

# Hike Description Piney River

Piney River Trail: This 10 mile trail is rated moderate. Starting from the picnic area on Shut-in Gap Road the trail climbs steeply. The Twin Rocks Nature Trail takes off to the left about .1 miles from the picnic area. The trail continues up the slope, and then follows the side of the mountain for another 3/4 miles, where a trail branches off to descend to the river.

After hiking another 2.2 miles the hiker encounters the picturesque 100 foot suspension bridge pictured above. Then the trail follows an old dinky railroad, almost level, and then crosses a 20 foot bridge over Pine Branch, then a 45 foot bridge over Rock House Branch. A side trail leads 1/2 mile to the "bathtub", a 7 foot deep basin in the stream.

The trail continues winding up and down the slope as it continues upstream, through a beautiful stand of large hardwoods called Big Cove. Spider Den Bluff is the next interesting feature. Then the trail winds past White Pine Cascades to cross the road. The trail parallels the road generally up-hill to Newby Forest Camp trailhead.

## ATTENTION OVERNIGHT CAMPERS

You are **REQUIRED** to register to camp and/or park after sunset at the trailheads. There is no fee. The information you provide will help us to provide security and also to determine if there is a need to expand the camping area and provide designated campsites in order to enhance your hiking and camping experience. As people discover this spectacular area, public use is increasing rapidly.

To register your group on-line, please complete the [ONLINE GORGES CAMPSITE REGISTRATION FORM](#). You will automatically be emailed a copy of your submission for your records. A confirmation code will be supplied upon submission of the online form. Please be prepared to supply this confirmation code to the Park Ranger if asked.

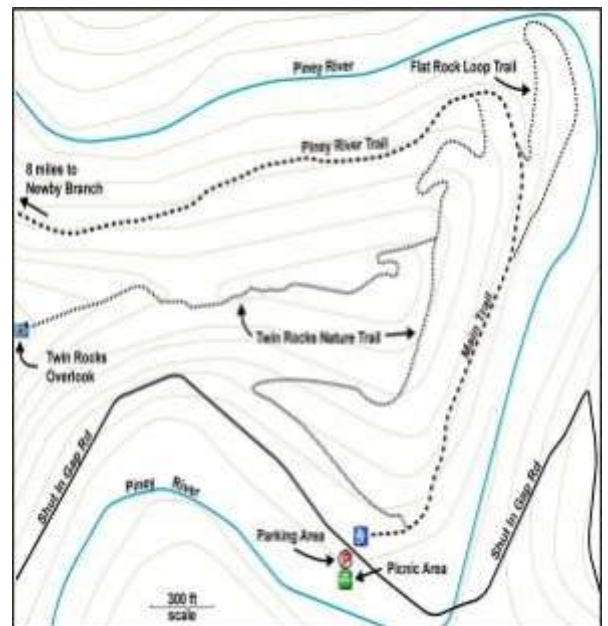
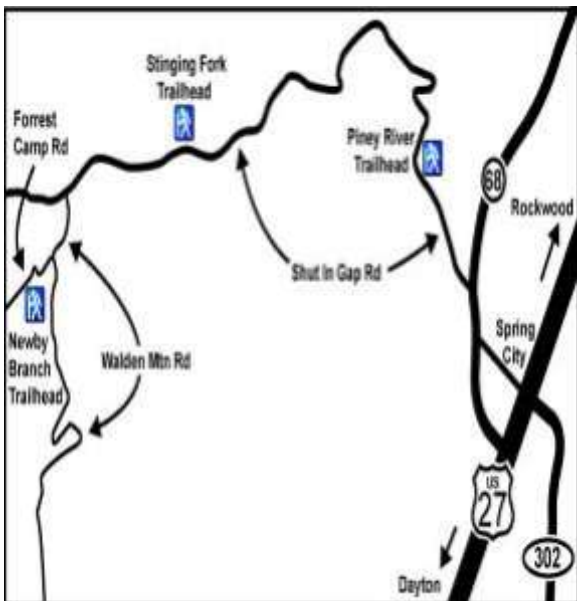
To register your group by phone, please call 423-566-2229 and give the information required on the online registration form by phone.

To preserve this natural and scenic area, please practice Leave No Trace principles.

### Driving Directions:

East Piney River Trail Picnic Area Trailhead: Take Hwy 68 north out of Spring City. Approximately one mile from Spring City turn left on Shut-in Gap Road. Drive about a mile to the picnic area parking lot. The trail starts just across the road from the picnic area.

Newby Forest Branch Camp and Trailhead: Drive past the East Piney River Picnic Area Trailhead. Continue to the top of the plateau and until you see the sign on the left pointing to Newby Branch Forest Camp. Follow the signs to the campsite and parking area.



GPS Readings For Important Points:	
Location	GPS Waypoint in WGS 84 for-
Piney River Trailhead	N35 42.834 W84 52.821
McDonald Creek	N35 42.091 W84 53.617
Piney River Bridge	N35 42.219 W84 54.313
Pine Branch Bridge	N35 41.980 W84 54.596
Rockhouse Branch Bridge	N35 41.665 W84 54.800
Logging Camp Loop Spur	N35 41.643 W84 54.758
Rockhouse Branch Spur	N35 41.522 W84 54.784
Hemlock Falls Spur	N35 41.488 W84 55.220
Deep Pool Bridge	N35 41.574 W84 55.353
Spider Den Spur	N35 41.422 W84 55.657
White Pine Cascades	N35 41.218 W84 56.033
Duskin Creek Bridge	N35 41.434 W84 56.797
Duskin Creek Parking	N35 41.402 W84 56.997
Newby Branch Trailhead	N35 42.076 W84 57.285

GPS Readings For Important Points:	
Location	GPS Waypoint in WGS 84 format
Trailhead	N35 42.834 W84
Twin Rocks Overlook	N35 42.568 W84 52.983

