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2023 UNOFFICIAL GUIDE TO STATE PARK FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS



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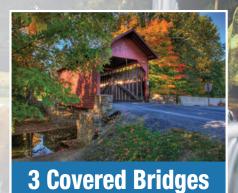


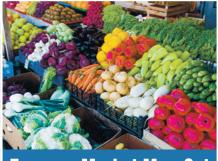
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Cunningham Falls State Parks

HEADQUARTERS 14039 Catoctin Hollow Road Thurmont, MD 21788 Office: 301-271-7574

GAMBRILL RANGER STATION

8602 Gambrill Park Road Frederick, MD 21702 Office: 301-293-4170

PARK WATCH: 800-825-PARK

DNR Communications: 410-260-8888 Central Reservation: 888-432-CAMP General Information: 800-830-3974 TTY users call via the MD Relay

dnr.maryland.gov

Park Manager: Mark Spurrier

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> **DESIGN** Samantha Bangh The Frederick News-Post

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

William Harbold MD Department of Natural Resources Mindful Focus Photography/ Missy Zook Grimes Debra Spurrier John Zuke

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FROM THE COVER

South Frederick Overlook and The Civilian Conservation Corps statue at Gambill State Park.

PHOTO BY MELISSA CARSON, PARK STAFF

GAMBRILL ROCK RUN

8002 Gambrill Park Road 39° 27' 13.90" N 77° 29' 42.42" W

TEA ROOM 8346 High Knob Road 39° 27' 41.63" N 77° 29' 42.71" W

CUNNINGHAM LAKE

14274 William Houck Drive 39° 37' 08.97" N 77° 27' 58.98" W

MANOR 6709 Cunningham Falls Park Road 39° 35' 14.96" N 77° 26' 08.90" W

CAMPGROUND 5783 Campground Drive 39° 37' 21.04" N 77° 28' 07.47" W

CATOCTIN FURNACE 12698 Catoctin Furnace Road 39° 34' 53.82" N 77° 26' 02.68" W



2023 CALENDAR

MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL March 11-12 & March 18-19

MARYLAND STATE PARK WEEK April 15-22

FISHING RODEO April 15

VOLUNTEER WORK DAY April 21

EARTH DAY April 22

MARYLAND IRON FESTIVAL May 20-21

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY June 3

FREE FISHING DAYS IN MARYLAND June 3 & 10, July 4

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY September 24

FALL FEST October 13 & 14

SPIRITS OF THE FURNACE October 21

TRADITIONAL VILLAGE CHRISTMAS December 2



FIRST DAY HIKES Dec. 31 - Jan. 2, 2024
BLACK HISTORY MONTH, "IN THEIR OWN VOICES" February 2024

Events are subject to change. Call the park at 301-271-7574 for details, such as location and time, or go to the website, dnr.maryland.gov, and click on the calendar link for event details.









FREE AND FAMILY-FOCUSED EVENT

THE MARYLAND IRON FESTIVAL Saturday and Sunday May 20 and 21, 2023, 10am-5pm

Featuring blacksmithing and traditional metal casting demonstrations, guided hikes in Catoctin Mountain Park, live music, heirloom plants and flowers, an artist and maker market, trails, tours of historic Harriet Chapel, historic gardens, children's activities, food trucks, a beer and wine garden, and more!



PARKING & SHUTTLE: 6709 CUNNINGHAM FALLS PARK RD THURMONT, MARYLAND 21788

240-288-7396 | WWW.CATOCTINFURNACE.ORG

CUNNINGHAM Falls state park

Activities for all await in this mountain park

Located in the picturesque Catoctin Mountains, **Cunningham Falls State Park** is divided into two separate, but unique areas. The William Houck Area is located three miles west of Thurmont on Route 77 and has the 78-foot cascading namesake falls, a 43-acre lake, and a camping area. The Manor Area, off Route 15, three miles south of Thurmont, has the Scales & Tales Aviary, the historic Catoctin Iron Furnance, camping, a playground, and shelter. With plenty to explore, natural outdoor activities abound at Cunningham Falls State Park: swimming, hiking, fishing, canoeing, camping and more.

SWIMMING

Sandy beaches welcome swimmers to three designated areas of Hunting Creek lake. Lifeguards monitor the beach and swim area daily from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For your safety and the protection of the natural resource, swimming is not allowed at the falls.

PICNICKING

Picnic tables and grills are available near the lake in the William Houck Area and the Manor area on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no covered pavilions or shelters in this area. The Manor Area has a picnic shelter available by reservation only. Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps out of native stone, the shelter holds 150 people.

BOATING

A boat ramp for launching private watercraft onto Hunting Creek Lake is available for a small service charge. Only electronic motors are permitted, no gasoline motors. Boat rentals are available from a private vendor.

FISHING

Cunningham Falls State Park has several opportunities for fishing. A Maryland Freshwater Sport Fishing License is required for all fishermen 16 years and older. Hunting Creek Lake is a put and take trout area. An accessible fishing pier is located off Catoctin Hollow Road next to the boat ramp. Fishermen can also fish for bass, bluegills, sunfish, crappie and catfish. Big Hunting Creek along MD Route 77, as well as its tributaries within Cunningham Falls State Park, are catch and release trout steams limited to artificial fly fishing only. Little Hunting Creek in the Manor Area is a catch and release trout stream limited to the use of artificial lures and flies only.

lan uour visi

Please remember to arrive early as the park often reaches capacity by mid to late morning on weekends and holidays. If the park reaches capacity visitors will be turned away.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all state park areas. The only exception is with an alcohol permit for the Manor Shelter Area.

Buses and vans must make a reservation by calling 1-888-432-CAMP. Buses and vans are not permitted on summer weekends and holidays.

DAY USE SERVICES CHARGES

HOUCK AREA: Memorial Day-Labor Day, weekdays: \$3/pp*

Memorial Day-Labor Day, weekends and holidays: \$5/pp*; all other times: \$3/vehicle*; Boat launch charges: \$3/vehicle*

MANOR AREA: Year-round: \$3/vehicle*

MARYLAND STATE PARK PASSPORT IN STATE: \$75 • OUT OF STATE: \$100

(good at any Maryland State Park) For more information visit dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands

ore information visit anitinal yield.gov/publiciane

*In state residents only. Out of state residents add \$2

EMERGENCY & 24-HOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency Assistance – Dial 911

Park Ranger Information or Assistance 301-712-6964 24-Hour Assistance or to Report a Violation, Call the Natural Resources Police: 410-260-888 or 800-825-7275

The Natural Resources Police is the primary law enforcement agency for Maryland State Parks.

6 EXPLORE 2023 CUNNINGHAM FALLS & GAMBRILL STATE PARKS

EXPLORE PARK SAFETY



PET POLIC

In Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks, pets must be on a leash and under control at all times. Under "voice" command" is not sufficient. Pets cannot be left unattended. Excessive barking is not allowed.

Manor Area: Pets are allowed in the day-use area, campsites and trails.

Houck Area (Beach & Lake): Pets are allowed on all trails. Pets are allowed anywhere on land except for the sandy portion of the beach from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Pets are allowed on private boats on the lake. Pets are allowed in the water after Labor Day and before Memorial Day weekend.

Cunningham Falls Campgrounds: Pets are allowed in Addison Run, Bear Branch, Catoctin Creek and the Manor area camping loops.

Gambrill State Park: Pets are allowed in all day-use areas, campsites and trails. Cabin 18 is pet friendly. Pets are not allowed in the Tea Room or Cabins 4, 5 or 6.



SNA KE F

Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks are home to a large diversity of protected wildlife, including many species of snakes. Two species found here are venomous; the northern copperhead and timber rattlesnake. Snakes are rarely aggressive. If you encounter a snake, maintain a safe distance and quietly move away from it.

SNAKE BITE PREVENTION MEASURES

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Stay on the path when hiking and in the campgrounds
- Wear sturdy footwear with closed toes
- Maintain a safe distance from any snakes that you encounter
- Look before you reach
 - Watch where you step and sit
 - Snakes are most active during warm weather (April-October)

DID YOU KNOW?

It is illegal to kill snakes in the state of Maryland.

If you are bitten by snake, remain calm and dial 911. Report any potentially venomous snakes to the Duty Ranger at 301-712-6964

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17 South Market Street Frederick. MD 21701 301-694-8448



Bears do visit our campgrounds, and they will eat almost everything. Don't encourage a bear by leaving food or garbage around campsites. Garbage-trained bears associate food with humans and soon lose their fear of humans. Because of this loss of fear, a bear might become a danger to park visitors.

Here are a few simple reminders to help keep you and the bears safe and ensure that you have an enjoyable stay:

- Keep your campsite clean
- Never keep food in your tent, and don't cook or eat in your tent.
 Bears follow their noses to food.
- Store food and garbage out of a bear's reach by storing securely in the trunk of your vehicle. Remember to secure your pet's food also.
- Remove trash from your site daily and place in the campground dumpsters. If you're just visiting for the day, remember Maryland State Parks are trash-free: take your trash home to be recycled and disposed of properly.
- Always clean utensils after each use
- If a bear comes into camp, don't feed it! Scare it away by making noise.
- See a park employee to get more detailed information on how to camp in black bear country or visit dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife.

amping

IN CUNNINGHAM FALLS STATE PARK

Get away from it all to connect with family and nature

Cunningham Falls State Park has campsites in both the William Houck Area and the Manor Area, both of which are open from April through October. The William Houck Area campground has 107 basic sites and 33 sites with electric hook-up. The Manor Area has 21 basic sites and 10 electric hookups. All campsites have a picnic table and fire ring. There is a bathhouse with hot showers and flush toilets centrally located in the middle of each camping loop. Pets on leashes are allowed in Addison Run, Bear Branch, Catoctin Creek and the Manor Area camping loops.

Primitive camping at the Manor Area Campground is available Nov. 1 through March 31. The bathhouse is closed for the winter, but a portable toilet is available. Area might close due to severe weather. Reservations are required for primitive camping.

The William Houck Area Campground has four six-person camper cabins. Each cabin site has a picnic table, fire ring and lantern post. All cooking must be done outside the cabin. Cabins have air conditioning, but no heat. Campers may bring an electric heater or fan. No propane heaters are allowed. Campers must provide their own linens. There are firewood, ice and other camping supplies available for purchase upon arrival at the camp office or camp store.

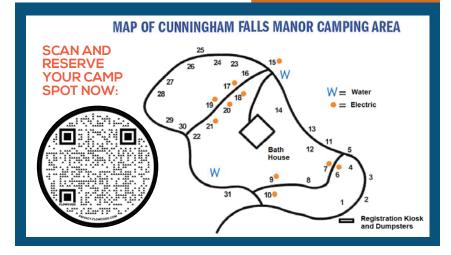
The operation of generators is prohibited during quiet hours. At times outside of quiet hours, they must not disturb other visitors and preserve the peace and tranquility of the park environment.



CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS

Reservations are recommended for both the William Houck and Manor Area campgrounds since they often fill weeks or months in advance. **Call 888-432-CAMP** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, or visit **parkreservations.maryland.gov** and reserve online at anytime.

Campsites range up to \$34 per night; service charges, weekend, holiday, nonresident and electric premiums apply. Camper cabins cost \$65.49 for six-person; service charges apply. The Manor Area shelter can be reserved for \$36.75 per day; 150-person capacity, service charges apply. Alcohol is prohibited in the campgrounds and throughout the park, except by permit at the Manor Area shelter. Quiet hours start at 10 p.m.; check out is 1 p.m.





CAMPING IN STYLE AT CUNNINGHAM FALLS AND GAMBRILL

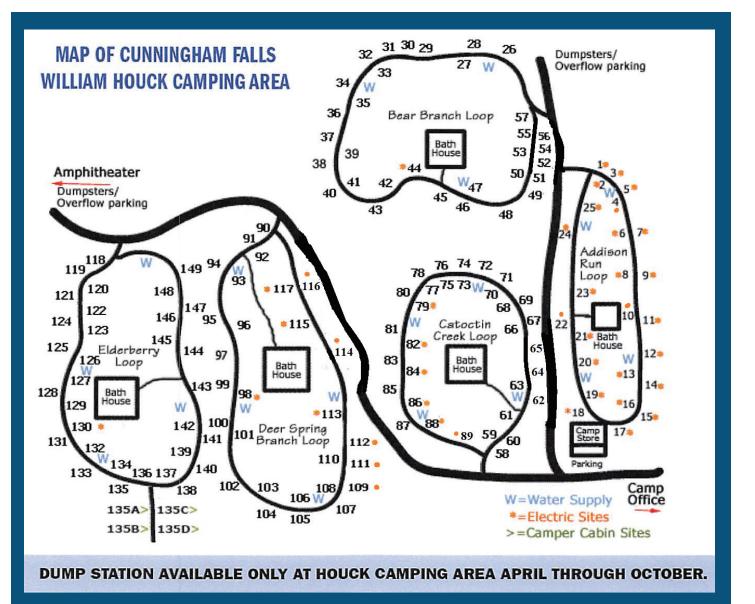
Are you a first-time camper who simply wants to try something new, or are you looking for a quick getaway without the hassle of setting up a tent? We have partnered with Beckley's RVs and Epic Glamping to offer visitors special services.

Beckley's staff will deliver and set up an RV rental unit on your campsite prior to your arrival. After your stay, they will come and pick it up for you – no need to pull a trailer that you will only use a few times a year. Call Becky's RVs directly and tell them you are staying at Cunningham Falls or Gambrill State Parks. They can provide options to meet your needs and will offer a 20% discount for the service. Call 800-301-4RVS or go to www.beckley'srvs. com/rentals/rv-rental to view rental options and policies.*

Prefer a tent? Epic Glamping can set up your campsite with fully furnished bell tents at several of the State of Maryland campgrounds in Frederick, Washington and Allegany counties. Epic Glamping makes camping easy, providing all the gear and set up. All you need to do is show up. Contact Epic Glamping at 240-520-7654 or epicglamping@gmail.com and they can help you camp in style.*



*Equipment rental fees are in addition to the campsite reservation fee. Campsite limitations may limit camping unit size and availability. Camper is soley responsible for reserving campsite for the full length of stay, including the RV rental unit removal. Any questions about the camping unit should be directed to the service providers.





RAILS

Cunningham Falls State Park offers miles of mountain trails, many leading to scenic overlooks.

The Cunningham Falls State Park trail system varies in terrain from short, flat hikes to steep and rocky ascents that will challenge even the experienced hiker.

AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY TRAIL

Blaze Color: **NO BLAZE** Distance: 0.5 mile Difficulty: A self-guided trail with interpretive panels to learn the names and stories of those enslaved to work in the village. Parking is recommended at the Catoctin Furnace.



EXPLORE TRAILS

LOWER TRAIL

Blaze Color: **RED** Distance: 0.5 mile Difficulty: This easy to moderate trail is the shortest and easiest access to the Falls. Return to the lake by this trail or Cliff Trail. This trail ends at the Falls.

CLIFF TRAIL

Blaze Color: **YELLOW** Distance: 0.75 mile Difficulty: Rough terrain offers strenuous hiking past rock outcrops that lead to the Falls. Return to the lake by this trail or Lower Trail.

LADY SLIPPER TRAIL

Blaze Color: **PINK** Distance: 2.5 miles Difficulty: This moderate trail gives campers direct access to the Cliff Trail.



OLD MISERY TRAIL Blaze Color: ORANGE/YELLOW

Distance: 2 miles Difficulty: This steep, strenuous trail has many switchbacks and scenic views and connects with the Cat Rock Trail.



CAT ROCK TRAIL Blaze Color: **YELLOW** Distance: 3 miles round trip Difficulty: This steep, strenuous trail leads to Cat Rock (elevation 1,560 feet) and scenic views. Trail connects to Catoctin Trail.

BOB'S HILL TRAIL

Blaze Color: **YELLOW** Distance: 1.5 miles one way Difficulty: This steep, strenuous trail leads to Bob's Hill (elevation 1,765 feet) and two short spur trails with views north and south.

CATOCTIN TRAIL

Blaze Color: **BLUE** Distance: 27 miles

Distance: 27 miles Difficulty: This strenuous trail leads from Gambrill State Park though Frederick City Watershed, Cunningham Falls and Catoctin Mountain Park. Nine miles of trails are in Cunningham Falls. Camping permitted only in designated campgrounds.

CATOCTIN FURNACE TRAIL Blaze Color: NO BLAZE

Distance: 0.25 mile Difficulty: A self-guided trail which leads to Catoctin Furnace. Crosses US 15 via elevated foot path (46 steps up the stairway).



Pets are allowed on the trails, but must be kept on a leash at all times.

Horseback riding

is permitted only on the part of the Catoctin Trail that is located between the park boundary with the Frederick City Municipal Watershed and the Manor Area. Horseback riding is not permitted in the Houck Area that includes the lake and the falls.

> **Bicycles are not permitted** in the designated Wildlands Area.

Uncovering the history of Catoctin Furnace

Cunningham Falls State Park has partnered with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society Inc. to tell the story of the Catoctin Iron Furnace. Visitors can tour the furnace site and hike on the newly installed African American Cemetery Trail that highlights the enslaved workers who lived, died and were buried in the area. For more information on the trail, the progress of the museum and other programs offered by the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, go to **catoctinfurnance.org**.

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> **FRIDAY** 5:30PM - 12AM

SATURDAY 12PM - 12AM



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Gambrill State Park offers miles of mountain trails, beautiful views from scenic overlooks

Inail lips

Pets are allowed on the trails, but must be kept on a leash at all times.

All trails in Gambrill State Park are open to horseback riding and mountain biking, with the exception of the White Oak Trail, which is restricted to hiking. Parking for horse trailers is limited. GambrillStateParkhasover 16 miles of trails, which begin at the Trailhead Parking Lot on Gambrill Park Road, between the Rock Run area and the High Knob area. Though the terrain is steep and rocky, hikers are rewarded with three scenic vistas of the Frederick and Middletown valleys. All trails close at sunset.

CATOCTIN TRAIL

Blaze Color: **BLUE** Distance: 27 miles Difficulty: This strenuous trail leads from Gambrill State Park through Frederick City Watershed, Cunningham Falls and Catoctin Mountain Park. Camping permitted only in designated campgrounds.

GREEN ASH TRAIL

Blaze Color: **GREEN** Distance: 2 miles Difficulty: Several steep slopes and little level ground.

WHITE OAK TRAIL

Blaze Color: **WHITE** Distance: 1 mile Difficulty: This easy loop trail is a good choice for families with smaller children.

YELLOW POPLAR TRAIL

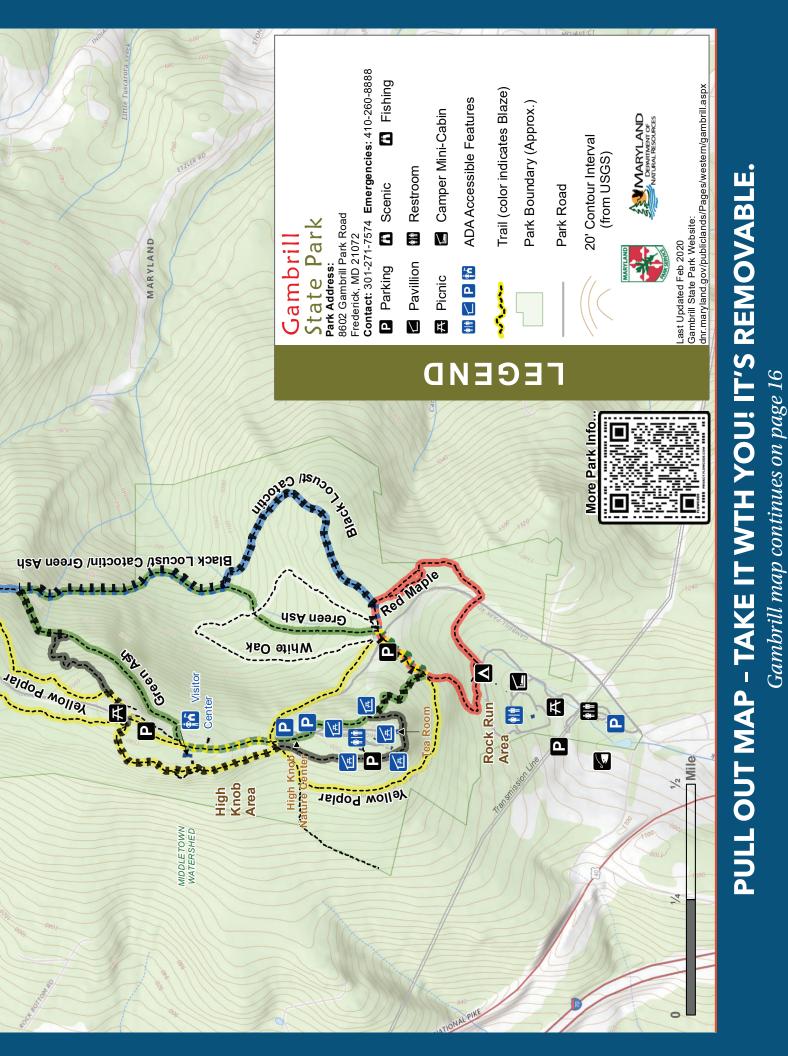
Blaze Color: **YELLOW** Distance: 7.1 miles Difficulty: Loop trail features some steep and rocky sections and passes two stone overlooks built by the Civilian Conservation Corps.; considered one of the most "technical" trails in Maryland by mountain bikers.

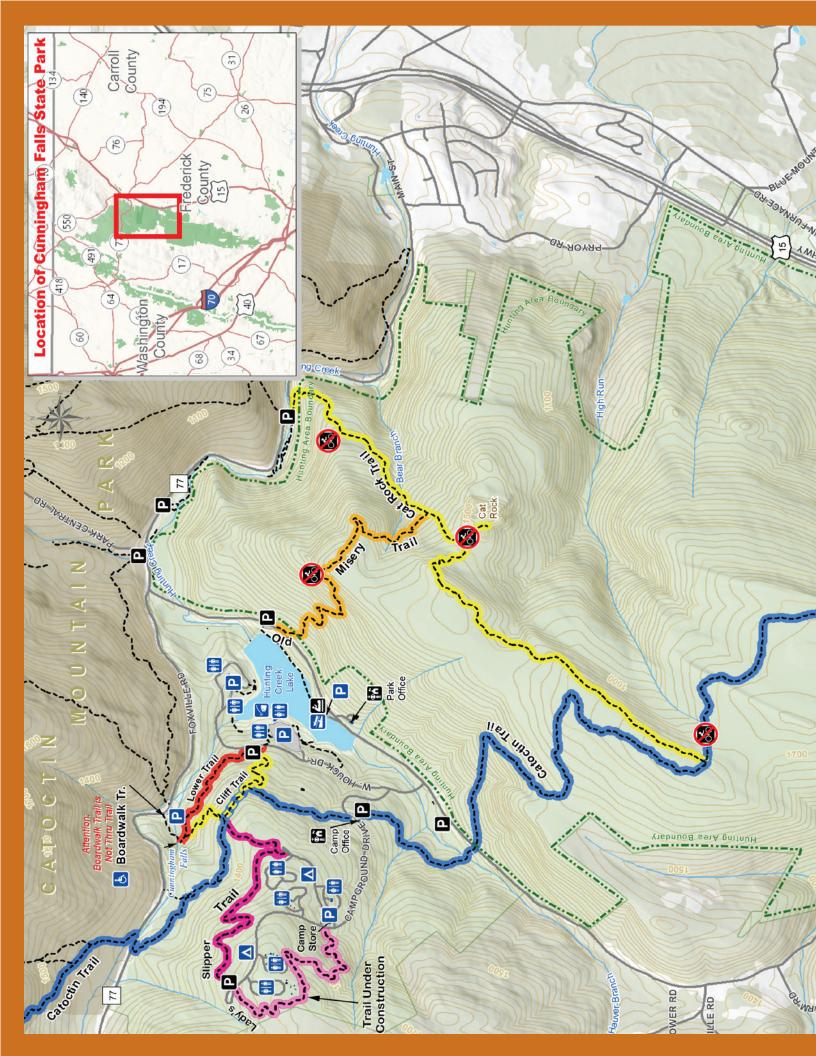
RED MAPLE TRAIL

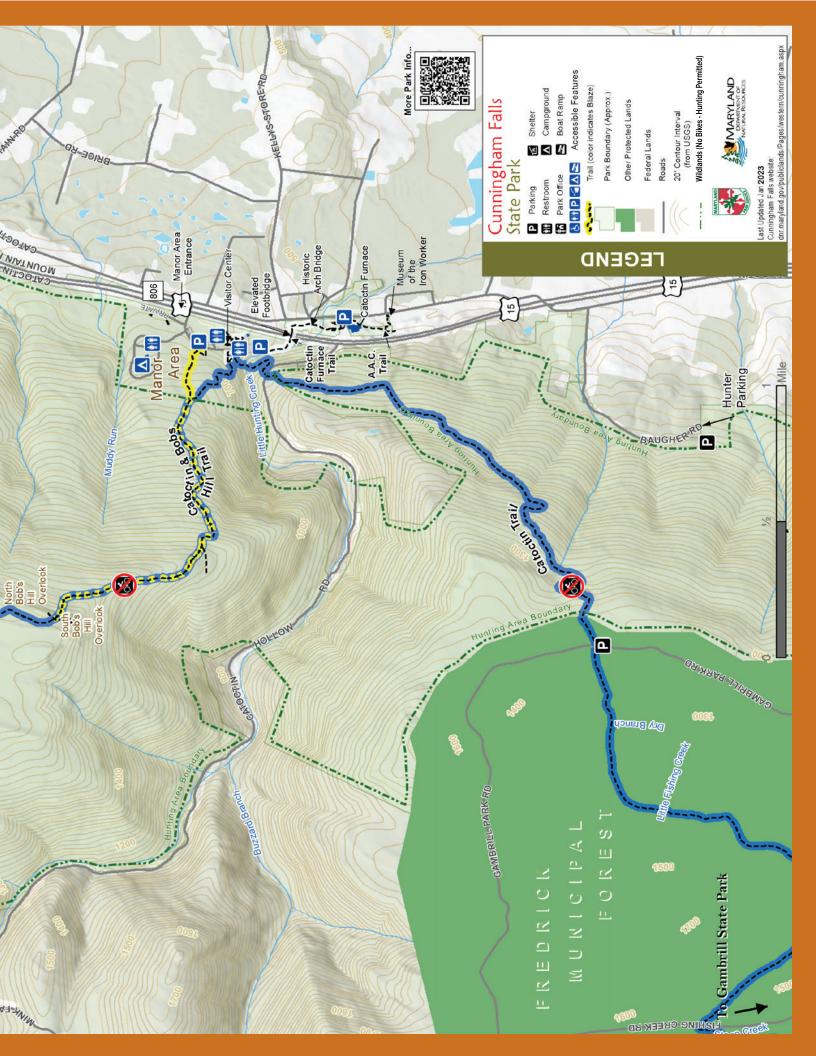
Blaze Color: **RED** Distance: 1 mile Difficulty: One short steep section; connects to the campground.

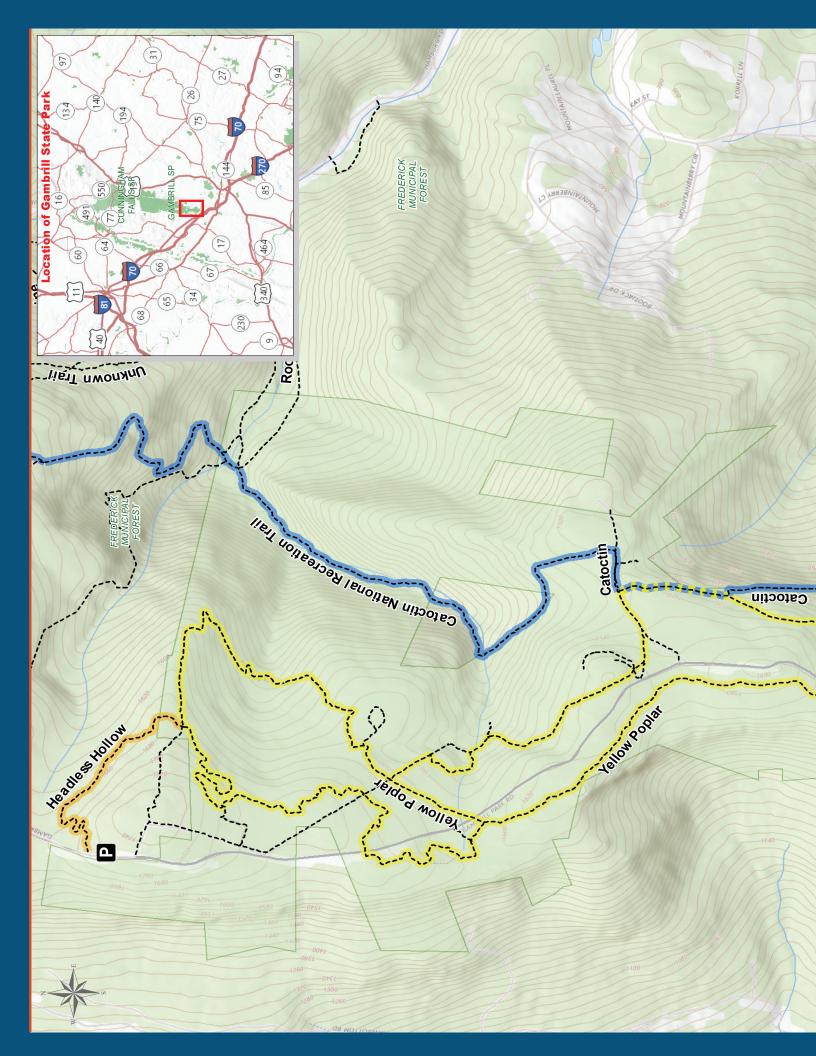
BLACK ASH TRAIL

Blaze Color: **BLACK ON WHITE** Distance: 3.3 miles Difficulty: Moderate difficulty with several steep slopes; shows off the beauty of the park with views of the Frederick Valley to the east and Middletown Valley to the west.







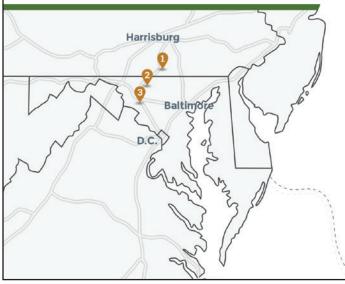


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EXPLORE GAMBRILL STATE PARK

GAMBRILL STATE PARK

Challenging Trails, Scenic Overlooks and a Cozy Campground Combine in this Beautiful Park



Limited parking available at High Knob and Trailhead Areas. North Frederick Overlook and Rock Run Areas closed to vehicular traffic during periods of inclement weather. All areas are open to foot traffic.

Pets on leashes are allowed on Gambrill State Park trails, the day-use area and in the campground if a registered camper.

Alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all state park areas except in rental facilities with permit.

Shelters are available by reservation for \$41 per day; service charge applies. 35-person capacity.

The Tea Room may be reserved for \$126 per day on non-holiday weekdays and \$226 per day on holiday weekdays/weekends; service charge applies. 55 person capacity.

Call 888-432-CAMP between 8am-8pm Monday-Friday or reserve online anytime at parkreservations.maryland.gov **Gambrill State Park** is a beautiful mountain park, located on the ridge of the Catoctin Mountains in Frederick County. Its most popular feature is the 16 miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding.

The park is separated into two areas – the Rock Run area and the High Knob area. From the 1,500-foot High Knob area, three stone overlooks offer breathtaking views of the Frederick and Middletown valleys then continue to the northern reaches of the Shenandoah Mountains. The High Knob area also offers wooded picnic areas, three picnic shelters, and a large stone lodge, called the Tea Room. The picnic shelters and the Tea Room are available for reservation.

The Rock Run area offers a cozy family-style campground, a picnic area, and a small pond for fishing.

Gambrill State Park was named in honor of the late James H. Gambrill Jr., a well-known citizen of Frederick. Mr. Gambrill was a conservationist who first bought attention to the beauty of the area in the early 1900s. He believed that it was in the public's best interest to develop the area into a park, and a group of local citizens, following his lead, joined together to purchase the land.

Most of the buildings and facilities within the park were built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a Federal program created during the Great Depression to create jobs for young men and to help restore the nation's struggling natural resources. The Corps built the park's Tea Room, a native-stone building originally designed for community events and gatherings that is still available for reservation today.

PICNICKING

Picnic tables, grills, restrooms, and playground facilities are available at Gambrill State Park. The High Knob area also offers three rustic log picnic shelters, available for rent from April through October. Pets are allowed in the day-use area

FISHING

A small pond is located in the Rock Run area, just a short walk from the campground. The pond has a healthy population of large mouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish. Swimming or wading is not allowed. The pond is a free fishing area; no license required.

NATURE CENTER

The nature Center, located in the High Knob area of the park, features information on the Civilian Conservation Corps, as well as information on native wildlife. The nature Center also has activity packets available for family activities such as scavenger hunts and self-guided hikes. The center is open by appointment; please contact the Park Office to schedule access.

DAY USE SERVICES CHARGES (YEAR-ROUND)

In state: \$3/vehicle Out of state: \$5/vehicle

MARYLAND STATE PARK PASSPORT

IN STATE: \$75 • OUT OF STATE: \$100 (good at any Maryland State Park)

For more information visit dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands



IN GAMBRILL STATE PARK



HEIP MAINTAIN THE PARK

MAKE CAMPERS FEEL AT HOME

In exchange for 20 hours of volunteer work

The Rock Run Area of Gambrill State Park has a campground with 34 campsites. Each campsite has a picnic HELP WITH SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS table, fire ring and lantern post. Some campsites also have electric hook-ups. All types of camping units per week, camp hosts receive a free campsite are welcome. A dump station is available for sewage and potable water. A bathhouse is located at the center of the campground, with hot showers and flush-toilets. The operation of generators is prohibited during quiet hours. At times, outside of quiet hours, they must not disturb other visitors and preserve the peace and tranquility of the park environment.

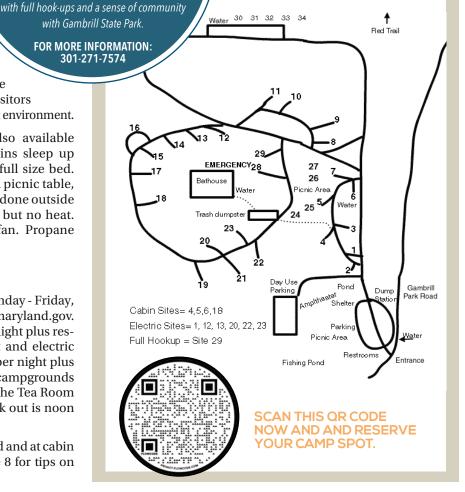
Four camper cabins with electricity are also available in the Rock Run campground. Camper cabins sleep up to four people, with one bunk bed and one full size bed. Linens are not provided. Each cabin site has a picnic table, fire ring and lantern post. All cooking must be done outside the cabin. Cabins have air conditioning, but but no heat. Campers may bring an electric heater or fan. Propane heaters are not allowed.

CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS

Call 888-432-CAMP between 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday - Friday, or reserve a site online at parkreservations.maryland.gov. Campsites range up to \$18.49 and \$24.49 per night plus reservation fee; weekend, holiday, non-resident and electric premiums apply. Camper cabins cost \$50.49 per night plus reservation fee. Alcohol is prohibited in the campgrounds and throughout the park, except by permit at the Tea Room and shelter. Quiet hours start at 10 p.m.; check out is noon for cabins and 1 p.m. for campsites.

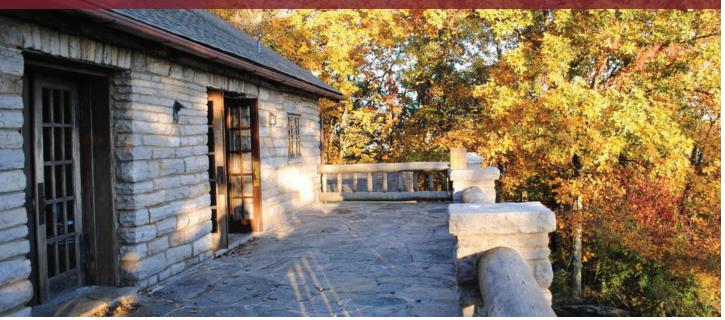
Pets on leases are permitted in the campground and at cabin 18. Bears do visit our campgrounds. See page 8 for tips on how to keep yourself and the bears safe.

GAMBRILL STATE PARK CAMPGROUND





GAMBRILL TEA ROOM



Spectacular Views & Charming Features for Any Occasion

The Tea Room has been a popular feature of Gambrill State Park for over 70 years. The native-stone building, built by the CCC in the 1930s, was originally designed for community events and gatherings. Today, the Tea Room is a popular location for weddings, family reunions, business meetings, and other special events.

The main hall features cathedral ceilings with exposed rafters and massive log beams. A stacked-stone fireplace offers a cozy focal point and outdoors, the hillside sweeps away from the building-length veranda, offering sweeping views of the valley below.

In addition to the main dining room, the Tea Room includes two restrooms and a kitchen with a household-sized refrigerator, sink, conventional oven and stove. Tables, chairs, and firewood are also provided. The building is available for rent from April through October, can accommodate up to 55 people. Alcohol permits are available for an additional fee. Pets are not allowed in the Team Room. To reserve the Tea Room, visit **parkreservations.maryland.gov**.

Due to the popularity of the Tea Room for weddings and small meeting events, we have set aside several monthly open house dates for potential renters and park visitors to get a glimpse of this one of a kind venue.





Wednesday, April 5 Sunday, May 7 Wednesday, June 14 Wednesday, July 12 Wednesday, August 9 Wednesday, Sept. 6 Wednesday, October 4









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FRIENDS OF CUNNINGHAM FALLS AND GAMBRILL STATE PARKS

The mission of the Friends is to support and enhance the programs and recreational offerings of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks through charitable contributions and in-kind donations.

Formed in 1995, this non-profit volunteer organization is dedicated to providing for the needs of the parks, but are not funded in the regular budget. This may include supplies for park programing and special events such as the Annual Maple Syrup Festival, funding for historical restoration projects, the care and feeding for the non-releasable animals in the Scales & Tales Aviary, and equipment such as UTVs and chain saws. The Friends also advocate on issues of concern to the parks.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A FRIEND, OR TO VOLUNTEER AT ONE OF OUR PARKS, PLEASE CONTACT:

Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks 301-271-7574 ı cunninghamgambrill.org







Hunting is permitted on 4,400 acres of Wildlands in accordance with statewide hunting regulations. A Maryland Hunting License and knowledge of the Maryland hunting seasons is required. There is **NO HUNTING ON SUNDAYS**, but it is allowed in surrounding areas. The hunting area consists of forested terrain with steep access routes. To improve your hunting experience, scout out the areas prior to hunting season. Hunters may enter and or remain on park property outside the regular posted hours provided they are engaged in legitimate, authorized hunting activity.

Make sure your weapon is unloaded in the safety zones and also while hiking to your destination through non-hunting areas. Respect private property. Off-road motorized vehicle use is strictly prohibited.

Remember that many hikers using park trails may be unaware of hunting seasons. Park boundaries are marked with yellow paint bands; most hunting boundaries are posted with red and white "Managed Hunting Area" signs.

A reservation-only deer hunting area is available for hunters with a hunt from the vehicle permit. Reservations are required and can be made beginning at 8 a.m. the day after Labor Day. Make reservations in person at the park Administration Office or by calling 301-271-7574. Reservations can be made for Deer Firearm Season and Muzzleloader Season.

To learn more about hunting on public lands, hunting licenses and education programs, visit **dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife**.



Cunningham Falls State Park is home to one of the Maryland Park Service's **Scales & Tales Aviaries** housing nonreleasable wildlife native to Maryland. From a bald eagle to a 90-pound snapping turtle, it's animal ambassadors come in all shapes and sizes and all have valuable stories to share. It is through these stories, or "tales" of how each animal came to live at the Aviary, that naturalists discuss vital environmental issues, such as protecting wildlife, climate change and how to impact our environment every day.

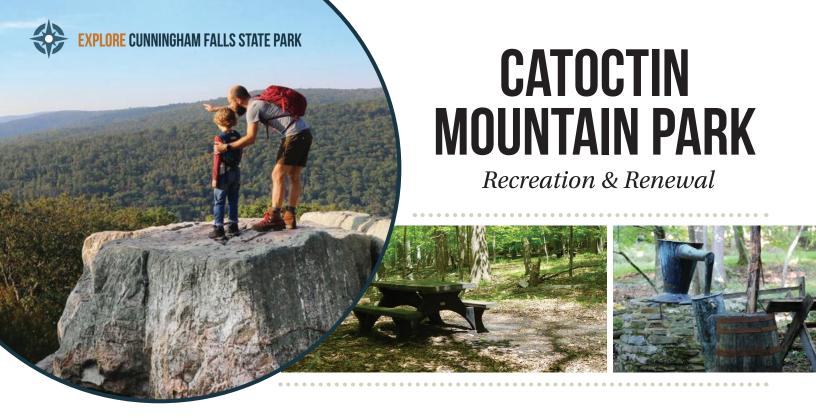
The Aviary is open to park visitors at various hours throughout the year. Starting in April, the Aviary is open to visitors on the weekends. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Aviary is open every day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.. After Labor Day, the Aviary returns to weekend hours only. Scales & Tales is also featured in many of the park's programs.

The Scales & Tales program provides up-close animal presentations and displays that engage the public, are educational and are fun for all ages. This environmental education program brings nature into classrooms, community centers, festivals, fairs and many other public locations.

A variety of programs, provided yearround, are available for booking with a service charge. To reserve a Scales & Tales program, or for more information, call 301-271-3676.

SCAN THIS OR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR PARK NEWSLETTER.





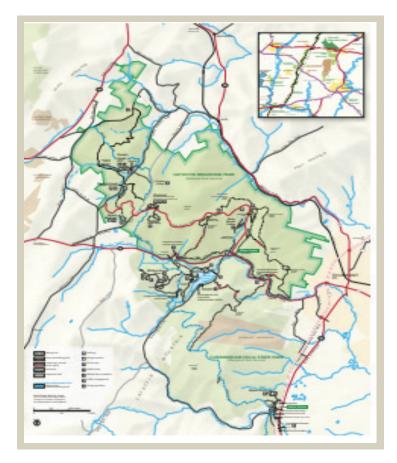
In 1936, the National Park Service received a directive to cultivate Catoctin Mountains as a Recreation Demonstration Area with rustic cabin camps, trails, picnic grounds and other public use amenities. It was one of 46 similar projects planned nationwide under the Recreation Demonstration Area program, a component of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, and something Americans had never tried on this scale.

Planners considered what facilities they have build, the condition of the natural resources, and who would do all the work. In doing so, they were guided by the twin ideals of renewing the spirit of American optimism and revitalizing the natural environment.

We continue to lean on those ideals – and a cadre of dedicated employees, partners and volunteers – to preserve the area for the enjoyment of future generations.

In the 1950s, the area was divided into two parks, one managed by the State of Maryland as Cunningham Falls State Park, and one managed by the National Park Service as Catoctin Mountain Park. Today, Catoctin Mountain Park preserves many resources and stories of national significance, including the site of the first Job Corps Camp, the nations' oldest camp for people with disabilities, the places used as secret training grounds for Office of Strategic Service officers during World War II, and evidence of the resiliency and diversity of Eastern deciduous forests.

Stop in the Visitor Center and learn more about the history and natural beauty that resides here. Ask about the many trail options. Learn about charcoal-making or the Blue Blazes Whiskey Still. Camp at Owens Creek Campground or look across the landscape from majestic Chimney Rock. Experience recreation and renewal yourself.



CAMP HOST & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TRAIL STEWARD VOLUNTEERS

- Help park staff and other volunteers throughout Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks by being the eyes and ears on the trail.
- Perform routine trail maintenance, provide park staff with trail reports, and help with special trail requests.

GARDENING/INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS

- Manage pollinator, sensory and native gardens and plants throughout the parks using multiple types of hand tools.
- Plant native species, mulch, fertilize and pull weeds in the gardens, and remove invasive plants.

PARK MAINTENANCE

• Perform maintenance projects throughout the parks including trash pickup, cleaning campsites and painting projects.

VISITOR CENTER/NATURE PROGRAMMING VOLUNTEERS

- Greet park visitors, provide accurate information, answer questions and be the happy face of the park
- People who enjoy helping others, who love the parks and who want to share that joy with others are encouraged to volunteer.

YOU CAN Volunteer! Lend a hand!

Email coordinator Claudia Padilla at **claudia.padilla@maryland.gov** or call **301-271-3676** to learn more about volunteering or to request an application.

LEAVE NO TRACE Enjoy the outdoors and Maryland State Parks responsibly

Enjoying the outdoors is something everyone should have the opportunity to do, but recreation always disturbs natural conditions. In order to help preserve the natural beauty along the trails and in park wildlands for your own enjoyment, please minimize your impact by following LEAVE NO TRACE outdoor ethics:

PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

- Know the rules and regulations. Call the Park at 301-271-7574 if you have questions.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies. Call 410-260-8888 or 911 if you have an emergency.
- Schedule your trip to avoid times of high use, or user conflicts
- Be aware of hunters. Hunting is heaviest from late September through December, and April through May. Wear bright-colored clothing during hunting seasons.
- Travel in small groups. Avoid groups larger than 15 participants. Use a map. Trail maps are available in this guide. Rangers will gladly answer specific questions at Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Park headquarters.
- Cunningham Falls State Park trails are for hiking only except for limited access to horseback riders. Gambrill State Park trails are open to hiking and mountain biking, with several available for horseback riding, as well.
- Follow official blazes. Avoid bushwhacking your own trail or following abandoned roads.

CAMP AT DESIGNATED CAMPSITES

 It is illegal to camp in undesignated campsites in Maryland.

DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

- Pack-it-in, pack-it-out. There are no trash cans in Maryland State Parks Day Use Areas.
- Remember to "go" before you go. Use the restroom facilities provided in the park.
- Dish washing stations are available next to the bath houses.

- A dump station is available at the Houck campground and the Rock Run campground for trailers and recreational vehicles. Contact park staff for assistance.
- Pick up after your pets and deposit waste in an approved receptacle.

LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

- Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historical structure or artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing and/or transporting non-native species.
- Avoid building structures, furniture or digging trenches.

MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

- Use established fire rings at designated campsites.
- Keep fires small
- Use only timber found on the ground. Do not cut live vegetation. Pre-packaged firewood is available for sale. Contact park staff for assistance.
- Burn all wood or coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.

RESPECT WILDLIFE

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow, approach or feed. Stay on the trail to reduce surprise encounters.
- Store food and trash securely. Black bears frequent Cunningham and Gambrill State Parks.
- Control pets. Dogs must be leashed.

BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHER VISITORS

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience. Avoid climbing on the falls. It is dangerous and disturbs other visitors.
- Be courteous. Yield to other trail users.
- Avoid voices and noises, especially during quiet hours in the campgrounds. Quiet hours begin at 10 p.m. in all camping areas.

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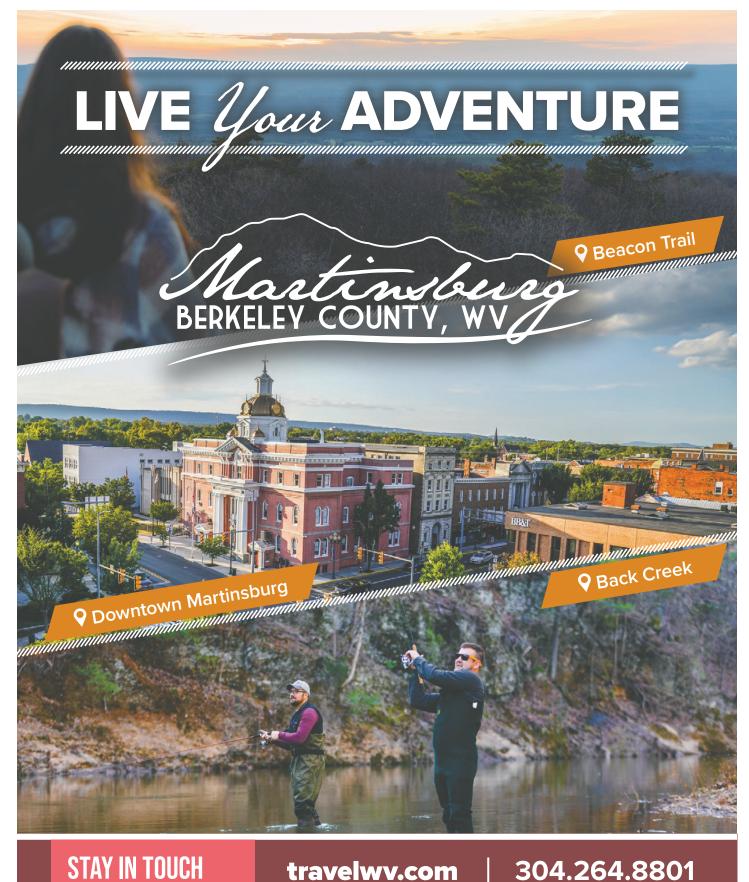


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