USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

Vehicle Use on the Hoosier NF

Hoosier National Forest

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When traveling in the Hoosier National Forest (HNF), visitors travel on roads that are under Forest Service, state, or county jurisdiction. Rules for operation on Forest Service roads are different from those for state and county roads. To help Forest visitors understand the rules and where they apply, the Forest publishes a Motor Vehicle Use Map that identifies what types of vehicles are permitted and where they may be used. This free map is available online from our website at http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/hoosier/maps-pubs.

The information below further clarify vehicle use rules:

Vehicle	Is this type of vehicle legal in the Hoosier National Forest?
Car, SUV, truck, or motorcycle 	Yes, but the vehicle must be licensed under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state (highway legal). You may operate a car, SUV, truck, or motorcycle on any HNF road with a sign that looks like this. Motorized vehicles are not allowed on trails. Motorized vehicles may not be used for "cruising" in a developed recreation area. 
ATV/UTV or off road motorcycle that is not plated for highway use 	No, ATV/UTVs and non-plated motorcycles may not be operated on any HNF road or trail, including campground roads. Use of ATVs/UTVs on county roads may be authorized by county ordinance in certain counties located within the Hoosier NF. Such authorized use of county roads must also comply with all legal requirements imposed by the State of Indiana. Remember, off-road use by any type of vehicle, including licensed motor vehicles, is prohibited on Hoosier NF property.
Moped, motor scooter, motorized or electric bicycle 	Yes, if they meet Indiana state requirements to be exempt from licensing and titling requirements. These are vehicles that have a cylinder capacity of less than 50 cubic centimeters, a horsepower rating of less than two, and an automatic transmission. You may operate a moped on any HNF road with a sign that looks like this. Mopeds are not allowed on HNF trails and may not be used for "cruising" in a developed recreation area. 
Golf Cart 	No, golf carts may not be operated on any HNF road or trails, including campground roads. Campground concessionaires are allowed to use golf carts for campground management.

For information contact:

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Toll Free: 1-866-302-4173
www.fs.usda.gov/hoosier

Federal Relay: 1-800-877-8339

Forest Service

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Vehicle	Is this type of vehicle legal in the Hoosier National Forest?
Wheelchair or mobility scooter (these devices may be battery powered) 	Yes, they are allowed anywhere foot travel is allowed. To be permitted, these devices must meet two criteria as defined in the Americans with Disability Act: 1) they must be designed solely for use by a mobility impaired person for locomotion, and 2) they must be suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area.
Wagon, buggy, surrey 	Yes and no. Wagons and similar stock drawn vehicles are permitted only in HNF horse camps: Blackwell, Hickory Ridge, Shirley Creek, Youngs Creek, and German Ridge. They are not permitted on HNF trails.
Bicycle 	Yes, bicycles are permitted on all roads in the HNF that are open to cars, SUVs, and trucks. You may also ride on HNF trails that have been designated as open to bicycle use. A permit is required except for the beach access trail at Hardin Ridge (see the Forest website for more information).
E-Bikes 	Yes and no. E-bikes (Pedal assist or throttle twist bikes) are not allowed on mountain bike trails. E-bikes do not meet the definition of a wheelchair so are not allowed on wilderness trails, mountain bike trails. E-bikes are prohibited in all places where motorized use is not allowed.