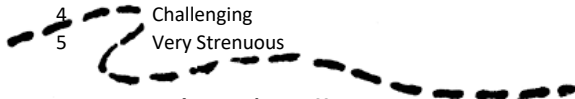


Trail Difficulty –

- 1 Easiest at Camp
- 2 Minimal hills
- 3 Moderate hike
- 4 Challenging
- 5 Very Strenuous



Boundary Trail (White) – Difficulty: 1 – 1 ¼ miles

An easy hike for those who don't want to climb the mountain. This trail follows the original boundary of the Camp property known as the Bashore farm. The southern portion of the trail crosses PA 645 near the old JR Vesper Hill, following Little Mt Road for a distance, then cuts back in the woods. A beautiful view of the mountain can be seen from this part of the trail. The southern point of this trail ends near the lake.

Cathedral Trail (Blue) – Difficulty: 1 – ¼ mile

This trail connects the Family Campground to the Outdoor Cathedral, Boundary, Mt. Side, and Rockpile trails.

Hemlock Trail (Green) – Difficulty: 1 – ½ mile

This is a loop trail off the Cathedral Trail. A short easy hike through a calm hemlock forest.

Nature Trail (Yellow) – Difficulty: 1 – ½ mile

A marked, self-guided nature trail passing the original supply dam to the site of our first pool. Observe nature from inside our bird blind.

Cat's Eye Trail (Reflectors) – Difficulty: 2 – ¾ mile

The trail begins at the base of Vesper Hill along the far tree line. It proceeds up the hill & then down the other side, ending up on the far side of the Family Campground ball field. This is an interesting trail to hike any time of day, but it was designed with reflective blazes for night hikes. For night use, try to limit the use of flashlights as much as safety allows and use your other senses to take notice of the sounds and smells of the woods at night.

Charcoal Trail (Red) – Difficulty: 2 – 1 mile

This trail begins at the Northern end of the Mt. Side Trail (near the Mt. Side Director's Cabin) heading West, and crossing the Rock Pile, Tree House, and Grape Vine trails. This trail passes several flat charcoal pit areas where woodsmen produced loads of charcoal. Wood was piled, covered with ground, and turned into charcoal at these areas. West of the Grape Vine trail, three circles can be seen in the soil. These circles are the remnants of the teepee-like huts that the colliers (men who tended the charcoal fires) lived in. This trail then crosses a small stream and heads down the mountain connecting to the Power Line trail.

Frog Pond Trail (Red) – Difficulty: 2 – ½ mile

This trail starts at the old stone wall off the Groundhog Trail and heads north to a seasonal pond. During the spring and early summer, it abounds with tadpoles and frogs. After passing the pond, the trails turn west and ends at the Mt. Side trail.



Ground Hog Trail (Yellow) – Difficulty: 2 – ¾ mile

This trail begins near cabin C17 in the Family Campground. It passes an old stone wall and an old boundary marker. A portion of this trails runs along Camp's boundary. The trail once passed by an oak tree with a circumference of more than 12 feet. It connects with the Mt. Side trail.

Tree House Trail (Orange) – Difficulty: 2 – 1/3 mile

This trail begins at the East Area, crosses the Boundary trail, and continues north. You will come to the remnants of the fallen tree house. It then continues and connects with the Charcoal trail.

Mt. Side Trail (Green) – Difficulty: 3 – ¾ mile

This trail, bulldozed in 1959, leads to Mt. Side camp, consisting of 4 family units and a pavilion. Feel free to use the latrines!

Grape Vine Trail (Purple) – Difficulty: 4 – 1 mile

This trail, circa 1975, connects the Power Line trail to the Appalachian Trail. It is called the Grape Vine, not because it goes through a grape arbor, but because of its construction. At its steepest portion, this is a switchback trail, preventing trail erosion and is safer for the hikers. Please do not cut across the switchbacks. The trail connects to the A.T., at the top of the mountain.

Rock Pile Trail (Blue) – Difficulty: 4 – 1 mile

This trail goes directly up the mountain, crosses the Charcoal/Mt. Side trail, and leads to the western edge of the Rock pile. Continuing up and over the Rock pile, the trail connects with the Appalachian Trail at the top of the mountain.

Rock Pile to A.T. to PA 501 – 1 mile

Rock Pile to A.T. to PA 645 – 1.15 miles

Power Line Trail (Light Green) – Difficulty: 5 – 1 mile

This trail begins northeast of the West Area, off the Boundary trail. The lower portion is a nice hike past an old cabin, along an old road, and then ascends to what was once an old power line. The mountain has reclaimed this area. New forest growth can be recognized among the old. Several relics of the old power line can be seen along this trail. Use the hand ropes to climb the steepest part. It ends at the top of the mountain, immediately following an extremely steep climb, before transitioning into an unmarked trail that continues straight to the Appalachian Trail, very close to Rt. 645. If you are adventurous – this is a hike for you!



CAMP SWATARA HIKING TRAILS

