

# Cloudland Canyon State Park Trail Map



122 Cloudland Canyon Park Road • Rising Fawn, GA 30738 • 706-657-4050 • Reservations: 1-800-864-7275 • GaStateParks.org

## Cloudland Canyon State Park



**5 Points Recreation Area  
Foot, Bike & Horse Trail**

**LEGEND**

- Cloudland Connector (multi-use)
- Multi-Use
- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Expert
- Hiking

A larger map of the 5 Points section is on the other side of this brochure.

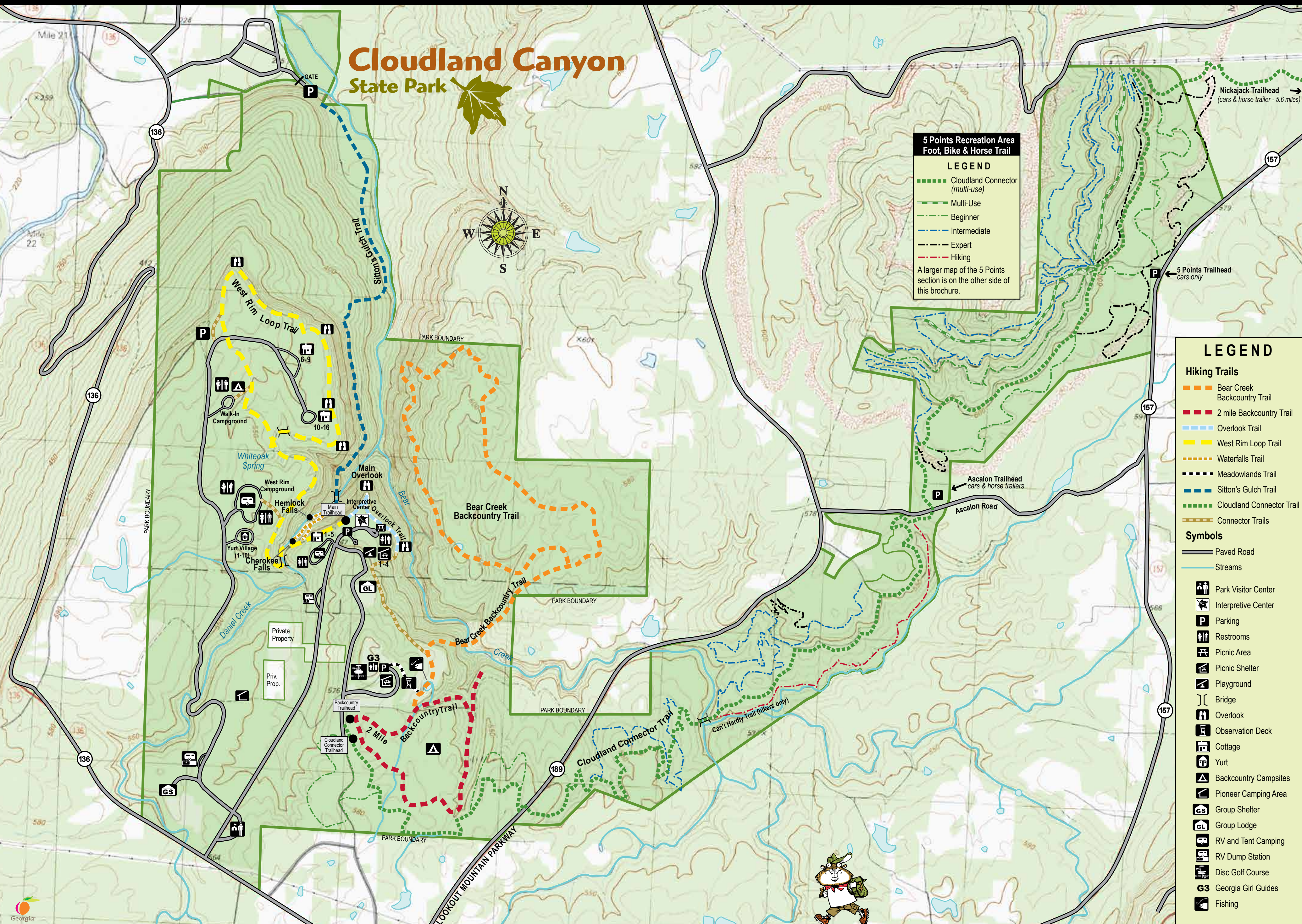
**LEGEND**

**Hiking Trails**

- Bear Creek Backcountry Trail
- 2 mile Backcountry Trail
- Overlook Trail
- West Rim Loop Trail
- Waterfalls Trail
- Meadowlands Trail
- Sitton's Gulch Trail
- Cloudland Connector Trail
- Connector Trails

**Symbols**

- Paved Road
- Streams
- Park Visitor Center
- Interpretive Center
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Playground
- Bridge
- Overlook
- Observation Deck
- Cottage
- Yurt
- Backcountry Campsites
- Pioneer Camping Area
- Group Shelter
- Group Lodge
- RV and Tent Camping
- RV Dump Station
- Disc Golf Course
- Georgia Girl Guides
- Fishing





# Cloudland Canyon State Park



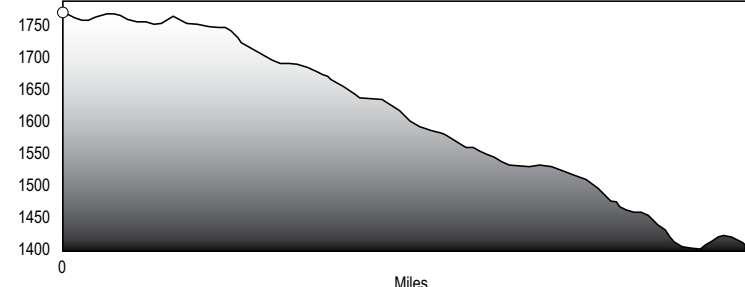
Cloudland Canyon State Park, established in 1938, is located on the western edge of Lookout Mountain in the northwest corner of Georgia. The 3,538-acre state park includes rugged canyons, dense forest, abundant wildlife, cascades, waterfalls, wild caves, and numerous recreational opportunities. The park straddles a thousand-foot deep gorge cut into the mountain by the combined waters of Bear and Daniel Creeks. Several hiking trails exist within and along the rim of the canyon, offering park visitors healthy exercise in the great outdoors.

## Overlook Trail

Approximately 1 mile roundtrip  
Easy

Offering picturesque views into the canyon, the Overlook Trail is a flat, one-half mile (one mile, roundtrip) path. It leads along the rim of the canyon and behind the Interpretive Center to the Main Overlook, then continues onto a second overlook. This trail is mostly flat, and benches along the way offer opportunities for relaxation and contemplation. The Overlook Trail is marked by light blue blazes on trees.

## Waterfalls Trail



1.8 miles roundtrip from Main Trailhead  
Strenuous

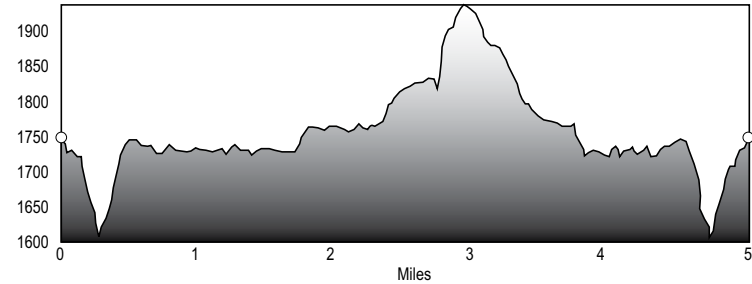
Visitors should note that this trail is strenuous and is not suitable for everyone. Visitors who take the Waterfalls Trail are rewarded with the site of Cherokee Falls after 1/2-mile and then Hemlock Falls about 1/2-mile further down the canyon. The steep hike down to Hemlock Falls involves 600 stairsteps one way. The quantity of water over the falls varies greatly from month to month, but in general, winter and early spring offer the greatest flow. Hikers with pets should note that although dogs on leash are allowed on all park trails, they sometimes have difficulty navigating the numerous metal-grated stairsteps.



## CLIMATE DATA FOR RISING FAWN, GEORGIA

Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low	Mean	Avg. Precip.	Record High	Record Low
Jan	48°F	26°F	37°F	6.06 in	77°F (1950)	-14°F (1985)
Feb	53°F	28°F	41°F	5.62 in	80°F (1962)	-12°F (1958)
Mar	61°F	35°F	48°F	6.57 in	84°F (1982)	2°F (1980)
Apr	70°F	42°F	56°F	4.73 in	89°F (1986)	19°F (1992)
May	77°F	52°F	64°F	4.70 in	94°F (1962)	29°F (1971)
Jun	84°F	60°F	72°F	4.33 in	101°F (1952)	35°F (1966)
Jul	88°F	65°F	76°F	5.18 in	105°F (1952)	45°F (1967)
Aug	87°F	64°F	75°F	3.49 in	105°F (1954)	46°F (2004)
Sep	82°F	57°F	69°F	4.27 in	100°F (1954)	29°F (1967)
Oct	72°F	44°F	58°F	3.29 in	93°F (1954)	19°F (1961)
Nov	61°F	36°F	49°F	5.00 in	84°F (1961)	-2°F (1950)
Dec	51°F	29°F	40°F	5.12 in	78°F (1951)	-8°F (1962)

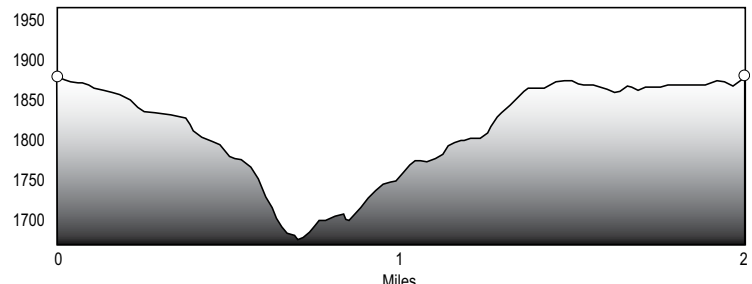
## West Rim Loop Trail



5 miles roundtrip from Main Trailhead  
Moderately Strenuous

Formerly rated as one of the top ten hikes in the U.S. by Backpacker Magazine, the West Rim Loop Trail is a five-mile lollipop style hike providing several overlooks that showcase the park's rugged geology, deep canyons, dense woodland, and views beyond. From the Main Trailhead, hikers drop down to Daniel Creek and cross over it. The trail then proceeds uphill to a rocky promontory. Just after one mile, the loop component of the hike begins. At about mile four, you complete the loop and then head back to the Main Trailhead, retracing your steps of the first mile. The West Rim Loop Trail is marked by yellow blazes and is most easily accessed from the Main Trailhead. Overnight guests can also access it from the Yurt Village, West Rim Campground, Walk-In Campground, and West Rim cottages. The trail is marked by yellow blazes and is rocky and rooty in several locations.

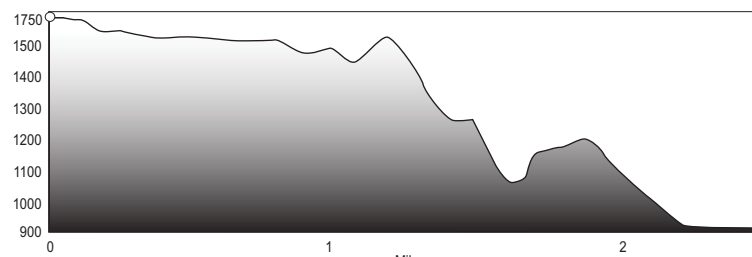
## Two-Mile Backcountry Loop



Approximately 2 miles  
Moderate

This two-mile loop provides access to the park's backcountry campsites but is also a nice hike in itself. In a clockwise fashion, the trail slopes gently downward through oak woodland on its way to a small stream and dark groves of eastern hemlock. The trail then climbs approximately 200 feet back up to the trailhead. The Two-Mile Backcountry Trail is marked by red blazes.

## Sitton's Gulch Trail



6 miles roundtrip from Main Trailhead  
Strenuous

Named after Jacob Sitton, an early settler of Lookout Valley and owner of a prominent sawmill, Sitton's Gulch Trail parallels cascading, boulder-strewn creeks downward to the mouth of Cloudland Canyon. The first portion of the trail also serves as the Waterfalls Trail, and wildflowers abound along the lower section of the trail in springtime. The trail ends at the Canyon Park Drive parking lot, near Sitton's Cave and Case Cave (accessible through Georgia Girl Guides or by permit only). At this point, retrace your steps back upward for a good climb. Sitton's Gulch Trail is six miles round-trip from the main trailhead. The trail is marked by dark blue blazes.

## Meadowlands Trail

Approximately 1 mile roundtrip  
Easy

This short trail takes visitors to an observation deck overlooking the unique meadow ecosystem and fishing pond area of the park. Guests are then encouraged to explore this meadowland on the grassy paths. In summer, thousands of small, wild blackberries are ripe for picking. If interested in fishing, no fishing license is needed. Guests can borrow a fishing pole for free from the Interpretive Center (open year-round Sat-Sun). The pond is stocked with catfish and the Catch and Keep season runs Labor Day to the end of December.



## Five Points Recreation Area and the Cloudland Connector Trail

A large new area of the state park, the Five Points Recreation Area and Cloudland Connector Trail (CCT) offers great workouts for mountain bikers, trail runners, and long distance hikers. The CCT can be accessed from four trailheads and is 14 miles one way. In addition to pedestrians and mountain bikers, the CCT is open to horseback riding. For mountain bike enthusiasts, the Five Points Recreation Area offers miles of singletrack ranging in difficulty from moderate to strenuous to technical with jumps. The recreation area was formerly a coal mining area; middle aged forest now grows over the site. Lula Lake Land Trust, a key park partner and non-profit organization, were instrumental in purchasing the land, developing the trail system, and then handing it all over to the state of Georgia.

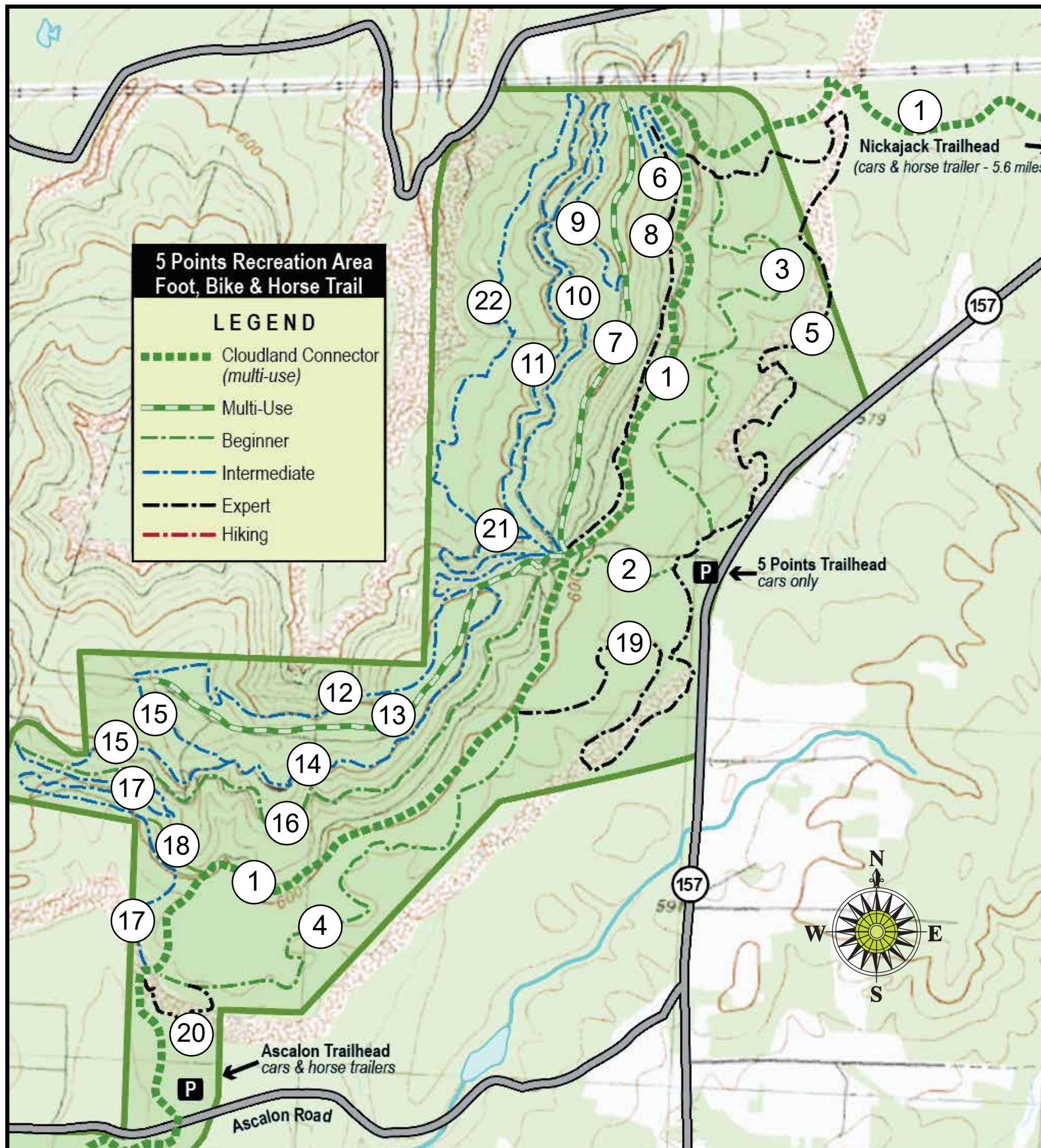


## SAFETY TIPS & ETIQUETTE

- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time.
- Be prepared for unexpected weather changes by dressing in layers and carrying rain gear. Avoid wearing cotton. Today's hikers can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly or conserve heat. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.
- Take a map, water, snacks, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.
- Do not stray from trails. If you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Don't count on cell phones to work in the wilderness, but if they do, be able to give details about your location.
- Invest in good hiking socks such as those found at sporting goods stores. Avoid blisters by carrying "moleskin" and applying it as soon as you feel a hot spot on your feet. Available in the foot care section of drug stores, moleskin is like felt that sticks to your skin.
- Pack out all trash.
- Keep pets on a leash.
- Do not pick flowers or disturb wildlife.
- Protect the landscape by staying on trails.

## 5 POINTS RECREATION AREA RULES:

- No motorized vehicles.
- Trails are open from 7 AM to sunset, 7 days a week.
- Trail difficulties are marked at the beginning of each trail.
- Trails may be closed due to weather or construction. Obey any and all closures.
- Stay on marked trails only.
- Respect private property boundaries.
- Horses are limited to the Cloudland Connector (green dashed) and the Multi-Use trails (green & white dashed.)
- Persons under 16 years of age are required to wear a bicycle helmet.



TRAIL #	NAME	LENGTH (miles)
1	Cloudland Canyon Connector Trail	3.4
2	Bankhead	0.4
3	Peace Can	1.2
4	Shale Flats	1.1
5	Tailings Run	1.5
6	Fuggett Lift	0.4
7	Windy Shot	0.8
8	Slickenside	0.9
9	Hanging Wall	0.4
10	Foot Wall	1.0
11	Kettle Bottom	2.3
12	Cross Cut	1.3
13	Back End	0.9
14	Bella's	0.8
15	Torino Hill	0.5
16	Mick's	1.3
17	Caprock	1.1
18	Caprock Cut Thru	0.2
19	North Hogsback	1.1
20	South Hogsback	0.3
21	Kettle Bottom Alternate	0.1
22	Kettle Bottom	2.3

**TOTAL MILEAGE 23.3**

