

### Carriage Driving Through Wicomico's Forests by Linda Thomas Spotlight on Wicomico County – Wicomico Demonstration Forest Complex



#### PARK INFORMATION

The Wicomico Demonstration Forest Complex consists of 1,264 acres located in eastern Wicomico County near Pittsville. The property was originally established in 1936 as a U.S. Forest Service Research Station. In 1942, the research forest along with various buildings on the property were leased to the State of Maryland through 1955, when the title to the property was officially deeded over to the State. The deed requires that the park must be used for the purpose of demonstrating forestry practices. Since then, the Maryland Forest Service has managed the park mirroring the principles of Sustainable Forestry that were established for the Chesapeake Forest Lands.

The park has eight main trails with a total 11.3 miles of multi-use trails. There are three trailer parking lots, located on the Blue, Green and Red trails. The park also has several picnic areas but no overnight camping.

Go to [equery.com](http://equery.com) for a trail map of the property.

Sherry Harris, Linda Thomas, Norman Parker and his grandson Travis taking a pleasure carriage drive with Haflingers Smarty and Flush through the Wicomico Demonstration Forest Complex this past summer.

My name is Linda Thomas and I am an avid carriage driver from Delmar, which is only 8 miles from the park (the Wicomico Demonstration Forest Complex). My friend Sherry Harris, who lives in Henderson, and I have driven the Wicomico Forest Trails several times. Normally we spend about 2.5 hours out on the trails during each drive.

We carry a map that you can get from the Forest Service website, and there is also an app for your phone called Avenza that will help you navigate the public lands that the Forest Service maintains. Having said that, the trails at this park are extremely well marked, although Nature, in the form of downed trees and mud, will make you have to trail blaze sometimes.

I can't say enough nice things about the Forest Rangers and their help. They make suggestions on routes to try, notified us that logging was going on close by and unlocked gates we needed to go from trail to trail. The trailer parking is also fantastic!



Lauren Kolb on Bunny



Hannah Renshaw on Titan with Jessica Flores on Dusty's Spanish Jet



Erica Gregg on Peaches Babu



Savannah Kling on Popcorn



posted by Peggy Brennan



posted by Rebecca Smith