



Trails of New River

The official trail guide of
Bluestone National Scenic River
Gauley River National Recreation Area
New River Gorge National River

Take to the Trails!

WHAT DRAWS YOU TO TRAILS? IS IT THE THINGS YOU FIND there, the physical challenge, something deeper that stirs your soul, or a combination of these elements? Each of us have reasons we enjoy our time outside. This trail guide will help you find your way; it includes trail maps, descriptions, trailhead directions, regulations, and tips on smart trail use.

New River Gorge National River, Bluestone National Scenic River, and Gauley River National Recreation Area offer a variety of trail experiences. Over one hundred miles of foot, mountain bike, and equestrian trails are found here. Some follow the path of old roads or rail lines, while others offer opportunities to explore the more rugged aspects of the local landscape. Each trail is designed for a specific type of use and range from a leisurely, accessible boardwalk to a steep mountain climb. Every trail also offers a unique look into this area's heritage.

Nature's beauty draws many people to this part of the Appalachian Plateau. Part of the larger Appalachian Mountain range, the unbroken, mixed mesophytic forest found here is one of the most naturally diverse areas in America. Trails are found near the river's edge, on forested slopes, along ridge tops, and in open fields. These rich habitats are filled with a great diversity of animal and plant life. Some birds and animals are year-round residents, while others pass through on migration or stop for a bit of summer nesting. With over 1,800 species of plants found here, the flora along area trails is a treat to see in any season, from the blossoms of spring and summer and the rich colored autumn leaves, to the stark landscape of winter. The river and rocks also tell a story, one of the oldest in the land.

There is another side of these trails to explore, one filled with rich cultural stories. Clues to the history of the region's people are found throughout the park. How did people build a life in this rugged country? Generations have done so. In the park there is evidence of prehistoric native people, stories



Every park trail offers a unique look into the natural and historic wonders of the New River Gorge area. Photo by Gary Hartley.

of change on the frontier and in the nation, and the comparatively recent boom years of industrialization. Some trails lead through old farmsteads, while others reveal evidence of a busier time when coal was king and the railroad was the blood that ran through his veins. Remains of old coal mines, railroads, and timber towns dot the landscape.

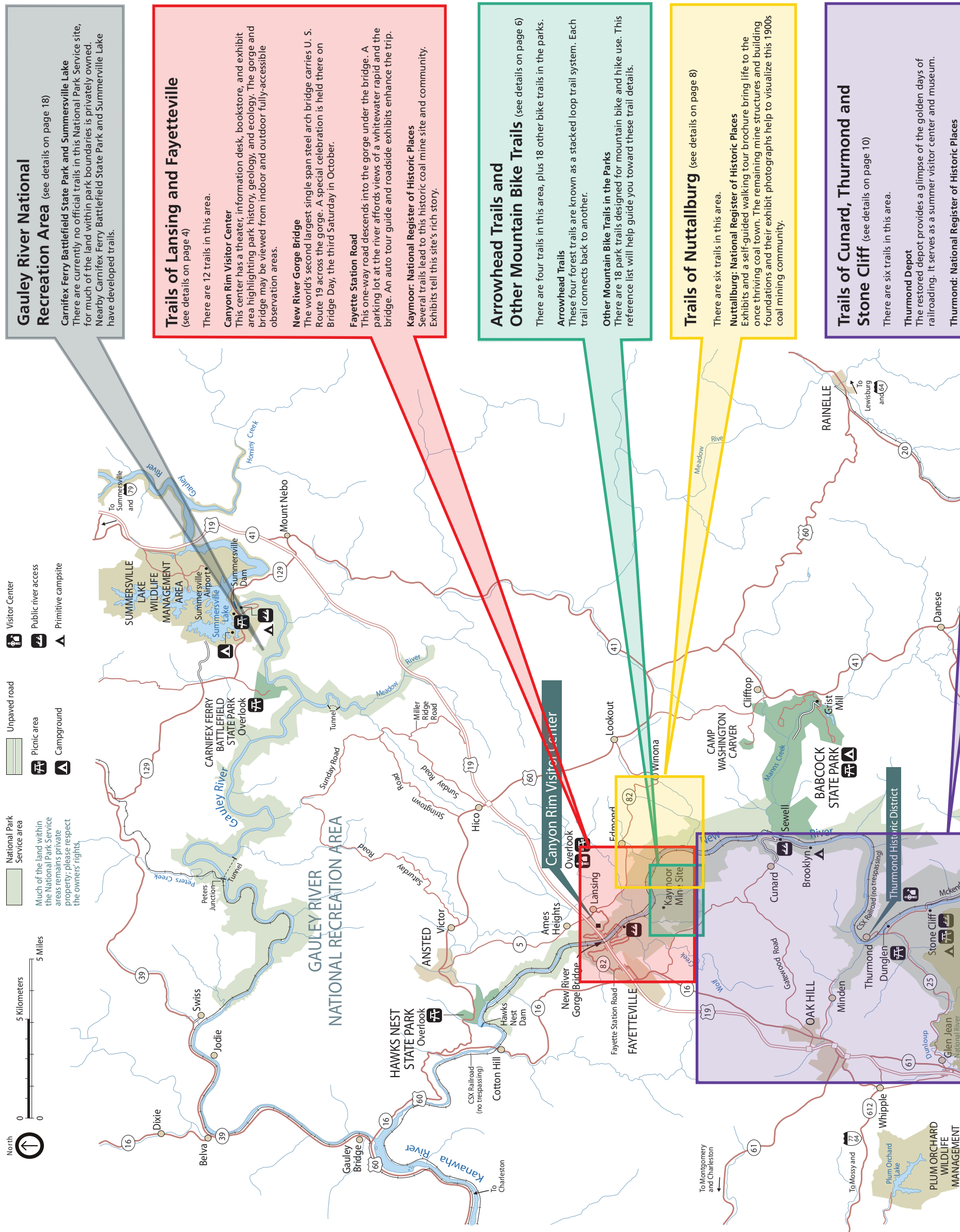
Whether you are on a trail to discover new sights or let your adrenaline flow, each of us can help care for parks during our visits. Think safety first and practice Leave No Trace outdoor ethics to keep the fun in your fun and respect others too. This is an easy way to ensure that we protect and preserve our national parks for future generations to enjoy and explore. Happy trails!



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Park Map and Trails Key

This map shows the different trail areas in the parks. The following pages detail out each of these trail areas and include a list of trails, distances, descriptions, directions to trailhead parking, and a detailed map. Each specific trail has a different numbered circle that corresponds to the same circle on that area's detailed trail map. Some trailhead GPS coordinates are provided, using format WGS 84 decimal degrees. We hope these details help you find your way on the trails.



Gauley River National Recreation Area (see details on page 18)

Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park and Summersville Lake
There are currently no official trails in this National Park Service site, for much of the land within park boundaries is privately owned. Nearby Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park and Summersville Lake have developed trails.

Trails of Lansing and Fayetteville (see details on page 4)

There are 12 trails in this area.

Canyon Rim Visitor Center

This center has a theater, information desk, bookstore, and exhibit area highlighting park history, geology, and ecology. The gorge and bridge may be viewed from indoor and outdoor fully-accessible observation areas.

New River Gorge Bridge

The world's second largest single span steel arch bridge carries U. S. Route 19 across the gorge. A special celebration is held there on Bridge Day, the third Saturday in October.

Fayette Station Road

This one-way road descends into the gorge under the bridge. A parking lot at the river affords views of a whitewater rapid and the bridge. An auto tour guide and roadside exhibits enhance the trip.

Kaymoor: National Register of Historic Places

Several trails lead to this historic coal mine site and community. Exhibits tell this site's rich story.

Arrowhead Trails and Other Mountain Bike Trails (see details on page 6)

There are four trails in this area, plus 18 other bike trails in the parks.

Arrowhead Trails

These four forest trails are known as a stacked loop trail system. Each trail connects back to another.

Other Mountain Bike Trails in the Parks

There are 18 park trails designed for mountain bike and hike use. This reference list will help guide you toward these trail details.

Trails of Nuttallburg (see details on page 8)

There are six trails in this area.

Nuttallburg: National Register of Historic Places

Exhibits and a self-guided walking tour brochure bring life to the once thriving coal town. The remaining mine structures and building foundations and their exhibit photographs help to visualize this 1900s coal mining community.

Trails of Cunard, Thurmond and Stone Cliff (see details on page 10)

There are six trails in this area.

Thurmond Depot

The restored depot provides a glimpse of the golden days of railroading. It serves as a summer visitor center and museum.

Thurmond: National Register of Historic Places

Exhibits and a self-guided walking tour brochure bring life to the once thriving railroad town. The remaining commercial and residential buildings and their exhibit photographs help to visualize this early 1900s railroad center.

Brooklyn, Dungen, and Stone Cliff Area
Enjoy fishing or a picnic near the river. Brooklyn and Stone Cliff have primitive camping (no water).

Trails of Grandview (see details on page 12)

There are seven trails in this area.

Grandview Information Station
This summer-season center offers information and a bookstore. Picnic tables are nearby; shelters may be reserved.

Cliffside Amphitheater
Theatre West Virginia offers outdoor dramas nightly in the summer except Mondays. Three musicals are scheduled. Call (800) 666-9142 for information.

Main and North Overlooks, Turkey Spur
Overlooks offer panoramic views of the gorge and the New River 1,400 feet below. The main overlook is fully accessible. Turkey Spur requires a 150-step climb.

Trails of Glade Creek (see details on page 14)

There are four trails in this area.

Army Camp
Once the site of a Korean War-era military training camp, it now offers primitive camping (no water).

Grandview Sandbar
A pleasant place along the river, the site offers a boat launch and primitive camping (no water).

Glade Creek
The road to Glade Creek is a dirt road open to motorized vehicles. This scenic road is also open for biking and hiking. Glade Creek has a boat launch, picnic tables, and primitive camping (no water).

Trails of Brooks and Sandstone (see details on page 16)

There are five trails in this area.

Sandstone Visitor Center
Water and rivers is the theme of the exhibits and video program. Notable are a floor map of the New River Watershed, a bookstore, and a native plant garden.

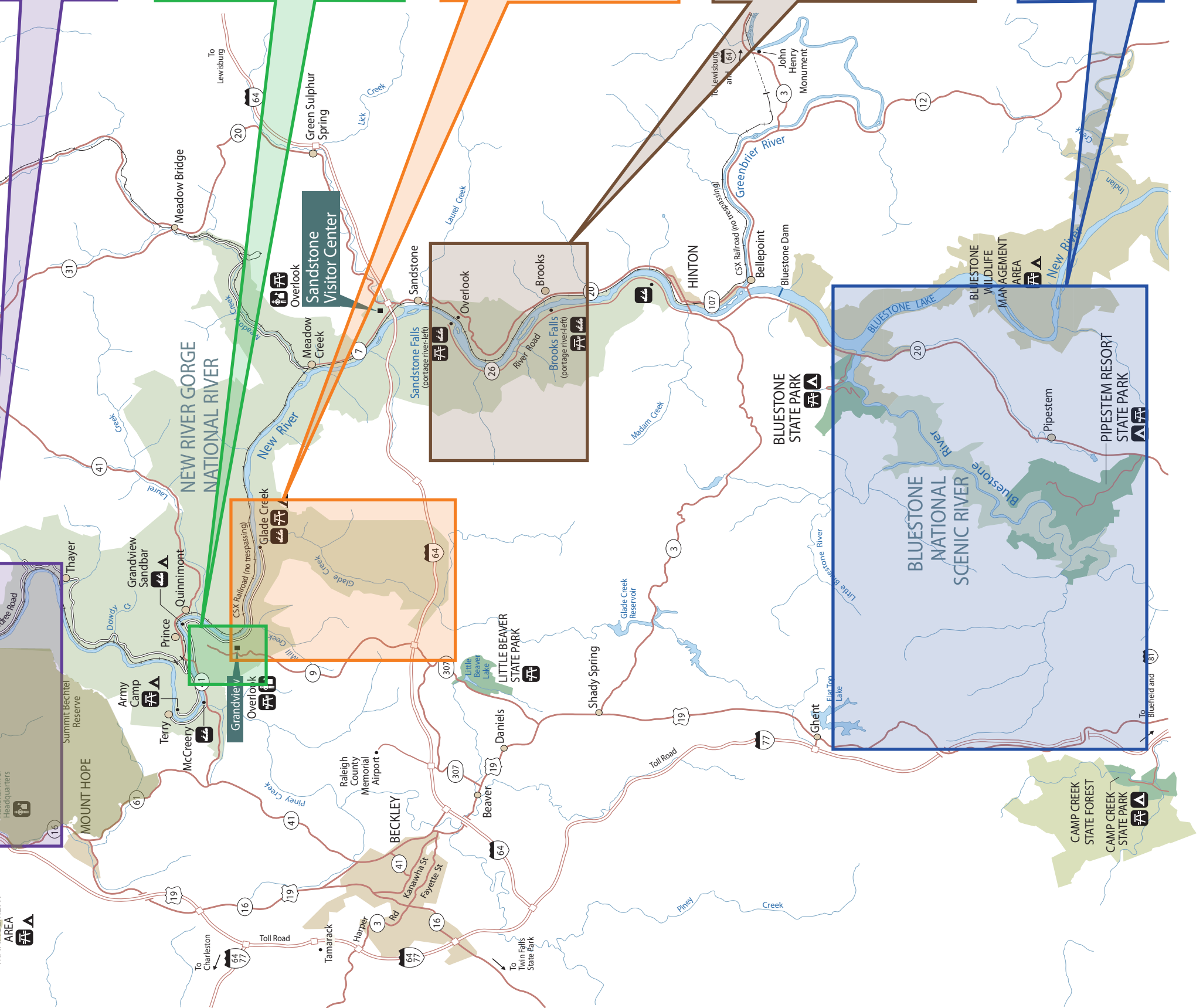
River Road
A narrow, 9-mile road leads north from Hinton; there is no direct connection to I-64. Halfway to Sandstone Falls is Brooks Falls, offering river views and picnic tables.

Sandstone Falls
A fully-accessible boardwalk winds across islands to viewing areas of the river-wide falls. Boardwalk exhibits enhance the walk.

















Trails of Bluestone National Scenic River (see details on page 17)




There is one trail in this area.

Nearby West Virginia State Parks
This National Park Service site follows the Bluestone River and has a West Virginia State Park at either, Bluestone State Park and Pipestem Resort State Park. These sites also have developed trail.



Trails of Lansing and Fayetteville

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Burnwood Trail (formerly Laing Loop Trail) 38.07467° N, 81.07813° W	 1.2/1.93	Easy This enjoyable loop trail leads through rich forest and rhododendron thickets. The trail then follows the edge of an open field, loops back through the forest and returns to this field. This area was the former home and farm site of the Laing family.	Park at the Burnwood Day Use Area, across US 19 from Canyon Rim Visitor Center in Lansing. Look for the trailhead sign just past the restroom facility at the end of the parking lot.
2 Canyon Rim Boardwalk 38.07003° N, 81.07583° W	  0.1/0.16	Easy + Strenuous Stairs This boardwalk offers scenic views of the gorge and New River Gorge Bridge, plus includes displays on area points of interest. A fully accessible ramp leads to the first view point, then 178 steps descend to the lower overlook, one of the best around.	US 19 in Lansing at Canyon Rim Visitor Center.
3 Endless Wall Trail Fern Creek Trailhead: 38.06280° N, 81.05631° W Nuttall Trailhead: 38.05982° N, 81.04920° W	 2.4/3.86	Moderate This trail offers great views of the gorge, as well as access to some of the best rock climbing in the eastern United States. The trail passes through rich forest, crosses Fern Creek, then zig-zags along the cliff edge. Many vistas can be seen along the trail. The overlook at Diamond Point provides a good turnaround spot, a popular two-mile (round trip) out-and-back hike from the Fern Creek trailhead. Note: please use caution when near cliff edges!	This trail has two trailhead parking areas on Lansing-Edmond Road. Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Fern Creek Trailhead is located 1.3 miles (just before Fern Creek) down this road, while the Nuttall Trailhead is an additional 0.5 miles down this same road. NOTE: This is a narrow road; please drive with caution.
4 Bridge Trail 38.06995° N, 81.09590° W	 0.86/1.38	Moderate This occasionally steep and rocky trail offers views of the gorge and New River Gorge Bridge. This trail passes under the bridge and connects to the Fayetteville Trail.	Turn off US 19 at the sign for Fayette Station Road (CO 82), south of the New River Gorge Bridge near Fayetteville. At 0.8 miles, turn right into the trailhead parking area.
5 Fayetteville Trail Wolf Creek Trailhead: 38.05944° N, 81.08050° W Kaymoor Top Trailhead: 38.04611° N, 81.06840° W	  3.96/6.37	Moderate to Strenuous This trail connects Fayette Station Road, the town of Fayetteville, and Kaymoor Top with access to Long Point. Be prepared for varied terrain, including old road bed, narrow trail, a creek crossing and some steep terrain. Connections can be made to the following trails: Kaymoor, Bridge, Park Loop, Timber Ridge, Long Point, Butcher Branch, Kaymoor Miners, and Craig Branch.	Wolf Creek Trailhead: Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Turn right on Fayette Station Road (CO 82), then immediately fork to the left, staying on Fayette Station Road. Cross the New River on the Tunney Hunsaker Bridge, and continue for 1.2 miles to the small parking area on the left at the switchback curve. Limited parallel parking is also available on the right just past the switchback curve. NOTE: Fayette Station Road is mostly one-way traffic, very small, and has several switchback curves; obey all parking signs. Kaymoor Top Trailhead: From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Turn left on Gatewood Road (park signs indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road 2.0 miles, and turn left at the Kaymoor sign (Kaymoor No. 1 Road). Follow this road about one mile to the "T" intersection; turn left. Parking is 50 yards on the right.
6 Park Loop Trail 38.05705° N, 81.09109° W	  1.1/1.7	Easy An enjoyable forest loop trail that begins next to the Town Park in Fayetteville. Connections can be made to the Fayetteville Trail.	From Court Street (WV 16) in Fayetteville, turn left on Fayette Avenue, then right onto Park Drive. Follow signs toward Fayetteville Town Park. At the stop sign (town park) continue on Park Drive 0.2 miles; turn right onto driveway to trailhead parking area.
7 Timber Ridge Trail 38.04151° N, 81.07789° W	  1.0/1.6	Easy This old, forested roadbed provides access to the Fayetteville Trail near Wolf Creek.	From US 19, follow WV16 south through the town of Fayetteville. Turn left on Gatewood Road (sign indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road for 1.9 miles, and turn left on Newton Road. The trailhead parking area is 50 yards on the left.
8 Kaymoor Trail (formerly part of the Kaymoor-Cunard Trail) Wolf Creek Trailhead: 38.05944° N, 81.08050° W Cunard Road Trailhead: 38.00023° N, 81.03423° W	  8.6/13.84	Moderate This trail runs parallel with the middle of the gorge, passing the historic coal mine site at Kaymoor. The northern 2.0 miles – Wolf Creek trailhead to the old mine site – follows up a hill and then levels out mid-gorge following an old road bed built in the 1950s. Learn more about the Kaymoor mine operation and community at exhibits along the way. The forested trail then continues toward Cunard on the old road (administrative road). Connections can be made with the steep Kaymoor Miners Trail at the mine site or the Craig Branch Trail, 1.74 miles further up the trail from the mine site. Beyond the trail junction with the Craig Branch Trail, the Kaymoor Trail is thinner and more rugged. Note: climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past.	Wolf Creek Trailhead: Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Turn right on Fayette Station Road (CO 82), then immediately left at the fork (stay on Fayette Station Road). Cross the New River on the Tunney Hunsaker Bridge, and continue for 1.2 miles to the small parking area on the left at the switchback curve. Limited parallel parking is also available on the right just past the switchback curve. NOTE: Fayette Station Road is mostly one-way traffic, very narrow, and has several switchback curves. Obey all parking signs. Cunard Road Trailhead: From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road (sign indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road for 4.6 miles and turn left at the sign for Cunard. Go 1.8 miles and turn left at both of the signs indicating Cunard River Access Road. Parking for the Kaymoor Trail is located 0.5 miles further on the right. The trail begins about 50 yards back up the road on the opposite side.
9 Kaymoor Miners Trail 38.04520° N, 81.06757° W	 1.0/1.6	Strenuous This forest trail descends steeply 0.5 miles from the top of the gorge with stairs and switchbacks to the Kaymoor coal mine site, where it crosses the Kaymoor Trail. A view of the gorge is located 0.2 miles down the trail off to the right, before the stairs. At the mine site, a set of 821 steps continues down to the remains of the coal processing plant, coke ovens, and town site near river level. Note: climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past. The railroad track at river level is active line and private property; do not walk on or cross the tracks.	From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Turn left on Gatewood Road (park signs indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road 2.0 miles, and turn left at the Kaymoor sign (Kaymoor No. 1 Road). Follow this road about one mile to the "T" intersection; turn left. Parking is 50 yards on the right.
10 Craig Branch Trail (formerly part of the Kaymoor-Cunard Trail) 38.04149° N, 81.06793° W	  2.4/3.86	Moderate This forest trail offers views of the river and gorge, plus it connects to the Kaymoor Trail, offering access to the historic Kaymoor coal mine site. There are several steep sections on this gravel trail (administrative road). Several Arrowhead Trails (Adena, Clovis, and Dalton) junction off this trail near the trailhead parking area.	From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road (park signs indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road 2.0 miles, and turn left at the Kaymoor sign (Kaymoor No. 1 Road). Follow this road about one mile to the "T" intersection; turn right. Trailhead parking is 0.25 miles on the right.

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
11 Butcher Branch Trail 38.04611° N, 81.06840° W	 0.8/1.29	Moderate This wooded trail connects the Kaymoor Top area to the Long Point Trail, with a spur to the popular Butcher Branch climbing area. There are steep sections and a small stream crossing on this trail.	From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Turn left on Gatewood Road (park signs indicate Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road 2.0 miles, and turn left at the Kaymoor sign (Kaymoor No. 1 Road). Follow this road about one mile to the "T" intersection; turn left. Parking is 50 yards on the right.
12 Long Point Trail 38.04151° N, 81.07789° W	  1.6/2.57	Moderate This trail traverses field and forest on the way to a rock outcrop (Long Point) with panoramic views of the gorge and New River Gorge Bridge. Most of this trail lazily descends through the forest, but it does include one steep section just before you arrive at the point. *Mountain bikes are permitted on all but the last 0.2 miles. Note: use caution around the unprotected cliff edges located at Long Point.	From US 19, follow WV16 south through the town of Fayetteville. Turn left on Gatewood Road (sign indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road for 1.9 miles, and turn left on Newton Road. The trailhead parking area is 50 yards on the left.



View of the New River Gorge Bridge from the Long Point Trail. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.



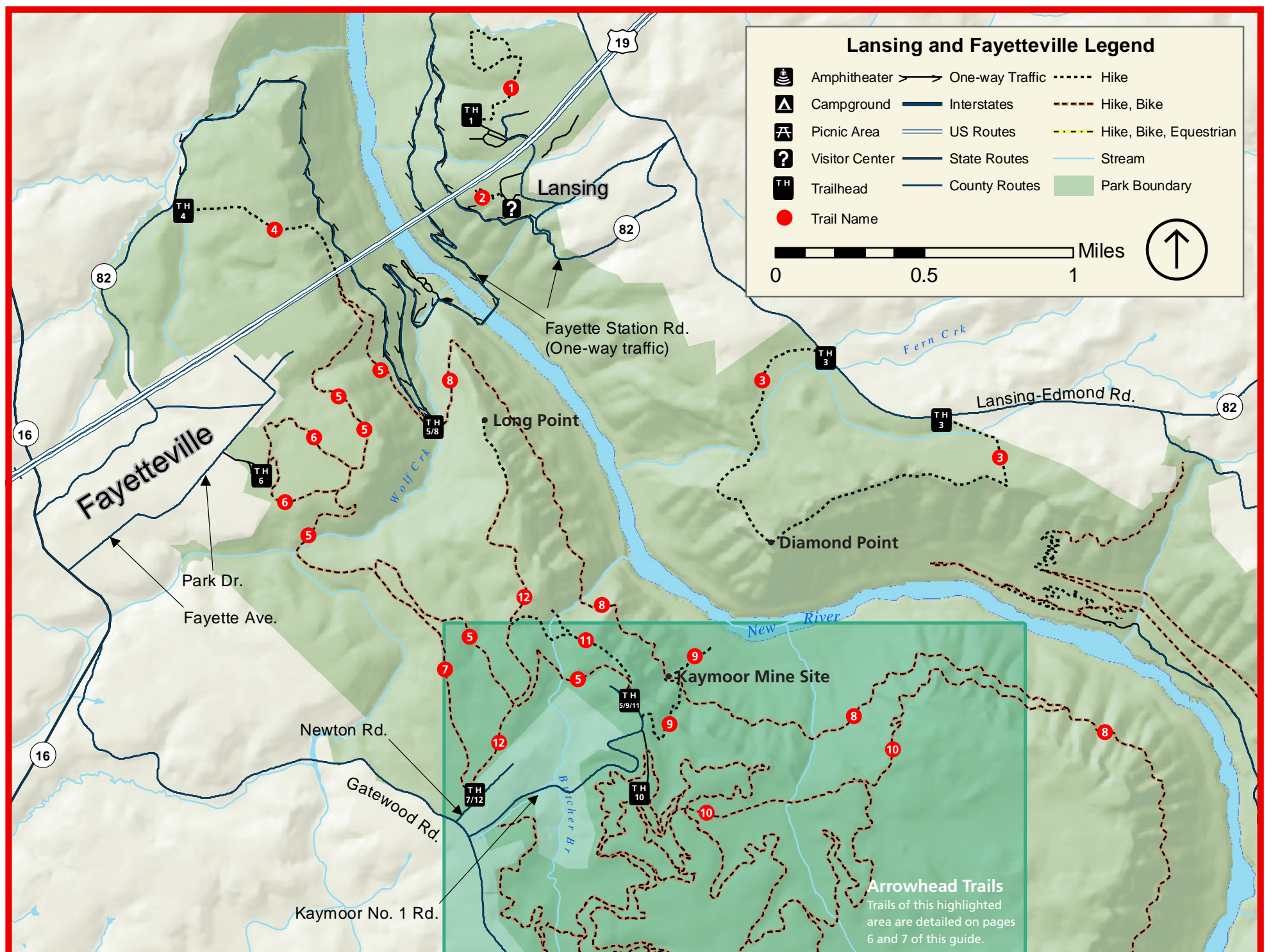
Hiker enjoys the beautiful forest on the trail to Endless Wall. Photo by Heath Fitzpatrick.



Mountain laurel blooms of late spring. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.



A larry car at Kaymoor Bottom. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.







Arrowhead Trails

The four forest trails of the Arrowhead Trail system in the Craig Branch area are known as a stacked loop trail system. Each trail stacks/connects with others in this system and loops back to the trailhead. Designed for use by both mountain bikers and hikers, trails range in difficulty from easy to moderate for the adventuresome trail user. Over 1,000 members of the Boy Scouts of America (Order of the Arrow) built this trail system in 2011, one of the largest volunteer youth service projects in National Park Service history (78,544 volunteer hours, valued at \$1.6 million).

Directions to the Arrowhead Trails Trailhead Parking

38.04149° N, 81.06793° W

From US 19, follow WV 16 south through Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road (park signs indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road 2.0 miles, and turn left at the Kaymoor sign (Kaymoor No. 1 Road). Follow this road about one mile to the "T" intersection; turn right. Trailhead parking for all Arrowhead Trails is 0.25 miles on the right.

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Additional Trail Access Information (see trail map)
1 Clovis Trail	 1.1/1.77	Easy to Moderate This compact loop of trail offers lightly rolling, forested terrain on a tread that is 30" to 36" wide. There are a couple of short, even rocky sections that are simple to navigate on bike or foot. For runners and bikers, the trail offers a nice sense of flow.	The Clovis Trail starts and ends at the trailhead parking area.
2 Adena Trail	 3.1/4.99	Easy to Moderate This trail loops through the forest on low-grade swooping dips along light uphill and downhill sections. This trail is 30" to 36" wide with a few rock-surfaced sections, wide turns and switchbacks, offering safe and exciting learning opportunities for beginning mountain bikers. At running or biking speed, the sense of flow on this trail is exhilarating without feeling intimidating to the novice rider. This trail has a connection to the Dalton Trail.	The Adena Trail junctions off the Clovis Trail and can be accessed at two junctions with the Craig Branch Trail, 0.3 (connector) and 0.4 miles down the Craig Branch Trail from the parking area.
3 Dalton Trail	 6.4/10.3	Moderate This trail is more narrow than the easy (green) loops in the Arrowhead Trail system. Trail tread width is 20" to 24" with tight turns and mildly steep hills. From Point N, ride toward Point M along a ridge line, then drop down through a cool rhododendron tunnel. From Point M, zip around the wide switchback series toward Point L. On the northern side of the Craigs Branch Trail (administrative gravel road), explore an older forest than you will find on the rest of the Arrowhead Trail system and catch glimpses of the gorge through the trees. Expect to encounter small obstacles along the trail, rocky sections and tight turns. Runners and bikers will enjoy the thrilling flow of the trail design. Connections can be made from this trail to LeCroy Trail and Adena Trail.	The Dalton Trail junctions off the Clovis Trail and can be accessed at three junctions with the Craig Branch Trail. Distances from Arrowhead Trail trailhead parking area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.3 mile (connector) • 0.4 miles • 1.0 miles down Dalton Trail also crosses the access road 0.15 miles up from the trailhead parking area. The Dalton Trail offers access to the LeCroy Trail.
4 LeCroy Trail	 1.8/2.9	Moderate The LeCroy Trail is narrow, with a tread width of 20" to 24". Exploring from Point O toward Point L, swerve slowly down a hill, enjoy a few stretches of rolling and sweeping turns, and cross a challenging rock bridge over a small drainage. Be enchanted by a tunnel of rhododendron on the connector between the LeCroy and Dalton Trails from Point K to Point J. Expect to encounter small rocky sections and tight turns. This trail's design has a nice flow, ideal for runners and mountain bikers.	The LeCroy Trail junctions off the Dalton Trail.



Order of the Arrow (Boy Scouts of America) volunteers construct the Arrowhead Trails in 2011. National Park Service photo.



Thickets of great rhododendron create cool tunnels on parts of the Arrowhead Trails. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.

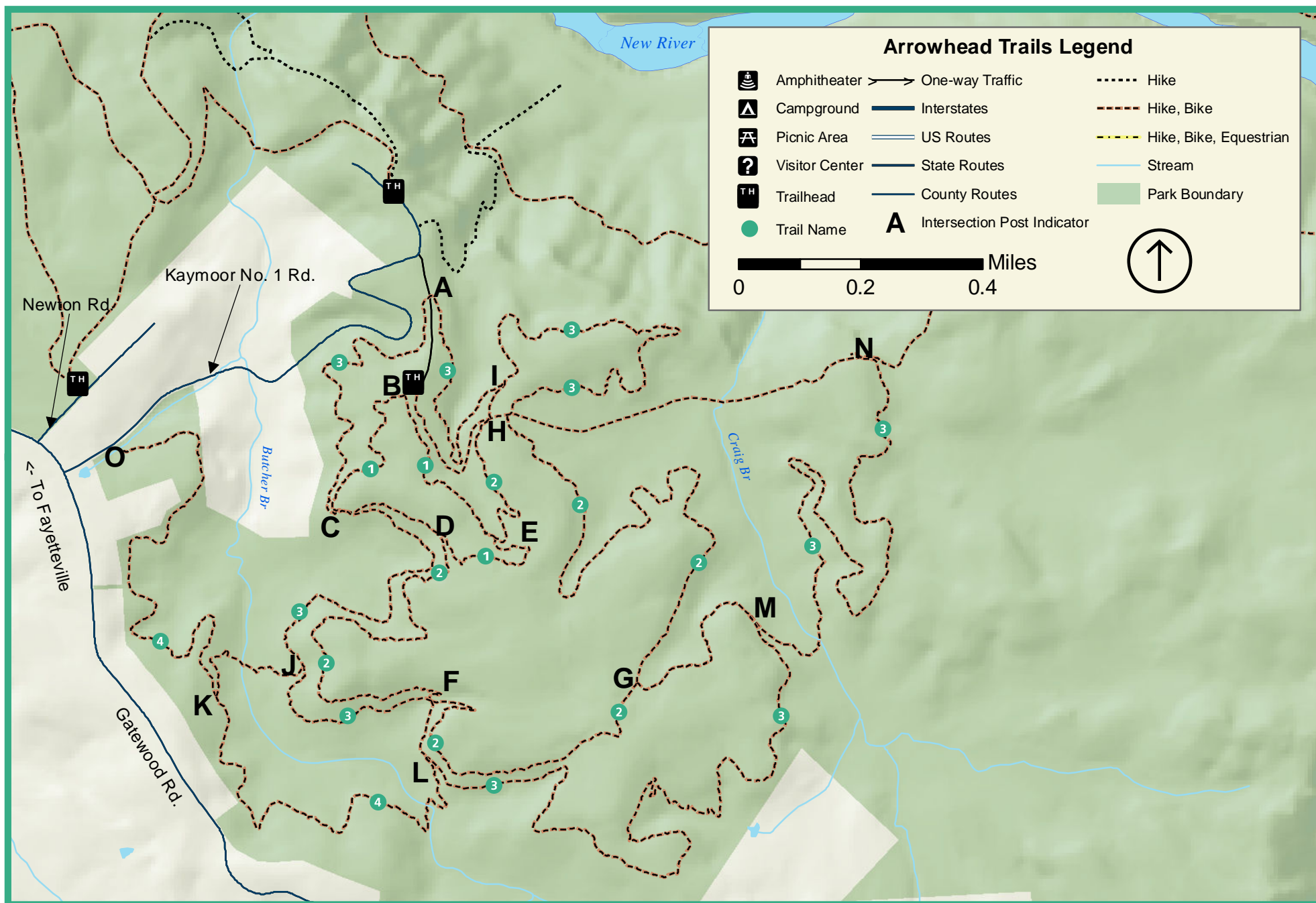


Mountain bike riders gather to hit the trail at the opening ceremony of the Arrowhead Trail system. Photo by Ari Wile.

Arrowhead Trail Mileage Sign Letter System

The signs along this stacked loop trail system are designed to help trail users know where they are. Trails highlighted in GREEN are easier, while those highlighted in BLUE are recommended for more advanced mountain bikers. Look for these lettered signs.

Trail Name	Sign Letters	Distance (mi/km) between signs
Adena Trail	F to G	0.7/1.13
Adena Trail	G to H	1.2/1.93
Adena Trail	E to H	0.3/0.48
Adena Trail	D to F	0.9/1.45
Clovis Trail	C to D	0.2/0.32
Clovis Trail	D to E	0.3/0.48
Clovis Trail	B to E	0.3/0.48
Clovis Trail	B to C	0.3/0.48
Trail Connector	I to H	0.1/0.16
Trail Connector	G to M	0.3/0.48
Trail Connector	J to K	0.3/0.48
Dalton Trail	A to I	0.5/0.8
Dalton Trail	M to N	1.5/2.41
Dalton Trail	A to C	0.7/1.13
Dalton Trail	J to F	0.3/0.48
Dalton Trail	C to J	0.6/0.96
Dalton Trail	L to M	1.7/2.73
Dalton Trail	F to L	0.1/0.16
Dalton Trail	H to I	1.0/1.61
LeCroy Trail	K to L	0.9/1.45
LeCroy Trail	K to O	0.9/1.45



Bike Smart With Leave No Trace
 See page 19 for tips on smart and simple ways to practice outdoor ethics while on outdoor adventures, including specific guidance for mountain bikers.



Mountain biking is a fun outdoor adventure sport for people of all ages. Park trails offer a variety of trail experience for beginner to advanced cyclists. Photo by Ari Wile.

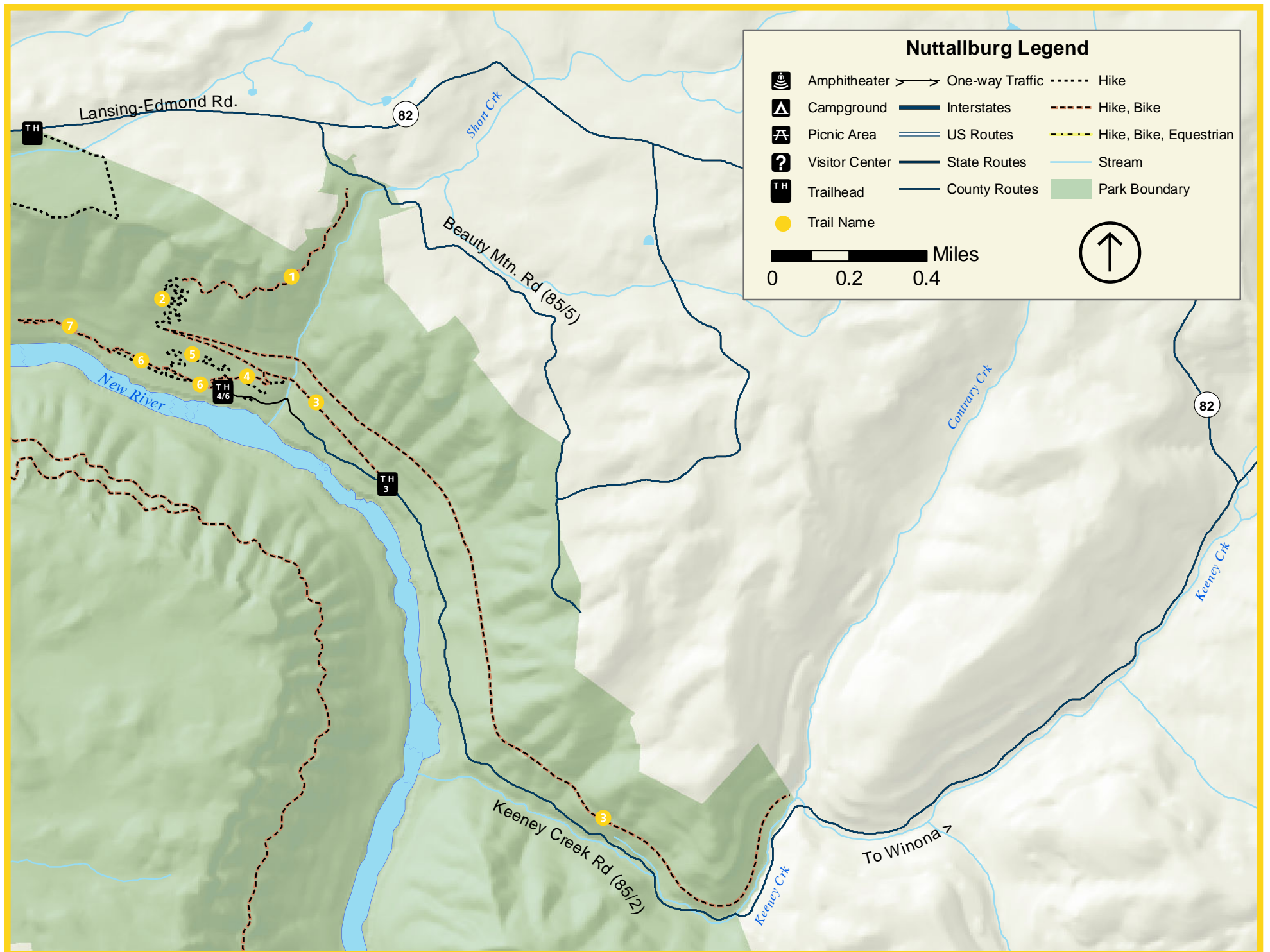
Other Mountain Bike Trails in the Parks

There are several trails in these National Park Service sites that are designed for use by hikers and mountain bikers. See specific trail maps and descriptions on the following pages of this guide:

Page	Trail Name	Trail Difficulty	Trail Distance (mi/km)
4	Fayetteville Trail	Strenuous	3.96/6.37
4	Park Loop Trail	Easy	1.1/1.7
4	Timber Ridge Trail	Easy	1.0/1.6
4	Kaymoor Trail	Moderate	8.6/13.84
4	Craig Branch Trail	Moderate (administrative road)	2.4/3.86
4	Long Point Trail (*has sections for hiking only)	Moderate	1.6/2.57
8	Headhouse Trail	Moderate	0.7/1.13
8	Keeneys Creek Rail Trail	Easy	3.3/5.31
8	Town Loop Connector Trail	Moderate	0.3/0.48
8	Tipple Trail (*has sections for hiking only)	Easy	0.6/0.96
8	Seldom Seen Trail	Easy	0.3/0.48
10	Brooklyn Mine Trail	Moderate	2.7/4.35
10	Southside Trail	Easy	7.0/11.27
10	Rend Trail	Easy	3.4/5.47
10	Stone Cliff Trail	Moderate	2.7/4.35
12	Little Laurel Trail	Strenuous (administrative road)	2.6/4.18
14	Glade Creek Trail	Moderate	5.6/9.01
17	Bluestone Turnpike Trail	Moderate	8.0/12.87

Trails of Nuttallburg

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Headhouse Trail  0.7/1.13	Moderate This gravel trail (administrative road) leads to the entrance of the Nuttall coal mine and top of the coal conveyor, used to transport coal from the mine to the processing area at river level. Learn more about this mine operation from exhibits at this site. Stairs next to the conveyor allow a closer look at the conveyor structure. Note: Climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past.	Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Travel 2.5 miles, then turn right onto Beauty Mountain Road (CO 85/5). Travel 0.1 miles, then turn right onto the road just beyond Nuttall Cemetery Road. The small parking area is located next to the gate, the start of the Headhouse Trail (administrative road). *NOTE: Lansing-Edmond Road is a small, curvy road. Use caution while driving and be prepared to cooperate with other drivers.	
2 Conveyor Trail  0.8/1.29	Strenuous This steep, rugged trail zig-zags from the mid-bench level, not far from the mine entrance, to the old Keeneys Creek railroad line (trail). Views of the conveyor and gorge is visible from time to time, but be sure to watch your footing, for the trail surface is loose and slaggy (old coal debris from the conveyor) in many places. Evidence of this mine's operation is visible along the trail. Be sure to leave historic artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past.	This trail junctions off the Headhouse Trail and Keeneys Creek Rail Trail. See directions to trailhead parking areas on this page.	
3 Keeneys Creek Rail Trail 38.04667° N, 81.03236° W  3.3/5.31	Easy This former rail line once connected the mines and communities up Keeneys Creek to Nuttallburg and the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway mainline. Enjoy a leisurely stroll or bike ride on this wide trail that criss-crosses the rugged mountain landscape at a 4% grade. Here it is easy to see how the rugged terrain was a great challenge to those who constructed this railroad line over 100 years ago. This trail crosses under the conveyor, plus several trestle bridges offer spectacular views of scenic mountain streams, like Short Creek. Trail connections can be made from this trail to the Conveyor Trail and Town Loop Connector Trail.	This trail has two small trailhead parking areas on Keeneys Creek Road. To get to these parking areas, turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Travel 6.0 miles to Winona, then turn right onto Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2). Travel 2.0 miles to the first trailhead parking area, just past the second bridge. Travel an additional 1.5 miles down this road to the second trailhead parking area on the right. *NOTE: Lansing-Edmond Road and Keeneys Creek Road are both very small, curvy roads, including some single lane sections. Use caution while driving and be prepared to cooperate with other drivers; this may include reversing. Winona can also be reached by traveling US 60 to Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) in Lookout. Travel 2.1 miles down Lansing-Edmond Road to Winona, then continue straight ahead 2.0 miles on Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2) to the first trailhead parking area or an additional 1.5 miles to the second parking area.	
4 Town Loop Connector Trail 38.04667° N, 81.03236° W or 38.05006° N, 81.04016° W  0.3/0.48	Moderate Get a glimpse of Nuttallburg's community life on this trail through a residential area of Nuttallburg. Foundations of a home can be seen along the way; an exhibit in this area shows what life was like in this once bustling community. Note: Climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past.	This trail connects Keeneys Creek Rail Trail to Town Loop Trail. See directions to trailhead parking areas on this page.	
5 Town Loop Trail 38.05006° N, 81.04016° W  0.5/0.8	Moderate Get a glimpse of Nuttallburg's community life on this trail that loops around a residential area of Nuttallburg. Foundations of a church, school, and homes are visible along the way; exhibits in this area show what life was like in this once bustling community. Note: Climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past. Trail connections can be made from this trail to the Tipple Trail and Town Loop Connector Trail.	Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Travel 6.0 miles to Winona, then turn right onto Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2). Travel 4.1 miles to the Nuttallburg parking area (accessible parking is located an additional 0.10 mile beyond the main parking area). *NOTE: Lansing-Edmond Road and Keeneys Creek Road are both very small, curvy roads, including some single lane sections. Use caution while driving and be prepared to cooperate with other drivers; this may include reversing. Winona can also be reached by traveling US 60 to Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) in Lookout. Travel 2.1 miles down Lansing-Edmond Road to Winona, then continue straight ahead 4.1 miles on Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2) to the Nuttallburg parking area.	
6 Tipple Trail 38.05006° N, 81.04016° W  0.6/0.96	Easy This trail reveals both the industrial and community side of Nuttallburg through structures and exhibits along the trail. Travel down the trail (west) to see the conveyor and tipple system used in this operation, designed by Henry Ford in the 1920s. A long battery of coke ovens lies beyond the conveyor, where coal was processed into coke for use as fuel in steel production. You can also walk back on the road from the parking area to see remains of the clubhouse and site of the post office. Cross Short Creek bridge to get a glimpse into the life of African Americans who lived in this segregated community. Note: Climbing, sitting, or walking on walls and other constructed features weakens them. Please leave historic structures and artifacts as you find them, where they help tell the story of the past. *Mountain bike riding is only permitted on the trail section that runs from the parking areas, crosses under the conveyor, and runs parallel with the top of the coke oven battery (see map). All visitors who want to see the front of the coke ovens or under the tipple structure must walk to these areas.	Turn onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 in Lansing, just north of Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Travel 6.0 miles to Winona, then turn right onto Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2). Travel 4.1 miles to the Nuttallburg parking area (accessible parking is located an additional 0.10 mile beyond the main parking area). *NOTE: Lansing-Edmond Road and Keeneys Creek Road are both very small, curvy roads, including some single lane sections. Use caution while driving and be prepared to cooperate with other drivers; this may include backing up. Winona can also be reached by traveling US 60 to Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) in Lookout. Travel 2.1 miles down Lansing-Edmond Road to Winona, then continue straight ahead 4.1 miles on Keeneys Creek Road (CO 85/2) to the Nuttallburg parking area.	
7 Seldom Seen Trail 38.05006° N, 81.04016° W  0.3/0.48	Easy Seldom Seen served as a small residential community for some families of those employed at Nuttallburg. Follow this trail to the town site, where a foundation here or there are all that remain, evidence of an earlier time and life in the New River Gorge.	This trail junctions off the Tipple Trail at the downstream/west end of the coke oven battery, next to the foundation of the company store. See directions above to get to the trailhead parking area.	



Black rat snake crawls out of hiding from a coke oven. National Park Service (JFB) photo.



Ranger tour at Nuttallburg. National Park Service (JFB) photo.









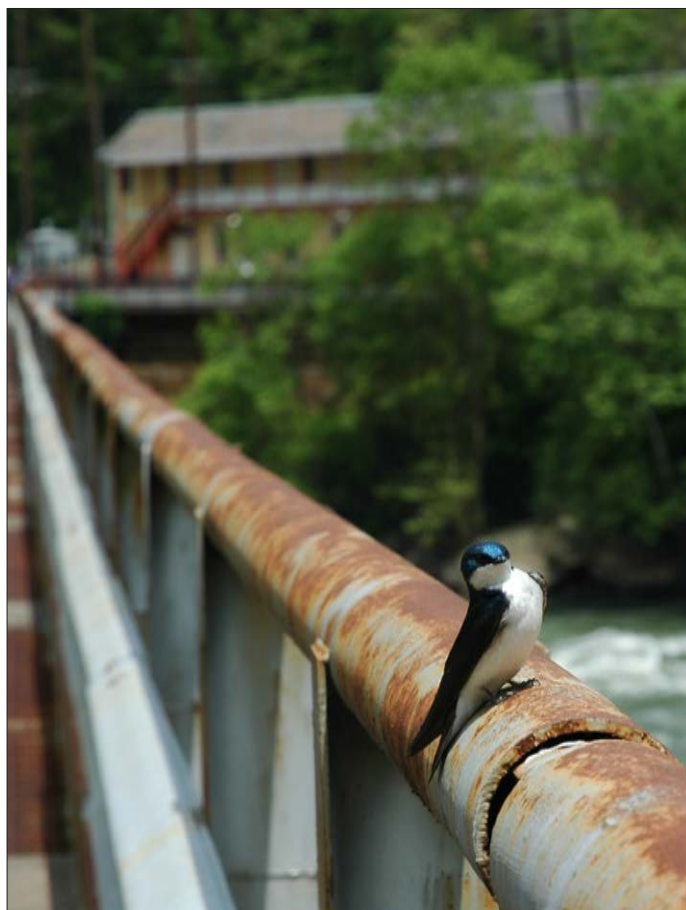
Visitors take a closer look the headhouse, located next to the mine entrance. National Park Service (JFB) photo.



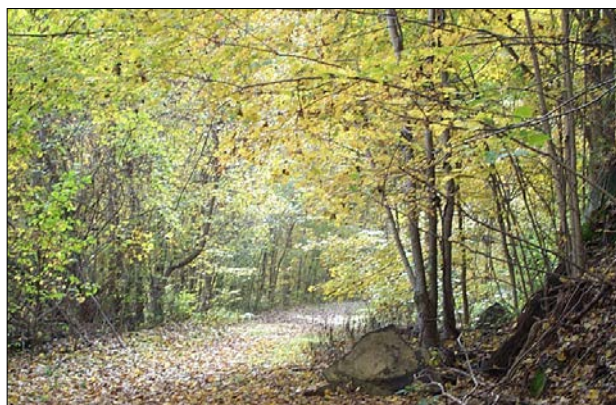
This coal conveyor, designed by Henry Ford, is still a dominant feature of Nuttallburg. National Park Service (JFB) photo.

Trails of Cunard, Thurmond, and Stone Cliff

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Brooklyn Mine Trail 38.00066° N, 81.03324° W	 2.7/4.35	Moderate This multi-use trail follows an old road through the forest to the Brooklyn coal mine site. Scenic views can be seen along this trail.	From US 19, follow Route 16 south through the town of Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road (sign indicates Kaymoor and Cunard). Follow Gatewood Road for 4.6 miles and turn left at the sign for Cunard. Go 1.8 miles and turn left at both of the signs indicating Cunard River Access Road. The parking area is just past the trailhead, located 0.5 miles further on the right.
2 Southside Trail 37.98392° N, 81.02813° W	 7.0/11.27	Easy This riverside trail provides great views of the New River and passes through several abandoned New River Gorge coal mining towns. Rush Run, Red Ash, and Brooklyn were all bustling communities located along this abandoned railroad line. Note: the first mile from the Cunard River Access is open to motorized vehicles. From this point (Brooklyn) to Red Ash, this trail is also used as an administrative road.	From US 19, follow Route 16 South through Fayetteville. Take a left on Gatewood Road. Follow Gatewood Road for 4.6 miles and turn left at the sign for Cunard. Go 1.8 miles and turn left at both of the signs indicating Cunard River Access Road. Follow this road to the river access point at river level, where parking is available. The first mile from the Cunard River Access is open to motorized vehicles, as the trail leads upstream. A parking area at Brooklyn marks the end of the maintained road.
3 Rend Trail (formerly Thurmond-Minden Trail) Thurmond Trailhead: 37.94363° N, 81.08778° W Minden Trailhead: 37.97570° N, 81.10892° W	 3.4/5.47	Easy An easy stroll or bike along this abandoned branch line of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway (Rend Line). This predominantly level trail crosses five railroad trestles and include a short stairs detour around an old rock slide. Several overlooks provide scenic views of Thurmond and the New River. The trail runs parallel with Dunloup Creek on the Thurmond end of the trail, where a few foundations of the town of South Boyd can be seen. Arbuckle Creek runs parallel with the trail on the Minden end.	Thurmond Trailhead: From US 19 north of Beckley, take the Glen Jean-Thurmond exit. Take an immediate left, and go 0.5 miles to Glen Jean. Take a right and follow the signs to Thurmond (WV 25). The trailhead is on the left, 5.1 mile down WV Route 25. Minden Trailhead: Take the Main Street Exit (Oak Hill) off US 19. If going south on US 19, turn left and go 0.2 miles; if going north on US19, turn right and go 0.1 miles. Turn left onto Minden Road, and follow this 2.1 miles. Take a right across a small bridge to the trailhead.
4 Arbuckle Connector Trail 37.94363° N, 81.08778° W	 0.3/0.48	Strenuous This steep and rocky trail connects the Rend and Southside Trails. Located 1.2 miles from the Thurmond end of the Rend Trail, just past the third trestle bridge; this connector trail drops off to the right. This trail also provides glimpses of the stonework and coke ovens of the former coal mine town of Wee Win.	This trail connects Rend and Southside Trails. See above descriptions for directions to these trails.
5 Church Loop Trail 37.94363° N, 81.08778° W	 0.1/0.16	Moderate This trail loops past the 1 st Baptist Church of Thurmond.	This trail loops off the Thurmond-Minden Trail. Follow directions above to the Thurmond Trailhead. The Church Loop Trail leads off to the right about 0.7 miles up the trail.
6 Stone Cliff Trail 37.93251° N, 81.06347° W	 2.7/4.35	Easy to Moderate This rugged trail follows an old road along the banks of the New River. Great views and easy access to the river are available along this trail.	From US 19 north of Beckley, take the Glen Jean-Thurmond exit. Take an immediate left, and go 0.5 miles to Glen Jean. Take a right and follow the signs to Thurmond (WV 25). Continue for 6.0 miles to a three-way intersection. Bear right and go 1.5 miles on this road. Take a right on the gravel road, just before the bridge crossing over the New River. Continue past the boat launch to the parking area. The trail begins beside the picnic area.



Tree swallow on Thurmond bridge. National Park Service (JFB) photo.



The Rend Trail served as a railroad line, where coal was shipped from the mines in Minden to Thurmond. Photo Jodi French-Burr.



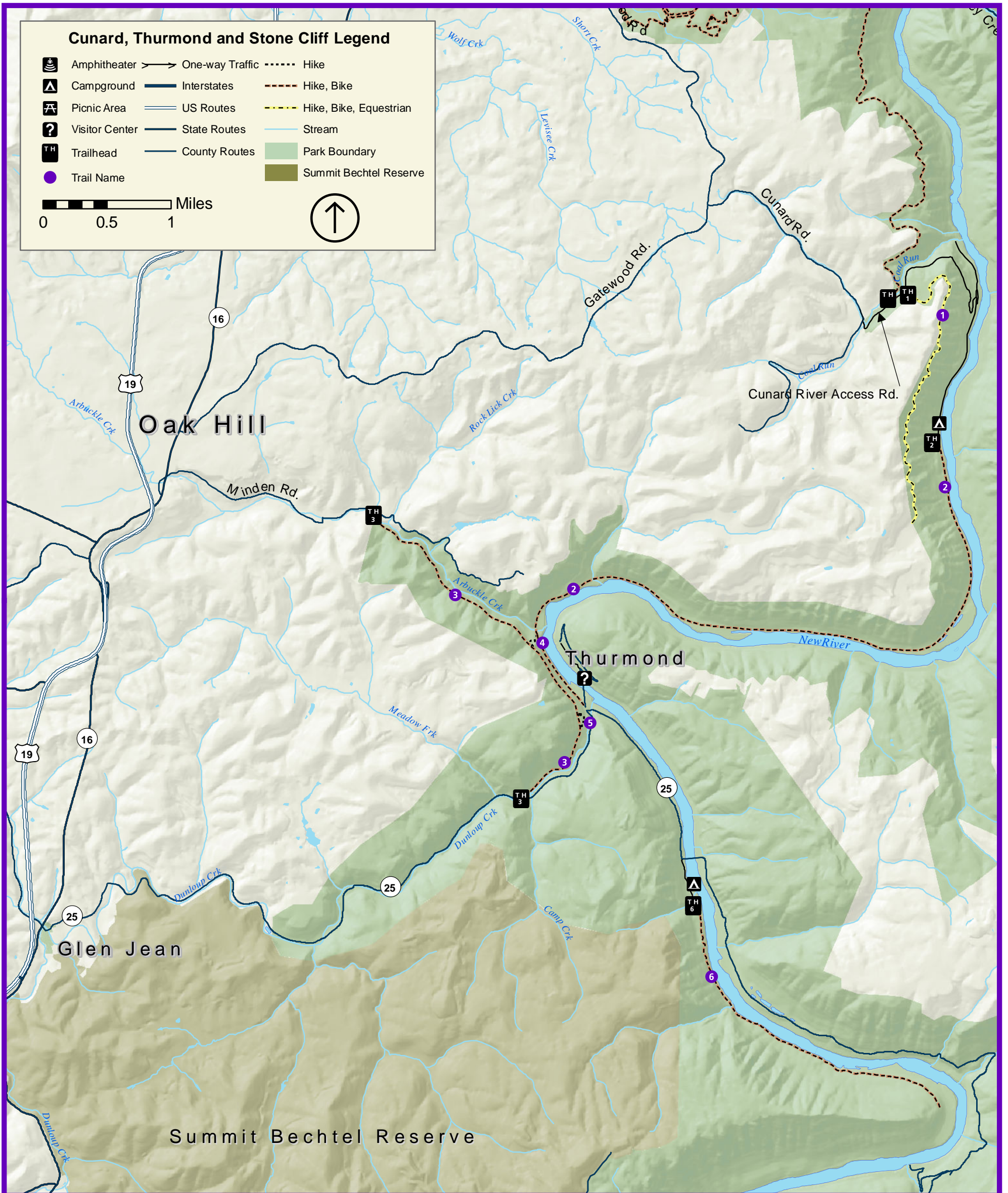
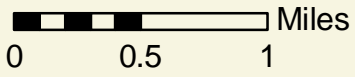
Carolina silverbells. Photo by Leah Perkowski-Sisk.



McKinley Rock tops this rock cliff on the Rend Trail, just before the first trestle bridge near Thurmond. Legend has it that this facial silhouette predicted the assassination of President William McKinley in 1901. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.

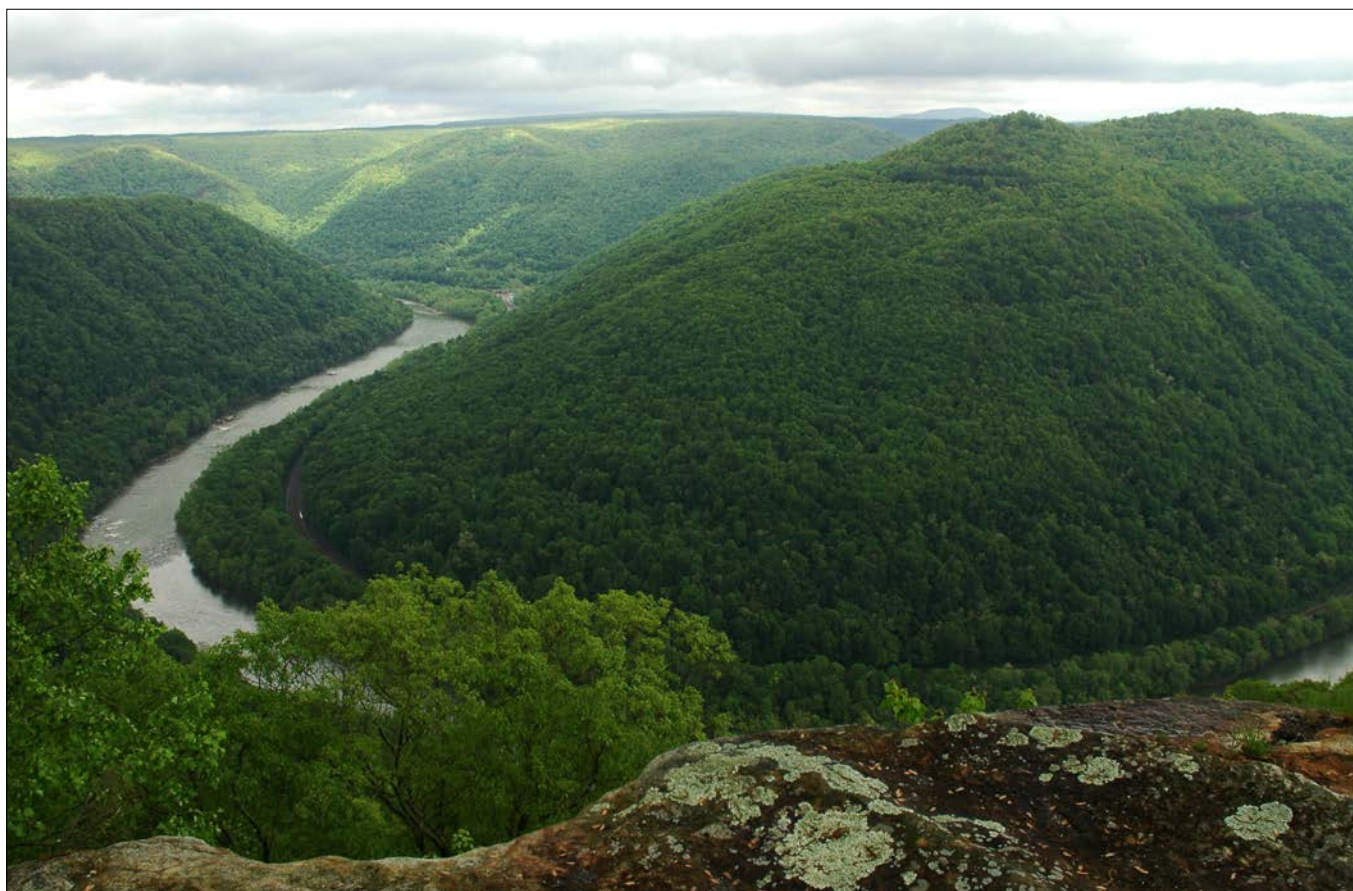
Cunard, Thurmond and Stone Cliff Legend

- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | Amphitheater | | One-way Traffic | | Hike |
| | Campground | | Interstates | | Hike, Bike |
| | Picnic Area | | US Routes | | Hike, Bike, Equestrian |
| | Visitor Center | | State Routes | | Stream |
| | Trailhead | | County Routes | | Park Boundary |
| | Trail Name | | Summit Bechtel Reserve | | |



Trails of Grandview

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Little Laurel Trail 37.83748° N, 81.06994° W	 2.6/4.18	Strenuous Make a connection between the ridge top at Grandview and the New River near Prince on this forest trail (administrative road). Enjoy a great diversity of plants. This old road passes by the area once operated as the coal mine at Royal. The road descends steeply in some places, with a total elevation change of around 1400 feet on this path.	Grandview: The trailhead is at the parking area for Grandview Shelter #3 and #4; From Beckley: Follow WV 41 toward Prince (4.0 miles from the intersection with WV 16/61). Just before the WV 41 bridge crosses New River, turn right on the gravel road, follow the park signs toward Glade Creek (Royal Road). The trailhead (a gated, gravel road) is just ¼ mile down this road on the right, near scattered foundations of the coal town of Royal. The small parking area is on the opposite side of the road. Please do not block the gate.
2 Big Buck Trail 37.83574° N, 81.07152° W	 0.9/1.45	Easy This forest trail loops through a rolling section of forest. Tree identification signs along this route celebrate the great diversity of flora at this site.	The trail begins and ends near Grandview Shelter #2.
3 Woodland Loop Trail 37.83551° N, 81.06975° W	 0.6/0.97	Easy Explore the rich forest on this leisurely trail. A variety of wildlife are seen on this quiet trail, including turkey and deer.	One end of this trail begins near the entrance of Grandview Shelter #2 parking area (just up from the restrooms), while the other end comes out at the Grandview Shelter #2 playground.
4 Castle Rock Trail 37.83058° N, 81.06283° W	 0.6/0.97	Strenuous Pull on your boots and hike along the most challenging and unique trail at Grandview. Hikers will find close-up views of towering fortress-like rock walls and an exposed coal seam. This trail is considered difficult and is not recommended for young children because of uneven footing and drop-offs.	This trail begins near the Grandview's Main Overlook and ends where it intersects with the Grandview Rim Trail.
5 Grandview Rim Trail (formerly Canyon Rim Trail) Main Overlook Trailhead: 37.83058° N, 81.06283° W Turkey Spur Parking: 37.84821° N, 81.06233° W	 1.6/2.57	Moderate Escape for an enjoyable stroll along Grandview's longest trail. This trail gently winds through the mature forest along the rim of the gorge. Along the way to Turkey Spur, hikers will enjoy several breathtaking views of the gorge and river far below. The topography is rolling, but this ridge top trail is considered moderate because of several steep sections.	This trail begins near the Main Overlook and ends at the Turkey Spur Overlook. The road to Turkey Spur allows for an easy return or for a vehicle shuttle for those not wishing to hike back. Extra large vehicles are not recommended on Turkey Spur Road, due to the road's narrow width and small parking lot.
6 Grandview Walkways 37.83058° N, 81.06283° W	 1.5/2.41	Easy + Strenuous Several sidewalks and flagstone walkways lead around the Grandview site. Scenic views are available at the North Overlook, off the Shelter #1 parking area, and at the Main Overlook (fully accessible). Panoramic views are seen at Turkey Spur, with a climb of 150 steps to the three overlook platforms. Just before the steps is a "natural air conditioner," a crack in the rock that puts forth cool air.	These walkways lead from the Main Overlook parking lot, the overflow parking area near the Main Overlook, Shelter #1 parking area, and the parking lot at Turkey Spur.
7 Tunnel Trail 37.83058° N, 81.06283° W	 0.5/0.8	Moderate Cool off along Grandview's shadiest and shortest trail. The moist earth, lush vegetation, and cold-to-the-touch sandstone walls make a stroll along this forest trail a special experience, even on the hottest day. This trail includes several sections of stairs. Note: the flag stone walkways and wooden steps can be slippery after rain or snow.	One end of this trail begins near the walkway to the Main Overlook, while the other end is located near the baseball diamond and playground, off the Main Overlook parking area. The "tunnel" section of this trail is temporarily closed for safety concerns.



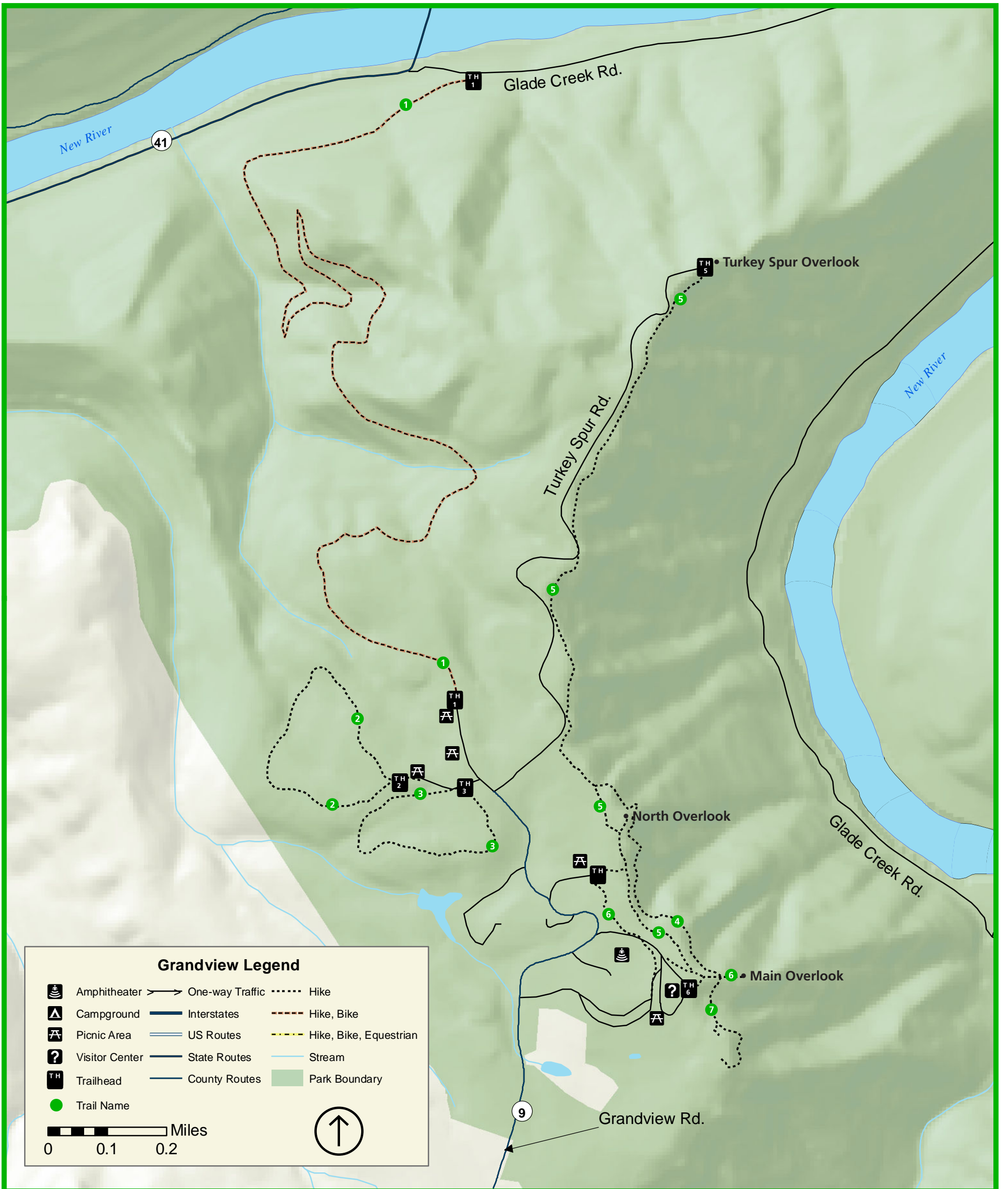
Spectacular panoramic gorge views from several trails at Grandview. National Park Service (JFB) photo.



Indian pipe is a subtle forest beauty of late spring. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.



Wild turkey live in the gorge. Photo by Mark Robinson.



Trails of Glade Creek

	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Glade Creek Trail 37.82700° N, 81.01054° W or 37.76464° N, 81.04294° W	 5.6/9.01	Moderate Enjoy the pools, waterfalls, rhododendron thickets, and hemlock forests that border this creek-side trail, an abandoned narrow-gauge railroad line. Glade Creek is a popular trout stream, with the lower section (between the footbridge and the New River) designated catch and release only. Expect several sets of steps before the footbridge crossing 3 miles up from the New River. The upper section of this trail is also used as an administrative road.	Follow WV 41 to the Prince area. Turn onto Glade Creek Road on the south end of the WV 41 bridge that crosses New River. Travel 6.0 miles to the trailhead parking area, next to the primitive campground at Glade Creek. Road access to this trail's southern trailhead (upstream) is closed until further notice (bridge and road under repair).
2 Kates Falls Trail 37.76464° N, 81.04294° W	 0.2/0.32	Strenuous Hike this steep, but scenic trail to view Kates Falls. This trail is accessed off the Glade Creek Trail.	Follow directions above for Glade Creek Trail. This trail is accessed off the Glade Creek Trail, 4.25 miles upstream of the Glade Creek trailhead. Road access to Glade Creek Trail's southern trailhead (upstream) is closed until further notice (bridge and road under repair).
3 Kates Plateau Trail 37.76457° N, 81.04281° W	 5.1/8.21	Strenuous Look for signs of beaver, deer, and turkey as you follow old logging roads. The trail passes through fields, forests, and near wetlands. Initially the trail passes under Interstate 64, then crosses Kates Branch. The creek crossing of Kates Branch can be challenging and involves some steep terrain. The trail is marked by blazes through the forest and includes one steep section.	Follow directions above for Glade Creek Trail. This trail junctions with the Glade Creek Trail, 5.6 miles upstream of the Glade Creek trailhead. Road access to Glade Creek Trail's southern trailhead (upstream) is closed until further notice (bridge and road under repair).
4 Polls Plateau Trail 37.76457° N, 81.04281° W	 4.9/7.89	Moderate Cross several creeks on this trail that passes through an upland forest and past an old farmstead. The trail follows an old roadbed; the route may not be obvious due to drainages and other old roadbeds.	Follow directions above for Glade Creek Trail. This trail is accessed from its junction with the Kates Plateau Trail. A topographic map is recommended for this remote trail.



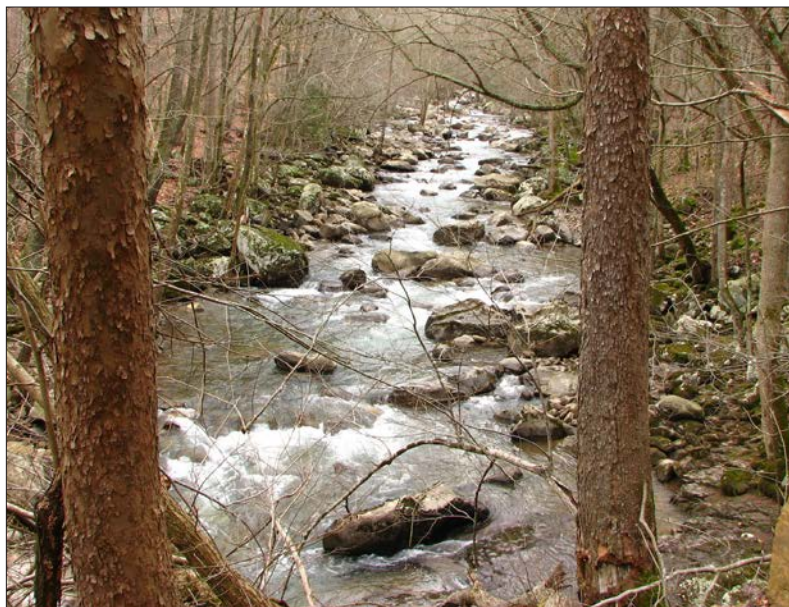
Virginia bluebells are one of many spring wildflowers seen in the rich forest habitat near Glade Creek. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.



This bridge about 3.0 miles up Glade Creek from the trailhead allows for a safe crossing - no matter what the water level. Photo by Frank Sellers.



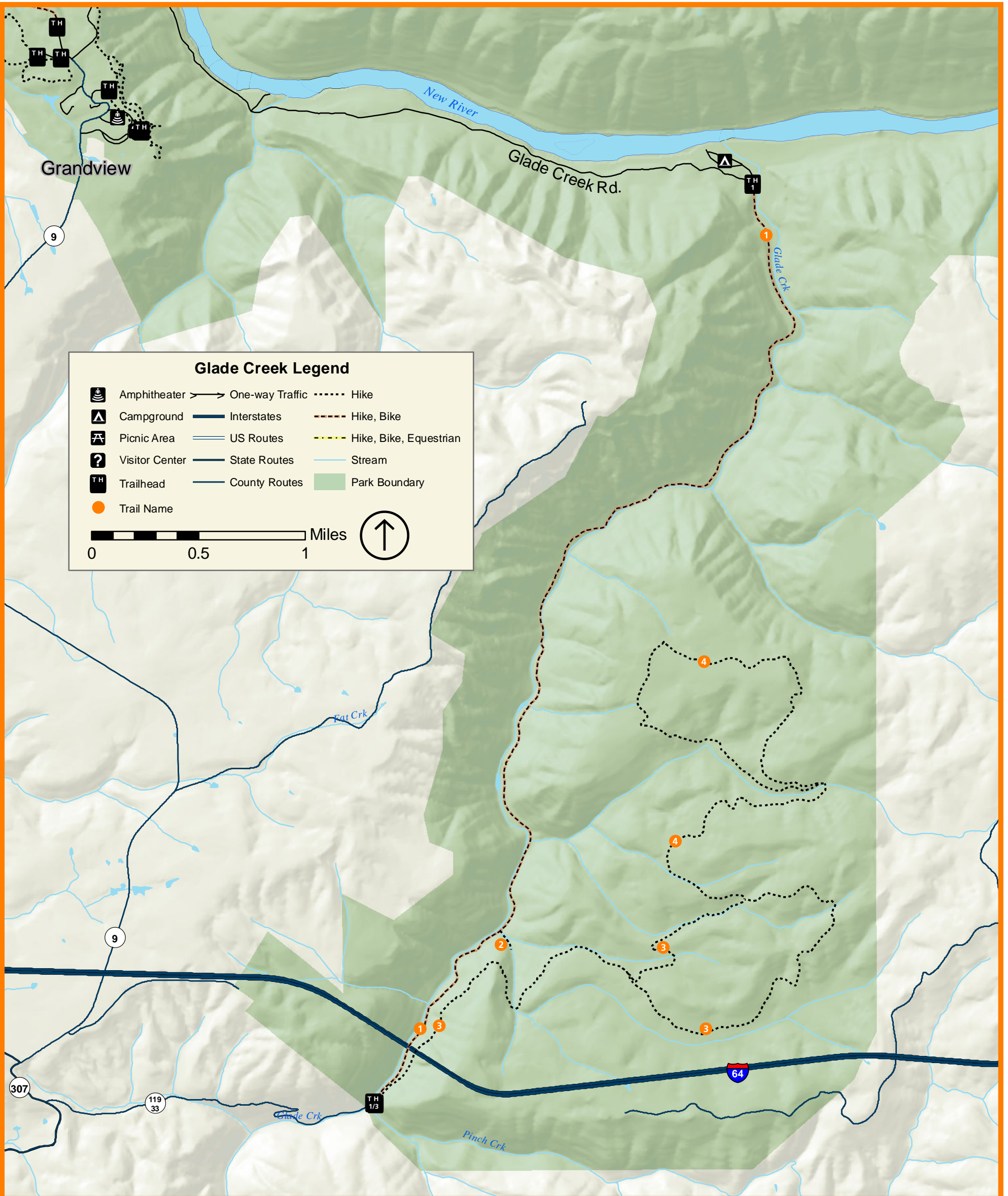
Look for creatures great and small along the trail. Photo by Leah Perkowski-Sisk.

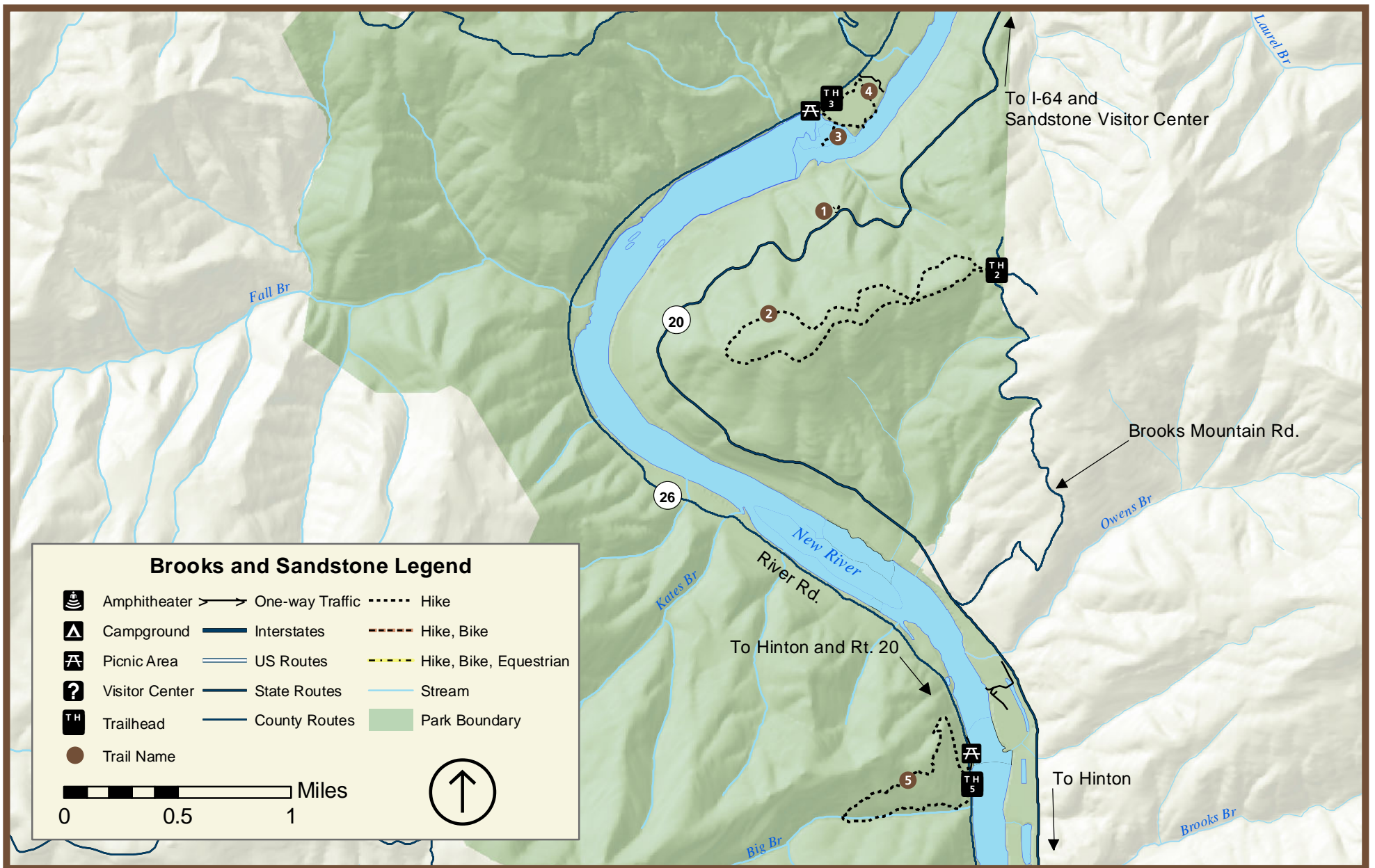


The Glade Creek watershed is a beautiful place to explore any time of the year. Photo by Leah Perkowski-Sisk.



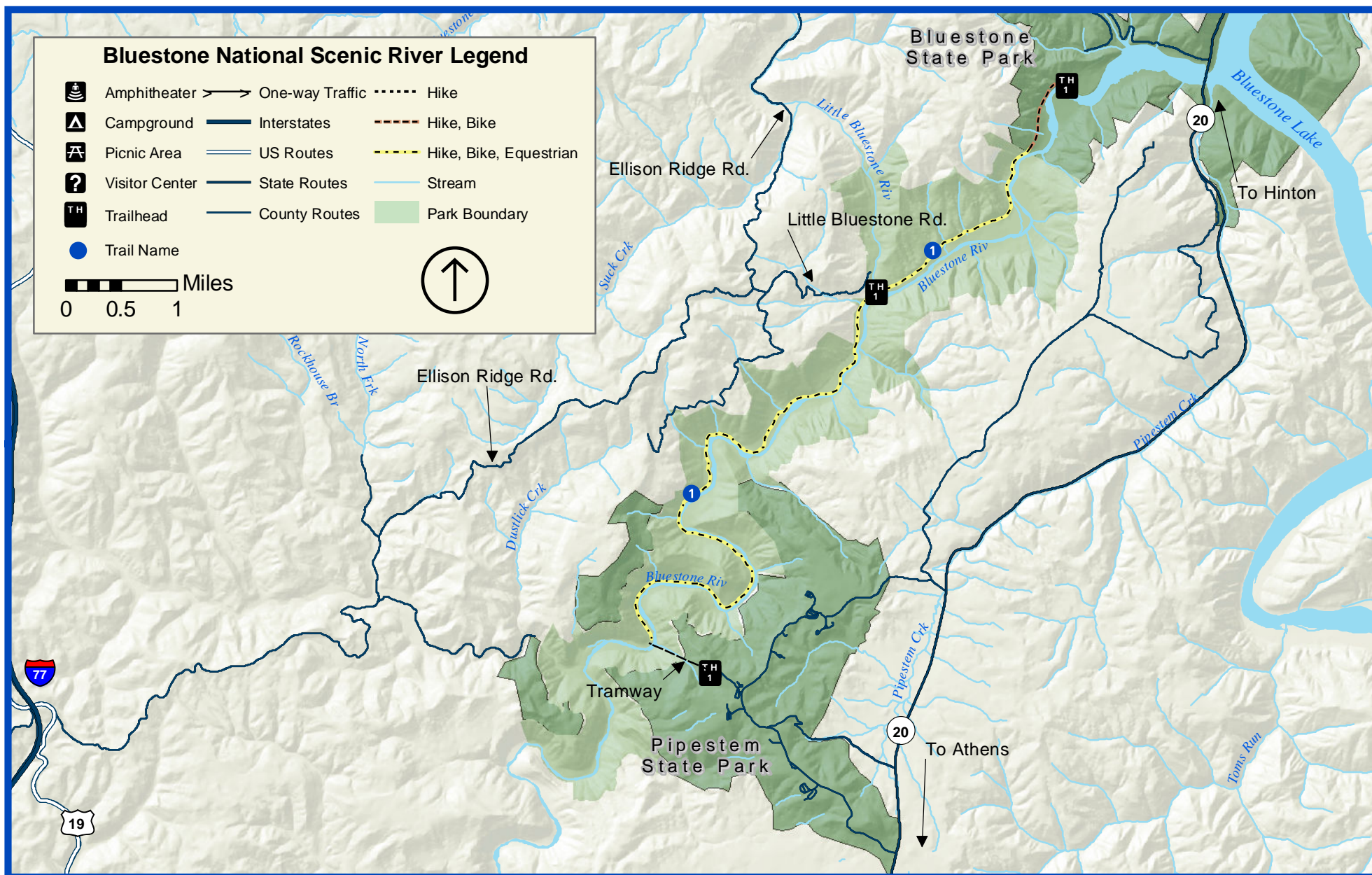
A variety of wildlife can be seen throughout the Kates Branch wetlands, from bullfrogs to beaver. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.





Trails of Brooks and Sandstone





Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Overlook of Sandstone Falls on WV 20 near Sandstone 37.75252° N, 80.90389° W	0.1/0.16	Moderate See all of Sandstone Falls at this scenic overlook just off the highway. This short, gravel walkway descends briefly from the parking lot to a view of the falls and river 600 feet below.	This roadside pull-off is on WV 20, 3 miles from I-64 exit 139, south of the Sandstone Visitor Center and the town of Sandstone. This overlook can also be reached from points south; travel 8.5 miles north on WV 20 from Hinton.
2 Gwinn Ridge Trail 37.74901° N, 80.89086° W	3.0/4.83	Strenuous Slip on your hiking boots for this loop trail that descends through a rocky forest. The trail starts and ends in an old field that passes under a power line with some scenic views of the gorge.	Follow Brooks Mountain Road (CO 44/5) 2.5 miles, off WV 20 in Brooks, about half way between the towns of Sandstone and Hinton.
3 Sandstone Falls Boardwalk 37.75924° N, 80.90517° W	0.2/0.32	Easy An accessible boardwalk crosses two bridges and leads to islands and observation decks that offer views of the falls and access to fishing areas. A globally rare riparian ecosystem, an Appalachian flatrock community, surrounds the falls adjacent to the boardwalk on these islands. Only plants that can withstand periodic flood conditions survive here.	Take River Road (CO 26) from the west end of the WV 20 bridge in Hinton. Follow this narrow road along the river for 9.0 miles to Sandstone Falls. Note: This road is single lane in some sections; please use extra caution and cooperate with other drivers.
4 Island Loop Trail 37.75924° N, 80.90517° W	0.5/0.8	Easy This short, rocky trail loops around the largest island below Sandstone Falls and leads past a fishing beach. The land on this island was farmed, grazed, and timbered; a grist mill also operated here. Natural field succession is seen along the trail, as parts of the island transitions back to forest.	This trail starts and ends on the Sandstone Falls Boardwalk. See directions above.
5 Big Branch Trail 37.71709° N, 80.89319° W	2.0/2.74	Strenuous This creek-side, forest loop trail follows Big Branch and includes several waterfalls. There are three creek crossings along Big Branch. A hotspot for spring wildflowers, the trail then passes an old farmstead and up a ridge. Some scenic views of the gorge and river are seen along the trail, especially from the ridge top in the winter season. The trail steeply descends to the trailhead and offers scenic views of Brooks Falls along the way.	Take River Road (CO 26) from the west end of the WV 20 bridge in Hinton. Follow this narrow road along the river for 5 miles to Brooks Falls. Note: This road is single lane on some sections; please use extra caution. Park at the Brooks Falls Overlook; cross the road to the trailhead.



Trails of Bluestone National Scenic River

Trail Name	Distance (mi/km)	Trail Description	Directions to Trailhead Parking
1 Bluestone Turnpike Trail Lilly Trailhead: 37.58379° N, 80.97158° W Pipestem S.P. Tram Parking: 37.53412° N, 80.99883° W Bluestone S.P. Parking: 37.60225° N, 80.94641° W	8.0/12.87	<p>Moderate Follow the forested path of an old riverbank road, the Bluestone Turnpike, an area farmed and timbered until the 1940s. This part of the Bluestone River Gorge is managed as a wildlife area and supports a great diversity of plants and river wildlife. The turnpike has remnants of its human history too, like the town site of Lilly located at the confluence of the Bluestone and Little Bluestone Rivers. Please note that overnight camping is not permitted in Bluestone National Scenic River.</p> <p>The Bluestone Turnpike Trail junctions on the north end with Bluestone State Park's campground road, just past the Old Mill Campground. On the south end of the trail is Pipestem Resort State Park, where this trail junctions with the River Trail, 1.3 miles down stream from Mountain Creek Lodge at the base of the tram (at 1.0 miles you will pass the junction with Pipestem's Farley Loop Trail).</p>	<p>The Bluestone Turnpike Trail is best accessed via one of two West Virginia State Parks that lie at each end, Bluestone State Park to the north and Pipestem Resort State Park to the south. To reach these parks from I-64, take exit 139, then south on WV 20. Bluestone State Park is 15 miles and Pipestem is 22 miles. From I-77 take exit 14 to WV 20 north. Pipestem is 14 miles and Bluestone is 22 miles.</p> <p>This trail can also be accessed from the historic town site of Lilly, just a few miles upstream of Bluestone State Park. To get to the Lilly Trailhead take WV 3 to Nimitz. Turn onto Ellison Ridge Road (CO 27). Travel 1.6 miles to where the road splits, stay on Ellison Ridge Road and continue an additional 2.4 miles. Then turn left onto Little Bluestone Road; travel 100 yards and turn left. Go to the bottom of the mountain. This road takes you to the parking lot at Lilly.</p>
Connections to Nearby Trails			
Bluestone State Park		The Bluestone Turnpike Trail junctions with Bluestone State Park's campground road, just past the Old Mill Campground. Bluestone State Park also has seven trails, covering a total distance of 8 miles. These trails vary in length, difficulty, terrain and permitted uses. Contact Bluestone State Park for detailed trail information: 1-800-CALL WVA or www.bluestonesp.com.	<p>See directions above for Bluestone State Park.</p> <p>Scan this QR code to visit the park website.</p>
Pipestem Resort State Park		The Bluestone Turnpike Trail junctions with Pipestem Resort State Park's Farley Loop Trail and River Trail. Pipestem Resort State Park has 16 trails, covering a total distance of over 18 miles. These trails vary in length, difficulty, terrain and permitted uses. Contact Pipestem Resort State Park for detailed trail information: 1-800-CALL WVA or www.pipestemresort.com.	<p>See directions above Pipestem Resort State Park.</p> <p>Scan this QR code to visit the park website.</p>

Trails Near Gauley River National Recreation Area

Description	There are currently no public trails in Gauley River National Recreation Area, as much of the land within park boundaries is privately owned.		
Nearby Trails	Trails Types	Site Description	Directions to Site
Summersville Lake		<p>US Army Corps of Engineers completed Summersville Lake and Dam in 1966, one of the flood control projects for the Kanawha River basin. The site is also used as a recreation area, a popular place to boat, fish, camp, bike, and hike.</p> <p>There are three trails (Battle Run Trail, Long Point Trail, and Salmon Run Trail) at this site, covering a total distance of 11.1 miles. These trails vary in length, difficulty, terrain, and permitted use. Overlooks at the Summersville Dam offer scenic views of Gauley River National Recreation Area. Contact the US Army Corps of Engineers at Summersville Lake for detailed trail information: 304-872-3412 or www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/lakes/sum.</p>	<p>Turn west onto WV 129 off US 19 just south of Summersville. Travel 2.1 miles, cross Summersville Dam, then turn left to the site's office. There are several access points to this public lake.</p>  <p>Scan this QR code to visit the lake website.</p>
Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park		<p>This state park has three trails (Old Ferry Road, Patterson Trail, and Pierson Hollow Trail), covering a total distance of 2.9 miles. Several of the trails offer scenic views of Gauley River National Recreation Area. The Pierson Hollow Trail also has a stand of old growth oak trees, a rare ecological sight in this region. These trails vary in length, difficulty, terrain, and permitted use. Contact Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park for detailed trail information: 1-800-CALL WVA or www.carnifexferrybattlefieldstatepark.com.</p>	<p>Turn west onto WV 129 off US 19 just south of Summersville. Travel 5.2 miles, then turn sharp left onto Carnifex Ferry Road/Carnifex Ferry Crossing (CO 23). This road dead ends in the park in 1.1 miles.</p>  <p>Scan this QR code to visit the park website.</p>



The Gauley River cuts through the heart of this river canyon. National Park Service photo.



Reenactment soldiers depict a soldier's daily life at an encampment at Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park, the site of an 1861 battle of the Civil War. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.

Stay Found on the Trail

Adventure on the trail can be fun, exciting, and uplifting, but an emergency can quickly diminish the fun. Here are some tips to stay prepared:

- Learn and practice using your hiking tools before you start your adventure. Learn to use a map and compass or GPS unit in advance. Break in those new hiking boots ahead of time too. Remember cell phones may not get a good signal deep within the gorge.
- Dress in layers for warmth and weather. Know the weather forecast.
- Carry water, a snack, and an emergency lost kit (first-aid kit, a whistle, and rain poncho or large trash bag to handle unexpected weather).
- Hike with a friend and tell someone your hiking plan (where you plan to hike and expected return time). Kids should always hike with an adult.
- Stay on the trail and look for landmarks along the way.
- If you get lost:
 - * Try to stay calm, even if you are very scared.
 - * Place a bright color where it might be seen.
 - * Find a comfortable spot to sit and stay dry (sit on your trash bag or make a hole in it and wear it like a coat). **Stay in one place** and blow your whistle to help others find you.



Invader Insect Spotlight: Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer is an introduced beetle species that has killed over 25 million ash trees in North America. Unfortunately this aggressive insect is now found in the New River area, having first arrived here on campfire wood. Federal and state officials are doing all they can to combat this destructive insect. Contact the park or visit www.wvforestry.com for current updates on this insect invader, including any restrictions related to the movement of fire wood in or around the park area.



Invader Insect Spotlight: Woolly Adelgid

Eastern hemlock trees face challenges throughout the region. This evergreen species is being attacked by an invader insect called Woolly Adelgid. This small aphid looks like white cotton on the needles and branches. The National Park Service is working to suppress this insect threat. Visit www.nps.gov/neri to learn more about the park's work to help this important Appalachian tree species.



Help Care for Our Parks: Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics Tips

As responsible land stewards, each of us can help care for our National Parks by practicing outdoor ethics. Leave a good impression on the land and others by following these easy tips:

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know and follow the regulations and concerns for the area you will visit.
- Contact the park for updates on current trails status and conditions. There are plans for additional trails at this park.
- Carry and know how to use appropriate gear to keep your adventure safe and fun.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Travel and camp on the most durable surfaces, such as rock, sand, dry leaves, or grass.
- Concentrate use on existing trails and campsites.
- Avoid places where impacts are just beginning.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your rest areas and campsites for trash or spilled food. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- When facilities are unavailable, deposit solid human waste in a cathole dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet (70 steps) from water, trails, and camp. Carry a zip-lock bag to pack out toilet paper.
- Carry water for washing 200 feet (70 steps) away from any water source.

Leave What You Find

- Help preserve the past; leave cultural artifacts and sites as you find them.
- Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Campfires can cause impacts that leave a lasting mark on the land. Use a lightweight stove to cook and enjoy a lantern for light. If you must have a fire, keep it small.
- Burn all wood and coals to ash, and put out campfires completely.

Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Never approach animals; avoid making loud noises and sudden movements.
- Do not disturb animals; respect their homes, feeding areas, travel paths, and breeding areas.
- Never feed or leave food scraps for wildlife. Feeding damages an animal's health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers.
- Control pets at all times or leave them at home.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.
- Always respect the rights of private property owners.



Extra Tips: Backpackers' Bonus

- Use established campsites or select the most durable camping location possible when in primitive, backcountry locations. Remember a good campsite is found, not made.
- When breaking camp, leave the site clean. Before you depart a primitive site, naturalize the site by recovering scuffed up areas with leaf litter or fluff matted grass.
- Soap, even when it is biodegradable, can affect water quality in rivers and streams, so minimize its use. Always wash yourself and dishes well away (200 feet) from the water source and rinse with water carried in a pot or jug.
- Store food and trash securely. Be careful not to drop food on the trail or at rest stops.

Extra Tips: Bikers' Best

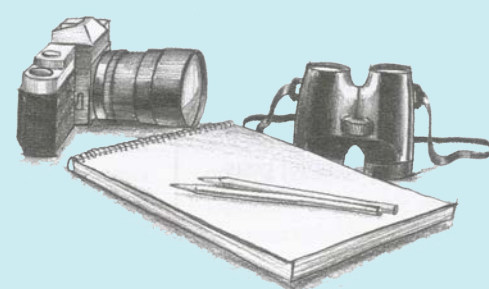
- Terrain varies on park trails, so be sure you possess adequate skills and the physical ability required for your planned trip.
- Travel on the most durable surfaces. Do not widen trails or cut switchbacks. Off-trail travel on a bike is never appropriate.
- Control your bicycle. Adapt your braking power to varied terrain and avoid skidding. Ride at a reasonable speed and always slow down when encountering others.
- Yield appropriately. Slow down, establish communication, and pass safely. Be prepared to stop and dismount if the situation calls for it. When descending, yield to climbing cyclists.
- Avoid the spread of noxious seeds; clean bikes before taking to the trail and after trail use.

Extra Tips: Horsin' Around

- Stay on designated equestrian trails and make it a habit to use surfaces that are resistant to impacts. Off-trail travel on a horse is never appropriate.
- Know your horses and how they relate to others.
- Yield to others. Slow down, establish communication, and pass safely. Few hikers know they should pull off on the downhill side of the trail; you may need to ask them to hold up while you pass.
- Discourage horses from nibbling on vegetation to avoid resource impacts.
- Hobbles or highlines may be necessary for extended rest breaks along the trail.

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Scan this QR code to visit this website.



In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.

John Muir

Extra Fun Along the Trail

- Take a visual scavenger hunt along the trail; look for tracks, scat, animal homes, historic building remains, etc. Remember to leave things as you find them.
- Photography on the trail: start the hike with a picture of your group and continue from there.
- Stop at a favorite spot along the trail to draw a picture or write in a nature journal or notebook.
- Bring binoculars or a hand lens to get a close-up look at the natural wonders along the trail.
- Be quiet: find a favorite spot along the trail and just sit. Become part of the landscape to have a better chance to see wildlife, as well as other aspects of the natural and cultural history that surround you.
- Become a Junior Ranger (for kids from 6 to 12 years old): stop by any park visitor center, pick up a Junior Ranger discovery workbook, and begin your discovery of New River Gorge National River.
- Join a park ranger for a guided hike and explore a park trail. Check with the park for current events schedule.



Trail Use Regulations

The following regulations apply to use of area National Park Service (NPS) trails.

- Follow all trail use designations and stay on designated trails.
- Pets must be on a leash.
- Park regulations prohibit the possession, collection, removal, destruction, or disturbance of both natural and cultural objects and structures on public land, unless specifically designated. Contact the park for a list of berries, other fruits, mushrooms, and roots that can be gathered. Respect wildlife.
- All groups biking and hiking on designated trails will be limited to a maximum of 22 persons.
- Hunting and fishing is permitted in the park. Contact the park for specific regulations and visit www.wvdnr.gov.
- Contact the park for specific regulations regarding horse and pack animal use.
- Camping is permitted on federally-owned lands within the park except where specifically excluded (contact the park for specific exclusions). Camping is prohibited within 100 feet of any developed day use and river access area, developed trails and trailheads, park structures or historic ruins, water sources, improved areas (unless otherwise stated), and within 25 feet of all main roads within the park boundary. (Practice Leave No Trace by increasing this distance to 200 feet, that's about 70 steps.)
- Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter. Pack it in, pack it out!
- Campfires are allowed at developed sites and must be contained within the receptacles that are provided. Campfires are also allowed at established backcountry and riverfront campsites and must be contained within a fire pan or existing fire ring. Consider using a lightweight stove for cooking instead and enjoy a lantern for light.
- Dead wood on the ground may be collected only for use as campfire fuel in campsites within park boundaries. Check for possible restrictions on movement of firewood in the area.



Hikers on Endless Wall Trail. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.



Mountain biker. Photo by Tina Dempsey.

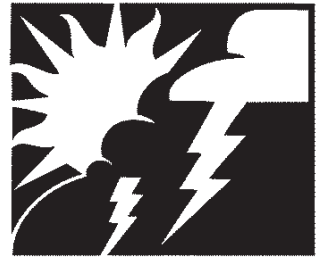


Leashes show respect for visitors and wildlife. Photo by Jodi French-Burr.

Think Safety First!

Staying safe is a smart way to keep the fun in your fun while on the trail. Follow these tips to help you plan ahead and prepare for your next trail adventure:

- Contact the park for an update on current trails' status and conditions.
- Know the weather forecast for your trip date and plan accordingly. Weather in this neighborhood can vary throughout the year, from intense, humid heat in summer to snow storms in winter. Take cover during heavy rain and thunderstorms—inside a building is best.
- Stay on designated trails, and use extra caution around cliffs, overlooks, and while crossing streams.
- Some historic building remains are unstable; do not play in or around these structures.
- Watch where you put your hands and feet; poison ivy (*leaves of three, let it be*), stinging nettles, yellow jackets, copperheads, and timber rattlesnakes live in the park. Learn to recognize these potentially harmful inhabitants.



Poison ivy is a vine that grows along the ground and up trees. Large versions of this plant can be shrub-like, with thick, hair-like aerial roots covering the main stem. The oils that cover this plant can cause an itchy rash.



The stems and leaves of stinging nettle are covered with bristly hairs. These plant-like hairs often cause an immediate burning sensation when these come in contact with bare skin.

- Check for ticks after hiking in spring, summer, and autumn.
- If hiking alone, tell a friend your plans before you go.
- Lock valuables in the trunk of your car or take them with you.
- Hunting is permitted in many areas of the park; blaze orange clothing is recommended during hunting season.
- The railroad tracks running through the park are active lines and private property; do not hike on the tracks, and use only designated railroad crossings.
- Always respect the rights and property of private land owners.



In case of emergency call 911.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

New River Gorge National River
Bluestone National Scenic River
Gauley River National Recreation Area

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 246, 104 Main St.
Glen Jean, WV 25846
304-465-0508

Internet
<http://www.nps.gov/neri>
<http://www.facebook.com/newrivergorgenps>



Scan this QR code to visit the park website.

Canyon Rim Visitor Center
Open daily 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
304-574-2115

Thurmond Depot
Open June through August
304-465-8550

Grandview Visitor Center
Open June through August
304-763-3715

Sandstone Visitor Center
Open daily 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
304-466-0417

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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Be Critter Conscious!

Parks are home to many types of wildlife. Please be respectful of these creatures, for we are in their backyard. Here are extra tips, should you see some notable locals:



Be Black Bear Aware

- Stay alert when on a hike.
- If you see a bear, keep your distance. Stay calm, make noise, and back away slowly.
- Never approach a bear or encourage a bear to approach you.
- Never feed a bear or any wild animal. This encourages bad habits.
- If a bear does approach you, act aggressively. If a bear tries to touch you, fight back in any way you can.



Be Snake Smart

- If you see a snake, keep your distance. Snakes tend to be defensive, not aggressive. Remember that any animal will protect itself if it feels threatened.
- Know how to ID a snake from a safe distance. **Don't get too close!**



Poisonous

- triangle shaped head
- oval pupils
- heat sensitive
- pit near nostrils



Non-poisonous

- oval shaped head
- round pupils
- have nostrils only

20 Trails of New River