



Delayne Hodges,
Maintenance Mechanic Work Leader

Words with a Ranger

As a maintenance work leader, I'm responsible for the preservation, restoration, and reconstruction of historic buildings and structures in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

My fellow carpenters and I repair or duplicate deteriorating structures originally built by those who lived in the Smokies before the park was established. Our work involves carefully replacing failing components of historic structures with new, sound parts and using traditional building techniques in order to preserve the structures' original look, feel, and character.

Every historic structure in the park is truly one of a kind, and many were built using trees and stones harvested from the surrounding forests. We restore windows, duplicate millwork, paint and stain wood, and rebuild stone chimneys and skirting. Every little detail is engineered for soundness and public safety.

I started restoring homes with my father at a young age before becoming a patternmaker in the US Navy, duplicating or creating parts in wood to be cast into respective alloys in foundries. After the military, I worked in a pattern shop where I hand carved historical replacements

Continued on page 8

SMOKIES GUIDE

The Official Newspaper of the Smokies • Winter 2021-22



For current conditions, check [smokiesroadsnps](#) on Twitter or call 865.436.1200, ext. 1. For seasonal road closures, visit [nps.gov/grsm](#). *Image by Bill Lea.*

Play It Safe When Crossing Cold Mountains

Plan ahead for road closures and wintry conditions

Winter is a beautiful time to explore the Great Smoky Mountains. With a little planning and a few extra layers, the well-prepared will find frosty fields, snowy mountaintops, and waterfalls dripping with crystal-clear icicles. The first step is knowing what roads will take you there.

To ensure visitor safety in hazardous winter driving conditions, the National Park Service closes many secondary and higher-elevation roadways seasonally. (See map page 6.) At the park's tallest peaks, temperatures drop swiftly and precipitation is much more frequent and heavy. Standard road salts are not used within the park in order to protect vegetation and waterways.

One major roadway subject to frequent closure is Newfound Gap Road (US 441), the main roadway connecting Gatlinburg, TN, and Cherokee, NC. The road stretches 33 miles across the mountains and rises to a lofty elevation of 5,046 feet. Even though conditions may seem safe near Gatlinburg or Cherokee, higher-elevation roads often include steep grades and sharp curves that quickly become dangerous in wintry conditions. For alternate routes, see the back page of this newspaper.

When driving in wintry conditions, reduce your speed and avoid sudden braking. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you. Use lower gears or brake gently to slow down.

Be #SmokiesSafe

- Delay your trip if you are sick
- Check [nps.gov/grsm](#) for mask-wearing requirements in park buildings
- Send only one or two members of your party into visitor centers
- Avoid crowded areas
- Maintain social distancing six feet away from others
- Wash hands frequently

Visit [nps.gov/grsm](#) to plan your trip



COVID-19

The National Park Service is working with federal, state, and local health authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. Check nps.gov/grsm for the latest updates on open facilities and access. All openings are based on available staffing. Temporary closures may occur on short notice.

Check nps.gov/grsm for updates on mask-wearing requirements in park buildings and crowded outdoor spaces.



Visitor centers

Hours may be modified due to COVID-19.

Oconaluftee, Sugarlands, and Cades Cove: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Dec.–Feb., 9 a.m.–5 p.m. in March.

Clingmans Dome: *closed for the season.*

Mingus Mill: *closed for the season.*

Cable Mill opens March 6.



Road closures

• Seasonal closures include:

Forge Creek Road, Heintooga/Round Bottom and Straight Fork roads, Rich Mountain Road, Clingmans Dome Road, Little Greenbrier Road, and Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail.

• All roads including Newfound Gap, Cataloochee, and Cades Cove Loop roads are subject to temporary closure due to dangerous driving conditions.

Services

There are no gas stations, showers, or restaurants in the national park.



Camping in the national park

The National Park Service maintains developed campgrounds at nine locations in the park. Only Cades Cove and Smokemont are open in winter.

There are no showers or hookups other than circuits for special medical uses at Cades Cove, Elkmont, and Smokemont.

Campsite reservations are *required* at all park campgrounds, including Abrams Creek, Balsam Mountain, Big Creek, Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Cosby, Deep Creek, Elkmont, and

Smokemont. Sites may be reserved up to six months in advance. Make your reservation at recreation.gov or call 877.444.6777.

Site occupancy is limited to six people and two vehicles (a trailer = one vehicle). The maximum stay is 14 days.

Campsites for large groups are at Big Creek, Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Cosby, Deep Creek, Elkmont, and Smokemont. Reservations are required and may be secured up to a year in advance. For more information, visit nps.gov/grsm.

Site	No. of Sites	Elevation	Expected Open Dates	Nightly Fees	Max RV Length
Abrams Creek	16	1,125'	April 29	\$17.50	12'
Balsam Mountain	42	5,310'	May 13	\$17.50	30'
Big Creek	12	1,700'	April 15	\$17.50	tents only
Cades Cove	159	1,807'	open year-round	\$25	35'–40'
Cataloochee	27	2,610'	April 15	\$25	31'
Cosby	157	2,459'	April 15	\$17.50	25'
Deep Creek	92	1,800'	April 15	\$25	26'
Elkmont	220	2,150'	March 11	\$25–\$27	32'–35'
Smokemont	142	2,198'	open year-round	\$21–\$25	35'–40'
Look Rock	Closed in 2021-22				



Firewood

To prevent the spread of destructive pests, only USDA- or state-certified heat-treated firewood may be brought into the park. Campers may gather dead and down wood in the park for campfires.



Picnic areas

Picnic areas at Cades Cove, Deep Creek, Greenbrier, and Metcalf Bottoms are open year-round. Big Creek, Chimneys, Collins Creek, Cosby, Heintooga, and Look Rock are closed for the season. Picnic pavilions may be reserved for \$12.50–\$60 at recreation.gov.



For rent

The Appalachian Clubhouse and Spence Cabin at Elkmont can be reserved for daytime events at recreation.gov starting April 1, 2022.



Accommodations

For accommodation in the park and surrounding communities, see:

- **LeConte Lodge** (accessible by trail only, reopens March 21) provides the only lodging in the park. 865.429.5704 or lecontelodge.com
- **Bryson City** 800.867.9246 or greatsmokies.com
- **Cherokee** 800.438.1601 or visitcherokeenc.com
- **Fontana** 800.849.2258 or fontanavillage.com
- **Gatlinburg** 800.588.1817 or gatlinburg.com
- **Maggie Valley** 800.624.4431 or maggievalley.org
- **Pigeon Forge** 800.251.9100 or mypigeonforge.com
- **Sevierville** 888.766.5948 or visitsevierville.com
- **Townsend** 800.525.6834 or smokymountains.org

♻️ Printed on recycled paper

SMOKIES GUIDE

Smokies Guide is produced four times per year by Great Smoky Mountains Association and Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

nps.gov/grsm
SmokiesInformation.org

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Senior Editor

Frances Figart

Managing Editor

Aaron Searcy

Lead Designer

Karen Key

Design Assistants

Emma DuFort
Lisa Horstman

NPS Coordinator

Stephanie Kyriazis

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Download the free NPS App for

interactive maps, tours, and more.



Bicycling

Most park roads are too narrow and heavily traveled by automobiles for safe or enjoyable bicycling. Bicycles are permitted on park roads but prohibited on trails except Gatlinburg, Oconaluftee River, and lower Deep Creek and Indian Creek trails. Helmets are required by law for persons age 16 and under and strongly recommended for all.

Bicycles may be rented at the Cades Cove Campground store. 865.448.9034.



Horseback riding

Some 550 miles of park trails are open to horses. See park trail map for trails and rules. Horse camps are available at Anthony Creek, Big Creek, Cataloochee, Round Bottom, and Tow String. Visit recreation.gov for reservations.

Four concession horseback riding stables offer rides from March through November. Call for exact reopening dates.

- **Cades Cove** 865.448.9009 cadescovestables.com
- **Smokemont** 828.497.2373 smokemontridingstable.com
- **Smoky Mtn.** 865.436.5634 smokymountainridingstables.com
- **Sugarlands** 865.436.3535 sugarlandsridingstables.com



**MOVING
ROCKS HARMS
AQUATIC LIFE.**



Fishing

Fishing is permitted year-round in the park. A Tennessee or North Carolina fishing license is required. Either state license is valid throughout the park. No trout stamp is required. Fishing with bait is prohibited in the park. Special permits are required for the Qualla Boundary and Gatlinburg. Licenses are available in nearby towns. A free fishing map with a complete list of all park fishing regulations is available at visitor centers.

Pets in the park

Pets are allowed in frontcountry campgrounds and along roads as long as they are restrained at all times. Pets are not allowed on park trails, except for Gatlinburg and Oconaluftee River trails. Pets must be kept in control on a leash no longer than six feet.



Backcountry camping

Camping can be an exciting adventure for those who are properly equipped and informed. To facilitate this activity, the NPS maintains more than 800 miles of trails and more than 100 backcountry campsites and shelters throughout the park. One of the greatest challenges is deciding where to go. Here are some tools to help.

1. Get the map. Go online to view the park's official trail map (nps.gov/grsm/planyour-visit/maps.htm), which shows all park trails, campsites, and shelters. Park rules and regulations are also listed here. You can purchase the printed version of the trail map for \$1 at any park visitor center or online at SmokiesInformation.org.

2. Plan your trip. Call or stop by the park's Backcountry Office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for trip planning help.

The office is located in Sugarlands Visitor Center, two miles south of Gatlinburg on US 441. 865.436.1297.

3. Get a permit. Make your reservation and get your permit through the Backcountry Office at Sugarlands Visitor Center (*by phone or in person*) or online at smokiespermits.nps.gov.

Reservations and permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry. The cost is \$4 per person per night. Reservations may be made up to 30 days in advance.

Winter hikers should be especially aware of abrupt weather changes and the danger of hypothermia—the dangerous lowering of body temperature. Always carry an ample supply of food, water, and reliable rain gear. Layer clothing that provides warmth when wet (not cotton). Be prepared for sudden weather changes, especially at the higher elevations, including rain, snow, cold, and wind. Stay dry and know your limits.

See page 4 for more trip essentials.

Park weather

As winter arrives, days can be sunny and 65°F or snowy with highs in the 20s. Conditions vary considerably between low and high elevations.

Nearly 70 inches of snow fall on Newfound Gap every year. Lows of -20°F are possible at the higher elevations. At lower elevations, snows of an inch or more can be expected about three to five times a year. Milder temperatures typically arrive by mid-to-late April.



Learn the BARK principles so you and your pet can have a safe and fun visit anytime you go to a national park.

Take the BARK pledge:



Bag your pet's waste



Always leash your pet



Respect wildlife



Know where you can go

There are two pet-friendly trails in the Smokies—Gatlinburg Trail in TN and Oconaluftee River Trail in NC.

Check out the BARK ranger products at SmokiesInformation.org

Anything can happen out on the trail, but you'll be prepared if you keep it **SMOKIES SMART!**



Tell someone where you're going, stay on established trails, pack the essentials, and know what to do in case of an emergency. Let the NPS Backcountry Office help you plan your hike and prepare for what you may experience along the way. Call 865.436.1297, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

PACK ESSENTIALS

- **Navigation**—map, compass, and knowledge of how to use them
- **Water and food**
- **Extra layers**
- **Rain gear and pack cover** or waterproof bags
- **Headlamp** or flashlight
- **Emergency whistle**
- **First aid kit**
- **Repair kit** with multi-tool or knife
- **Fire starter**
- **Sun protection** with sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat
- **Shelter**—emergency tent or tarp
- **Traction support** like hiking poles or micro-spikes



IN AN EMERGENCY

- Call 911 if you can acquire a signal.
- Remain with any injured parties until help arrives. Use what basic first-aid techniques you know, but do not attempt invasive intervention unless you are medically trained.
- Use an emergency whistle to issue a series of three spaced blasts every few minutes to alert rescue crews. If you are in an open area, display brightly colored clothing or gear.

YOUR CELL PHONE IS **NOT**

- a light
- a map
- a survival kit
- always going to have service

THINGS TO DO IN THE WINTERTIME

Hike the Smokies

Cure your cabin fever with a walk in the woods! There are more than 800 miles of maintained trails to choose from in the Smokies ranging from leisurely quiet walkways and river trails to challenging mountain ascents. Just be sure to come prepared with rain gear, traction support, and plenty of layers. (See essentials opposite.)

Download a free copy of the park's trail map at [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov) or purchase one for \$1 at a visitor center or self-serve kiosk. The Backcountry Information Office at 865.436.1297 offers hike planning information every day 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Visitor center bookstores carry a range of hiking references including *Day Hikes of the Smokies* and *Hiking Trails of the Smokies*, a comprehensive guide to the park's hikes. Books and brochures can also be purchased online at [SmokiesInformation.org](https://www.SmokiesInformation.org).



Spot Winter Wildlife

There's still plenty of wildlife to see in the Smokies even after the black bears have ambled off to their winter rest.

In fact, birds are much easier to see in the winter when deciduous trees lose their leaves. The Smokies serve as a winter home for about 60 bird species and a valuable stop for a number of migrating birds. Elk also remain active, and white-tailed deer undergo their rut (mating season) from October through January. Otters are often more visible in and around streams in the winter.

You can become a community scientist by taking photos of what you see and using the iNaturalist app to help you identify and share your observations with scientists. Check out DLiA.org and the Smokies Most Wanted list for the highest priority species.

Do not feed or approach wildlife. If you see wildlife on the road, continue driving to avoid a traffic jam.

White-tailed deer photo by Bill Lea

Explore Park History

The absence of leaves on deciduous trees in winter often reveals hidden stone walls, chimneys, foundations, cemeteries, and other reminders of past park residents.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a World Heritage Site and holds one of the best collections of log buildings in the eastern US including houses, barns, outbuildings, churches, schools, and grist mills. Several are noted in the National Register of Historic Places.

A few of the best places to see historic structures are Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Elkmont, and Oconaluftee. Various self-guided auto tour booklets are available for \$1 in visitor centers and sometimes on-site. *The History Hikes of the Smokies* guide is also available at visitor center bookstores and online at [SmokiesInformation.org](https://www.SmokiesInformation.org).

Carter Shields Cabin in Cades Cove photo by Bill Lea



GSMNP BY THE NUMBERS



12 million+
visitors per year



1,000+ species
new to science
found in
the park



30 species of
salamanders



69 species
of mammals



9,800+ species
of insects



16 mtns. higher
than 6,000'



Driving distances and estimated times

All driving times may vary due to traffic conditions.

Cherokee, NC to:

- Gatlinburg: 34 miles (1 hour)
- Cades Cove: 58 miles (2 hours)
- Newfound Gap: 18 miles (½ hour)
- Clingmans Dome: 25 miles (¾ hour)
- Cataloochee: 39 miles (1½ hours)
- Deep Creek: 14 miles (½ hour)

Gatlinburg, TN to:

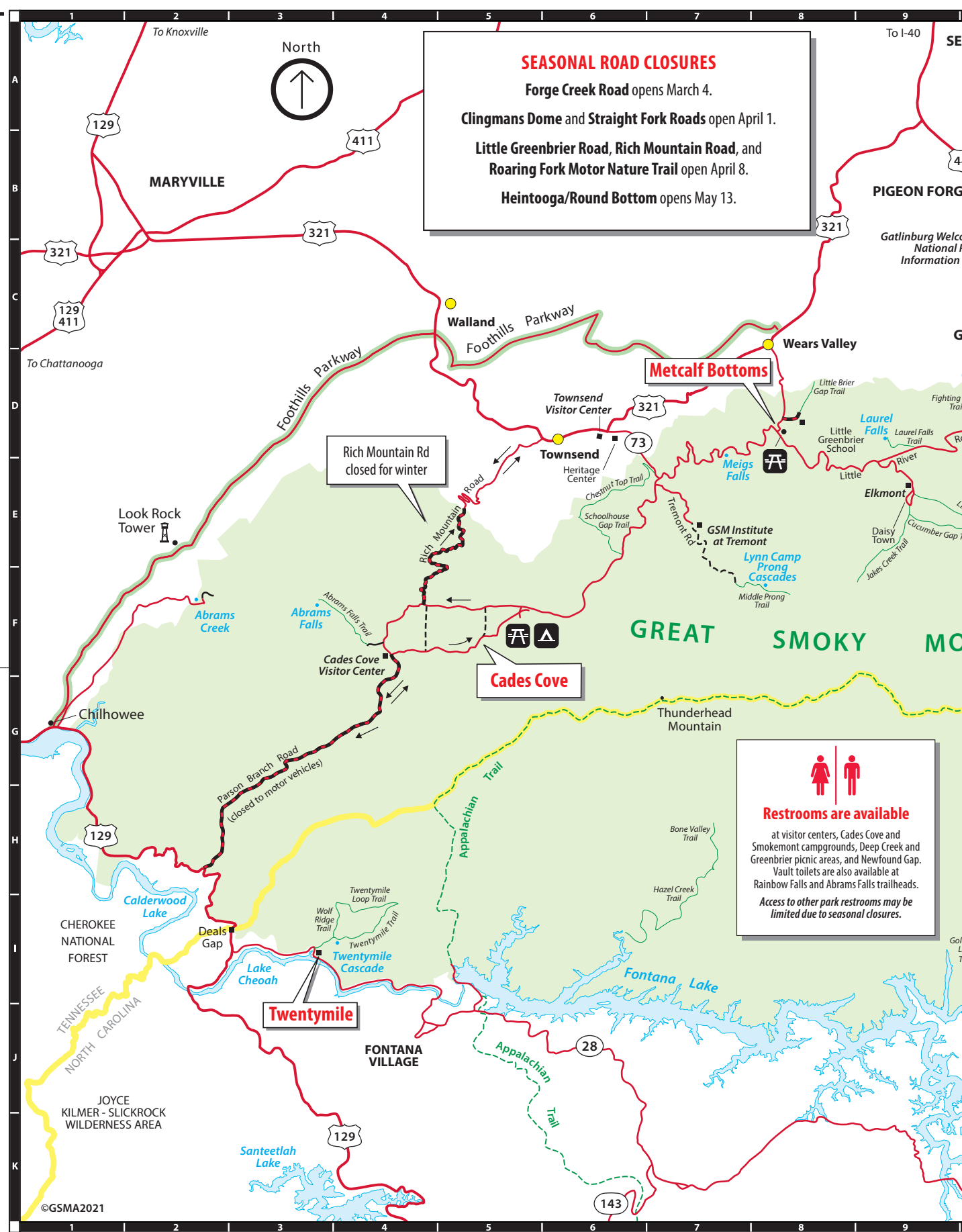
- Cherokee: 34 miles (1 hour)
- Cades Cove: 27 miles (1 hour)
- Newfound Gap: 16 miles (½ hour)
- Clingmans Dome: 23 miles (¾ hour)
- Cataloochee: 65 miles (2½ hours)
- Greenbrier Cove: 6 miles (¼ hour)
- Deep Creek: 48 miles (1½ hours)

Townsend, TN to:

- Cades Cove: 9 miles (¼ hour)
- Newfound Gap: 34 miles (1¼ hours)
- Gatlinburg: 22 miles (¾ hour)
- Cherokee: 52 miles (1½ hours)
- Look Rock: 18 miles (½ hour)
- Cataloochee: 87 miles (3 hours)

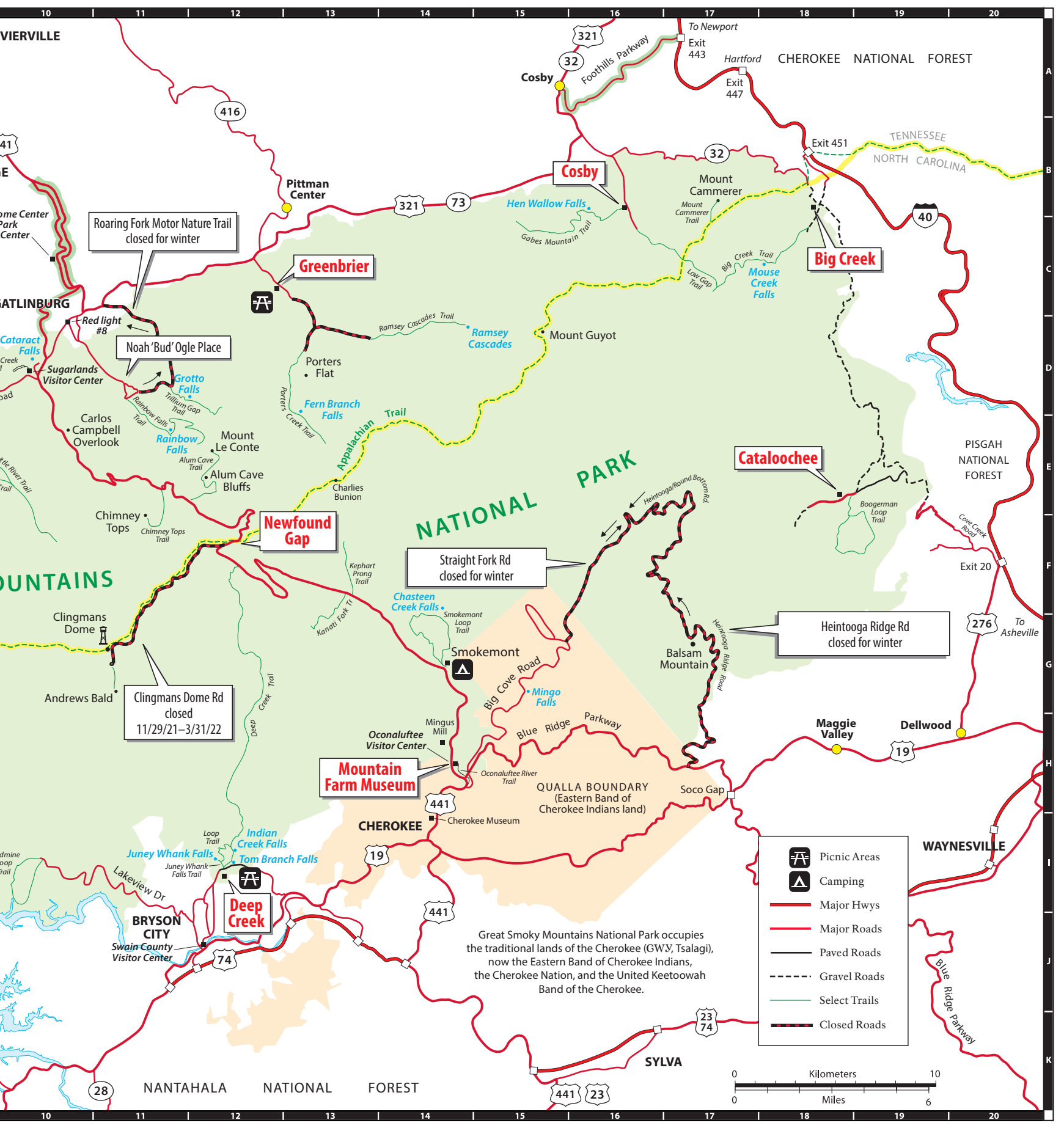
	Gatlinburg, TN elev. 1,462'			Mt. Le Conte elev. 6,593'		
	AVG. HIGH	LOW	PRECIP.	AVG. HIGH	LOW	PRECIP.
Jan.	49°	27°	4.0"	36°	18°	6.7"
Feb.	53°	28°	4.1"	37°	19°	5.6"
March	62°	35°	5.5"	44°	25°	7.0"
April	71°	42°	4.5"	52°	31°	6.7"
May	77°	50°	5.7"	58°	39°	8.0"
June	82°	58°	5.8"	64°	47°	8.7"
July	85°	62°	6.3"	67°	50°	9.0"
Aug.	84°	61°	5.3"	67°	49°	7.6"
Sept.	79°	55°	4.7"	62°	44°	7.2"
Oct.	70°	43°	2.9"	55°	35°	4.7"
Nov.	60°	34°	3.4"	46°	27°	6.8"
Dec.	51°	28°	4.6"	38°	20°	6.4"

These temperature and precipitation averages are based on data for the last 20 years. Temperatures are in degrees Fahrenheit. An average of over 84" (7 feet) of precipitation falls on the higher elevations of the Smokies.



SEASONAL ROAD CLOSURES
 Forge Creek Road opens March 4.
 Clingmans Dome and Straight Fork Roads open April 1.
 Little Greenbrier Road, Rich Mountain Road, and Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail open April 8.
 Heintooga/Round Bottom opens May 13.

Restrooms are available
 at visitor centers, Cades Cove and Smokemont campgrounds, Deep Creek and Greenbrier picnic areas, and Newfound Gap. Vault toilets are also available at Rainbow Falls and Abrams Falls trailheads. Access to other park restrooms may be limited due to seasonal closures.



Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail closed for winter

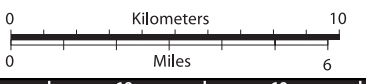
Straight Fork Rd closed for winter

Heintooga Ridge Rd closed for winter

Clingmans Dome Rd closed 11/29/21-3/31/22

- Picnic Areas
- Camping
- Major Hwys
- Major Roads
- Paved Roads
- Gravel Roads
- Select Trails
- Closed Roads

Great Smoky Mountains National Park occupies the traditional lands of the Cherokee (GwY, Tsalagi), now the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, the Cherokee Nation, and the United Keetoowah Band of the Cherokee.



VIENNAVILLE
 PITTMAN CENTER
 COSBY
 GREENBRIER
 MOUNT CAMMERER
 BIG CREEK
 CATALOOCHEE
 NEWFOUND GAP
 NATIONAL PARK
 MOUNTAIN FARM MUSEUM
 CHEROKEE
 DEEP CREEK
 BRYSON CITY
 SYLVA
 NANTAHALA NATIONAL FOREST
 CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST
 PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST
 WAYNESVILLE

PARK

WAYS

LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

It may be tempting to leave your mark in a special place, but writing on or carving into trees, stonework, and historic structures can cause irreparable damage. It's also a crime! Taking a photo or posting to social media is always a better way to remember your time in the Smokies and helps preserve the park for others too.

Graffiti ruins the view for everyone.

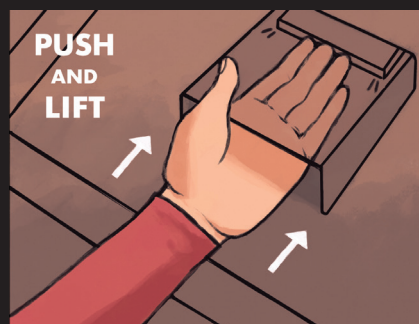
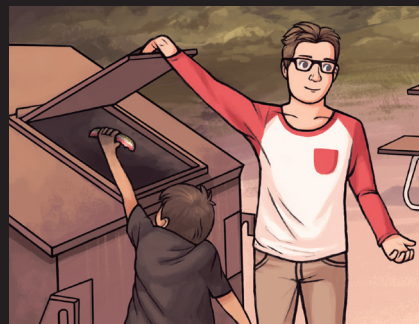


ACCEPTABLE BUTTS IN THE BACKCOUNTRY: A GUIDE



BIN IT FOR THE BEARS

Help protect bears and all kinds of wildlife by packing out all trash and using bear-proof dumpsters in the park. While biodegradable food waste may seem harmless, it's often the biggest offender when it comes to disrupting the natural foraging behavior of wildlife and creating avoidable danger near trails and roads.



Words with a Ranger

Continued from page 1

for commercial buildings and homes. Soon after, I had my own business restoring fine historical architectural millwork, plaster, and metal ornaments on vintage and historic homes.

I'm currently working in Daisy Town of Elkmont, where I'm restoring the area's historic cabins. When I'm not in Elkmont, I'm out in the park assessing buildings for failed parts or damage, assigning tasks to crew members, answering questions, and providing hands-on guidance in technical craftsmanship.

Working for the NPS in the Smokies has been one of the most fulfilling and rewarding jobs I have ever had. My supervisor makes my job a pleasure to come to every day, and my crew are dedicated and hard-working—always open to learning and giving attention to detail with the knowledge that what they do will safeguard structures for years to come for the enjoyment of the American people.

I always have a feeling of sadness when it's time to walk away from a job but also a feeling of pride in knowing that it was done right and we were the ones chosen to keep history alive so that it would not be lost. Our crew always looks forward to tackling the next job coming along.



**DO NOT
DISTURB**

**PLEASE GIVE ME THE
TIME I NEED TO
RECOVERATE.**



**DO NOT
DISTURB**

**EXTRA SPACE WOULD
BE BEST FOR BOTH OF
US RIGHT NOW.**



**DO NOT
DISTURB**

**YOU COULD
ACCIDENTALLY MAKE
ME VERY SICK.**

RESPECT PARK CLOSURES

The park service strives to keep as much of the park accessible as possible, but sometimes closures are necessary. Some roads close for the winter season, while sudden or unexpected closures may be imposed on short notice due to hazardous conditions, road construction, trail improvements, or wildlife activity. These closures may disrupt well-made plans, but it's important to respect them for your own safety and for the preservation of the Smokies.

All illustrations by Emma DuFort



DRIVE WITH CARE

Keep yourself and others safe by paying attention to your surroundings, following posted speed limits, and leaving plenty of space between you and the next car, particularly in winter.

Always park in a designated paved or gravel parking area with all four wheels of your vehicle off the roadway. Parking elsewhere can damage protected vegetation, bog your car, and obstruct emergency vehicles.

RULE OF THUMB FOR WILDLIFE VIEWING



When viewing wildlife, hold your arm out straight and, if you can't cover the animal in your line of sight with your thumb, you're too close!

IF YOU LOVE THE SMOKIES

Great Smoky Mountains National Park depends on four primary nonprofit partners as well as 2,800 park volunteers to help its staff meet the needs of 12.5 million visitors and manage 522,000 acres of resources.

Great Smoky Mountains Association

Since 1953, the nonprofit Great Smoky Mountains Association has supported the educational, scientific, and historical preservation efforts of the park by operating the park's official bookstores, publishing books and other media about the park's natural and cultural resources, and supporting park programs. Over the years, GSMA has contributed more than \$46 million to assist with living history demonstrations, save hemlock trees, fund natural resource education internships, construct visitor centers and the Collections Preservation Center, and much more.



Association members receive a number of benefits to keep them informed about special events in the park and issues affecting the Smokies:

- Subscription to the biannual full-color magazine *Smokies Life*
- Digital access to this award-winning park newspaper and *Smokies LIVE* e-newsletter
- 15–20% discount on books, music, gifts, and products at park visitor centers and at GSMA's web store
- 10% (or more) discount at 500+ additional nonprofit public lands partner stores
- Access to member-exclusive group hikes, backpacking excursions, and educational sessions
- Invitation to GSMA's Members Weekend

Join today by visiting Smokies-Information.org or call us at 888.898.9102, ext. 257.

Friends of the Smokies

Friends of the Smokies assists the National Park Service in its mission to preserve and protect Great Smoky Mountains National Park by raising funds and public awareness and providing volunteers for needed projects.



Since it was founded in 1993, supporters of Friends have contributed more than \$70 million to meet park needs. Examples of programs and projects include:

- Rehabilitation of the most impacted trails through Trails Forever
- Forest conservation and wildlife management
- Real-time webcams and air quality monitoring
- Facility improvements and visitor amenities
- Historic structures rehabilitation
- Cultural experiences and special events
- Search and rescue program support and equipment
- K–12 educational programs

Programs like Parks as Classrooms, which serves approximately 20,000 students every year, provide educational experiences that help foster a love for nature and inform the next generation of park supporters. A new digital learning space at Smokies.org invites students to explore nature-related activities, be entertained through music, art, and stories, and escape through observation of the natural world.

Friends' commitment to preservation includes support for restoring and maintaining historic log homes, barns, outbuildings, churches, schools, and gristmills. Become a Friend by visiting FriendsOfTheSmokies.org. For information about memberships and planned giving, email info@friendsofthesmokies.org or call 800.845.5665.

Join the park's partners in helping to protect this place for ourselves and future generations

Discover Life in America

The Smokies have long been renowned for their rich variety of life. Knowing what creatures reside here helps the National Park Service better protect the Smokies against threats like air pollution, wildfire, habitat fragmentation, invasive species, and climate change.



Discover Life in America is a nonprofit partner that was launched in 1998 to manage the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI), an effort to identify and learn about every variety of plant and animal in the park. The organization works with leading biologists from around the globe to conduct this massive inventory.

Volunteers and interns become 'community scientists' who help with DLiA's work. These participants get an insider's look at the park, as well as firsthand knowledge of biology, field science, and laboratory practices. Funding comes from donations by individuals and institutions.

To date, DLiA has helped add more than 10,000 species to the inventory of life in the park, including more than 1,000 species completely new to science! Today there are more than 21,000 different kinds of organisms known to the park with new discov-

eries happening every day. You can support DLiA by purchasing the Smokies Species-a-Day perpetual calendar. Learn more at DLiA.org or by calling 865.430.4757.

Tremont

Born out of a need for residential education programs in the park, Great Smoky Mountains

Institute at Tremont has offered student and adult programs that promote a connection to nature for more than 50 years. Up to 6,000 students and adults annually attend workshops, camps, and school programs at the institute that are designed to promote curiosity and inspire learning.

Adult workshops include hiking, backpacking, community science, professional and teacher development, photography, and the Southern Appalachian Naturalist Certification program. Summer camps provide youth and their families opportunities to spend six to 11 days exploring the national park and its wonders. Fees include meals, lodging, and most equipment.

Call 865.448.6709 or visit GSMIT.org for program dates and information and to learn how you can support life-changing learning experiences in the Smokies!

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE AT TREMONT

GSMNP BY THE NUMBERS



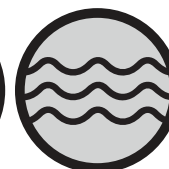
135

species of trees



250+

species of birds



2,900+

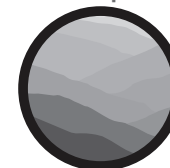
miles of streams



90+ historic structures



3,400+ species of fungi



500,000+ acres of land

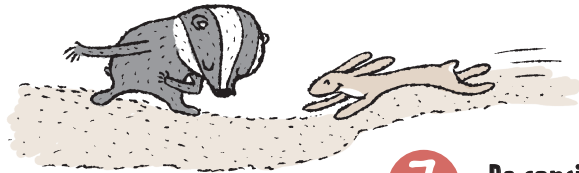


848 miles of trails

Commit to conservation!

A commitment to conservation can make a big difference over time. You can help by observing

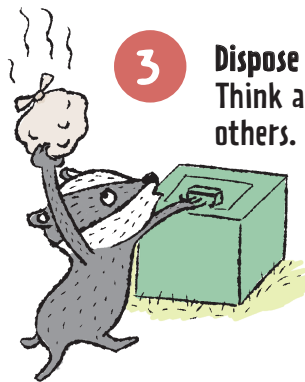
The Seven Principles of LEAVE NO TRACE:



7 Be considerate of other visitors. Everyone has the right to enjoy their outdoor experience.



6 Respect wildlife. Observe wildlife from a distance.



3 Dispose of waste properly. Think about your effect on others.



5 Minimize campfire impacts. Use existing campfire rings.

4 Leave what you find.



1 Plan ahead and prepare. Trip planning helps travelers accomplish trip goals safely and enjoyably while minimizing damage to the land.



2 Travel and camp on durable surfaces. Move through natural areas while avoiding damage to the land or waterways.



How did you practice Leave No Trace in the Great Smoky Mountains?



Write your answers here:

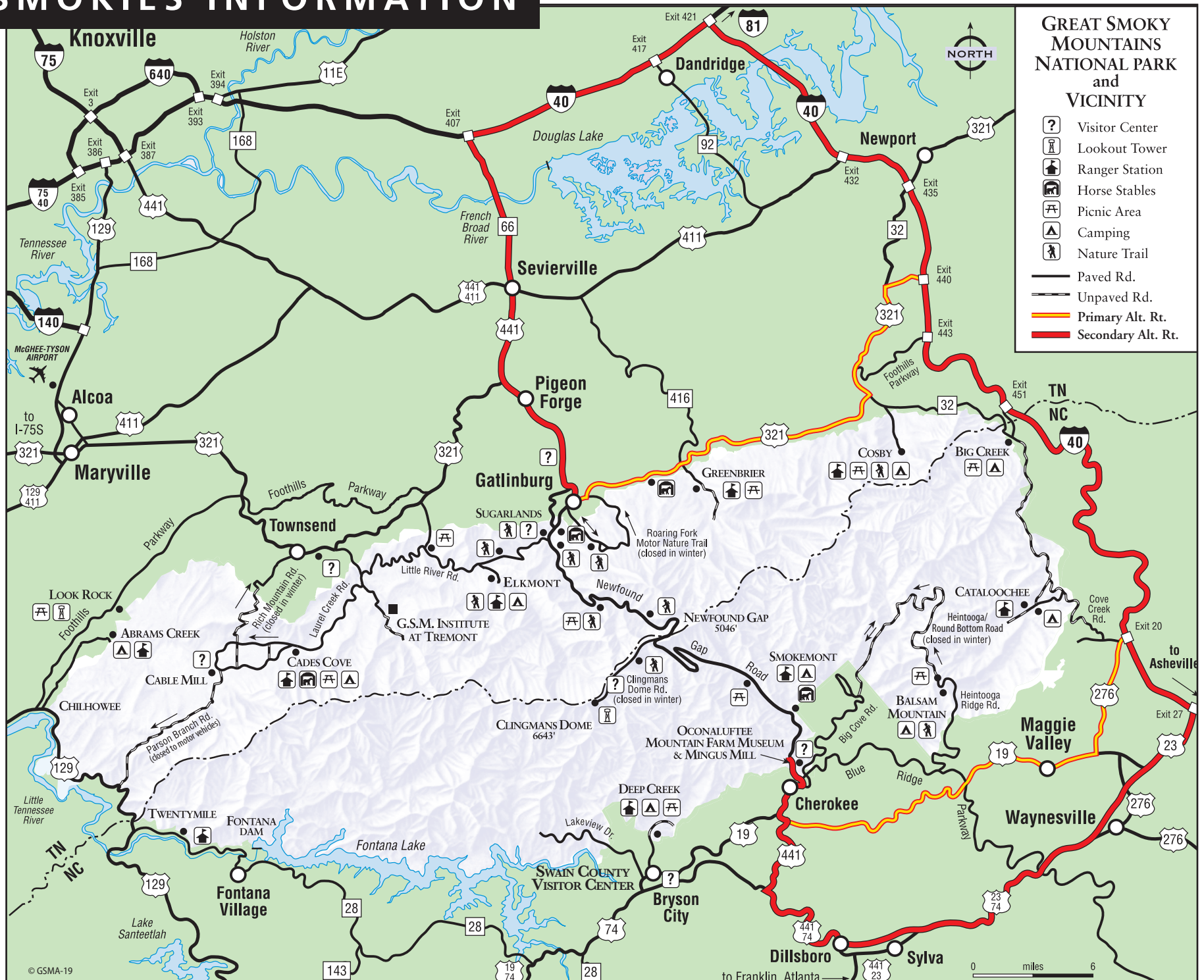
A large area of blue grid paper for writing answers, with a curved line separating it from the rest of the page.



Illustrations by
Lisa Horstman.

SMOKIES INFORMATION

For more information, go to nps.gov/grsm



GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK and VICINITY

- Visitor Center
- Lookout Tower
- Ranger Station
- Horse Stables
- Picnic Area
- Camping
- Nature Trail
- Paved Rd.
- Unpaved Rd.
- Primary Alt. Rt.
- Secondary Alt. Rt.

Information

General park info:
865.436.1200
nps.gov/grsm

Backcountry info:
865.436.1297
smokiespermits.nps.gov

Emergencies

911
Park Headquarters
865.436.9171
Cherokee Police
828.497.4131
Gatlinburg Police
865.436.5181

Hospitals

Le Conte/Sevier County
865.446.7000
Middle Creek Rd.,
Sevierville, TN
Blount Memorial
865.983.7211
US 321, Maryville, TN

Haywood County

828.456.7311
Waynesville, NC
Swain County
828.488.2155
Bryson City, NC

Accessibility

Restrooms at Cades

Cove, Oconaluftee,

and Sugarlands
visitor centers are
fully accessible. The
Sugarlands Valley all-
access nature trail is on
Newfound Gap Road
just south of Sugarlands
Visitor Center.

Avoid the fine

Pets are only permitted
on the Gatlinburg and
Oconaluftee River trails,
which allow dogs on a
leash. Persons feeding
wildlife are subject to
a \$5,000 fine. Picking
or digging plants is
prohibited in the park.