



# One Horse Gap Trail System



## Trail Highlights

One Horse Gap trail system is famous for a short trail known as “the gap trail.” As its name indicates, the trail features a narrow gap between the bluffs that allows only one horse to pass through at a time. This trail system uses segments of system-trails, dirt and gravel roads and even remnants of old roads. Many interesting things can be found along the trails, from old cemeteries and early settlers’ home sites, to towering bluffs and flowing creeks.

The trail provides access to One Horse Gap Lake, War Bluff area, Big Grand Pierre Creek (a candidate Wild & Scenic River) and the River to River Trail (a 160-mile trail that spans southern Illinois). Hikers and backpackers share the area with horseback riders and hunters. Be aware that the annual Nine Day Trail Ride in late July-early August attracts thousands of equestrians every year.

## Wildlife Viewing

Wildlife watchers will enjoy the quiet of One Horse Gap Lake, as well as the many forest clearings created to provide habitat for wildlife. Many of the bluff areas offer scenic views. Nearby designated Natural Areas perpetuate rare species. Equestrians are prohibited in designated Natural Areas.



## Other Attractions

Illinois Iron Furnace, Garden of the Gods Recreation Area, Pounds Hollow Recreation Area, Rim Rock National Recreation Trail and Lusk Creek Wilderness.

### Length:

**One Horse Gap Trail:** 1.4 miles (one-way)  
30 miles total of interconnected trails.

**Trail Surface:** Dirt and gravel in some places. On the ground trail signs contain trail numbering system. (See map on reverse side for trail numbers.)

Trail Reassurance Markers =  white diamond  
River to River Trail =  blue i

**Access and Parking:** This trail system can be accessed at a number of locations. However, most access points have limited parking.

### Directions:

**From Vienna:** Take highway 146 east 30 miles (passing through Golconda,) to Lusk Road. Turn north onto Lusk Rd. and go 4.25 miles to the crossroads of Lusk Rd and Dutton Chapel Rd. To reach One Horse Gap Trail, continue straight through the crossroads, for 1.5 miles. The trail access point is on the left side of the road.

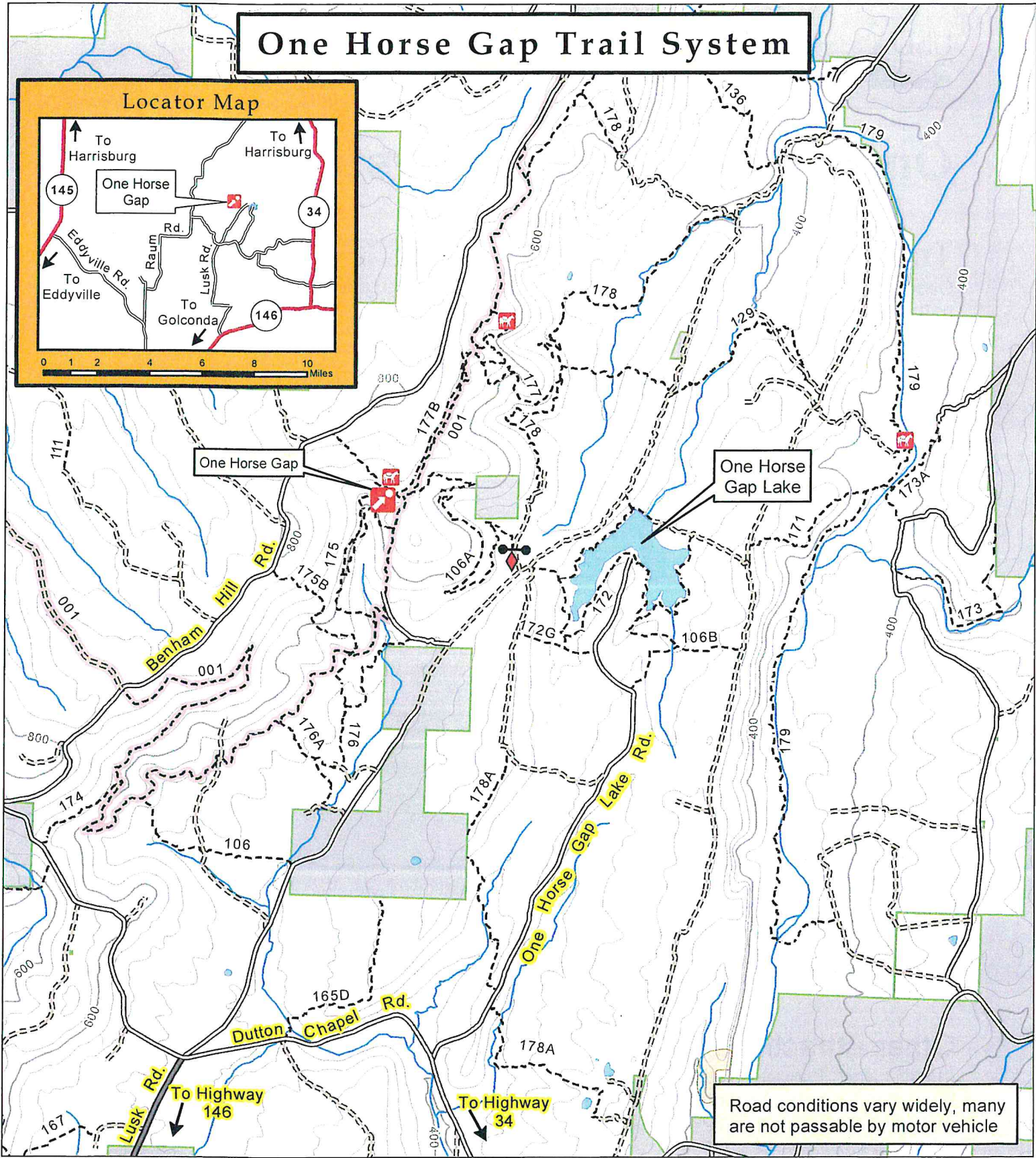
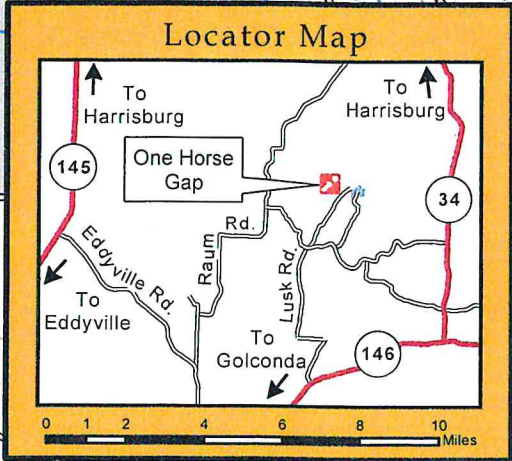
**Safety:** Several trails in this area lead to the top of bluffs and along high bluffs. Use caution and know your physical limitations. Trail tread may be slippery during and after rain. This area is open to hunting; be aware of hunting seasons.

**Trail Ethics:** Pack it in, Pack it out. Stay on the designated trail. Equestrians are prohibited in designated Natural Areas (see map). Natural Area boundaries are marked with flexible plastic yellow posts.

**In the event of an emergency, call 911.**



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## Legend

- |                 |               |                             |                          |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Point of Access | State Highway | Road                        | Stream                   |
| Horse High Line | Paved Road    | 106A Hiker/Equestrian Trail | Natural Area             |
| One Horse Gap   | Dirt Road     | River to River Trail        | National Forest Land     |
|                 |               |                             | Non-National Forest Land |

Contour interval = 40 feet

