

What campsites offer

Sitting in the shadow of Mt. Mitchell, the highest peak in the East, and bordering the South Toe River, Black Mountain and Briar Bottom Group campgrounds are meccas for people who enjoy the outdoors and recreation, such as hiking and fishing.

Black Mountain Campground offers 43 camping sites. No hookups are provided. Briar Bottom Group Campground has six sites for 50 people at each site. For those camping at these sites, a ball field and volleyball net are available nearby.

All campsites have tables, fire rings with cooking grills and lantern posts. Nearby are flush toilets, drinking water and trash cans. A sewage disposal is one mile from campgrounds. Showers are available.

Campsite fees

DATES OPEN: Black Mountain and Briar Bottoms Campgrounds: April 14 to Oct. 31.

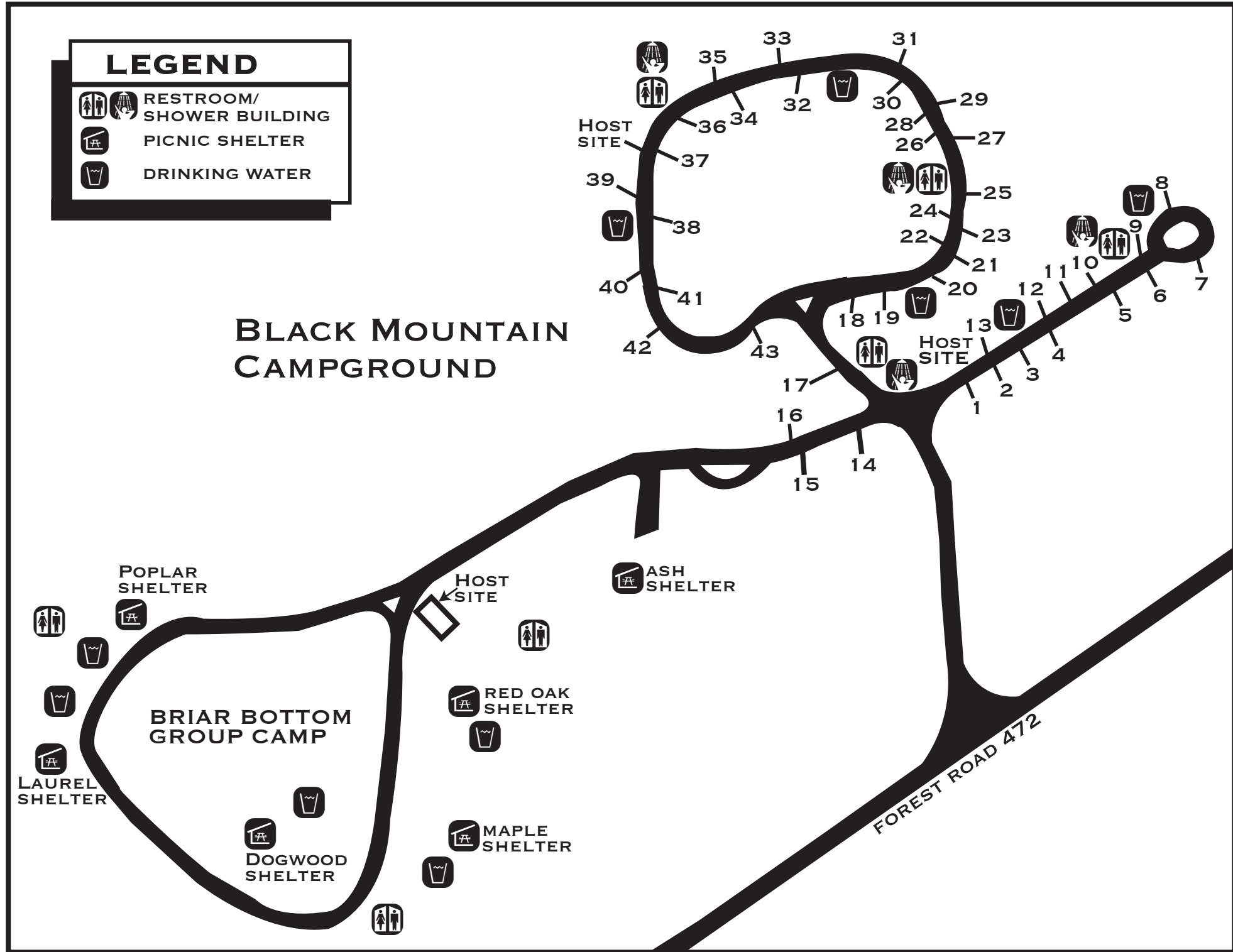
BLACK MOUNTAIN CAMPGROUND FEE: \$17 per site, per day. All campsites are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. No refunds are given for bad weather.

BRIAR BOTTOM GROUP CAMPGROUND FEE: \$55 per site, per day, for up to 50 people per site.

FOR GROUP CAMP RESERVATIONS: Call the reservation service at 877-444-6777 or go on-line at recreation.gov.

Directions

From Burnsville, take U.S. 19E for five miles, turn right on NC 80 for 12 miles. Just past Mt. Mitchell Golf Course, turn right on Forest Road 472. After a mile of paved road, the road becomes gravel. Watch for a right turn and stay on FR 472.



Discover a Trail

The **Mount Mitchell Trail** climbs 3,200 feet to Mount Mitchell's summit at 6,684 feet. Marked with yellow blazes, the trail passes from hardwood to a Canadian forest of spruce and fir. The trail travels 5.7 miles from the campground.

The very steep 3.3-mile **Lost Cove Ridge Trail** climbs to the Green Knob Lookout Tower beside the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The 0.7-mile **Devil's Den Trail** is a loop that begins near the restroom next to the amphitheater. The yellow-blazed trail offers an easy stroll through beautiful stands of poplar and oak.

The 1.2-mile **Briar Bottom Bicycle Trail** starts at group campground gate. The trail follows the South Toe River under giant hemlock trees, crosses two locust bridges, and loops around the group campground to the starting point.

View a waterfall

A beautiful cascading waterfall awaits hikers on the 0.25-mile trail to Setrock Creek Falls. The trail begins just past the group campground gate.

Another waterfall, Roaring Fork Falls, is three miles down Forest Road 472 near its junction with NC 80. The trail to Roaring Fork Falls is an easy, 0.7-mile hike, starting on FR 5520.

Learn about nature

During the summer, a variety of programs, children's activities, and guided walks are featured at Black Mountain and Carolina Hemlocks Campgrounds. The programs focus on wildlife and wildflower identification.

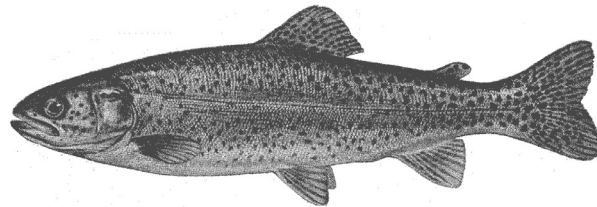
Where to get info

For information and to buy trail maps and a variety of nature books, visit the Appalachian District's Burnsville Office on U.S. 19 at the east side of Burnsville or call 828-682-6146. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bearproof your site!

Black bears may travel through the campground, so please keep campsites clean and free of food and garbage. Store food and toiletries, such as soap and toothpaste, in coolers placed in vehicles. Never cook or keep food in tents or feed bears and other wildlife. If a bear approaches, frighten it by yelling, banging pans together or throwing rocks.

For the safety of others, campers who do not follow these safety requests may be asked to leave the campground.



Hook some rainbow

Bounties of trout fill the area's streams. Near Black Mountain Campground, the stream is catch-and-release, and lures are limited to artificial flies with a single hook. Farther upstream, the South Toe becomes "wild trout waters." Watch for state regulation signs posted along the river.

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Campground rules

- Check-in and checkout time is 2 p.m.
- Campers may not occupy campsites more than 14 consecutive days between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
- No vehicles, including bicycles, are permitted on camp trails, except the Briar Bottom Bicycle Trail. Please observe the 15 mph speed limit on the campground.
- Vehicles must have all wheels on parking spurs. Trailers may be parked on the tent pad. Parking is not permitted in unoccupied sites, along roads, or on grass.
- No more than two tents are allowed at each site.
- Pets are not allowed in restrooms.
- Campfires are permitted in grills. Dead wood from the ground may be used for firewood. Do not cut vegetation or standing trees.
- Prepare food, wash dishes and clean fish at campsites only, not in the restrooms or at hydrants. Put fish remains and food scraps in a garbage bag and deposit in trash cans.
- Do not leave hoses hooked to water hydrants.
- Visitors are permitted in the campground from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Discharge of firearms, including air rifles, is prohibited within the campground.

BLACK MOUNTAIN RECREATION AREA



Coupled with coolness, quietness, and a remote setting, Black Mountain Campground and Briar Bottom Group Campground offer a variety of recreation, from hiking to fishing to waterfall viewing. Visitors can hike to two waterfalls or ride a mountain bike trail.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southern Region

