

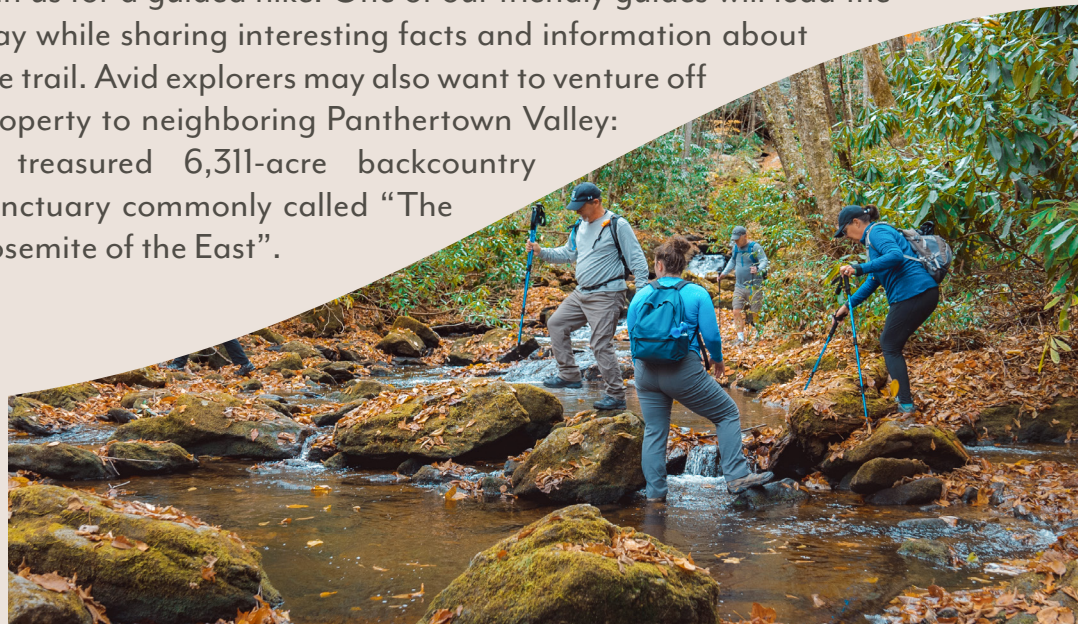
# HIKES & TRAILS

## AT BEAR LAKE RESERVE

412 Lake Forest Drive, Tuckasegee, NC 28783  
[bearlakereserve.com](http://bearlakereserve.com)

## OVER 20 MILES OF PRISTINE TRAILS TO EXPLORE

Breathe in fresh mountain air, soak up incomparable views, and experience a thriving ecosystem of plants and animals on a hike at Bear Lake Reserve. With more than a dozen trails of varying difficulty levels winding throughout our property, all ages and fitness levels are sure to find the perfect adventure. If you're a guest, new to our community, or want to learn more about a trail, join us for a guided hike. One of our friendly guides will lead the way while sharing interesting facts and information about the trail. Avid explorers may also want to venture off property to neighboring Panthertown Valley: a treasured 6,311-acre backcountry sanctuary commonly called "The Yosemite of the East".



1.38 Miles  
ELEV. GAIN  
272 ft

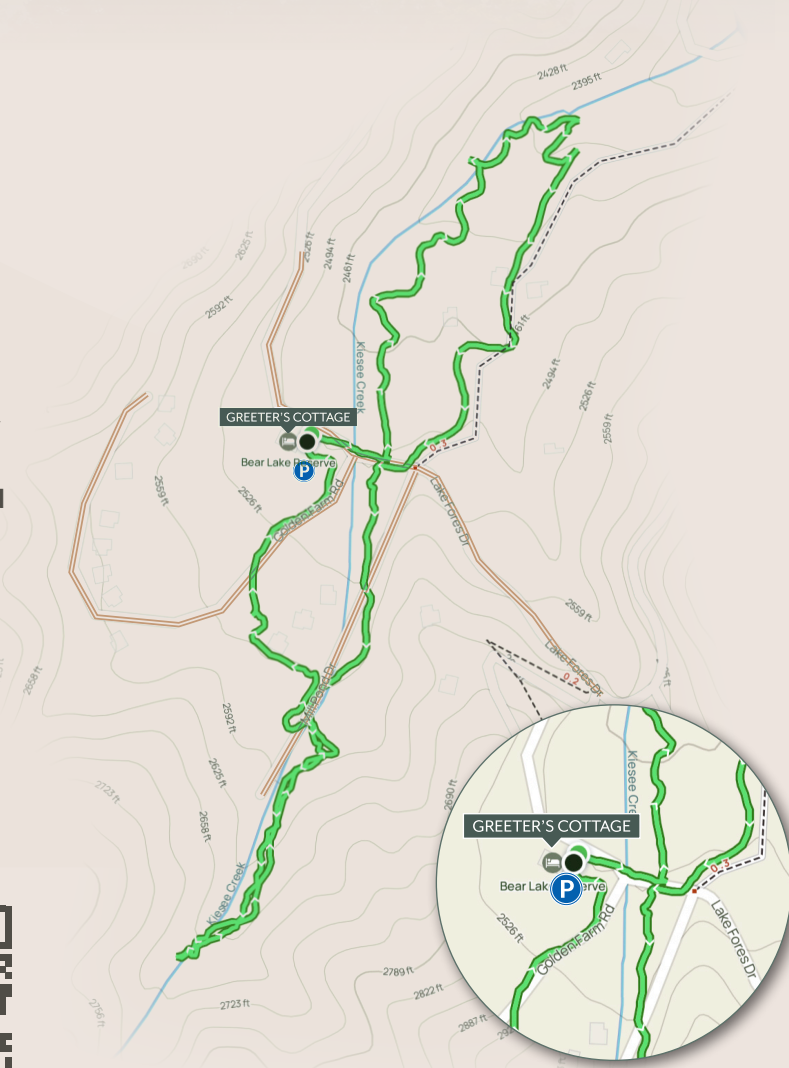
## GREETER'S COTTAGE LOOP

- Park at the Greeter's Cottage lot, cross the street to the Meadows Trail, and follow the yellow trail markers.
- Continue down the trail until you hit Meadow Ridge Lane.
- At the conclusion of Meadow's Trail (just after crossing over Kiesee Creek), take a right on Meadow Ridge Lane and follow it to the right. Cross the next bridge, which will take you back to Lake Forest Drive, and cross the road to find the Paw Paw Cove Trail marker. Follow this marker to the Mill Pond Pavilion area.
- Above the ponds, where the restroom building is, pick up Paw Paw Cove Trail again and take it to its terminus at an old chimney.
- Follow the same trail back to the Pavilion area, then exit by the bathroom building to Mill Pond Drive.
- Walking down the road, on your left, look for the Mill Pond Cut-Thru marker and take it back to the Amphitheater parking lot.
- Continue down back to your starting point.



FOLLOW US FOR MORE TRAILS  
Bear Lake Reserve Hiking

CHECK OUT OUR  
CALENDAR TO SIGN UP  
FOR GUIDED HIKES





# TRAIL RIDGE HIKE

- Park near the top of Woodbridge Drive.
- Walk up the old logging road to the Trail Ridge Trail marker and follow the signs to its terminus.
- Look for a sign posted “Trail Access” directing you to the Buckeye Trail, which you’ll find off an old logging road.
- Take Buckeye Trail to Galax Trail and continue straight.
- Follow Galax Trail to its conclusion on Juneberry Lane.
- Go left to Lake Forest Drive, and then proceed .3 miles to Morningside Drive to find the Sweet Betsy Trail Marker. Hike up the ridge to its terminus at the top of Morningside Drive.
- Find the same logging road you hiked before (posted as “Trail Access”) and proceed to the Trail Ridge Gap Trail marker.
- Take Trail Ridge Gap Trail until it merges with Trail Ridge Trail.
- Go left and hike back to Woodbridge Drive.
- At the conclusion of Trail Ridge trail, turn right to walk back down to the parking area.

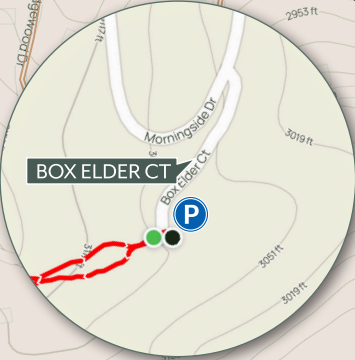
1.8 Miles  
ELEV. GAIN 554 ft



# HIGH POINT HIKE

- Park at the end of Box Elder Court (access from Morningside Drive). Walk up the logging road to the Galax Trail head marker, continue along the trail for .1 miles, then take a left to stay on Galax Trail.
- Take the first fork onto the Hedgewood Cottages access path, then continue onto the Nannyberry access path.
- Near the top of Nannyberry Drive’s ridge, prepare for 20 switchbacks to the top (this is called High Point Mountain).
- Follow the paved area of Nannyberry Drive back down to Lake Forest Drive and turn left until you reach Juneberry Lane.
- Find the Galax Trail marker (just past the first house); follow Galax Trail across Hedgewood Drive and back to the logging road. Turn right and proceed down to the Box Elder parking area.

2.34 Miles  
ELEV. GAIN 673 ft



# BEAR PEN BRANCH FALLS HIKE

- Park at Bear Creek Park (off Grandview Drive) just past the one-lane wooden bridge.
- Proceed to the creek, cross the foot bridge, and follow the red markers to access the trail.
- As you approach the first fork in the trail, continue following the red markers to the right down Bear Creek Loop Trail.
- As you approach the second fork in the trail, and after crossing the fourth foot bridge, continue following the red markers to the right. This is where Bear Creek Trail begins.
- At the conclusion of Bear Creek Trail, cross the unpaved logging road and find the Bear Pen Branch Trail marker.
- Proceed up the trail until its terminus on Grandview Drive (main road to the golf course); take a moment to appreciate the waterfalls near the top!
- Walk down Grandview Drive back to Bear Creek Park.
  - Alternatively, walk back down Bear Pen Branch Trail; find Grandview Drive via access paths into the cottage areas on Mossycup Lane or Slippery Rock Lane.

1.89 Miles  
ELEV. GAIN 623 ft



# BEAR CREEK PARK LOOP

- Park at Bear Creek Park (off Grandview Drive) just past the one-lane wooden bridge.
- Proceed to the creek, cross the foot bridge, and follow the blue markers to access the trail.
- As you approach the first fork in the trail, continue following the blue markers to the right down Bear Creek Loop Trail.
- As you approach the second fork in the trail, and after crossing the fourth foot bridge, continue following the blue markers to the left. This is a continuation of the Bear Creek Loop Trail.
- Follow the blue markers until you reach the fork; a sign that says “Bear Creek Loop Trail” will be pointing to the left. Follow the trail to the right instead, leading you back out to the park.

.7 Miles  
ELEV. GAIN 52 ft

