



NUMBER	TRAIL NAME	RATING*	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION
1	SUGARLOAF CREEK TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.84 MI ONE WAY	CASCADING FALLS AND GIANT BOULDERS ARE ON THIS CREEK TRAIL. WHICH FINISHES NEAR A REMOTE CABIN AT END OF TRAIL. TURN LEFT ON GRAVEL ROAD AND FOLLOW TO REMOTE CABIN.
1A	SUGARLOAF CREEK ISLAND SPUR TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	100 FT. ONE WAY	TRAIL LEADS TO A RHODODENDRON ISLAND AND RESTING AREA.
3	BIG WOODS TRAIL	MODERATE TO STRENUOUS	3.6 MI	STABLES TO PASTURES TO A RELATIVELY FLAT LOGGING ROAD JUST BELOW THE RIDGELINE AT ELEVATION 3900'.
3A	LICK LOG FALLS SPUR TRAIL	MODERATE	0.24 MI ONE WAY	FOLLOW THE FALLS AND CREEK UP AND BACK FOR A QUICK HIKE.
3B	BOARDING HOUSE SPUR TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.33 MI	TRAIL FOLLOWS FENCE. HITCH YOUR HORSE AT UPPER END OF PASTURE AND WALK REMAINING DISTANCE TO BOARDING HOUSE.
4	CASHIE BRANCH TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	1.27 MI	AN OLD LOGGING ROAD SET ABOVE A RUSHING CREEK WITH NICE ROCK FEATURES.
4A	SOUTH CASHIE BRANCH TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.4 MI ONE WAY	A WOODLAND TRAIL LINKING CASHIE BRANCH TRAIL WITH BIG WOODS TRAIL.
4B	CASHIE BRANCH SPUR TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.28 MI ONE WAY	A SHORT WALK THROUGH WOODS LEADING TO AN OVERLOOK WITH A DISTANT VIEW.
5	BOARDING HOUSE LOOP TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.42 MI LOOP	GOOD FOR A SHORT WALK THROUGH THE WOODS FROM THE BOARDING HOUSE AND BACK. THE TRAIL HEAD IS THE BOARDING HOUSE.
6	NATURE'S WAY TRAIL	MODERATE TO STRENUOUS	0.30 MI ONE WAY	A TRAIL DOWN TO THE NATURE CENTER WHICH IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A MATURE HICKORY OAK FOREST.
7	FISHER COVE TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	3.5 MI ONE WAY	LEAVES TRAIL # 3 ON EAST REACH ROAD AND PROCEEDS TO DARK RIDGE CAMP ON OLD LOGGING ROADS.
7A	FISHER COVE ALTERNATE TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	1.0 MI APPROXIMATELY 0.7 MI	INCREASES FISHER COVE TRAIL BY APPROXIMATELY 0.7 MI.
22	WEST SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN TRAIL	MODERATE TO STRENUOUS	0.67 MI ONE WAY	THIS HIKE IS A STEEP TRAVERSE ON SWITCHBACKS THROUGH OLDER GROWTH FOREST TO A ROXY SUMMIT.
23	EAST SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN TRAIL	STRENUOUS	0.61 MI ONE WAY	THIS TRAIL BEGINS OFF OF HIGH CLIMBER WAY AND IS AN OLD LOGGING ROAD UP TO A MOUNTAIN SUMMIT AT 4580'.
23A	BIG MINE TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.43 MI ONE WAY	A SHORT TRAIL THROUGH REGENERATING FOREST HABITAT LOCATED ABOVE RUBY CITY MINE RUINS.
23B	HALFWAY THERE TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	0.25 MI ONE WAY	THIS IS AN OLD LOGGING ROAD THAT TRAVELS ALONG THE NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY.
37	CAMP GROUND LOOP TRAIL	EASY TO MODERATE	1.19 MI LOOP	TRAIL FOLLOWS THE CREEK AND TRAVELS OVER THE RUSHING WATERS BY FOOTBRIDGE. RETURN ON TRAIL # 7 TO COMPLETE LOOP.
38	UPPER DARK RIDGE CREEK TRAIL	MODERATE	1.75 MI	COVE HARDWOOD FORESTS AND ROCKY FALLS MEET RUSTIC ROADSIDE HABITAT.
40	DARK RIDGE/ BEE TREE GAP	MODERATE	4.06 MI LOOP	TRAVEL DOWN AN OLD LOGGING ROAD THROUGH OAK-HICKORY FORESTS FINISHING AT THE CAMPGROUND AND DARK RIDGE CREEK.
42	DOUBLE TOP MOUNTAIN TRAIL	MODERATE TO STRENUOUS	1.28 MI ONE WAY	HIGHER ELEVATION BEECH/BIRCH FORESTS, BOULDER SLOPES AND A VIEWING TOWER ON THE 5480' SUMMIT.
43	OVER THE DOUBLE TOP TRAIL	STRENUOUS	0.85 MI ONE WAY	THIS TRAIL TAKES YOU DIRECTLY TO THE TOP OF DOUBLE TOP MOUNTAIN VIA COLD SPRINGS GAP.

* MOUNTAIN TRAILS CAN BE DECEPTIVE - BE AWARE THAT WHEN YOU HIKE TRAILS ON THE PRESERVE BY HIKING DOWN HILL, YOU HAVE TO RETURN BY HIKING UPHILL.

ALL USERS:

- Stay on established trails, even when wet, muddy or rutted.
- Preserve the past. Observe but do not touch cultural or historic structures and artifacts. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them. Leave it for others to discover and enjoy.
- In some cases, trails will follow roads. Observe and follow all trail blazes.
- Please advise security or the Trust of problem areas you might encounter during a hike. (e.g. ruts, downed trees, yellow jackets, etc.) (828)631-1061

BALSAM MOUNTAIN PRESERVE



TRAIL MAP
UPDATED MAY 2008

- LEGEND
- ROADS
 - WAYS & DRIVES
 - 100' CONTOURS
 - STREAMS
 - PROPERTY LINE
 - GATES
 - HIKING TRAIL: FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY
 - HIKING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS
 - HIKING AND HORSE TRAILS
 - WHITE BLAZES DESIGNATE TRAILS
 - VISTA POINT
 - REMOTE CABINS
 - CAMPGROUND
 - GOLF COURSE

SAFETY INFORMATION
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:
- SECURITY 631-1011
- TRUST 631-1061 or 631-1062

- Plan ahead. Know where you are hiking. Stay hydrated - carry plenty of water.
- Carry the 12 essentials, even on a day hike and know how to use them: map and compass, whistle (to signal for help) flashlight, waterproof matches, candle, sharp knife, first aid kit, extra food and water, rain gear, nylon cord
- Call the main gate to let them know where you are hiking and how long you will be out. Be sure to call them back and let them know when you have returned.
- Cellular reception is limited and often unreliable within Balsam Mountain Preserve. It works best on high ridges.
- Observe wildlife at a distance. Please do not follow, approach, harass or feed wildlife.

