

Jackson Falls Trail



Jackson Falls sits at the heart of Shawnee National Forest and offers a remote experience in nature. Wooded hills, winding trails and the beauty of sandstone rocks draw people who hike, rock climb, mushroom hunt, wildlife hunt and view nature. During the spring and fall, it is not unusual for the area to become congested with vehicles and people. Like all general forest areas, camping is allowed at no charge, but it is limited to a maximum 14-day continuous stay.

Trail Highlights

A short trail leads through the forest, which opens as you approach Jackson Falls from above. Waterfalls in this region are seasonal, meaning flow is dependent upon the amount of recent rainfall. Known for its scenic sandstone bluffs, this area's trail system accesses both the top and bottom of the bluffs. The bottom of the falls can be reached via a 3.25-mile hike (roundtrip) on Trail #049, beginning where this trail intersects Glen Street Falls Road.

Other Attractions

Bay Creek Wilderness, Burden Falls Wilderness, Bell Smith Springs Recreation Area, Millstone Bluff Archaeological Site, Indian Kitchen State Natural Area and Lusk Creek Wilderness.









Length: To Jackson Falls is ¹/₄ mile

Travel Time: 20 minutes Difficulty Level: Moderate

Season: open year-round

Facilities: Small parking area and a vault toilet.

Directions:

From Harrisburg: Take Highway 145 south, 11 miles to Burden Falls Road. Turn west onto Burden Falls Road, go 5 miles and at the 'T' turn right and continue 3.7 miles to Glen Street Falls Road. Turn left (south) onto Glen Street Falls Road. Go 2 miles to the Jackson Falls Trailhead. **From Vienna:** Take Highway 45 north 12 miles to Ozark Road. Turn east onto Ozark Road and continue 4.5 miles to Glen Street Falls Road. Turn right (south) onto Glen Street Falls Road. Go 2 miles to the Jackson Falls Trailhead.

Note: Glen Street Falls Rd. is a winding gravel road that can become washed out after heavy rains and is best suited for high-clearance vehicles.

Safety: Extra caution should be used where the trail is near the bluffs and when traveling on wet slippery rocks. Your safety is your responsibility. Response by emergency personnel can be delayed due to the remoteness of the area.

In the event of an emergency, call 911.

Outdoor Ethics: Practice Leave No Trace ethics (lnt.org). Stay on designated trails. Hikers yield to equestrians. Rare & endangered plants grow along the rock bluffs. Confine rock climbing activities to existing climbing routes to avoid resource damage.



