

# Caney Creek Wilderness Trails

Ouachita National Forest



Wilderness Equestrian Hiking



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CANEY CREEK WILDERNESS TRAILS

**Trail Highlights:** Caney Creek Trail generally follows the Caney Creek drainage. The trail crosses Blaylock Creek, Caney Creek, Katy Creek and the Cossatot River for a total of 13 stream crossings which are subject to flash flooding during heavy rain.

Vegetation types, which occur along the creek, include beech tree stands, large pines and bottom land hardwoods.

Buckeye Trail generally follows a ridge offering many vistas before winding down to the Caney Creek Trail.

Tall Peak Trail is a steep rugged trail once you leave the Saline River. It begins in Shady Lake Recreation Area but can also be accessed from Forest Service Road 38. Look for large granite rocks about 1.8 miles north of Shady Lake Recreation Area entrance.

These trails lead into a 14,460 acre congressionally designated wilderness - a place for solitude and primitive recreation.

### Other Opportunities:

- Caney Creek Wilderness
- Valuable Forest Trail
- Athens Big Fork Trail
- Shady Lake Recreation Area

### For More Information:

Mena Ranger District  
1603 Hwy. 71 N.  
Mena, AR 71953  
(479) 394-2382  
(North of Mena on State Hwy. 71 N.)

**Length:** 17.5 miles; travel time one way - 14 to 18 hours.

**Trail Information:** The trails in the wilderness are not marked or signed. You need a map and compass to enjoy the trail and explore the wilderness. Rock cairns are at the Buckeye Trail intersection. Keep them on your right going uphill. Several trails have been closed for revegetation. Please respect these closures.

**WARNING:** *Expect trails in Wilderness Areas to offer more serious challenges to hikers and equestrian users, especially during the growing season when briars and other vegetation encroach on the trail corridor.*

**Access: West Caney Creek Trailhead** - From State Hwy. 71 at Vandervoort take State Hwy. 246 east 11 miles to Forest Service (F.S.) Rd. 31. On F.S. Rd.31 travel 10 miles to the trailhead.

### East Caney Creek and Buckeye Trailheads -

Continue an additional 14 miles on State Hwy. 246 to F.S. Rd. 38. Travel F.S. Rd. 38 for 7 miles north to the Caney Creek Trailhead or 8 miles north to the Buckeye Trailhead.

**Water:** Nonpotable.

**Requirements:** Although open to equestrian use, the Caney Creek Trail is not designed or maintained for such use.

Buckeye and Tall Peak Trails are not suitable for equestrian use at all. Mountain bikes and motorized equipment are prohibited in the Wilderness.

**History:** In 1935, 8,300 acres of what is now Caney Creek Wilderness was designated as a Game Refuge. On January 3, 1975, Caney Creek Wilderness became part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

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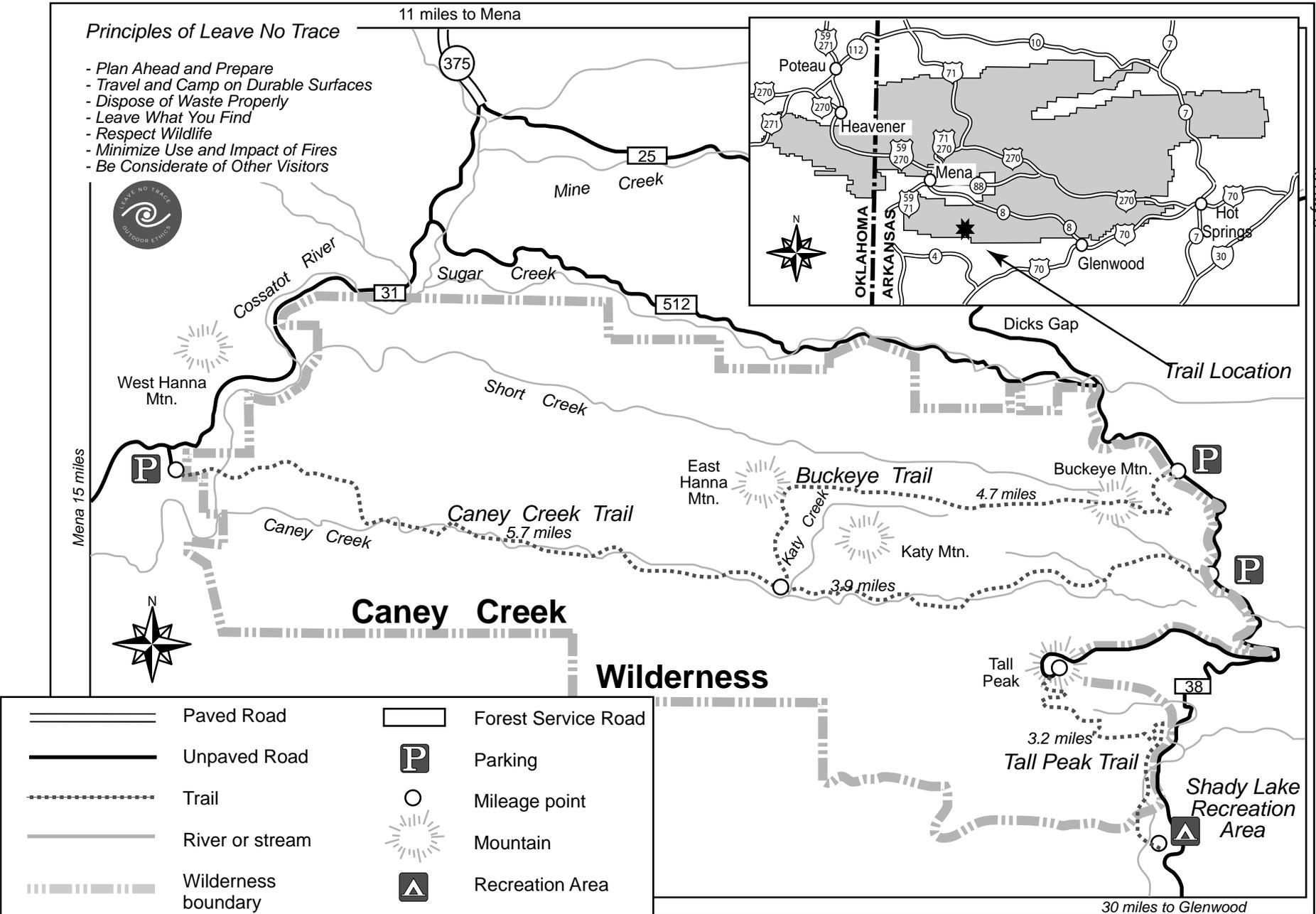
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## Principles of Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Respect Wildlife
- Minimize Use and Impact of Fires
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors



	Paved Road		Forest Service Road
	Unpaved Road		Parking
	Trail		Mileage point
	River or stream		Mountain
	Wilderness boundary		Recreation Area