

General Camping Regulations

- **Alcohol:** Possessing alcoholic beverages in violation of any KY or TN State law, regulation, or statute is prohibited
- **Camping equipment:** Securing camping equipment is your responsibility. Any camping equipment left unattended/abandoned more than 24 hours may be removed and the owner may be subject to fines. Title 36 CFR 261.16f, Title 36 CFR 261.16i.
- **Campsite occupancy:** Failing to have at least one person occupy a campsite during the first night after camping equipment has been set up. Saving campsites is not allowed. Title 36 CFR 261.16h.
- **Children:** Any person under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Dumpsters:** Dumpsters are located at the Golden Pond Visitor Center and all designated camping areas and welcome stations. Dumping home or commercial waste in any dumpster on Land Between the Lakes is prohibited. Title 36 CFR 261.11e.
- **Dump stations:** Dump stations are located at North and South Welcome Stations and south of the central Hunter Check Station. Dumping gray or black water on the ground, in waterways, or in chemical or vault toilets is prohibited.
- **Fishing line:** Fishing line recycling is available at most boat ramps. Fishing line that has not been properly disposed of can entangle or choke wildlife.
- **Metal detectors:** Possession of a metal detector is prohibited.
- **Pets:** All domesticated animals must be crated, caged, or upon a leash not longer than six feet, or otherwise under physical restrictive control. Leaving pets unattended is prohibited. Hunting dogs during authorized hunts/field trials may be off leash outside campgrounds/camping areas. Title 36 CFR 261.16j.
- **Quiet hours:** Quiet hours are 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Generators must be silenced during this time unless in a 24 hour generator area. Generators are allowed from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. However, it is prohibited to produce a noise using any device or mechanism (i.e. radio, TV, motor/engine, musical instrument, slamming rocks, banging pots/pans) in such a manner as to unreasonably disturb a person at any time. Title 36 CFR 261.10i.
- **Respect the Resource:** Pack it in, pack it out. Keep your campsite clean and litter free at all times.
- **Selling and advertising:** Selling goods or advertising within Land Between the Lakes allowed by permit only.
- **Spotlighting:** Spotlighting by any means is prohibited.
- **Structures:** Construction of structures is strictly prohibited.
- **Swimming:** No lifeguard on duty – swimming is at your own risk. Water shoes and life jackets are encouraged. Swimming at boat ramps and courtesy docks is prohibited.
- **Weapons:** Possession of any long gun or shotgun must be unloaded (i.e. magazine removed) and cased during transportation on LBL. Discharging a weapon is only authorized if partaking in hunting or target range activities. Title 36 CFR 261.8a.

Prevent Wildfires

- **Know before you go:** check the Alerts webpage of our website for fire danger ratings and fire restrictions.
- Fires must be in grills, fireplaces, and fire rings. If there is no fire ring, **build campfires so they won't spread.**
- Fireworks are prohibited.
- Unattended campfires are prohibited.
- Dead and downed wood can be collected for campfires within Land Between the Lakes. Chainsaws allowed.
- Don't leave your fire unattended until it is completely out and cold to the touch.
- Keep a shovel, water, and fire extinguisher on hand to control your campfire.
- **Report wildfires!** Dial 9-1-1 or call Forest Service Law Enforcement at 877-861-2457.

Protect Cultural and Natural Resources

- Keep wildlife wild. Wild animals are protected at Land Between the Lakes. Do not harass, feed, or approach wildlife.
- Damaging or destroying plants or trees is illegal and includes: carvings and/or nails in trees; lanterns hanging against trees; and cutting, removing, injuring, digging, or destroying living plants.
- Destruction, defacement, disturbance, or removal of any building, sign, structure, barrier, natural feature, archaeological artifact (including "scrap" metal), or public property of any kind is prohibited.
- Leave plants, flowers, and historic items behind for others to enjoy.
- Mushrooms, nuts, berries, or other fruit may be picked or gathered for personal use.
- Possession of metal detectors are prohibited.

USDA Forest Service

Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

Golden Pond Visitor Center

238 Visitor Center Drive | Golden Pond, KY 42211

General Information: 1.800.525.7077 or 270.924.2000

Website: www.landbetweenthe lakes.us

EMERGENCY or reporting: 911 or 877.861.2457

Facebook: @LBLNatRecArea

Email: LBLInfo@usda.gov

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Revised January 2025

General Camping Rules

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES

National Recreation Area

KENTUCKY | TENNESSEE

Backpack Camping

- Backpack campers must wear and carry all their camping equipment and personal belongings in a backpack and walk via a hiking trail to camp one or more nights, generally moving along the trail to a different location by foot each day. This does not include parking a vehicle and carrying supplies by hand to a campsite nearby.
- If backpacking along the Canal Loop, North/South, or Fort Henry Trails, there is no fee for this form of camping.
- Camping in a designated Basic Camping Facility while backpacking requires purchase of a Basic Camping Permit for each person ages 18 and over. Open year-round.

Backcountry Camping

- Although backcountry camping areas have fewer to no amenities than developed campgrounds, they can offer solitude and a more primitive camping experience. Open year-round. Backcountry Camping Permit required.

Developed Campgrounds

- Includes Energy Lake, Hillman Ferry, Piney, and Wranglers Campgrounds. See website or individual campground brochures for more information. Developed campgrounds are open March through November with the exception of Wranglers which is open year-round. Nightly fee. Backcountry Camping Permit not applicable.

Self-Service Campgrounds

- Offers amenities including designated campsite pads, picnic tables, grills, fire rings, vault toilets, trash pickup, lake access, and boat ramps. Open year-round. Nightly fee. Basic/Backcountry Camping Permit not applicable.

Bacon Creek Primitive Horse Camp

- Offers a primitive camping experience for horseback riders. Visitors check-in and pay at the Wranglers Gatehouse and park in the day-use riding area.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

General Camping Rules - Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

Backcountry Camping



Backcountry Camping Permit:

- Each person ages 18 and older must possess a Backcountry Camping Permit.
- Annual and 3-day permits are available for purchase.
- Permits available for purchase 24/7 through the official Land Between the Lakes website: www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/reservations
- Permits can also be purchased year-round at the Golden Pond Visitor Center and Wranglers Campground or during March through November at North and South Welcome Stations, Homeplace, Nature Station, and Hillman Ferry, Piney, and Energy Lake Campgrounds.
- See website or Rates and Hours brochure for permit fee information. Discounts of any kind do not apply.
- Backcountry Camping Permit not applicable at Self-Service or Developed Campgrounds.

Maximum Stay at Backcountry Facilities:

- Maximum stay: 21 nights during any 30 consecutive days. On day 22, camping unit and occupants must move off Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.

Backcountry Camping is Prohibited:

- Within cemeteries, picnic areas, and day-use areas
- With horses
- Within nightly fee campgrounds
- Within Colson Hollow Group Camp
- Within Brandon Spring Group Center
- Within Woodlands Nature Watch Area between Mulberry Flat Road and Silver Trail Road, east of Taylor Bay to Lake Barkley
- Within 200 yards of US68/KY80, Woodlands Trace National Scenic Byway, Mulberry Flat, Silver Trail, KY Lake Drive, and Fort Henry roads
- Within 200 yards of any public day-use facility, Nature Watch Demonstration Area in TN south of Ft. Henry Road, or Central Hardwoods Scenic Trail

Backcountry Camping Areas include:

- Demumbers Bay, Ginger Bay, Neville Bay, Pisgah Point, and Twin Lakes are our five basic camping facilities. Basic camping amenities may include boat ramps, picnic tables, fire rings and/or grills, dumpsters, mowed areas, and vault toilets.
- Dispersed campsites are not identified on the map but are often located near the end of roads along the water.

Self-Service Campgrounds



Self-Service Campground Payment Information:

- Read sign and instructions at entrance.
- Campers pay a nightly per camping unit fee for camping at Self-Service Campgrounds.
- Within 30 minutes of arrival at a Self-Service Campground, campers must fill out an envelope, insert camping fee, and deposit in metal fee tube. Retain removable portion of payment envelope and display prominently on site number post. Payment is with cash or check only.
- The Backcountry Camping Permit cannot be used at Self-Service Campgrounds.
- A QR Code payment system is in service at all Self-Service Campgrounds.

Self-Service Campground Fee Information:

- See rate chart at campground entrance for fee information. Fees for each campground are also available online: www.landbetweenthe lakes.us.
- Senior, Access, and Military Pass cardholders receive 50% off self-service sites.
- Pass cardholders must possess a card to receive discount and must occupy the site. Card may not be borrowed by a family member or friend.

Self-Service Campground Camping Unit Information:

- Camping fee is per camping unit, per night:
 - Two tents = one camping unit
 - Three or four tents = two camping units
 - One camper and one tent = two camping units
- Each fee allows two vehicles and up to eight people per camping unit, per night.
- Two camping units are allowed on each site.
- All camping units, including vehicles and tents, must be placed on designated site pads- not on grass.

Maximum stay at Self-Service Campground Facilities:

- Maximum stay is 21 nights during any 30 consecutive days. On day 22, camping unit and occupants must move off of Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.

Self-Service Campground Facilities:

- Birmingham Ferry, Boswell Landing, Cravens Bay, Fenton, Gatlin Point, Nickell Branch, Redd Hollow, Smith Bay, Sugar Bay, Turkey Bay and Taylor Bay.
- Self-Service Campgrounds offer designated campsite pads, picnic tables, grills, fire rings, vault toilets, trash pickup, lake access, and boat ramps.
- Cravens Bay and Fenton are small campgrounds that have designated sites with access to drinking water, picnic tables, fire rings, toilets, boat ramps, and dumpsters. In addition, Cravens Bay has flush toilets and sells ice seasonally; Fenton offers designated sites with electric hook-ups.

Seasonal/Long-Term Camping

- **Seasonal Camping:** Call 270.924.2044

Group Camps

- **Brandon Spring Group Center:** Reservations required. For information, call 931.232.7405.
- **Colson Hollow Group Camp:** Reservations required. For information, call 270.924.2044.

Rules of the Road

- Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) designates roads where public motor vehicle use is authorized in Land Between the Lakes. Obtaining this information is your responsibility. The MVUM is available online at: www.landbetweenthe lakes.us/maps.
- Side-by-Sides are not authorized to be used anywhere on Land Between the Lakes outside of Turkey Bay OHV Area, regardless of if they are legally registered with license plate and insurance.
- All motor vehicles, including motorcycles, campers, and RVs, must be properly licensed.
- Roads signed "Cemetery Use Only" are only to be accessed by those visiting the cemetery. No recreational access allowed.
- Parking is permitted within one vehicle length off a Forest Service authorized road.
- Blocking access to any road, trail, or gate is prohibited.
- 50 mph speed limit on Woodlands Trace Scenic Byway.
- Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs), including trail bikes, motocross bikes, mini-bikes, all-terrain vehicles, and three and four-wheelers, must be operated in Turkey Bay OHV Area only. E-bikes and street legal and state-registered motocross bikes are legal to ride on all authorized roads.
- Moped operators must comply with all Land Between the Lakes and state regulations:
 - Kentucky:** Scooter/moped/motorized cycle operators must have a valid state driver's license
 - Tennessee:** Scooter/moped/motorized cycle operators must have a Motor-Driven Cycle License and wear a helmet
- Biking is not permitted on Nature Station Trails or south of Golden Pond on the North/South Trail.
- Golf carts are prohibited except at Cravens Bay, Hillman Ferry, Energy Lake, and Piney Campgrounds. Golf cart drivers must be 16+ years of age and have a valid operators license. Must purchase a golf cart permit.

**Remember: you are responsible
for your own safety.**