



Pomona Natural Bridge



Shawnee National Forest

Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District

2014

Pomona Natural Bridge Trail features a short loop trail leading through a mature oak-hickory and beech forest. As the trail descends to the creek below, an overlook reveals a view of Pomona Natural Bridge nestled within the trees. The bridge spans 90 feet across and continues to be a popular scenic point of interest.

People have been drawn to the natural wonders of southern Illinois for years. The photo below of Pomona Natural Bridge was taken in June 1941. During the late 1930's and early 1940's this site and many other scenic areas became more accessible and given site improvements due to the efforts of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).



Know Before You Go

Poisonous snakes and poison ivy are present in the area; remember 'leaves of three, leave it be'. The trail tread may become slick when wet. Be aware of local hunting seasons and wear bright orange or red.

Surrounding Area

Little Grand Canyon, Cedar Lake, LaRue-Pine Hills Research Natural Area, Clear Springs and Bald Knob Wilderness

Emergencies

The nearest hospital is St. Joseph's in Murphysboro.

Type: Hiker-trail Only.

Length: 0.3 mile

Travel Time: ½ hour to 45 minutes

Surface Type: gravel and dirt

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Recommended Season: Year round

Facilities: Parking, picnic area and grill

Access: From Murphysboro: Take Highway 127 south 10 miles to Pomona Road. Go west on Pomona Rd. 0.7 mile to Natural Bridge Road. Turn north (right) onto Natural Bridge Rd. and continue 2 miles to the "Y" in the road; Veer left, staying on Natural Bridge Rd. for 0.25 miles to trailhead parking lot.

From Jonesboro: Take Highway 146 west 2.5 miles, then take Highway 127 north 12 miles to Pomona Road. Go west on Pomona Rd. 0.7 mile to Natural Bridge Road. Turn north (right) onto Natural Bridge Rd. and continue 2 miles to the "Y" in the road; Veer left, staying on Natural Bridge Rd. for 0.25 miles to trailhead parking lot.

Trail Ethics: Stay on the trail and pack out your trash.

For More Information

Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District
521 North Main
Jonesboro, IL 62952
(618) 833-8576
www.fs.usda.gov/shawnee

