

# NATURE & OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIP LOCATIONS

*Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinders Nature Committee*

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Areas: **NG** = north Georgia; **NT** = north Tennessee; **SG** = south Georgia; **ST** = south Tennessee

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Appalachian Caverns			NT
Blountville, TN	423-323-2337	<a href="http://www.appacaverns.com">www.appacaverns.com</a>	
Cave tours, wild cave tours, campground, gem mine			
Bays Mountain Nature Preserve & Planetarium			NT
Kingsport, TN	423-229-9447		
nature programs, lake, hiking, wolves, other animals; planetarium			
Bristol Caverns			NT
Bristol, TN	423-878-2011		
Cave tours			
Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center (Georgia Wildlife Resources Division)			SG
Mansfield, GA	770-784-3095	<a href="http://www.georgiawildlife.com">www.georgiawildlife.com</a>	
Nature programs; museum; fishing; shooting range; wilderness skills; Project WILD			
Cumberland Caverns			ST
McMinnville, TN	931-668-4396	<a href="http://www.cumberlandcaverns.com">www.cumberlandcaverns.com</a>	
Cave tours, wild cave tours, sleeping in cave overnight			
Cumberland Island National Seashore			SG
St. Marys, GA	912-882-4335	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/cuis">www.nps.gov/cuis</a>	
Camping; beach combing; hiking; wild horses; ferry ride			
Fernbank Museum of Natural History			NG
Atlanta, GA	404-929-6300	<a href="http://www.fernbankmuseum.org">www.fernbankmuseum.org</a>	
	404-929-6400 (tickets)		
nature programs; planetarium; IMAX theater			
Georgia Aquarium			NG
Atlanta, GA	404-581-4000	<a href="http://www.georgiaaquarium.org">www.georgiaaquarium.org</a>	
Aquarium			
Georgia State Parks & Historical Sites			SG; NG
throughout GA	800-864-7275	<a href="http://www.gastateparks.org">www.gastateparks.org</a>	
Camping, hiking, museums, canoeing			
Gray Fossil Site and Museum			NT
Gray, TN	423-439-3659		
Fossil museum and fossil excavation site			

- Great Smoky Mountains National Park NT  
 Gatlinburg, TN 865-436-1200 [www.nps.gov/grsm/](http://www.nps.gov/grsm/)  
[www.great.smoky.mountains.national-park.com](http://www.great.smoky.mountains.national-park.com) information and links  
 Nature museum; hiking; camping
- Hands On Museums Florida, North Carolina & NT  
 Hendersonville, NC 828-697-8333 [www.handsonwnc.org](http://www.handsonwnc.org)  
 Jacksonville, FL 904-642-2688 <http://handsonchildrensmuseumjax.com>  
 Johnson City, TN 423-928-6508 [www.handsonmuseum.org](http://www.handsonmuseum.org)
- Museum of Arts & Sciences and Mark Smith Planetarium SG  
 Macon, GA 478-477-3232; 478-477-3251 FAX; [www.masmacon.com](http://www.masmacon.com)  
 Science museum and planetarium
- North Carolina State Parks North Carolina  
 Throughout North Carolina 919-733-4181 [www.ncparks.gov/](http://www.ncparks.gov/)  
 Camping, hiking, museums, canoeing
- Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies NT  
 Gatlinburg, TN 888-240-1358 <http://gatlinburg.ripleyaquariums.com>  
 aquarium
- Sapelo Island Reserve & Reynolds Mansion SG  
 Sapelo Island, GA (barrier island reached over by ferry)  
 Meridian, GA visitors center (on the mainland)  
 912-437-3224 (tours); 912-485-2299 (Mansion reservations)  
 Cabretta Pioneer Campground (group camping 15 to 25 people)
- Southern Adventist University Collegedale, TN  
 Outdoor Leadership undergrad & Outdoor Education graduate degrees  
 Adventure Education Programs for all ages and group sizes  
 Complete details at <http://outdoor.southern.edu/>
- Tennessee Aquarium ST  
 Chattanooga, GA 800-262-0695 [www.tna.org](http://www.tna.org)  
 Aquarium; butterfly garden; IMAX theater; riverboat cruise
- Tennessee State Parks Tennessee  
 Throughout TN 615-532-0109 [www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/)  
 Camping, hiking, museums, canoeing
- US Forest Service  
 National office, Washington, DC 800-832-1355 [www.fs.fed.us/](http://www.fs.fed.us/)  
 Southern Region, Atlanta, GA [www.fs.fed.us/r8/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/)  
 National recreation information [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

Georgia – Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests  
770-297-3000; 770-297-3025 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/)

Tennessee – Cherokee National Forest  
423-476-9700; 423-476-9754 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/)

North Carolina – National Forests in North Carolina  
828-257-4200; 828-257-4263 FAX; [www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/](http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/)

Virginia – George Washington and Jefferson National Forests  
540-265-5100; 540-265-5145 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/)

Kentucky and Tennessee – Land Between the Lakes  
270-924-2002; 270-924-2060 FAX; [www.lbl.org/](http://www.lbl.org/)

Kentucky – Daniel Boone National Forest  
859-745-3100; 859-737-3867 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/)

South Carolina – Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests  
803-561-4000; 803-561-4004 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms/)

Alabama – National Forests in Alabama  
334-832-4470; 334-241-8111 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/alabama/)

Florida – National Forests in Florida  
850-523-8500; 850-523-8505 FAX; [www.fs.fed.us/r8/florida/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/florida/)

Virginia Creeper Trail NT  
Abingdon & Damascus, VA (for Damascus info, see [www.traildays.us/](http://www.traildays.us/))  
Bicycle and hiking trail (rails to trails) in mountains

### **Campgrounds**

Iron Horse Campground Bike Rental & Shuttle, Damascus  
276-474-6008  
campground on the trail west of Damascus

Backbone Rock, Cherokee Nat'l Forest, SR 91 south of Damascus  
423-735-1500 [www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/)

Small campground, no group camping area

Bear Tree, Mt. Rogers Nat'l Rec. Area, Konnarock, VA  
276-783-5196 [www.fw.fed.us/r8/gwj/mr/](http://www.fw.fed.us/r8/gwj/mr/)

Large campground with group camping area

### **Youth Hostels**

Mount Rogers Outfitters Hostel, 110 Laurel Street, Damascus  
276-475-5416; 866-287-9577; [mro@mtrogersoutfitters.com](mailto:mro@mtrogersoutfitters.com)

### **Bike Rentals and Shuttles**

Blue Blaze Bike Rental & Shuttle, Damascus

276-475-5095

Adventure Damascus Bicycle Shop, Damascus

276-474-6262 [www.adventuredamascus.com](http://www.adventuredamascus.com)

Creeper Trail Bike Rental, Damascus

276-475-3611

Creeper Trail Bike Rentals – Shuttle, White Top, VA

276-388-3056

JC's Outdoors, Damascus

276-475-5727

Sundog Outfitters, Damascus

276-475-6252

Virginia Creeper Trail Bike Shop, Abingdon

276-676-2552 [www.virginiacreepertrailbikeshop.com](http://www.virginiacreepertrailbikeshop.com)

Iron Horse Campground Bike Rental & Shuttle, Damascus

(see under campgrounds)