

Weather Considerations:

- Freezing temperatures can occur anytime of the year. Snow can be expected from October through April. Dress for the weather. Be prepared for sudden changes. Forest Roads are not maintained during the winter.

Area Rules:

- Camping and open campfires are prohibited within 300 feet of Forest Road 112 and Forest Road 104.
- Pets must be under your control at all times.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roads and parking areas.
- Practice Leave No Trace outdoor ethics: do not build a camp within 200 feet of roads, streams and trails.
- Trails can be muddy and wet so be prepared to get your feet wet. Wear proper footwear.
- Bring drinking water; otherwise, treat water from streams and springs before drinking to kill harmful pathogens.
- During hunting seasons, hikers are encouraged to wear high visibility clothing.

Trail Information:

Trails are marked with blue blazes.

Portions of some trails are occasionally used by authorized vehicles to access wildlife management areas, maintain gas pipelines and maintain trails.

Seneca Creek Trail (TR 515)

Seneca Creek Trail is the most heavily used trail in the area. From Forest Road 112 it follows the creek before reaching its terminus with Horton Trail. Seneca Creek has many waterfalls cascading into clear pools. Hikers must ford the creek as there are no footbridges.

Length: 5 miles Fords: several Difficulty: Moderate

Allegheny Mountain Trail (TR 532)

Allegheny Mountain Trail follows the ridge of Allegheny Mountain through hardwood forests and several small clearings. Beautiful views of the Seneca Creek drainage can be seen when the leaves are off the trees.

Length: 12.8 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Strenuous

Tom Lick Trail (TR 559)

Tom Lick Trail connects Allegheny Mountain Trail with Seneca Creek.

Length: 1.1 mile Fords: 0 Difficulty: Easy

North Prong Trail (TR 528)

North Prong Trail follows the North Prong of Big Run connecting Allegheny Mountain Trail to Elza and Big Run Trail. Open meadows and beaver ponds are found along the way.

Length: 2.8 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderate

Swallow Rock Trail (TR 529)

Swallow Rock Trail follows Swallow Rock Run up the west side of Allegheny Mountain and drops down the east side following an unnamed stream on its way to Seneca Creek.

Length: 3.3 miles Fords: 1 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Judy Springs Trail (TR 512)

The Judy Springs Trail connects Huckleberry Trail to Seneca Creek providing another route from the top of Spruce Knob to the creek. The trail gets its name from a spring located at the western end that feeds Seneca Creek. For most of the way, the trail passes through an open meadow. Length: 0.7 mile Fords: 1 Difficulty: Moderate.



For additional information, contact:

Cheat-Potomac Ranger District
HC59, Box 240
Petersburg, WV 26847
(304) 257-4488, Extension 0

<http://fs.usda.gov/mnf/>

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Bear Hunter Trail (TR 531)

The Bear Hunter trail departs from Seneca Creek just downstream from the Judy Springs bridge. This narrow footpath climbs to the top of Allegheny Mountain passing through a forest of cherry, maple and beech trees.

Length: 1 mile Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous.

Huckleberry Trail (TR 533)

The Huckleberry Trail connects Seneca Creek to the summit of Spruce Knob. The trail climbs 1,000 feet passing through hardwood forests and small clearings. Once on the ridge, the trail heads south for three miles before reaching the Spruce Knob Tower parking lot. Hiking along the ridge offers breathtaking vistas to the east and west. Blueberries, huckleberries and azaleas are abundant here.

Length: 5.2 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Lumberjack Trail (TR 534)

The Lumberjack Trail utilizes an old railroad grade left by turn of the century loggers. The trail has many seeps along the trail creating a marshy tread. Be prepared to get your feet muddy! This trail provides access to the remote High Meadow Trail.

Length: 5.3 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderate

High Meadows Trail (TR 564)

High Meadows Trail connects Lumberjack and Huckleberry Trails. This is a beautiful trail that passes through several high meadows offering views of Allegheny Mountain to the west and Mt. Porte Crayon to the north.

Length: 1.9 mile Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderate

Big Run Trail (TR 527)

Big Run Trail follows Big Run on what's left of a turn-of-the-century logging railroad grade. The trail climbs gradually up Allegheny Mountain and ends at the parking lot for the Allegheny Mountain Trailhead on Forest Road 112.

Length: 3.2 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderate

Whispering Spruce Nature Trail (TR 567)

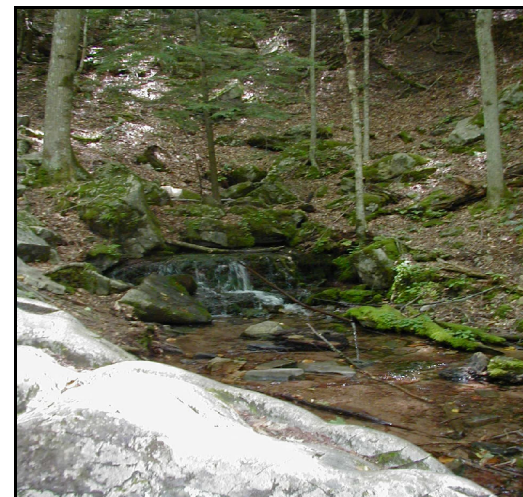
The Whispering Spruce Nature Trail located at Spruce Knob, winds through windblown trees, giant boulders and has exceptional views to the east and west. Visitors can feel what life is like for the plants and animals living above 4,000 feet in the Allegheny Mountains. The wide hard graveled path has gentle slopes.

Length: 1/2 mile Fords: 0 Difficulty: Easy



Monongahela National Forest
200 Sycamore Street
Elkins, West Virginia 26241
(304) 636-1800 Telephone/TTY

Seneca Creek Backcountry



Description: The Spruce Knob-Seneca Rocks National Recreation Area offers hikers a vast backcountry to explore. Nearly 60 miles of trails wind through stands of red spruce, open meadows and along fast-flowing mountain streams. Beautiful northern hardwood forests of maple, beech, birch, cherry and other trees cover most of the area creating a brilliant display of fall color. Elevation ranges from 3,000 feet to over 4,800 feet above sea level.

Spring Ridge Trail (TR 561)

Spring Ridge Trail is an old road that provides hikers a route from County Road 29 to Allegheny Mountain. The trail winds up the mountain through a hardwood forest where wildflowers are abundant in late spring and summer.

Length: 3.2 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderate

Horton Trail (TR 530)

Horton Trail is named after a settlement along Gandy Creek north of Whitmer. Trails such as this one were the routes loggers followed over the mountains to get to work. The trail crosses over Allegheny Mountain and descends steeply into Seneca Creek.

Length: 3.5 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Bee Trail (TR 555)

Bee Trail climbs 1,000 feet to the top of Leading Ridge.

Length: 1.4 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Elza Trail (TR 556)

Elza Trail begins at County Road 29 along Gandy Creek upstream from Bee Trail. Elza Trail also climbs to the top of Leading Ridge and continues down the other side of the ridge to the North Prong of Big Run.

Length: 2 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Leading Ridge Trail (TR 557)

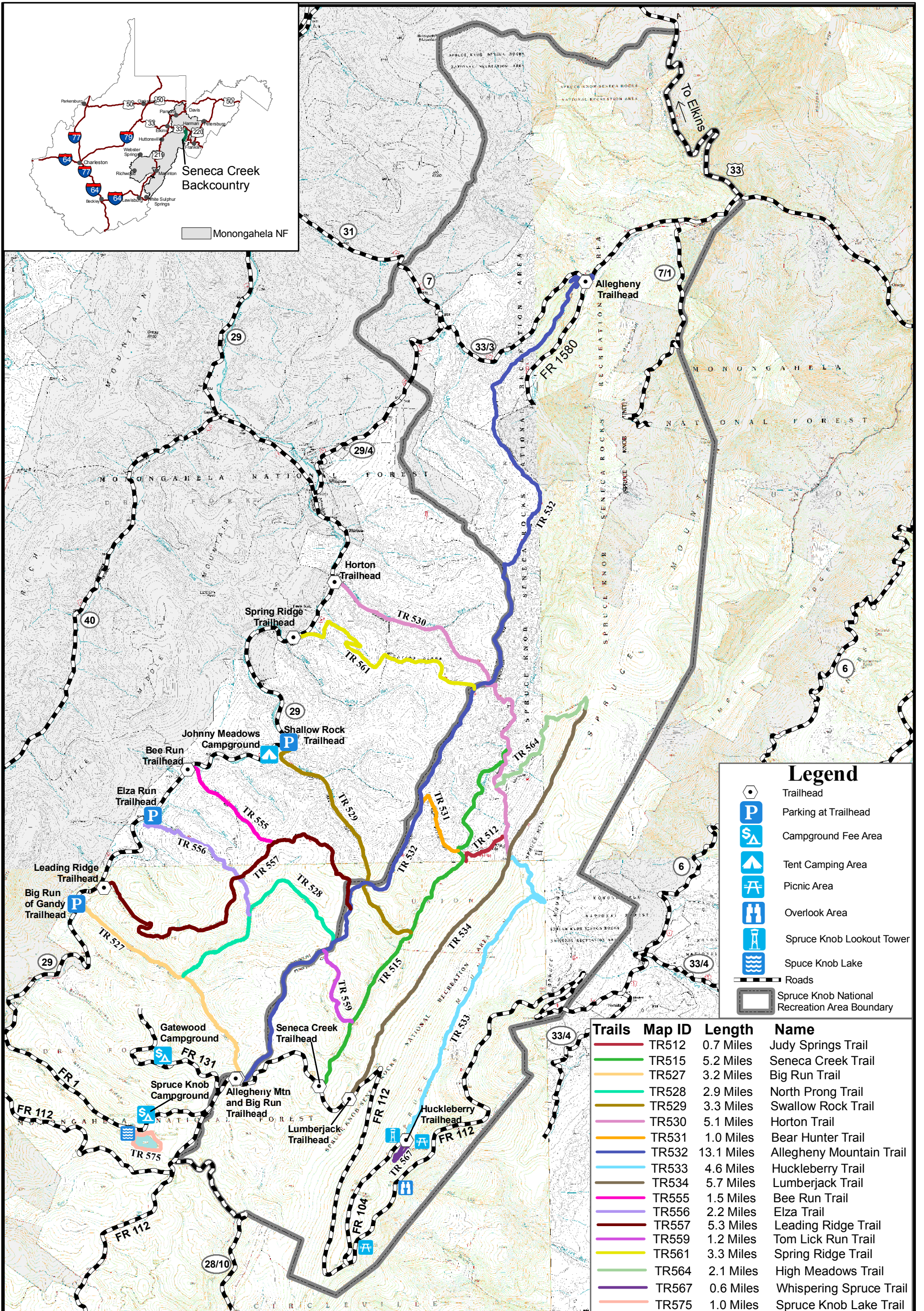
Leading Ridge Trail is a wide, grassy trail that goes from Gandy Creek to Allegheny Mountain Trail.

Length: 5.3 miles Fords: 0 Difficulty: Moderately Strenuous

Spruce Knob Lake Trail (TR 575)

Spruce Knob Lake Trail begins at the Spruce Knob Lake parking lot. It follows the dam, and encircles the lake and includes wooden steps and boardwalks.

Length: 1.0 miles
Difficulty: Easy



MNF GIS Staff
 UTM, Zone 17, NAD 83
 June 11, 2007

0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 Miles

Seneca Creek Backcountry

Monongahela National Forest

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