

A hiker's haven, Beartree Recreation Area has something for everyone. Novice day hikers to experienced backpackers have eleven trails from which to choose. Criss-crossing the landscape and surrounding ridgelines, trails rated easy, moderate, and difficult are open to hikers and bikers, with equestrian trails close by. Here are a few helpful tidbits to inspire your next outdoor adventure:

- ♦ Iron Mountain Trail: street-legal motor bikes are allowed from Damascus to Skull's Gap.
- ♦ Beartree Lake Trail: a leisurely trail that winds around the lake and is wheelchair accessible.
- ♦ Lum Trail: a favorite trail of campground guests ending at Straight Branch shelter.
- ♦ Appalachian Trail: a 59 mile section from the TN/VA boarder to Teas, VA, passes nearby.

Virginia Creeper Trail

A Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Hall of Fame recipient, the VCT is a beautiful multi-use recreation trail traversing the countryside between Abingdon, VA, and Whitetop Station. Several outfitters and rental shops are available in Damascus that provide bike rentals and shuttle services.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Getting to your Destination

Traveling South on I-81: Use Exit 29 at Glade Spring and turn left on Hwy 91 South toward Damascus. At the intersection of Hwy 91 South and US 58 East, continue on US 58 East for approximately 8 miles. Beartree Recreation Area is on the left.

Traveling North on I-81: Use Exit 19 at Abingdon and turn right on 58 East toward Damascus and travel 19 miles. The recreation area is on the left.

Attractions & Activities

Beartree Recreation Area offers a variety of options for outdoor fun and activities. The area is home to many species of birds and wildlife and visitors can experience a diversity of species of wildflowers and trees. Family friendly campgrounds provide individual and group sites. Some sites are first-come, first-served and others may be reserved by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777.

The 14-acre lake has two fishing piers. Small-mouth bass, sunfish, and rainbow and brown trout are all possible catches. Self-propelled or electric trolling-motor boats only. State fishing and boating regulations and licensing requirements apply.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Forest Service welcomes responsible people who enjoy hiking, helping our visitors and maintaining our trail systems.

For more information about this and other volunteer opportunities please contact:

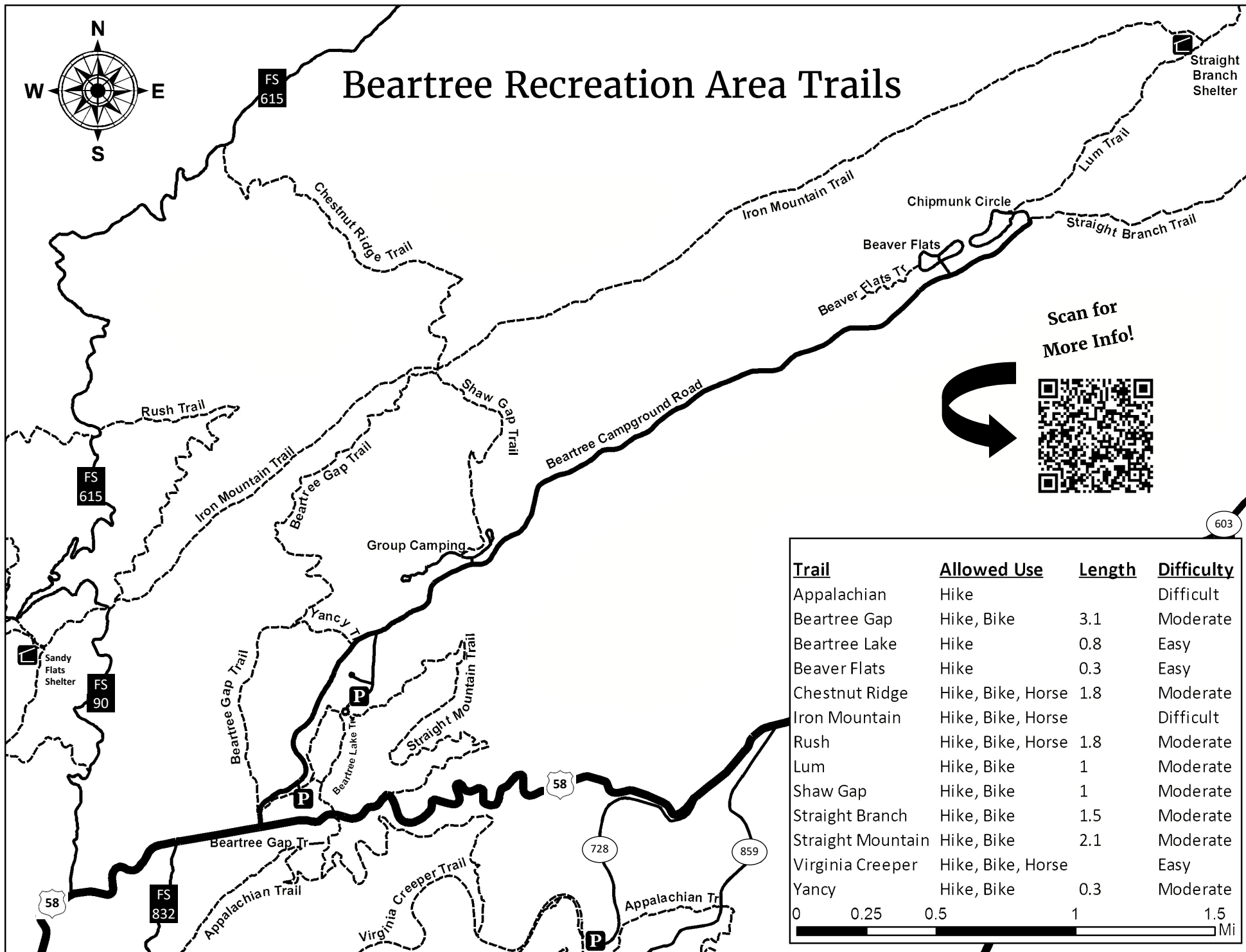
Mount Rogers NRA
3714 Hwy 16, Marion, VA 24354
800-628-7202 or www.volunteer.gov
fs.usda.gov/gwj

Beartree Recreation Area Trails

Mount Rogers

National
Recreation
Area

Beartree Recreation Area
20993 Beartree Gap Rd
Damascus, VA 24236



Trail	Allowed Use	Length	Difficulty
Appalachian	Hike		Difficult
Beartree Gap	Hike, Bike	3.1	Moderate
Beartree Lake	Hike	0.8	Easy
Beaver Flats	Hike	0.3	Easy
Chestnut Ridge	Hike, Bike, Horse	1.8	Moderate
Iron Mountain	Hike, Bike, Horse		Difficult
Rush	Hike, Bike, Horse	1.8	Moderate
Lum	Hike, Bike	1	Moderate
Shaw Gap	Hike, Bike	1	Moderate
Straight Branch	Hike, Bike	1.5	Moderate
Straight Mountain	Hike, Bike	2.1	Moderate
Virginia Creeper	Hike, Bike, Horse		Easy
Yancy	Hike, Bike	0.3	Moderate

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