

Welcome to the Wayne

The Athens District of the Wayne National Forest (NF) has 14 trails open to hikers and backpackers. Hikers generally share these trails with other users. Trails are on both the Athens and Marietta units of the Athens District. Terrain on these trail systems varies from rolling hills and level ridgetops to some very challenging hills and steep slopes.

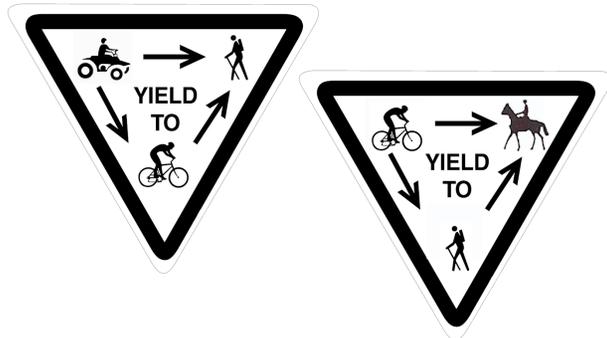
Depending upon the trail you choose to hike, you may encounter off-road vehicles, horses, or mountain bikes. Many of the trails intersect roads. Be mindful of traffic. If you bring your dog, we recommend it be on a leash. Also use caution during hunting seasons. Blaze orange clothing is recommended during deer gun seasons.

Trail use by off-highway vehicles (OHVs), mountain bikes, and horses is prohibited from 12/15 through 4/15. Hiking is allowed on all trails even if the trail appears closed to others users.

Yielding the Right of Way

Hikers need to be aware that on the OHV trails, though hikers have the right of way they will be aware these vehicles are coming well in advance. Listen for them, and on a blind corner you may wish to yield the trail to avoid accidents.

On trails shared with horses, please yield to horseback riders by stopping and standing uphill from the trail. If you're wearing a large backpack, speak to the rider, so the horse recognizes you as a person.



Contact Us

The Wayne National Forest has three offices to serve visitors. Two are on the Athens District, one between Athens and Nelsonville, and the other in Marietta. Office hours are 8 - 4:30 Monday through Friday.

Athens Ranger District
13700 U.S. Hwy 33
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Phone: 740-753-0101

Marietta Unit Office
27750 State Route 7
Marietta, OH 45750
Phone: 740-373-9055

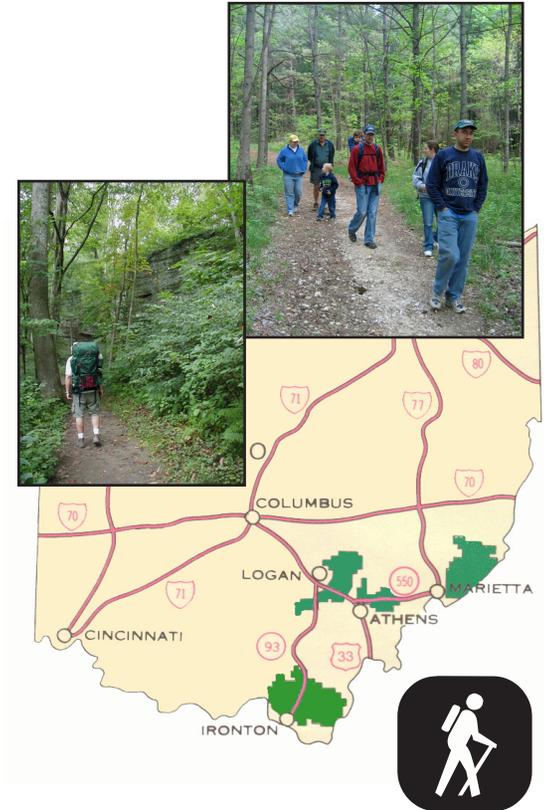
Federal relay system for the deaf and hearing impaired: 1-800-877-8339
website: www.fs.fed.us/r9/wayne



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Last updated 4/2009

Hiking and Backpacking on the Athens Ranger District Wayne National Forest



America's Great Outdoors

Forest Service
United States Department of Agriculture

Athens Ranger District - Athens Unit

Athens Unit:

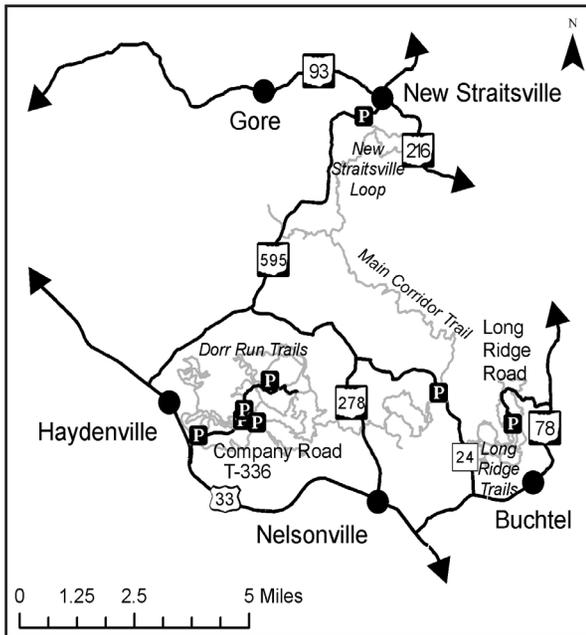
- 75 miles - Monday Creek Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails
- 20.5 miles - North Country Trail
- 19 miles - Stone Church Horse Trail
- 1/4 mile - Utah Ridge Pond Trail
- 15 miles - Wildcat Hollow Trail

Larger maps of most of these trail systems are available from any of our Forest offices for a fee.



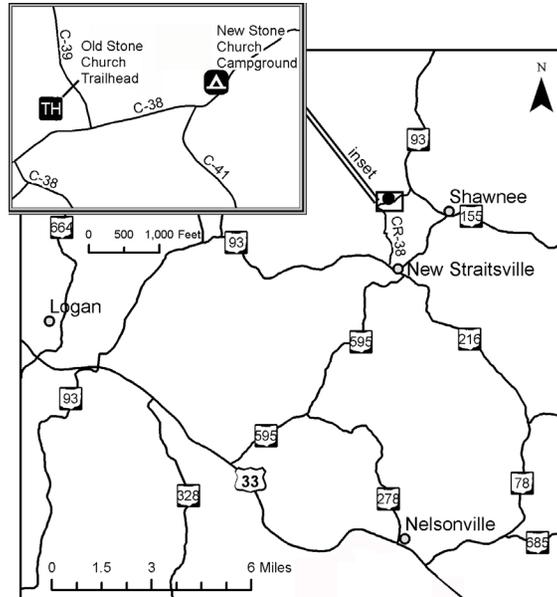
Monday Creek OHV Trails

These 75 miles of trail cater primarily to OHVs, though hikers and mountain bikes are welcome. There are several trailheads to access these trails. More information and a topographic map of the trail system is available on the Wayne's OHV map which sells for two dollars.



Stone Church Horse Trail

These 19.4 miles of trail cater primarily to horses, though hikers are welcome. Named for the skeletal ruins of an old stone church nearby, this trail system has both a campground and trailhead associated with it. Both are just off C-38 (Old Town Road). The Stone Church trailhead is just west of C-39 (Stone Church Hollow Road). There is no potable water at either facility. We recommend day users park in the trailhead as the campground is a fee area.



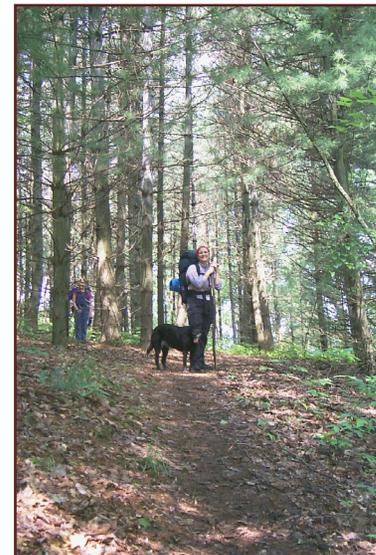
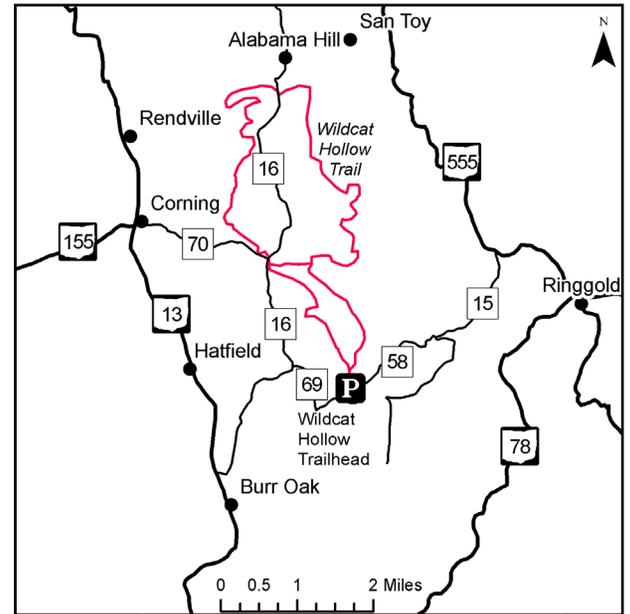
Lake View Trail

This trail is part of the Burr Oak Cove Recreation Area. Located a half mile east of Highway 13, this is a small densely wooded campground on the north-west tip of Burr Oak Reservoir. The one mile Lake View Trail provides easy access from the campground to the scenic Burr Oak Reservoir.



Wildcat Hollow Hiking Trail

This is one of the Forest's most popular trails, it offers two options; a fifteen mile loop of scenic trail along ridge-tops and stream bottoms, and a short five mile loop for day hikes.



Utah Ridge Pond

This short quarter mile trail encircles Utah Ridge pond and is located about 3 miles west of Highway 13 on West Bailey Road north of the town of Chauncey. Follow the signs from Highway 13.

Athens Ranger District - Athens Unit continued



North Country/Buckeye Trail

There are 20.5 miles of the North Country Trail on the Athens District. It is co-located with the Buckeye Trail to total 43.4 miles. The trail crosses private land, and some of it is on roads. Stay on the trail and respect the rights of private landowners.

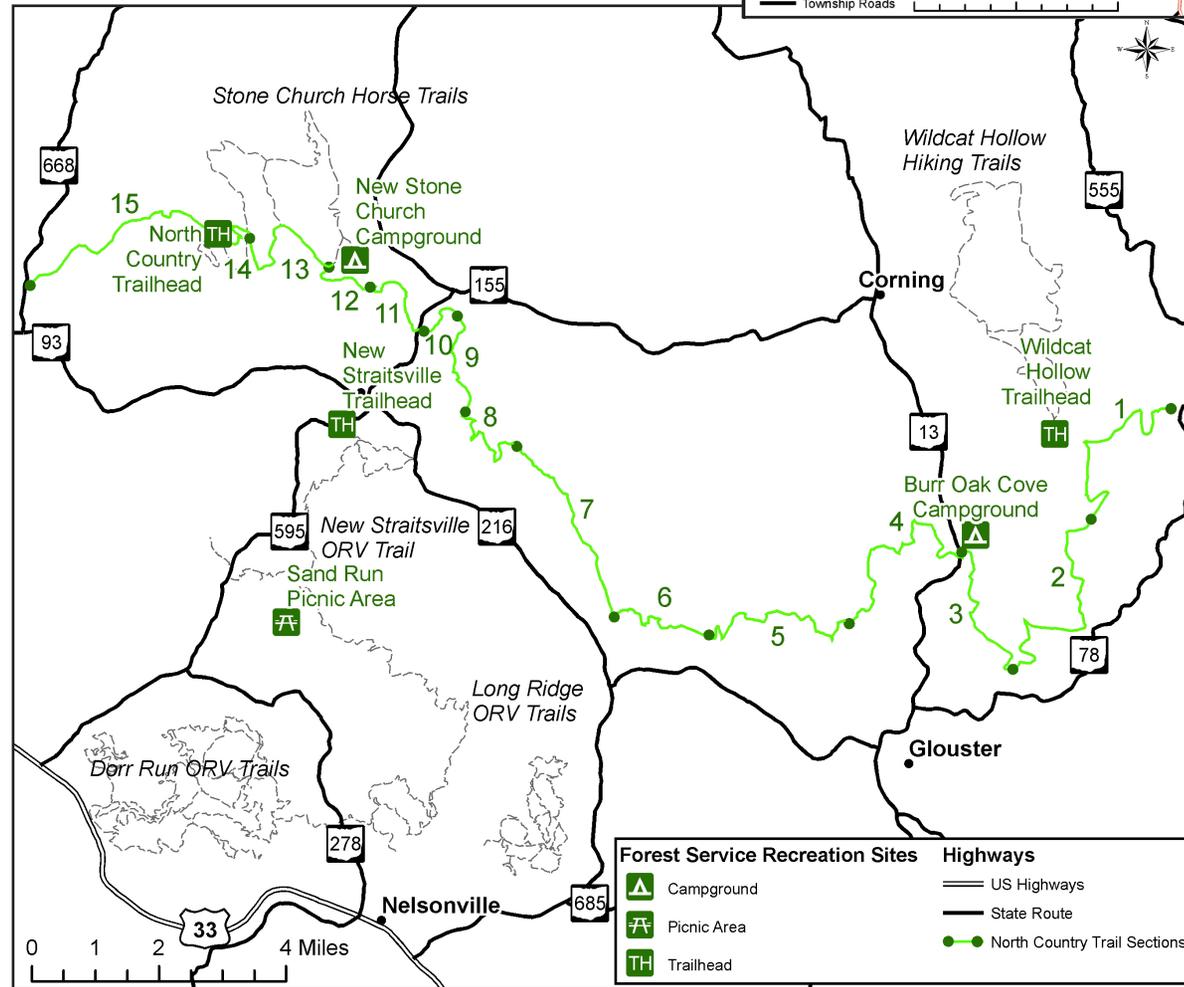
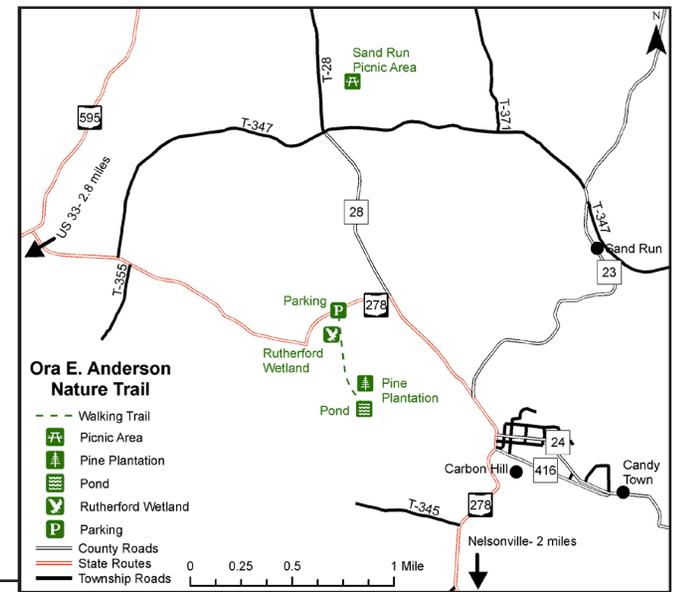
Mileage Chart for Trail Sections

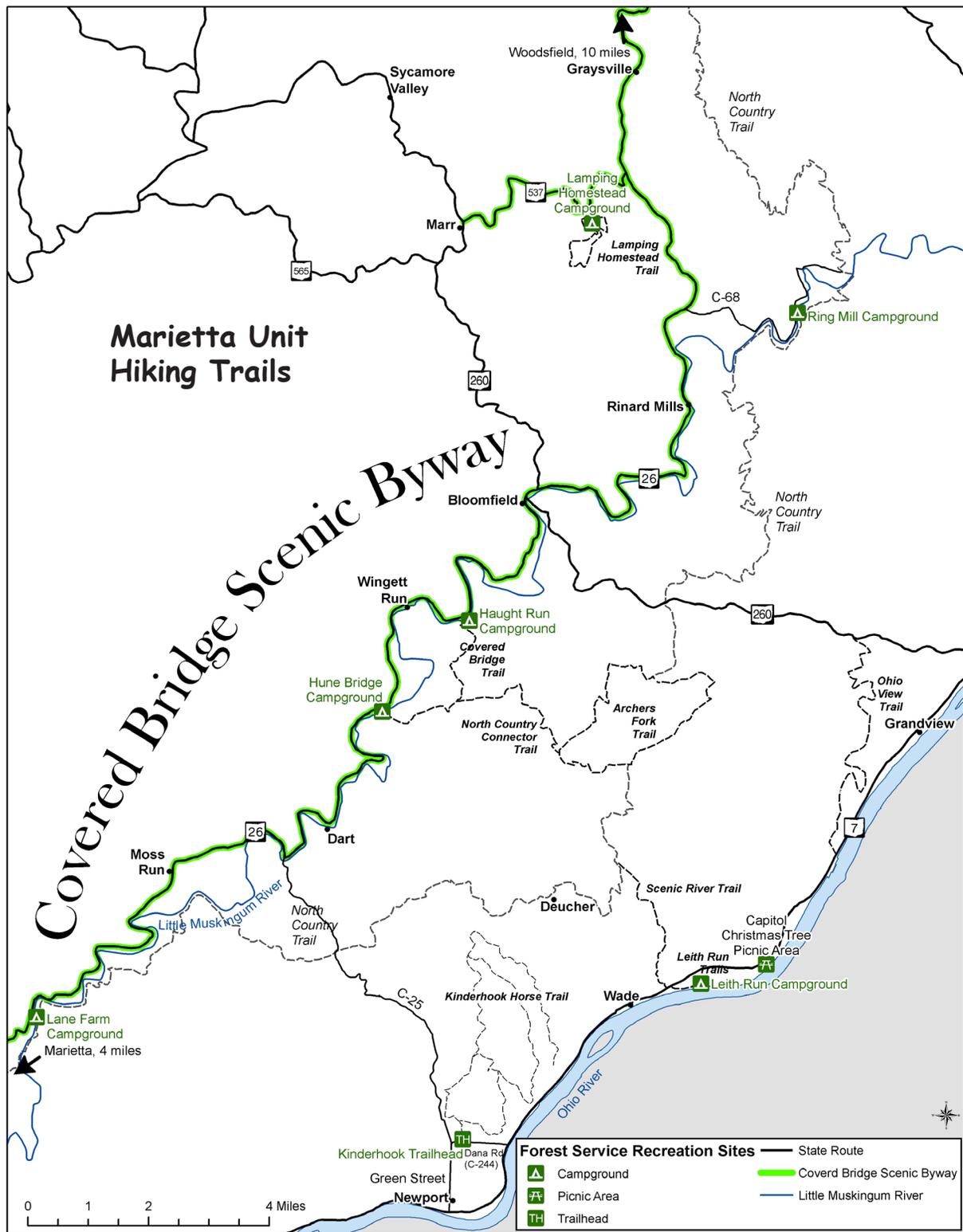
Section	Miles
1. Junction Hwy 78 to Vicksville	4.3
2. Vicksville to Bishopville	4.6
3. Bishopville to Hwy 13	2.7
4. Hwy 13 to McLeish	5.2
5. McLeish to Mud Fork	3.0
6. Mud Fork to Township Road (TR) 21	2.5
7. TR 21/TR 18 stretch	3.4
8. TR 18 to CR 17	2.6
9. CR 17 to Tecumsey Lake	2.0
10. Tecumsey Lake to Hwy 93	1.2
11. Hwy 93 to CR 41	2.2
12. CR 41 to CR 38	1.0
13. CR 38 to Forest Road 743 (This section co-located with horse trail)	3.4
14. Forest Road 743 to NCT trailhead (This section co-located with horse trail)	2.3
15. NCT Trailhead to Hwy 668 (Section currently on County roads)	3.0
Total distance on Athens Unit	43.4



Ora E. Anderson Nature Trail

This is the Forest's newest trail. The 1/2 mile fully accessible trail follows a historic railroad bed along the edge of the Rutherford Wetland. Bring your binoculars to see wetland birds, beaver, and other wildlife.





Athens Ranger District - Marietta Unit



Marietta Unit Hiking Trails

Several trails in the rugged hills of the Marietta Unit .

- North Country Trail (NCT): 37.8 miles on the Marietta Unit of the Wayne NF allow for mountain bikes as well as hikers. North of Ring Mill, the trail follows roads.
- Archers Fork Trail: 9.5 mile loop off the North Country Trail
- Covered Bridge Trail: 5 miles of trail between Hune Covered Bride and Haught Run or Rinard Covered Bridge.
- Covered Bridge/NCT Connector: 3 mile connector trail between the Covered Bridge and NCT
- Lamping Homestead: There are two trails; a 3.5 and 1.5 loop trail around Lamping Lake.
- Ohio View Trail: 7 miles of trail from Highway 7 along the Ohio River up to overlooks above the river.
- Ohio View/NCT Connector: 3.5 miles of trail between the Ohio View and NCT.
- Scenic River Trail: 3.4 mile trail from Leith Run Recreation Area to the NCT.



Kinderhook Horse Trail, has 14 miles of trail just north of US Highway 7 near Newport. At the trailhead off Dana Road, there is a vault toilet and a parking area but no potable water.

All of these trails are shown on the map to the left.