

Winona County Independent School District #857 (the District) has set aside the 20 acre area in the South Half (S ½) of the Northwest Quarter (NW¼) and Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) and the 40 acre area in the Northwest Quarter (NW¼) and Southeast Quarter (SE¼) of Section 8, Township 106, Range 8 of Winona County, Minnesota (School Forest) for purposes of furthering the study of all phases of the environmental education. The administration and general use of this area shall be under the direction of the District's administration.

The following rules apply to the School Forest:

1. The School Forest shall be defined by appropriate signage stating the District name, restrictions to the use of the land, and the District's contact information.
2. Each person who wishes to use to the School Forest must apply for and receive a permit before entry is permitted and must fill out an activity request form that lists the purpose of the requested use.
3. All users whether permitted or unpermitted assume all risk of loss, injury or damage to himself or herself, his or her property or others while using the School Forest and will defend and indemnify the District from any liability it may suffer as a consequence of the use of the School Forest. Users will maintain property damage and personal injury liability insurance coverage for all vehicles used to travel across the School Forest, with coverage amounts reasonably satisfactory to District and shall provide written verification of such coverage to District for all such vehicles.
4. Permitted users have no legal right, other than by virtue of any permit herein granted, to use the School Forest and that the permission herein granted is revocable at any time without cause by the District and its authorized agents and employees.
5. Permission is limited when no District activities are planned for the day or weekend and must be obtained from the District office.
6. Hunting or use or possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon on school property, including but not limited to the School Forest, is strictly prohibited by the laws of the State of Minnesota and may constitute a criminal offense.
7. Any firearm or other dangerous weapon transported with the permittee across the School Forest must be in a motor vehicle and done so in strict compliance with the District's Weapons Policy (policy 501), Minn. Stat. 609.66 Subd.1d(d)(3); Minn. Stat. 624.714, and Minn. Stat. 624.715 which require, at minimum, that the firearm or dangerous weapon is:
 - a. Unloaded and in the closed trunk of a motor vehicle; or

- b. Unloaded and in a gun case expressly made to contain a firearm or dangerous weapon, and the case fully encloses the firearm or dangerous weapon by being zipped, snapped, buckled, tied or otherwise fastened, and without any portion of the firearm or dangerous weapon exposed.
- 8. Snowmobiles, ATV's and other motorized recreational vehicles are prohibited. No vehicle travel will be permitted when road damage is possible. Any permittee damaging the road or other property within the School Forest is personally liable for the cost of repair or replacement.
- 9. No alcohol, drugs, or tobacco may be used within the School Forest. District policies 417, 418, and 419 apply to and shall be enforced in the School Forest.
- 10. The District reserves the right to restrict or deny use or access to any person or persons for any reason.
- 11. Use of the School Forest is conditioned upon strict compliance with this policy.
- 12. Any violation of this policy will result in revocation of the use of the School Forest, which in the discretion of the District administration may be permanent.

Adopted: May 13, 2019