

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST

<http://fs.usda.gov/cherokee>



November 13, 2015

FALL COLOR REPORT

The Cherokee National Forest (Forest) usually experiences a fall color season lasting several weeks . Elevations in the Forest range from approximately 1,000' to over 5,000'. Color change usually starts at the higher elevations and moves down the mountain sides from high to low .

Final Fall Color Report for 2015

2015 was a colorful fall color season. Colors seemed to arrive slowly this year, but came on strong and peaked quickly at higher elevations during the third week of October. For the most part colors at lower elevations peaked during the last week of October.

There are still some colors remaining in isolated pockets throughout the area. Although much of the color is gone a visit to the Cherokee National Forest is still worthwhile. Days are mild and the air is clear and crisp. Mountain views this time of year can be something to remember.



For more information call:

Forest Supervisor's Office	423-476-9700
Ocoee Ranger District	423-338-3300
Tellico Ranger District	423-253-8400
Unaka Ranger District	423-638-4109
Watauga Ranger District	423-735-1500
Ocoee Whitewater Center	423-496-0100

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Recommended Scenic Viewing Routes

Northeast Tennessee

Paint Creek Corridor – Unaka RD, Greene County, TN

Latitude: 35.977583 - Longitude:-82.843763— Meander along 5-mile Paint Creek Corridor to historic paint Rock. Picnicking and many other recreation opportunities are available along scenic Paint Creek Corridor.



Unaka Mountain Scenic Drive – Unaka RD, Unicoi County, TN

Latitude: 36.117632 - Longitude:-82.333151—From Erwin, this drive makes a circle connecting TN 395, graveled Forest Road 230 and TN 107, a state scenic parkway, past Limestone Cove. The route winds from the valley floor in Unicoi County, TN to high -elevation spruce forests and balds atop Unaka Mountain.

TN State Route 143 to Carver’s Gap – Watauga RD, Carter County, TN

Latitude: 36.106911 - Longitude:-82.111158. - This state scenic parkway climbs through Roan Mountain State Park to Carvers Gap, with numerous long-distance mountain vistas, picnic spots, rhododendrons and spruce-fir forests spectacular.



Brush Creek Mountain Loop – Unaka RD, Cocke County, TN

Latitude: 35.964287 - Longitude: -82.943475— Travel along TN 107, Forest Road 209 (some portions are gravel) and US 25/70. FR 209 meanders through a narrow canyon with rhododendron-covered bluffs.

Southeast Tennessee



Ocoee Scenic Byway – Ocoee RD, Polk County TN

Latitude: 35.102244 - Longitude:-84.557121—The first designated national forest scenic byway in the nation includes 26 miles of US 64 and Forest Road 77. The two-lane route winds past Parksville Lake, through the scenic rocky bluffs of Ocoee River Gorge and past the Ocoee Whitewater Center. Take a side trip up the 7-mile Chilhowee Scenic Spur, Forest Road 77, to Chilhowee Recreation Area.

Hiwassee River Road – Ocoee RD, Polk County, TN

Latitude: 35.198842 - Longitude:-84.473566—State Route 30 follows Hiwassee State Scenic River to the historic community of Reliance. Cross the bridge and turn east to Forest Road 108. Climb the mountain to Big Bend and Apalachia Powerhouse. Enjoy the views from Hood Mountain overlook and other spectacular sites along the corridor.

Tellico River Road – Tellico RD, Monroe County, TN

Latitude: 35.323117- Longitude:-84.175768—Take State Route 165 from Tellico Plains to Forest Road 210. The route follows Tellico River past Bald River Falls, where you can pull off to view the magnificent falls. A few miles farther, stop to view pools of teeming trout at historic Pheasant Fields Fish Rearing Pools.



Cherohala Skyway – Tellico RD, Monroe County, TN

Latitude: 35.324505 - Longitude:-84.177268—View some of the best mountain scenery in the world from this 43-mile National Scenic Byway through the Cherokee and Nantahala national forests. Drive along the sparkling rush of the Tellico River, stop at overlooks to take in expansive views of the Tennessee Valley and waves of mountain peaks, hike to high elevation mountain balds or nearby Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. Stop for a picnic at Indian Boundary Recreation Area.





FINAL 2015 Report

National Weather Service Information:

<http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=36.21&lon=-83.3#.VhURqJiFN9M>

Morristown, TN — Extended Forecast for Nov 13– Nov 16, 2015

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 55.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 50.

Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 32.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 58.

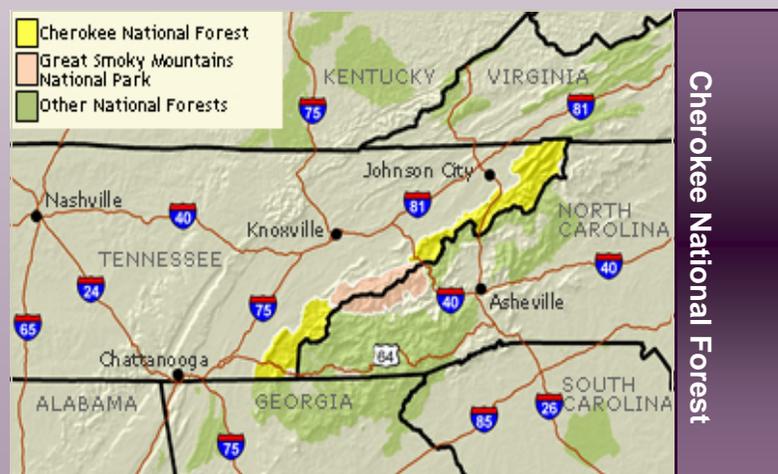
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 36.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 45.

When visiting the national forest always be prepared for the unexpected. Don't hesitate to postpone a visit if weather forecasts aren't favorable —be safe and enjoy the outdoors!

For outdoor safety tips visit: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3821151.pdf



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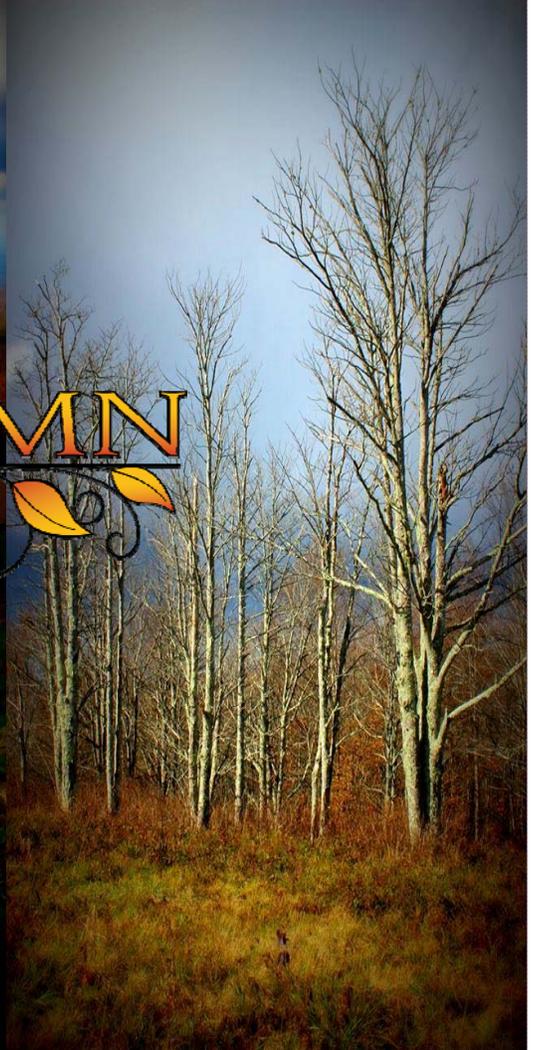
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AUTUMN

A decorative graphic element consisting of several stylized yellow and orange leaves on a black, swirling vine-like background, positioned below the word "AUTUMN".



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The wonders of nature!

