



Bill Striver, Supervisory Wildlife Biologist

## Words with a Ranger

As a supervisory wildlife biologist, it is my responsibility to preserve and protect wildlife in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Most of my duties are associated with black bear management, wild hog control, bat research and monitoring, and elk management and monitoring.

I always knew I wanted to work with animals. I grew up in a small town in southern Michigan and spent a lot of time outdoors hunting and fishing, but I didn't know much about being a wildlife biologist or the National Park Service. It was not until my junior year in college that I discovered you can actually get a degree in fisheries and wildlife management.

My first job with the National Park Service was at Shenandoah National Park in 1987. That summer, I saw my first black bear along Skyline Drive. It was a female bear with three small cubs. Although I have seen thousands since, I still have that image of this mother bear standing near the road and the cubs clinging to a tree next to her.

Black bears are an iconic species, and the opportunity to see one in the wild brings many people to the Smokies. But a lot has changed since I

*Continued on page 8*



Black bears can be awfully cute, but their behavior is unpredictable. Park visitors must maintain a 50-yard distance from bears at all times. *Image by Bill Lea.*

## Welcome to Bear Country

*Remember to store food securely and pack out waste to keep bears wild*

Wherever you go in the Smokies, there's a good chance a black bear is somewhere nearby. According to the most recent estimates, around 1,900 black bears live in the park. That's more than two bears for every square mile!

Black bears are also particularly active in the spring as they emerge from hibernation and begin to forage for food. A typical black bear will travel widely using its keen sense of smell to find foods like berries, nuts, insects, and animal carrion. In early spring, a hungry bear might also eat grasses, seeds, tree buds, roots, or flowers.

Female black bears give birth during the winter and generally leave their

dens with newborn cubs in late March or early April. Mother bears will nurse their young throughout their first year and sometimes leave cubs for short periods of time to forage.

Although seeing a black bear in the wild is exciting, it's important to give wildlife plenty of space. Maintain a minimum 50-yard distance from black bears and elk and remember to pack out all food scraps and waste. Feeding wildlife is prohibited.

If you see a bear in a developed area or witness aggressive bear behavior, please call 865.436.1230 or stop at a visitor center to report it.

## Be #SmokiesSafe

- Delay your trip if you are sick
- Bring a mask and check [nps.gov/grsm](https://www.nps.gov/grsm) for current mask-wearing requirements
- Send only one or two members of your party into visitor centers
- Avoid crowded areas
- Maintain social distancing six feet away from others

**Visit [nps.gov/grsm](https://www.nps.gov/grsm) to plan your trip**



# SMOKIES TRIP PLANNER

## 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](https://nps.gov/grsm) for the latest updates on open facilities, access, and updates on mask-wearing requirements. All openings are based on available staffing. Temporary closures may occur on short notice.



## Visitor centers

*Hours may be modified due to COVID-19.*

**Oconaluftee, Sugarlands, and Cades Cove:** open 9 a.m.–5 p.m. March through May.

**Clingmans Dome:** reopens April 1, open 10 a.m.–6 p.m. in April and May.

**Mingus Mill:** opens April 3.



## Road closures

Many secondary and higher-elevation roads are closed seasonally in winter and reopen in spring. Refer to the map on pages 6 and 7 for opening dates for Clingmans Dome and other roads that close seasonally.

- **Cades Cove Loop Road** is closed to vehicles on Wednesdays from May 4 through September 28 to allow for non-motorized recreation.

- **Clingmans Dome Road** and sections of the **Foothills Parkway** will be repaved this spring. See [nps.gov/grsm](https://nps.gov/grsm) for updates on short-term closures.

## 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](https://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](https://nps.gov/grsm).

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



## 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. Chimneys, Collins Creek, and Twin Creeks open April 1. Big Creek and Cosby open April 15. Look Rock opens April 29, and Heintooga opens May 13. Picnic pavilions may be reserved for \$12.50–\$60 at [recreation.gov](https://recreation.gov). Some restroom facilities at picnic areas may be closed.



## For rent

The Appalachian Clubhouse and Spence Cabin at Elkmont can be reserved for daytime events at [recreation.gov](https://recreation.gov) starting April 1, 2022.



## Accommodations

**LeConte Lodge** (accessible by trail only, reopens March 21) provides the only lodging in the park. Advanced reservations required. 865.429.5704 or [lecontelodge.com](https://lecontelodge.com)

## Special Events

- **April 26–30**, Wildflower Pilgrimage: parkwide, see [wildflowerpilgrimage.org](https://wildflowerpilgrimage.org)
- **June**, Firefly viewing: Elkmont Campground, lottery for vehicle passes opens April 29 at [recreation.gov](https://recreation.gov)



## Bicycling

Most park roads are too narrow and heavily traveled for safe or enjoyable bicycling. Bicycles are permitted on park roads but prohibited on trails except Gatlinburg, Oconaluftee River,

♻️ 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](https://nps.gov/grsm)  
[SmokiesInformation.org](https://SmokiesInformation.org)

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Autumn: mid-Sept.  
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**Download the free NPS App** for interactive maps, tours, and more.



and lower Deep Creek and Indian Creek trails. Helmets are required by law for persons age 16 and under and strongly recommended for all.

Cades Cove Loop Road is open exclusively to cyclists and pedestrians on Wednesdays from May 4 through September 28. Bikes 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. Make reservations at recreation.gov.

Three concession horseback riding stables offer rides from March through November. Call for exact opening dates.

- Cades Cove 865.448.9009 [cadescovestables.com](http://cadescovestables.com)
- Smokemont 828.497.2373 [smokemontridingstable.com](http://smokemontridingstable.com)
- Sugarlands 865.436.3535 [sugarlandsridingstables.com](http://sugarlandsridingstables.com)



### 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.



**MOVING  
ROCKS HARMS  
AQUATIC LIFE.**

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/planyourvisit/maps.htm](http://nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/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](http://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](http://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.

Spring hikers should be especially aware of quickly changing conditions and the danger of hypothermia—the 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, cold, and wind. Stay dry and know your limitations.

See page 4 for more trip essentials.

### Park weather

March is an unpredictable time in the Smokies. Snow can fall any day, especially at the higher elevations. Backpackers are often caught off guard when a sunny, warm day is followed by a wet, bitterly cold one.

By mid- to late April, the weather is typically more mild with an average high of 71°F in Gatlinburg and 52°F at Mount Le Conte.



**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:



**B**ag your pet's waste



**A**lways leash your pet



**R**espect wildlife



**K**now where you can go

The **only** two pet-friendly trails  
in the Smokies are Gatlinburg Trail in TN  
and Oconaluftee River Trail in NC.

Check out the BARK ranger products  
at [SmokiesInformation.org](http://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 microspikes



## 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 SPRINGTIME

## Hit the Trail

There are more than 800 miles of maintained trails in the Smokies ranging from leisurely quiet walkways to challenging mountain ascents. Just be sure to come prepared with rain gear, traction support, and plenty of layers.

Download a free copy of the park's trail map at [nps.gov](https://nps.gov) or purchase one for \$1 at a visitor center or kiosk. Visitor center bookstores offer hiking references including *Day Hikes of the Smokies* and *Hiking Trails of the Smokies*.

Photo by Diego Ferron



## Find the Smokies Most Wanted

Help scientists gather important information about plants and animals by using the free iNaturalist app in the park.

## Make a Wildflower Pilgrimage

Few places in the world can rival the abundance and diversity of spring wildflowers in the Smokies from late March through early May. Some of the best trails for viewing include Bradley Fork, Kanati Fork, Mingus Creek, Chestnut Top, Cucumber Gap, Cove Hardwood Nature Trail, and the park's quiet walkways.

The annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage returns in 2022 with guided walks and workshops April 26–30. Register and learn more at [wildflowerpilgrimage.org](https://wildflowerpilgrimage.org). Wildflower brochures and the *Wildflowers of the Smokies* field guide are available at visitor center bookstores.

Yellow trillium photo courtesy of GSMA

## Become a Bird Nerd

The Smokies are one of the best destinations for birding in the southern United States thanks to their wide range of elevations and miles of protected habitat. In fact, many northern bird species find their southernmost range in the Smokies' higher elevations.

Once deciduous trees put out their leaves, it may become more difficult to see birds, but you can still keep an ear out for birdsongs. Apps like iNaturalist and eBird help users identify birds using photos or sound recordings.

Download a free bird checklist at [nps.gov/grsm](https://nps.gov/grsm) or pick up a copy of the *Birds of the Smokies* field guide at a visitor center bookstore.



### 1 Get the iNaturalist app

Download the app. Log in. Try it out.



### 2 Record life you find in the Smokies

Find a cool organism. Take photos or sound recordings. Post it to iNaturalist. Repeat.

Up for a challenge? Look for the target species (like this blue grosbeak) in the Smokies Most Wanted guide. Find the guide and more at [dliia.org/smokiesmostwanted](https://dliia.org/smokiesmostwanted).

Photo by krantz/iNaturalist



## GSMNP BY THE NUMBERS



14 million+ visitors per year



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



30 species of salamanders



69 species of mammals



9,900+ species of insects



16 mtns. higher than 6,000'

***All driving times may vary due to traffic conditions.***

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)

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)

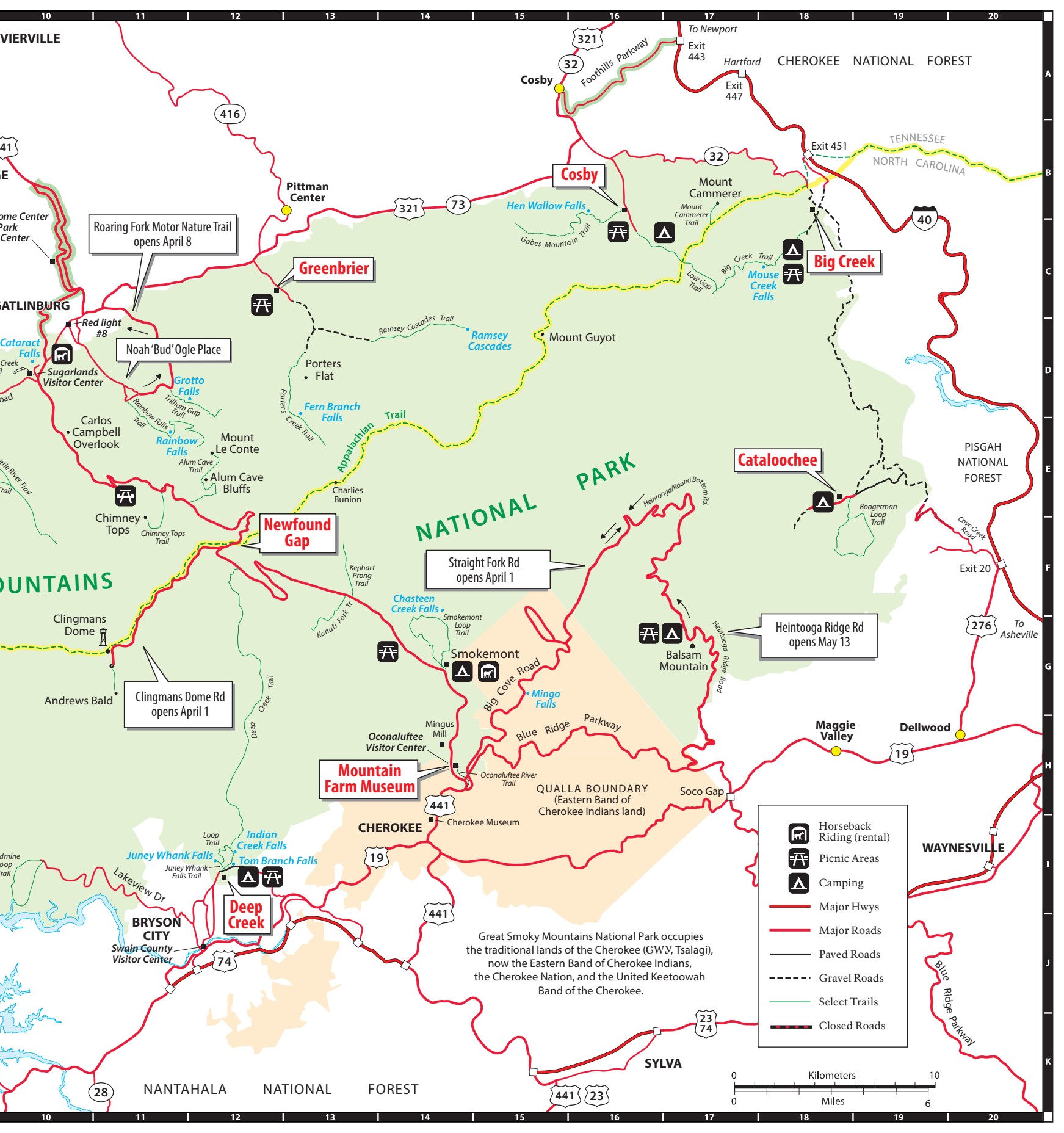
Cades Cove: 9 miles (¼ hour)  
Newfound Gap: 34 miles (1¼ hours)  
Gatlinburg: 22 miles (¾ hour)  
Cherokee: 52 miles (1½ hours)  
Look Rock: 18 miles (½ hour)  
Cataloochee: 87 miles (3 hours)

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 inches (7 feet) of precipitation falls on the higher elevations of the Smokies.







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Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail opens April 8

Noah 'Bud' Ogle Place

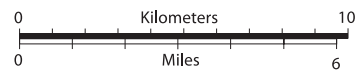
Clingmans Dome Rd opens April 1

Straight Fork Rd opens April 1

Heintooga Ridge Rd opens May 13

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.

- Horseback Riding (rental)
- Picnic Areas
- Camping
- Major Hwys
- Major Roads
- Paved Roads
- Gravel Roads
- Select Trails
- Closed Roads



Words with a Ranger  
Continued from page 1

first started my career here back in 1991. The bear population has grown from 500 to 1900 animals, visitation has increased from 8.5 to 14.1 million visitors, and new homes and businesses have sprouted up all around the park. As a result, there are a lot more human-bear conflicts both in the park and the surrounding communities. Now, more than ever before, it is important to know how to live responsibly with black bears. Please take time to learn the Bear-Wise Basics® by visiting BearWise.org.

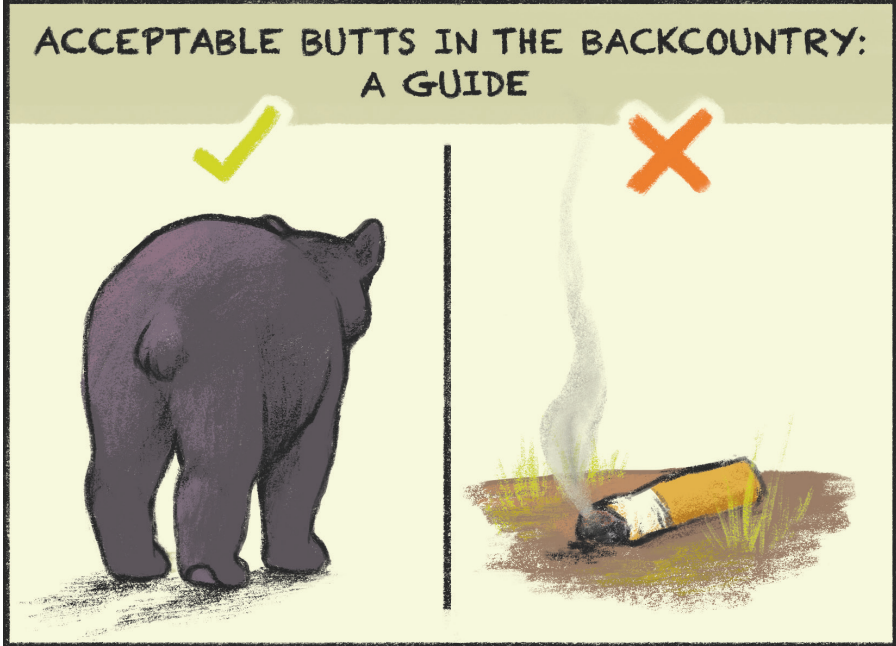
While it is fun working with black bears and other wildlife, my job is more about working with people than animals. My most rewarding experiences involve teaching people about black bears and mentoring interns and seasonal employees. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing their excitement when they see their first black bear. It's that same excitement that I felt in 1987.

If you want to learn more about being BearWise® or pursuing a career as a wildlife biologist in the National Park Service, feel free to reach out to me at [bill\\_stiver@nps.gov](mailto:bill_stiver@nps.gov).



LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

Writing on or carving into trees, stones, or structures can cause permanent damage—it's also a crime! Taking a photo is always a better way to remember your time in the Smokies and helps preserve the park for others too.



BIN IT FOR THE BEARS

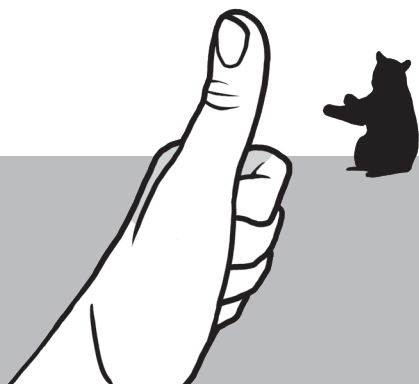
Help protect bears by packing out all trash and food waste and using bear-proof dumpsters in the park.



Raccoon illustration on page 9 by Lisa Horstman. All others by Emma DuFort.



## 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!



## STICK TO THE TRAIL

Help control erosion into Smokies waterways and protect important habitats for rare wildflowers, salamanders, and firefly larvae by staying on established trails.

## PARK WITH CARE

Keep yourself and others safe by always parking in a designated paved or gravel area with all four wheels off the roadway. Parking elsewhere can damage protected vegetation, damage or bog your car, and obstruct emergency vehicles.



## KEEP PETS ON DESIGNATED TRAILS

Remember that the Gatlinburg Trail and Oconaluftee River Trail are the *only* pet-friendly trails in the park. All pets must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet at all times.

# 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 14+ 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](http://Smokies-Information.org) or call us at 888.898.9102, ext. 257.



## Friends of the Smokies

Founded in 1993, supporters of Friends of the Smokies have contributed over \$75 million to the park. Funds help the park provide more than 14 million visitors a safe, memorable experience while protecting the historic and natural resources of the park. Every year, the park requests funding for numerous projects and programs that would be unfulfilled without the support of Friends.



Programs and projects include:

- 'Forever Places' endowment to support historic preservation
- 'Trails Forever' endowment to fund the skilled crews who lead trail rehabilitation
- 'Trails Now,' which funds materials for 'Trails Forever' projects
- Facility improvements and visitor amenities
- Campground renovations
- Cultural experiences and special events
- Search and Rescue vehicles and safety equipment
- Education programs to serve over 10,000 students every year
- Air and water quality monitoring
- Conservation and wildlife management

Programs like 'Forever Places' support the park's efforts to ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy the park and walk in the footsteps of those who once called these mountains home.

Your donation makes a difference. Learn more and become a 'Friend' by visiting [FriendsOfTheSmokies.org](http://FriendsOfTheSmokies.org).



For information about memberships and planned giving, email: [info@friendsofthesmokies.org](mailto: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, wild-fire, 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](http://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 three to ten days exploring the national park and its wonders. Fees include meals, lodging, and most equipment.

Call 865.448.6709 or visit [GSMIT.org](http://GSMIT.org) for program dates and information and to learn how you can support life-changing learning experiences in the Smokies!



## GSMNP BY THE NUMBERS



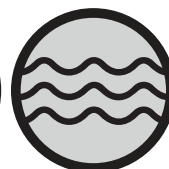
135

species of trees



250+

species of birds



2,900+

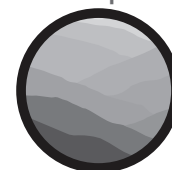
miles of streams



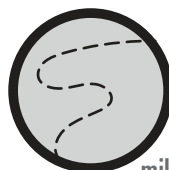
90+ historic structures



3,400+ species of fungi



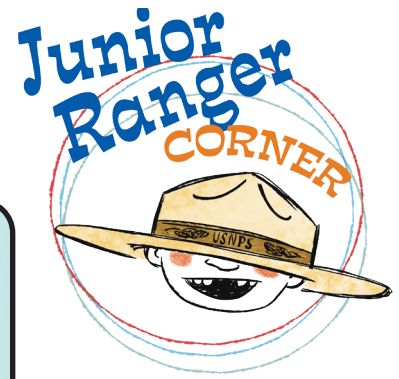
500,000+ acres of land



848 miles of trails



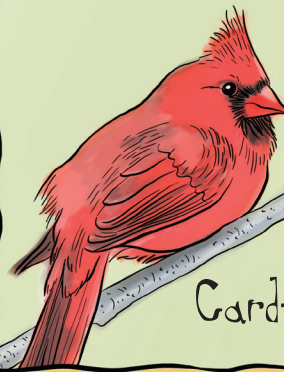
# SPRING BINGO



I heard  
a bird!



Robin



Cardinal



Elk

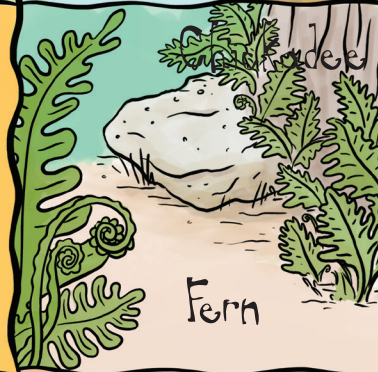


Owl



Firefly

I touched  
some  
moss!



Fern



Trillium

I smelled  
a flower!



Woodpecker



Hawk



Chipmunk



Jack-in-the-pulpit



Blue jay

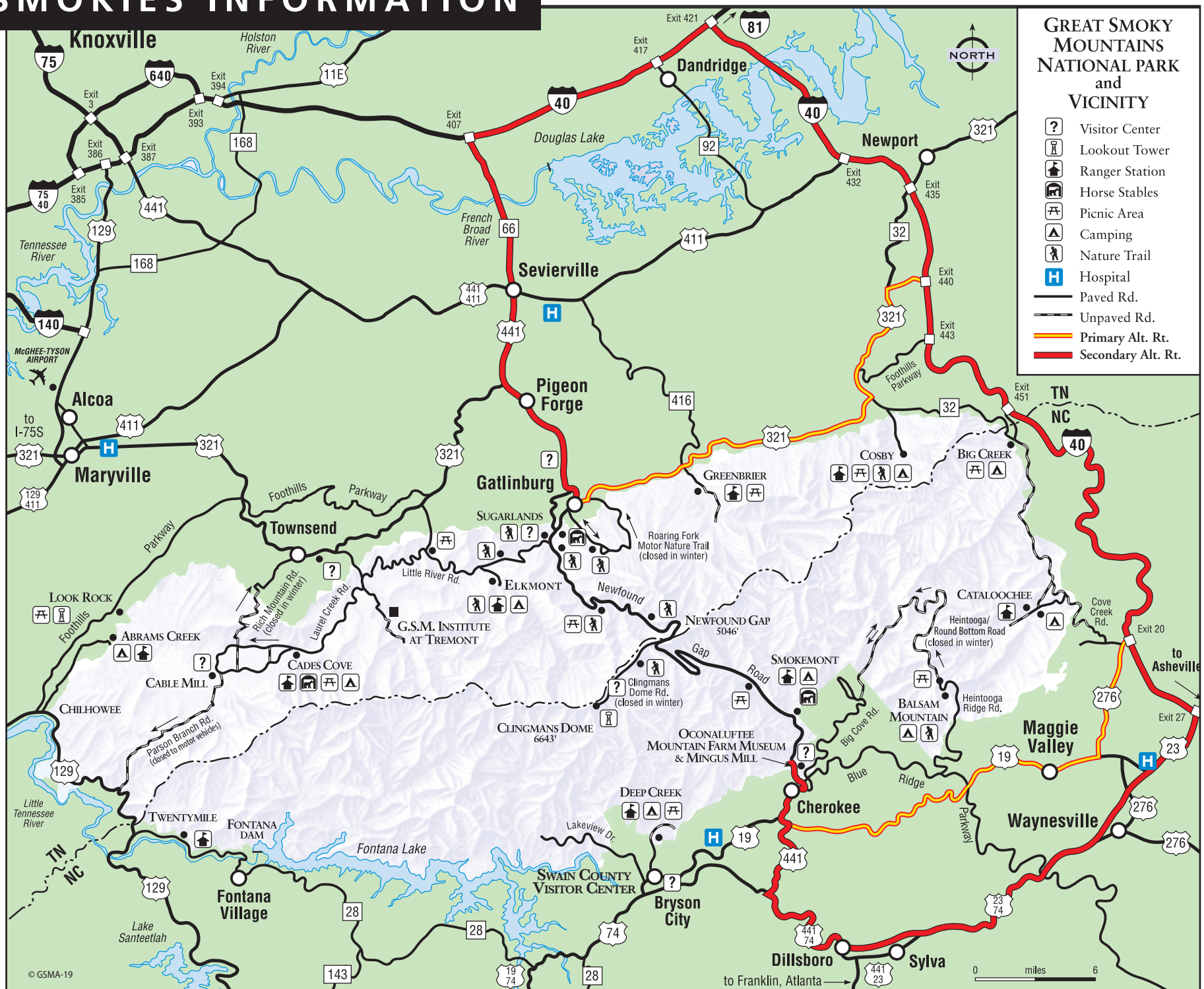
I saw  
a turkey!

Test your detective skills! Pictured are springtime plants, animals, and insects that you might see in Great Smoky Mountains National Park as well as in your own neighborhood. Each time you spy one, put an X in its square until you get four in a row. For an extra challenge, see if you can find all 16.

Illustrations by  
Lisa Horstman

# SMOKIES INFORMATION

For more information, go to [nps.gov/grsm](https://nps.gov/grsm)



## Information

General park info:  
865.436.1200  
[nps.gov/grsm](https://nps.gov/grsm)  
Backcountry info:  
865.436.1297  
[smokiespermits.nps.gov](https://smokiespermits.nps.gov)

## Emergencies

911  
Park Headquarters  
865.436.9171  
Cherokee Police  
828.497.4131

Gatlinburg Police  
865.436.5181

## Accessibility

Restrooms at Cades Cove, Oconaluftee, and Sugarlands visitor

centers are fully accessible. For more information about accessibility, go to [nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](https://nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm).

## 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.