please park only in the car parks. Parking on verges causes damage and parking in gateways obstructs access for forestry vehicles.

Camping

There are many purpose-built campsites in the forest with good facilities. People must camp in these sites - 'wild camping' is not allowed. The Forestry Commission has 10 campsites within the New Forest – details from:

www.forestholidays.co.uk Tel: 0131 314 6505