Many areas of state land are available for primitive or “no trace” camping and are open, free of charge, to the public. Primitive camping is done without the presence of developed facilities. The challenge for campers is to leave the area where they camp with no evidence of their visit.

Arthur Davis Wildlife Management Area consists of over 7,700 acres of land in the Towns of Reading and Plymouth. Primitive camping is allowed in two areas on the WMA. Both areas can be accessed during the summer and fall off the Reading Pond Road. This road intersects the Tyson – South Reading Road opposite the Colby Pond Fishing Access Area. Drive north on the Reading Pond Road approximately 1.5 miles to the culvert crossing for Reading Pond Brook and then park in one of several pull-offs located along the main Reading Pond Road. Campers can then hike into the primitive camping areas. Please do not drive out on any of the logging roads that intersect with the main road. Reading Pond Road is closed during spring mud season (usually April to Mid-May) and is not plowed during the winter when it becomes a very busy corridor snowmobile trail.

A forest identification sign is located where the Reading Pond Road crosses onto the WMA. State WMA boundaries are marked with orange paint.

Reading Pond Brook is one of several year-round brooks that provide a year-round source of water on the WMA. Small intermittent brooks that may dry out during the summer are located within the primitive camping area. All water should be treated before use.

Primitive camping is allowed only within designated areas of state land. Within these designated areas, camping must be at least 100 feet from any stream or body of water, 200 feet from any trail or property line, and 1,000 feet from any traveled road. Camping is not allowed along the shores of Reading Pond. Camping is limited to three consecutive days in any location. Groups of 11 or more individuals must obtain a permit from the district office.

Only dead and down trees or branches may be used for firewood. Remove all evidence of campfires before leaving the site. Human waste should be buried at least 100 feet away from any stream or body of water.

The state does not own the timber rights on the majority of this property. Logging activities conducted by the owner of the timber rights occur frequently on Arthur Davis Wildlife Management Area.

Please carry out all that you carry in!

For more information, contact the district office:

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Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
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ARThUR DAViS
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
PRIMITIVE CAMPING AREA MAP
PLYMOUTH & READING, VERMONT

January 2017