

Greenbrier River Trail

THE GREENBRIER RIVER TRAIL is a 78-mile long rail trail operated by the West Virginia state park system. Trail uses include bicycling, backpacking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding. A packed, crusher-run surface coupled with a mere one percent grade creates an ease of riding that allows cyclists, young and old, to enjoy the many breathtaking views. The trail closely mirrors its namesake, the Greenbrier River, for most of its length, offering trail users countless opportunities for swimming and fishing.

The Greenbrier River Trail traverses some of the most remote areas in the state and lies adjacent to the Monongahela National Forest, Seneca State Forest and Watoga State Park for most of its length, lending to very little development and a true "wild and wonderful" experience.



Greenbrier River Trail

c/o Watoga State Park
HC 82, Box 252

Marlington, West Virginia 24954
304-799-7416

www.greenbrierrailtrailstatepark.com
greenbrierrivertrail@wv.gov

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation, 324 4th Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303
STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
TO USE FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS

Visitors are responsible for observing park rules and regulations.

"It is the policy of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, accommodations, services and programs to all persons without regard to gender, race, color, age, religion, national origin or disability. Proper licenses, registration and compliance with official rules and regulations are the only sources of restrictions for facility use or program participation."

"The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer."

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MULTIPLE-USE TRAIL GUIDELINES

- Motor vehicles – except authorized patrol vehicles – are not permitted on the trail.
- Warning: Travel at your own risk.
- Bridges and tunnels may be hazardous.
- Litter request: Pack it in – Pack it out.
- Be considerate of adjacent private land owners.
- Stay on trail.
- When parking, do not block trail access or private drives.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas.
- Trail conditions vary.



Bicyclists

- North to south biking is easier.
- Fat tire bicycles are easier to ride.
- Carry a tire repair kit.
- Always yield trail.
- Never scare animals.



Equestrians

- Control your horse.
- Yield right-of-way to patrol vehicles.
- Always lead horse over bridges and through tunnels. A small flashlight may be useful in tunnels.
- Avoid cross-country riding. Greenbrier River Trail property is very narrow, so please respect private property.
- Do not canter horses.
- For health reasons, horses are not permitted within campsites or near eating or sleeping areas. Designated horse camping areas have hitching rails between trail and campsites.
- Tether horse to hitching rail or use a picket line between trees.
- Straw and hay are not permitted in campsites.
- Call ahead to make arrangements for wide loads, such as wagons.



Hikers

- Allow equestrians and bicyclists to pass.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q What does the “W” on concrete posts represent?

A Whistle posts were once used to signal engineer to “Blow the Whistle” because of an upcoming vehicle crossing. Now used by bicycling youngsters as a cue to “whistle.”

Q Is tent camping allowed anywhere along the trail?

A Camping is only permitted at designated camp areas. Eleven rustic camping areas are available; see trail map for locations.

Q What is the most scenic section of trail?

A The trail is beautiful its entire length, but Marlinton to Cass is scenic with little development and is close to the river. Beard to Droop Tunnel (Rorer) is also very scenic with almost no private land or development along the way.

Q What type of trail surface is on the GRT?

A The trail currently uses ¼” limestone crusher run with a few areas of ¾” limestone still existing.

Q Are motorized wheelchairs permitted on GRT?

A Yes, electric-powered chairs and scooters are permitted for disabled use only.

Q Are hunting firearms allowed on the trail?

A Yes, during legal open hunting season only. No uncased firearms are allowed otherwise.

Q What is the elevation above sea level?

A Caldwell (Milepost 3) – 1,698 feet and Cass trailhead (Milepost 80) – 2,430 feet. The trail drops about 220 feet in elevation from the northern terminus to the southern terminus.

Q What lodging facilities are located near the trail?

A State Park cabins and privately owned overnight facilities are nearby or along the trail. These are noted on listings and map. **NOTE:** Convention and Visitor Bureaus welcome your questions about area attractions and accommodations.

- **Greenbrier County CVB**, 800-833-2068, www.greenbrierwv.com
- **Pocahontas County CVB**, 800-336-7009, www.pocahontas.org.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The independent, private facilities included in this brochure are listed only as a courtesy to trail users and implies no endorsement or assurance that the business is currently available. It is always a good practice to call when planning your next trip to the Greenbrier River Trail to confirm operational hours and/or rates, as appropriate.



Mileposts – North Caldwell to Watoga Bridge – Southern Section

Milepost 3: NORTH CALDWELL – Southern Terminus – 1.3 miles north of U.S.

Route 60 at Caldwell on county Route 38 (Stonehouse Road).

Parking area, information, drinking water and picnic tables.

Horse trailer parking.

Canoe access nearby (across U.S. 60 – Caldwell Boat Launch).

Groceries, post office and public phone nearby in Caldwell – 1.5 miles.

Food services at Exxon Food Mart – two miles on U.S. 60 East.

Lodging nearby – three to seven miles from trailhead

- General Lewis Inn, 304-645-2600
- Relax Inn (formerly Days Inn), 304-645-2345
- The Greenbrier, 304-536-1110
- Hampton Inn, 304-645-7300
- Sunset Terrace, 304-645-2363
- Super 8 Motel, 304-647-3188
- Church Street B&B, 304-645-7014
- Great Oak B&B 304-661-0663
- Minnie Manor, 304-647-4096
- James Wylie House B&B, 304-536-9444
- Budget Inn, 304-536-2121
- All-State Motel, 304-536-1731
- Old White Inn, 304-536-2441
- Village Inn, 304-536-3353
- Fairfield Inn & Suites, 304-645-7999
- Holiday Inn Express, 304-645-5750
- Quality Inn, 304-645-7722 (formerly Brier Inn)

Recommended: Fee camping and cabins available at

Greenbrier State Forest east on U.S. 60, two miles, follow signs: 304-536-1944, www.greenbriersf.com.

MP 4.7:

Trailside tent campsite.

Table and fire ring.

Toilet.

MP 5.8: HARPER (Hopper) – from county Route 38, take county Route 38/2 to county Route 30/3.

Trail access point, limited parking.

MP 9.5:

Trailside tent campsite.

Table and fire ring.

MP 11.1: KEISTER – from county Route 38, take county Route 30 to county Route 30/1.

Trail access point, limited parking.

Lodging nearby – Greenbrier River Cottages, 150 yards from trail, 304-497-2402.

MP 12.9

Trailside tent camping area – can accommodate group /horse camping.

Adequate room to tether horses.

Table and fire ring.

Toilet and drinking water.

MP 14.4: ANTHONY – from U.S. Route 219 at Frankford, 4.9 miles on county Route 21 and county Route 21/2.

Trail access point, parking.

Horse trailer parking.

Canoe access.

Groceries, supplies, post office, and public phone nearby.

Food services at Exxon Food Mart – four miles on U.S. Route 219 (uphill ride).

Fee camping at Blue Bend Recreation Area (National Forest Service).

MP 20.5

Trailside tent camping area.

Table and fire ring.

Toilet.

MP 21.4: SPRING CREEK – from U.S. 210, 1.5 miles north of Frankford, east 3.5 miles on county Route 13.

Trail access, limited parking.

MP 24.5: RENICK – from U.S. 219, east 0.4 mile on county Route 11 (Auto Road)

Trail access, parking.

Horse trailer parking.

Canoe access.

Post office and public phone along U.S. 219, 0.5 mile from trail.

Lodging nearby – G&T Cottage, 304-497-2163

MP 28.5:

Trailside tent camping area – can accommodate group/horse camping.

Adequate room to tether horses.

Table and fire ring.

Toilet and drinking water.

MP 29.6: HORROCK – from U.S. 219 at Renick, east 4.1 miles on county Route 7 (Brownstown Road), then 1.2 miles on county Route 7/1 to county Route 7/2 (Rorer Road), 0.5 mile to trail.

Trail access point, limited parking.

MP 30.9: Droop Mountain Tunnel – 402 feet.

MP 33.7:

Trailside tent camping area – can accommodate group/horse camping.

Adequate room to tether horses.

Toilet.

MP 38.5: BEARD – from U.S. 219 at Hillsboro, follow county Route 31 (Denmar Road), six miles to county Route 31/8 (Beard P.O. Road), 0.3 mile to trail.

Trail access point, parking

Horse trailer parking.

MP 39.3: DENMAR – site of Denmar Correctional Center

- No parking. No trail access.

MP 40.9: MILL RUN

Trailside tent camping area.

Table and fire ring.

MP 41.7: BURNSIDES – from U.S. 219 at Hillsboro, follow county Route 31 (Denmar Road), 1.3 miles to county Route 31/1 (Workman Road), one mile to trail.

Trail access point, limited parking.

Lodging nearby – Hillsboro House B&B, two miles from trail, 304-643-4895.

MP 45.8: SEEBERT – from U.S. 219 north of Hillsboro, follow county Route 27 (Seebert Road), two miles to trail.

Trail access point, parking.

Horse trailer parking.

Canoe access point.

Groceries, supplies and public phone available in Seebert, 0.1 mile.

Food services nearby.

- Jack Horner's Corner – pizza, sandwiches, groceries, .25 mile.
- **Watoga State Park**, restaurant – full service, five miles (uphill ride), seasonal.

Lodging nearby – Greenbrier River Lodge, 0.2 mile from trail, 800-982-5263

- River's Edge Rentals, 304-653-4336
- River Brats, 614-834-9811
- Stepping Stones, 304-653-4552

Fee camping at **Watoga State Park**, across the bridge, two miles from trail, 304-799-4087, www.watoga.com.

Cabins nearby.

- Greenbrier River Cabins, located trailside, 800-225-5982
- Barnett Cabins, four miles from trail, 800-262-4615
- **Recommended: Watoga State Park** (by reservation), five miles from trail, year-round. 304-799-4087, www.watoga.com.

MP 47: STEVEN HOLE RUN – follow county Route 27 (River Road) one mile.





Trail access point, limited parking.

MP 47.9: WATOGA BRIDGE – trail crosses to east side of Greenbrier River on old truss type railroad bridge.




Mileposts – Old town of Watoga to Slabtown – Northern Section

MP 48.1: WATOGA. Site of old town of Watoga, logging boom town in the early 1900s. Remnants of an old company store may be seen on the east side of the trail. Watoga was the site of a sawmill and a kindling wood factory.



MP 49.3: BEAVER CREEK.

-  Trailside tent camping area – can accommodate group/horse camping.
-  Adequate room to tether horses.
-  Table and fire ring.
-  Toilet.



MP 51.5:

-  Trailside tent camping area– can accommodate group/horse camping.
-  Adequate room to tether horses.
-  Table and fire ring.






MP 52.2: BUCKEYE

-  Trail access point, parking.
-  Groceries and phone, one mile.


MP 55.1: STILLWELL PARK – from state Route 39 in Marlinton, follow county Route 39/2, 1.5 miles to park.

-  Trail access point, parking.
-  Camping, toilets and water available. Contact Stillwell Park, 304-799-7386.

MP 56: MARLINTON – 9th Street crossing (behind the elementary school).


-  Trail access point, parking.
-  Horse trailer parking.
-  Groceries, post office, drinking water and hospital nearby.
-  Food service nearby – .25 to three miles from trail:
 - Godfather's Pizza
 - French's Diner
 - Subway
 - Dirtbean Halé
 - Dairy Queen
-  Lodging nearby:
 - Jerico B&B and Log Cabins, 1.5 miles from trail, 304-799-6241
 - Locust Hill Day Spa, B&B and Cabin, one mile from trail, 800-617-0530
 - Old Clark Inn, one block from trail, 800-849-4184
 - Appalachian Sport Lodge, half mile from trail, 304-799-4050
 - Greenbrier Grill and Lodge, half mile from trail, 304-799-7233
 - Marlinton Motor Inn, Edray, four miles from trail, 800-354-0821
 - Carriage House Inn, Huntersville, eight miles from trail, 304-799-6706
 - Ambassadors for Christ Retreat, Huntersville, eight miles from trail, 304-799-467

MP 56.1: MARLINTON DEPOT – depot was constructed in 1901.





- NOTE:** Sadly, the depot burned in 2008. Plans are to rebuild the structure, but until that occurs, visitors center, information, pay phone, and restrooms are two blocks away. Visitors are welcome.
-  Trail access point, parking

MP 56.5: WATER TANK – the only remaining water tank on GRT, built in 1923 and recently restored. The remains of the C&O turntable may be found on the downstream side of the water tank, 50 feet from the trail.

MP 62.4: CLAWSON – follow county Route 11/2 from state Route 28, five miles over the mountain to trail. (This access road is rough, unpaved road.)


-  Trail access point, limited parking.

MP 63.8:



-  Trailside tent camping area (two campsites) – can accommodate group and horse camping. Adequate room to tether horses.
-  Adirondack or “camping” shelter.
-  Table and fire ring.
-  Toilet and drinking water.

MP 65.2: Sharp's Tunnel and bridge – built in 1900, tunnel is 511 feet long and the bridge is 229 feet long.





MP 67.1: BIG RUN

-  Trailside picnic shelter adjacent to small waterfall and pool in Big Run.

MP 69.6:

-  Trailside tent camping areas (three campsites)–can accommodate group/horse camping. Adequate room to tether horses.
-  Adirondack or “camping” shelter.




MP 71: CLOVER LICK – from state Route 28 north of Seneca State Forest, take county Route 1/4 (Laurel Run Road), 4.2 miles to Clover Lick. Recently renovated, the C&O depot was built near the turn of the 20th century, and originally stood south of the crossing.

-  Trail access, parking.
-  Horse trailer parking.
-  **Recommended:** Fee camping and cabins available at
-  **Seneca State Forest**, six to 10 miles from trail, 304-799-6213, www.senecastatereforest.com




MP 74.5: STONY BOTTOM – from state Route 55, one mile west of Cass, take county Route 1 (Back Mountain Road), south 3.1 miles.

- Trail access point.

MP 76.8 SITLINGTON – from state Route 28 south of Dunmore, take county Route 12 (Sitlington Road), four miles.

-  Trail access point, limited parking.
-  Horse trailer parking.
-  Lodging nearby:
 - EJ's Cottages and Stables, trailside, 304-456-4319, board horses in nine-stall barn, stay in rental cabins. Feed drops along the trail.
 - Chestnut Ridge B&B, five miles, 304-456-4280

MP 78.5:

-  Trailside tent camping area – can accommodate group/horse camping.
-  Adequate room to tether horses.
-  Table and fire ring.

MP 80.4: SLABTOWN – Northern Terminus – located off state Route 66 just 0.5 mile from Cass.

-  Trail access point and parking area.
-  Horse trailer parking.
-  Groceries, post office, public phone, gift shops, first aid, drinking water nearby in town of Cass.
-  Food service nearby:
 - Cass Restaurant (The Last Run Restaurant), east on state Route 66, one mile.
 - Route 66 Outpost, east on state Route 66, one mile.
-  Lodging nearby:
 - Green Bank Log Cabins, 304-456-4410
 - Sweet Thyme Inn, 304-456-5535
 - Inn At Snowshoe, 304-441-4386
 - Mt. Airy B&B, 304-572-5208
 - Elk River Inn (at Slatyfork), 866-572-3771
 - Greenbrier Inn (at Durbin), 866-387-2469
 - Morning Glory Inn (at Snowshoe), 304-572-5000
 - Sharps B&B (at Slatyfork), 304-572-3547
-  **Recommended:** Company houses, caboose, wilderness cabin (by reservation) and train rides available at **Cass Scenic Railroad State Park**, 304-456-4300, www.cassrailroad.com.