



# Beavers Bend Trail Guide

courtesy of beavers bend lodging



Welcome to Beavers Bend Trails. This trail guide describes five nature trails and approximately 12 miles of hiking trails that are located in that portion of the park that is below Broken Bow Spillway. For your safety, it is extremely important that you register at either the FOREST HERITAGE CENTER or the NATURE CENTER before you begin a hike. Please be sure that someone knows which trail you are hiking and when you plan to return.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

Wear proper shoes, or boots when hiking. Sandals and slick-soled cowboy boots are not recommended when hiking the rocky trails of this park. Allow about 1/2 to 1 hour for each mile of nature trail to be hiked. Hiking trails are more challenging and require about 1 to 2 hours for each mile of trail to be hiked. Have water, a partner, insect repellent and a snack when taking one of the hiking trails. Stay within the limits of your ability. Avoid over-exertion. Observe the difficulty levels of each trail. Your walk should be enjoyable, not an ordeal. Watch your step. Snakes maybe seen along the trail. Most of the snakes in this park are not poisonous, however, do not attempt to catch, handle or harm any snake. All snakes are important in helping to control the population of rodents in the park. Snakes are most active in late afternoon and at night.

### THE DAVID BOREN HIKING TRAIL (DBHT)

Named in honor of former Governor David Boren. In 1977 Gov. Boren provided the vision and authorized the funding for building this trail. This trail extends from the Beaver Lodge Trail, with a trail head just east of the spillway, to the south end of Beavers Bend State Park near Acorn Campground. Please note that this HIKING TRAIL DOES NOT LOOP. Be prepared to walk back or use two vehicles, parked at both ends of the trail to be hiked. These hiking trails are marked by painted tree blazes. The blazes are red dots on a white background. The David Boren Trail has 4 major trail heads:

1. **SOUTH PARK** starts at the southern end of the park, near Acorn Campground. It is a fairly easy walk to Beaver Creek (1 mile), but there are some hills.
2. **BEAVERCREEK** can be entered from near the Nature Center (enter near the CCC monument; the trail will cross this creek further upstream). Another entrance is off of the Forest Heritage Tree Trail (trail head is at the Forest Heritage parking lot.). **BEAVER CREEK TRAIL** follows the creek until it intersects the **SOUTH PARK TRAIL** (1 mile distance). Except for the creek crossing near the Nature Center entrance, most of this trail is flat and easy to walk. The hiking trail is marked with red on white tree blazes. The Forest Heritage Trail parallels a portion of the Beaver Creek Trail.
3. **DEER CROSSING** connects Lookout Mtn. Trail with Cedar Bluff Nature Trail (2 miles). It has some climbs but is moderate difficulty.
4. **CEDAR BLUFF** is a nature trail AND an entrance to the DBHT. It is located between the miniature golf course and River Floats, just across the road from Dogwood Campground . It is the south entrance to the Skyline Trail. It is 5 miles from Cedar Bluff to the juncture with the Beaver Lodge Trail. This trail has many steep climbs and several creek crossings. This trail is for experienced hikers only; it is a difficult hike.

Loops: 3 mile loops are: from the Nature Center, go south on Beaver Creek Trail, east on South Park Trail, and back on the park road. For a more challenging loop: from the Nature Center go south on Beaver Creek Trail, west on Lookout Mtn. Trail, and back on the new path leading to the Forest Heritage Center.

### PINE RIDGE NATURE TRAIL

Pine Ridge is almost a figure-eight trail, but it DOES loop. The first loop starts across from the tennis court, then branches to the right. It winds up the ridge, through a pine-hardwood forest, past a sewage lagoon (No Swimming, Please!), then across the top of the ridge. This trail branches to the right, and then to the right again. It winds through a bottom land forest that is filled with American Holly trees. The trail is about 3/4 mile long, and is fairly easy to walk (two, up-hill grades and two, down-hill grades).

### FOREST HERITAGE TREE TRAIL

This 1.1 mile loop trail begins (and ends) at the Forest Heritage Center. This trail goes downhill until it reaches Beaver Creek. A portion of this trail follows the creek bottom; the return loop takes you along higher ground. A series of information signs are placed along the trail. The trail also features a covered bridge. To remain on this nature trail, follow the wooden signs; Beaver Creek Hiking Trail is marked with red on white paint tree blazes.

### BEAVER LODGE NATURE TRAIL

The Beaver Lodge Trail is a 1 mile, one-way trail. IT DOES NOT LOOP BACK TO THE TRAIL HEAD, Parking, which is also used by guests who are trout fishing, is available at both trail heads. The trail heads are located at the east end of the spillway, off of hwy 259A and off the park road below the dam (Riverbend Area). This trail follows the creek that flows from the spillway. This is a wide, easy-to-walk trail.

### DOGWOOD NATURE TRAIL

Dogwood Nature Trail is located in Grapevine Campground and is about 1 mile long. The first portion of the trail takes you along the Mountain Fork River; the remainder of the trail passes through a pine-hardwood forest. IF YOU PARK IN THE PARKING AREA, THEN WALK BACK TO THE START OF THE TRAIL, the end of the trail loops right back to your car. This is a fairly easy walk; some rocky spots but no steep climbs.

### CEDAR BLUFF NATURE TRAIL

Cedar Bluff. Starts across from Dogwood Campground. It is a 1 mile loop trail that is designed to be walked CLOCKWISE. Start on your left and at each junction, turn right, and you will come out right where you started. The trail is marked with blue on white tree blazes. The trail has both easy grade and a hill climb. Stay on the marked trail, NO SHORTCUTS PLEASE. .CAUTION: occasionally the creek floods causing the lower portion of this trail to become hazardous.



## Bagged Is Beautiful.

These trails are for your enjoyment. We need your help in keeping trails clean. Please bag trash and discard it in the nearest receptacle. Thank you for picking up litter left by others.

**Approximate Trail Lengths**

- South Park 1 mile
- Lookout Mtn. 1.5 miles
- Beaver Creek 1 mile
- Deer Crossing 2 miles
- Cedar Bluff 1 mile
- Skyline 5 miles
- Beaver Lodge 1 mile

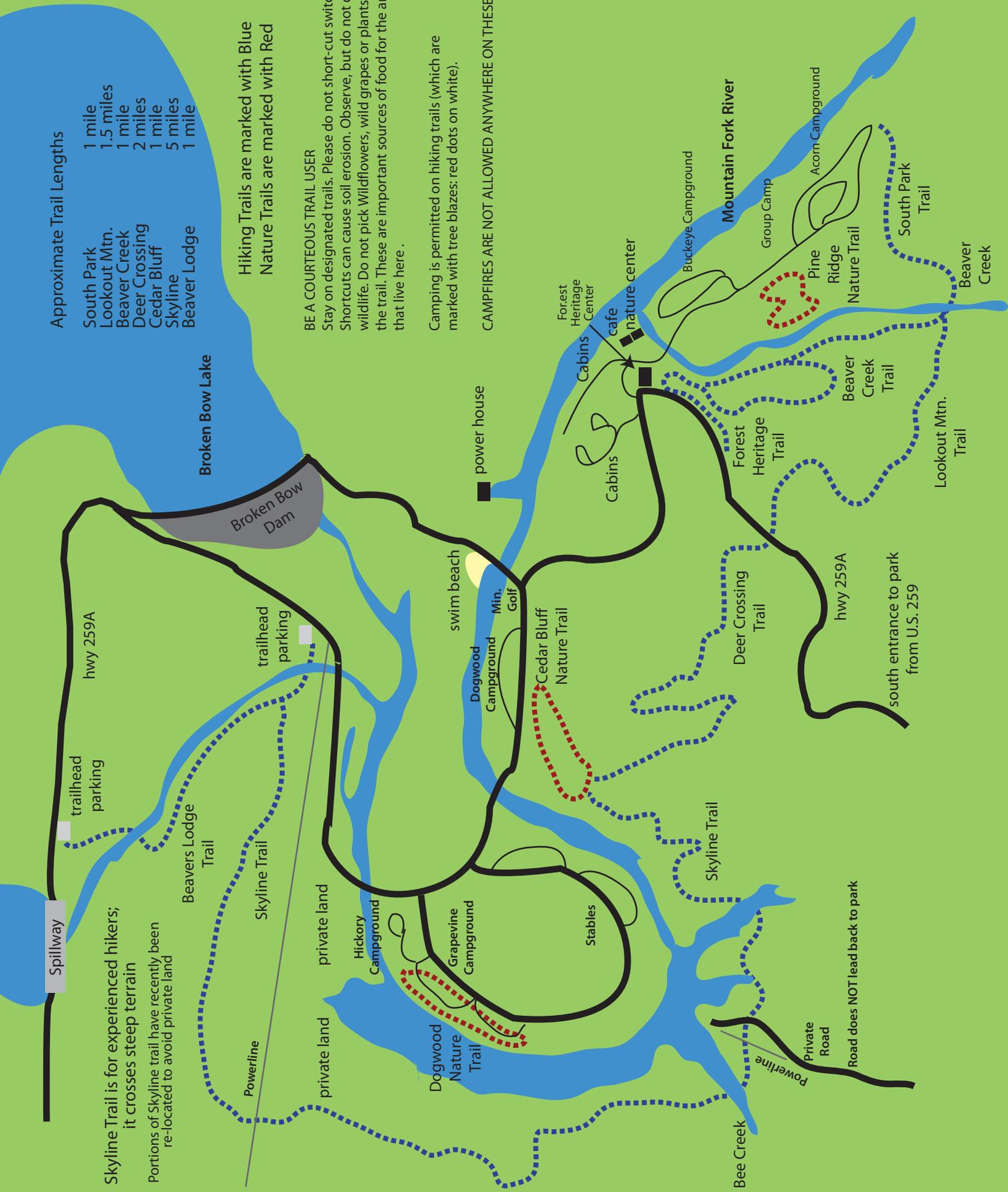
Hiking Trails are marked with Blue  
 Nature Trails are marked with Red

**BE A COURTEOUS TRAIL USER**

Stay on designated trails. Please do not short-cut switchbacks. Shortcuts can cause soil erosion. Observe, but do not disturb wildlife. Do not pick Wildflowers, wild grapes or plants along the trail. These are important sources of food for the animals that live here.

Camping is permitted on hiking trails (which are marked with tree blazes: red dots on white).

**CAMPFIRES ARE NOT ALLOWED ANYWHERE ON THESE TRAILS**



Skyline Trail is for experienced hikers; it crosses steep terrain

Portions of Skyline trail have recently been re-located to avoid private land

south entrance to park from U.S. 259

Private Road  
 Road does NOT lead back to park

**Mountain Fork River**

**Broken Bow Lake**

**Broken Bow Dam**

**Spillway**

hwy 259A

hwy 259

Powerline

Powerline

trailhead parking

swim beach

Min. Golf

Dogwood Campground

Hickory Campground

Grapevine Campground

Stables

Buckeye Campground

Group Camp

Acorn Campground

Forest Heritage Center

cafe

nature center

Cabins

Cabins

Forest Heritage Trail

Deer Crossing Trail

Skyline Trail

Dogwood Nature Trail

Cedar Bluff Nature Trail

Pine Ridge Nature Trail

South Park Trail

Beaver Creek Trail

Lookout Mtn. Trail

Beaver Creek