

ABOUT THIS MAP

www.RecreationLinks.org

National parks and national forests have been established in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina to preserve and conserve natural and cultural resources. They occupy more than 2.2 million acres of land connected by rivers, trails, parkways and history. Several supporting nonprofit organizations have worked together in cooperation with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and several state agencies to provide this map and encourage you to appreciate and experience your public lands.

Is There a Difference Between a "Park" and a "Forest"?

The answer is yes. Although they may look similar, national parks and national forests have very different purposes. Together they offer the public a wide spectrum of uses.

National parks emphasize preservation of resources and recreational experiences. They focus on protecting natural and cultural resources "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Park rangers work for the National Park Service (NPS) under the Department of Interior.

National forests emphasize conservation of our natural resources. National forests are managed under the principles of "multiple use and sustained yield" to provide Americans with wood, water, forage, wildlife and recreation for generations to come. They are managed by the U.S. Forest

Because they have different purposes, adjoining national parks and national forests have different rules. For example: • National parks usually forbid hunting, while forests

Service (USFS) under the Department of Agriculture.

- usually allow it. • Dogs can be taken on national forest trails, but are
- generally not allowed on trails in national parks.
- National forests may provide trails for off-highway vehicles; national parks usually do not.

United States Congress has also designated several special areas and trails to be managed by the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service for their unique characteristics and opportunities. These include, but are not limited to, Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers, National Recreation Areas, National Parkways, National Historic Sites, National Historic Trails, and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Please note: Visitors need to pay attention to whether they are in a national park or a national forest. A perfectly legal activity in one area may not be permitted in another

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



U.S. Forest Service National Park Service Blue Ridge Parkway **Blue Ridge National Heritage Area North Carolina State** Tennessee State Parks

NON-PROFIT PARTNERS

Partners of Cherokee **National Forest Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association Great Smoky Mountains Association** Blue Ridge Parkway **Foundation**

OTHERS TN Dept of Tourist Development Visit North Carolina







The U.S. Forest Service partners with other agencies and commercial outfitters & guides to offer a variety of water-based adventures on rivers that wind through the mountains from North Carolina into Tennessee. Search for these exceptional river corridors and their tributaries - French Broad River (Classes I-III), Hiwassee River (Classes I-III), Nantahala River (Classes I-III), Nolichucky River (Classes II-V), Ocoee River (Classes III-IV & 1996 Olympic Whitewater Venue) and Pigeon River (Classes I-IV).

B1 Yahoo Falls B2 Alum Ford B3 Yamacraw Bridge B4 Stearns Visitor Cent B5 Blue Heron B6 Bear Creek Camp B7 Station Camp B8 Charit Creek B9 Bandy Creek B10 Leatherwood For B11 Burnt Mill Bridge B12 Brewster Bridge G1 Park Headquarters G2 Iron Furnace . . . • G3 Pinnacle Overloo G4 Wilderness Road Camp G5 Gibson Gap G6 Hensley Settleme G7 Chadwell Gap G8 White Rocks **GREAT SMOKY MO** • • S1 Greenbrier • • S2 Cosby Campgrour S3 Big Creek Campground S4 Cataloochee S5 Balsam Mountain Campground S6 Collins Creek Smokemont Camparound S8 Oconaluftee Visitor Center • • • • S9 Deep Creek Campground S10 Chimneys Picnic Area Sugarlands Visitor Center \$12 Elkmont Campground §13 Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area . \$14 Cades Cove Campground S15 Cades Cove Visitor Center

כח	IVIL. FISYAII		_	_	_		_	_	_	_		_						•	
R6	Graveyard Fields							•			•	•	•			•			
	National Historic Sites & Other	(For info about visitor centers and restroom facilities - visit NPS.GOV)														N	lap (Grid	
AJ	ANDREW JOHNSON N.H. SITE	Interprets the life and legacy of the 17th President, Andrew Johnson (term 1865-1869).														E3			
CS	CARL SANDBURG HOME N.H. SITE	A popular voice for the American people still speaks through his writings and songs.															F5		
MP	MANHATTAN PROJECT N.H. PARK	Tells the story that led to the creation of the atomic bomb, which helped end World War II.														B3			
OR	OBED WILD & SCENIC RIVER	Stretches along the Cumberland Plateau and offers a variety of recreational opportunities.														A3			

.

• • • •

ENJOY YOUR PUBLIC LANDS

National Park Service United States Department of the Interior Units throughout East Tennessee and Western North Carolina provide incredible opportunities to experience the diversity of place, history, and nature of our region. Visit our website to learn more about the sites where you can take a scenic drive, explore the backcountry by trail, take the family camping, walk through history, rock climb, or kayak. Explore, experience, and enjoy your National Parks! Visitor Info: www.nps.gov



U.S. Forest Service

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service

The Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee, the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests in North Carolina, and other Forests in the Southern

Appalacians offer opportunities to experience the thrill of whitewater, the pursuit of wildlife, epic mountain bike trails, iconic waterfalls & mountain balds, scenic byways and backcountry trails, plus a wide range of overnight accommodations. Note: Campground and cabin reservation services are available at

www.recreation.gov. Visitor Info: http://www.fs.fed.us/visit



North Carolina State Parks Department of Cultural and Natural

The NC state park system encompasses iconic landscapes within state parks, state recreation and state natural areas. In operation for 100

years, its 74 units attract 17 million visitors annually. Its 228,000 acres include mountains, beaches, swamps, lakes, rivers, grasslands, meadows, forests and waterfalls.

Note: There are fees for camping, swimming and certain activities. Visitor Info: (919) 707-9300 www.ncparks.gov



Tennessee State Parks

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation

Discover Tennessee's natural, cultural, and historic heritage. State parks offer diverse and varied natural landscapes, family-friendly

recreation, affordable lodgings, and hundreds of interpretive programs and events. Parks are open to the public seven days a week, year-round. There is no access fee charged, although there may be fees associated with certain activities. **Note:** Fishing and hunting require licenses (tn.gov/twra/). **Visitor Info:** (615) 532-0001 www.tnstateparks.com



\$16 Abrams Creek Campground

BLUE RIDGE PARK

R1 Moses Cone Memorial Park

\$17 Twentymile

R2 Julian Price Park

R3 Linville Falls

R4 Craggy Garden

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

The Foundation is the primary nonprofit fundraising partner of the Blue Ridge Parkway, helping ensure cultural and historical preservation, natural resource **BLUE RIDGE** protection, educational outreach, and visitor PARKWAY enjoyment. Since 1997, the Foundation has provided over \$10 million to protect and enhance the Parkway. The Foundation also created the Kids

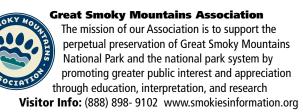
in Parks program which provides a network of kid-friendly trails in the Blue Ridge Mountains and beyond. www.kidsinparks.com Visitor Info: (866) 308-2773 www.brpfoundation.org



Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association

The Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association promotes educational, recreational, and interpretive opportunities about forest and water

resources, natural history, and the Cradle of Forestry in America. The CFAIA co-manages the 6,500 acre Cradle of Forestry historic site, celebrating the birth of scientific forestry in America. **Note:** Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization chartered in 1972. Visitor Info: (828) 884-5713 www.cfaia.org



ABOVE: There is nothing quite like a public recreation area to provide the solitude of a backcountry campsite, tent camping in a family campground, or a quiet spot in a convenient RV area.



Partners of Cherokee

National Forest The Partners provide the public with current information about issues

and resources related to the Cherokee National Forest. The Partners promote enjoyment and responsible use of the Forest by sponsoring custom maps, trails for kids, student field trips, public outreach, and more. The organization is directly involved in continuing projects in multiple locations within the Forest and new members are always welcome.

Note: Nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization chartered in 2002 Visitor Info: (866) 308-2773 www.partnersofthecherokee.org

LOCAL HOSPITALITY INFORMATION



Tourist Development Come face to face with awe-

inspiring nature and breathtaking TNVACATION.COM vilderness. Climb cliffs, raft rapids, discover the beauty. **Explore more:** At tnvacation.com and follow "tnvacation" on Facebook, Twitter (#madeintn), Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube.



Visit North Carolina

You're invited to experience and explore our many unique forests, spectacular parks and outdoor activities. **Visitor Info:** 800-VISITNC www.visitnc.com

BLACK BEARS

ABOVE: Capture the splendor and excitement of canoeing, kayaking or rafting whitewater rivers in a national forest, national park, or

state park. Each river has its own personality. Challenges can be found for everyone from first-timers to Olympic-level athletes.

SAFETY

Surprisingly, drowning is one of the leading causes of

death on public lands. These accidents and injuries can

easily be avoided. Closely supervise children at all times.

Do not wade in or attempt to cross a rain-

River levels can rise rapidly after a heavy rainfall. A

localized thunderstorm dumping rain far upstream on

Most drownings result from getting a leg or ankle

boulders. The force of the water will push you over and

The standard defensive swimming position in fast water

is lying on your back with your feet pointing downstream

and toes up towards the surface. Always look downstream

The water in mountain streams may be much colder

than you think. Exposure to cold water can quickly

lead to hypothermia, an extremely dangerous condition

involving the lowering of the body's "core" temperature.

strength and muscular coordination followed by mental

Hypothermia can kill you! Symptoms include loss of

Didymo is a destructive and invasive algae species that

can smother park streams. You can accidentally spread

didymo on your fishing and water recreation equipment.

To prevent its spread, please visit https://www.nps.gov/

IN CASE OF

EMERGENCY

DIAL 911

If you require emergency services

such as police, fire, or ambulance, dial

911 immediately. Do not call the park or

forest ranger offices.

Note: In the Appalachian Mountains, heavy

your cellular phone or satellite GPS

device from receiving a signal.

Bear this in mind when making

your plans.

foliage or surrounding terrain may prevent

and be prepared to fend off rocks with your feet.

caught in an underwater rock ledge or between

the higher peaks can create sudden and unexpected flood

conditions at lower elevations without you seeing a single

Remember, medical assistance for injured persons may be

WATER SAFETY

many hours away.

swollen stream!

hold you under.

HYPOTHERMIA

confusion and irrational behavior.

PROTECT STREAMS!

grsm/learn/nature/didymo.htm

• • •

. . . .

At one time, the black bear's range included most of North America. Some of the largest protected areas in the eastern United States where black bears can live in wild, natural surroundings are found on this map. Bears inhabit all elevations in the Appalachian Mountains.

Black bears may exceed six feet in length and three feet high at the shoulder. During the summer months, a typical adult male bear may weigh 250 pounds or more while adult females are generally smaller and weigh less. Bears can run up to 30 miles per hour—which is faster than humans.

Bears are most active during early morning and late evening hours in spring and summer.

Bear Behavior

Bears in the national park and national forest are wild and



WHAT DO I DO IF I SEE A BLACK BEAR?

If you see a black bear:

- Remain watchful
- Do not approach it. • Do not allow the bear to
- approach you.

bear such as running toward

away, watching the bear.

you and the bear. The bear

will probably do the same.

If a bear persistently

Change your direction.

Increase the distance between

- If your presence causes the • Use a deterrent such as a bear to change its behavior stout stick. (stops feeding, changes its travel direction, watches
 - Don't run and don't turn away from the bear.

large as possible (for

ground).

example, move to higher

Throw non-food objects

such as rocks at the bear

• Don't leave food for the you, etc.) you are too close. Being too close may promote

bear; this encourages further problems.

If the bear's behavior

indicates that it is after

you, making loud noises, or swatting the ground. The bear vour food: is demanding more space. Separate yourself from Don't run, but slowly back

the food.

 Slowly back away. If the bear shows no

interest in your food and you are physically attacked, the bear may consider you as prey:

follows or approaches Fight back aggressively you, without vocalizing, with any available object! or paw swatting: Do not play dead!

• If the bear continues to Remember to keep your follow you, stand your distance from bears and store trash and food properly.

• If the bear gets closer, talk loudly, shout at it, wave your arms, make yourself look bia.

 Act aggressively to intimidate the bear.

ground.

 Act together as a group if you have companions. Make yourselves look as

telephoto lens, or a spotting scope to view the animals.

https://www.nps.gov/grte/ planyourvisit/bearsafety. Note: Use binoculars,

To learn more, visit online:

