

What campsites offer at Carolina Hemlocks

Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area offers two paved loops that are lined with 36 campsites. Split by NC 80, the loops have camping sites for tents, cars, and recreational vehicles. Each site includes a table, fire ring with cooking grill, and lantern post. No hookups are available. Drinking water and flush toilets are in each loop.

Besides camping at Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area, people can fish, swim, and tube on the South Toe River or hike adjacent trails. A large picnic pavilion can be reserved.

DATES OPEN: April 14 to October 31.

CAMPGROUND & DAY-USE FEES: \$16 per campsite, per day. No refunds are given for bad weather. A \$3 parking fee is charged for those who picnic, swim, or fish during the day. The picnic area has 16 tables and grills, and a large pavilion is available by reservation.

SITE AVAILABILITY: First-come, first-served basis for all camping sites.

TO RESERVE PICNIC PAVILION: Call the National Recreation Reservation Service at 877-444-6777 or reserve on-line at reserveUSA.com.

PICNIC PAVILION RATES: Monday through Friday, a \$25 fee is charged for a half day (10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.) and \$50 for a full Saturday or Sunday.

For information or maps

Appalachian Ranger District

Burnsville Unit

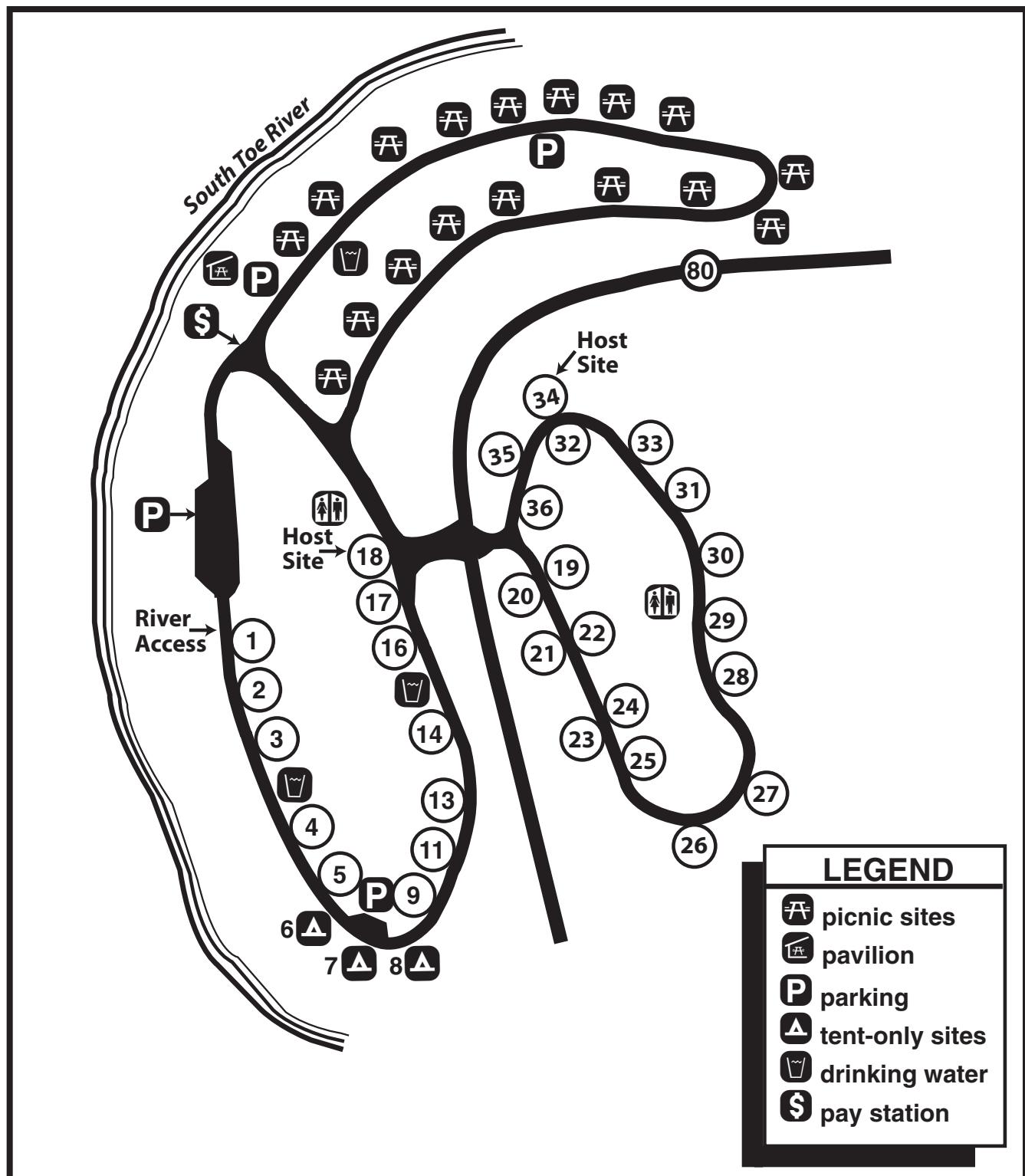
P.O. Box 128

Burnsville, NC 28714

(828) 682-6146

National Forests in NC website:

www.cs.unca.edu/nfsc



Explore two trails

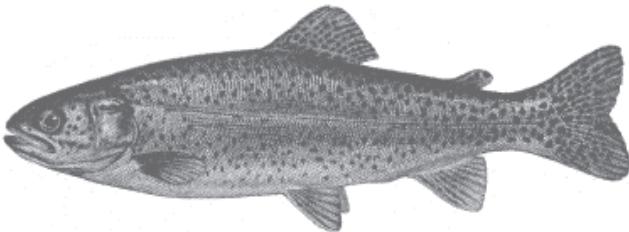
The Hemlock Trail is a beautiful 1-mile nature trail for hikers that begins near the picnic area. Blazed in yellow, the hiking trail follows the South Toe River downstream and crosses NC 80.

Following a nice steady grade, the trail meanders through cove hardwoods. After crossing NC 80, the trail makes switchbacks. Along this stretch, several benches are available for resting. Rated as easy, the trail ends near a restroom in Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area.

The Colbert Ridge Trail begins a mile away from the campground. To reach the yellow-blazed hiking trail, head north on NC 80 about half a mile and turn left on Colbert Creek Road. Follow road for half a mile to trailhead.

The 3.8-mile trail passes rock outcrops and offers splendid views of the Black Mountain Range Crest and South Toe Valley.

Ending at a flat grassy area in Deep Gap, the trail connects with the Black Mountain Crest Trail. The trail is rated difficult, because it becomes steeper after the first half mile.



Hook some rainbows

Fishing is another popular attraction. Rainbow and brown trout are the most common catch. By Carolina Hemlocks, the river is "hatchery supported" and changes to "wild trout waters" upstream, with a stretch of "catch and release, artificial flies only" in the vicinity of Black Mountain Campground. Watch for the state regulation signs posted along the river. A State fishing license is required.

Campground rules

- Check-in and checkout time is 2 p.m.
- Vehicles must have all wheels on parking spurs. Trailers may be parked on pads.
- No more than two tents are allowed at each site.
- Pets must be restrained on a 6-foot leash or in a cage and cannot go in restrooms.
- Campfires are permitted in grills. Deadwood from the ground may be used for firewood. Do not cut standing trees.
- Visitors are permitted in the campground from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Generators may not run during this time.
- Discharge of firearms, including air rifles, is prohibited within the campground.
- Prepare food, wash dishes, and clean fish at campsites only, not in restrooms.

Take a river-dip

After hiking, take a refreshing dip in the South Toe River, which runs by the recreation area. A popular sport for campground guests is riding the river's current in an inner tube, especially when the river is high.

Bearproof your campsite

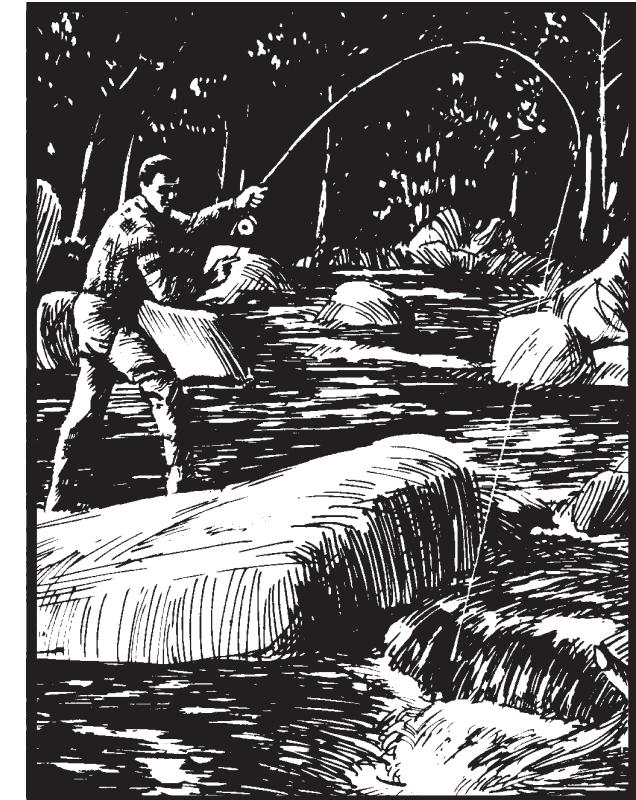
Sometimes black bear travel through the campground, so keep your campsite clean and free of food. Store all food and toiletries inside a cooler in your vehicle. Never cook or keep food in your tent. Never feed bears or other wildlife. If a bear approaches, frighten it by yelling, banging pans together, or throwing rocks.

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CAROLINA HEMLOCKS RECREATION AREA



Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area campsites are cool-misty havens under an abundance of hemlock and hardwood shade. The South Toe River runs nearby with opportunities to fish, tube, and swim.

Pisgah National Forest
Appalachian Ranger District
NORTH CAROLINA

