

WINNEBAGO COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT



Shelterhouse reservation certificate applications will be accepted at the Forest Preserve District Office on a first-come first-served basis starting on the first Monday of February. Reservations will be taken for the months of May through October only.

The southeast area has shelterhouses at Blackhawk Springs, Espenscheid Memorial, Fuller Memorial, Kilbuck Bluffs, Kishwaukee River, and Severson Dells.

The southwest area has shelterhouses at Four Lakes, Pecatonica River, Pecatonica Wetlands, Seward Bluffs, and Trask Bridge.

The northwest area has shelterhouses at Laona Heights and Sugar River.

The northeast area has shelterhouses at Atwood Homestead, Hononegah, Kieselburg, Macktown, and Roland Olson.

There are 27 shelterhouses; only seven have electricity, Blackhawk Springs Indian Springs, Hononegah's Indian Rest, Towering Pines, Pecatonica River's Highview, Pecatonica Wetland's Arrowhead, Macktown's Highland, and Roland Olson's Stuga.

Rules and Regulations

- Fees paid are not refundable.
- Tentative reservations will be held for two weeks only. If completed reservation form and payment are not received within that period, the reservation may be given to another.
- Any individual who is eighteen years or older may apply for a reservation.
- The adult in whose name the certificate is issued accepts responsibility for the condition of the shelterhouse, building, or grounds area upon conclusion of the activity. Trash is to be bagged and placed in dumpster. Leaving the area or facility in an unreasonable state of disorder where excessive clean up is necessary will result in additional charges and/or revocation of reservation privileges of the responsible individuals and/or organization. **Nailing or stapling of signs or other items to trees, shelterhouses, outhouses, or tables is prohibited.**
- A shelterhouse certificate entitles the group to reserve any tables in the immediate area that are required, within reason, to accommodate their needs. A grounds use certificate will be required if rides are to be used. They may be purchased at the District Office with the shelter reservation. A building or grounds use certificate entitles the group to utilize the building or grounds for their expressed activity for the entire day. Shelters may not be occupied by another party prior to the arrival of the group reserving the shelter. Areas around the building and adjacent facilities may be open to public use.
- Vehicular access to shelterhouses for the purpose of picking up or delivering supplies may be permitted. **Vehicles must then immediately be returned to designated parking areas. Parking adjacent to shelterhouses off of designated parking areas is prohibited.**
- Playground equipment, baseball diamonds, parking lots, and other such facilities are not included in the certificate and therefore will be open to the public on a first-come first-served basis.
- Reservations for groups of 250 to 500 people require an opening in the schedule for day of and day after planned date. District facilities permit a maximum of 500 persons per reservation.
- It is the responsibility of the person(s) making a reservation to be familiar with the Forest Preserve District General Use Regulation Ordinance and this Policy Statement.

Alcoholic Beverages on District Properties

If alcoholic beverages are provided for and/or consumed by guests of the applicant, applicant shall guarantee compliance with Chapter 235 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, which statute prohibits the sale of delivery but not the consumption of alcoholic beverages in a building belonging to or under the control of the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District property. However, if participants are charged a fee for the event, Dram Shop Insurance is mandatory and a copy of the Certificate of Insurance must be supplied prior to authorization.

PRESERVE SHELTERHOUSE	Max # of People	Picnic Tables	Seating	Cost Up to 300
SOUTHEAST Blackhawk Springs Indian Springs	300	25	150	\$40 - E
Espenscheid Memorial Shady Oaks	80	8	48	\$25
Kishwaukee River Fort Vincennes Sleepy Hollow	80 150	8 22	48 132	\$25 \$35
Fuller Memorial Bird Haven	300	25	150	\$35
Kilbuck Bluffs * Edgewood * Fort Chartres	100 80	10 8	60 48	\$35 \$25
Severson Dells Prairie Knoll	200	25	150	\$35
SOUTHWEST Four Lakes Lake View	100	9	54	\$25
Pecatonica River Highview	300	25	150	\$40 - E
Pecatonica Wetlands Arrowhead	300	15	150	\$40 - E
Seward Bluffs Grove Creek Oak Ridge	50 80	5 8	30 48	\$25 \$25
Trask Bridge Coffee Tree	80	7	42	\$25
NORTHWEST Laona Heights Ironwood	50	4	24	\$25
Sugar River River View Sand Bluffs	80 132	8 22	48 132	\$25 \$35
NORTHEAST Atwood Homestead Old Settlers River Oaks Willow Grove	300 300 200	22 22 22	132 132 132	\$35 \$35 \$35
Hononegah Bird Grove Indian Rest Towering Pines	100 200 300	8 22 22	48 132 132	\$25 \$40 - E \$40 - E
Kieselburg Black Willow Springs Redcedar Ridge	200 200	25 22	150 132	\$35 \$35
Macktown ** Highland	200	22	132	\$40 - E
Roland Olson * Stuga	500	25	150	\$40 - E

Playgrounds only at Blackhawk Springs, Pecatonica River, Seward Bluffs, Sugar River, Atwood Homestead, Hononegah, & Roland Olson. E = Electric

Fees

Shelterhouses

Daily reservation small shelter (up to 150 people) **\$25.00**
 Daily reservation large shelter (up to 300 people) **\$35.00**
 Daily reservation shelter with electric additional **\$5.00**
 Daily reservation large shelter (300 to 500) **\$350**
 includes two port-o-lets & a large trash dumpster

Ground Use Permits

Rides or Amusements (maximum 5) **\$30**
 per day per ride or amusement

No amplified music.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency **911**
 Forest Preserve Patrol
 Information & Administration **1-815-877-6100**
 24-Hour Winnebago County Sheriff's Dept.
 Non-emergency **1-815-282-2600**
 Crime Stoppers* **1-815-963-6067**
 Target Illinois Poachers* **1-800-236-7529**

*Agencies may protect the anonymity of the complainant.

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PICNIC SHELTERHOUSES



WINNEBAGO COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT



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Our Mission

To assure the public access to permanent natural lands and areas for safe and enjoyable outdoor recreation and education.