

Hike Notes:

Pine Mountain is a small, narrow region in the southwest portion of the Georgia Piedmont, extending eastward from the Alabama state border for 45 miles. The mountain contains Hollis quartzite-capped, steep-sloped ridges that rise 300-400 feet above the Piedmont surface and the Flint River to elevations in places over 1300 feet.

Moss Falls, Dripping Rocks, Matt Branch Falls, Long Branch creek, the Flint River, and the Meteor Impact Rim Crater adjacent to Lawhorn Scouting Base are all highlights you can observe in the Backcountry.

Please help us preserve this unique area by staying on the marked trails, take only pictures and leave only footprints. For your safety, do not attempt to climb the rocks or steep banks at the water falls.

Camp Thunder Trailheads:

Start at the pavilion near Howard Lodge, or next to the Dining Hall.

Flint River Trailheads:

Start next to the Family Picnic Pavilion at either end of the large parking lot.

Motor Vehicles:

Parking is available at both trailheads. Vehicles in the Backcountry are restricted to camp staff, trail service groups, permitted hunters and for emergency response personnel.

Group Reservations:

Please make reservations for your desired activities and campsite(s) in advance by contacting the Flint River Council office at 770-227-4556. No crew should plan to enter the backcountry for day or overnight trips without first notifying the Flint River Council office, Camp Headquarters in Howard Lodge at 706-647-9539, or the Camp Ranger. Weekday activities are restricted during Sept-May hunting seasons from 3pm SUN – 12pm FRI.

All backcountry campsites are for primitive tent camping and are surveyed for the capacity to host specific crew sizes. A crew is equivalent to an 8 Scout Patrol and 4 adults. Camp only at designated durable campsites and fire rings to reduce impacts.

The 10 Essentials:

Don't begin this hike without these basic items for yourself and group members.

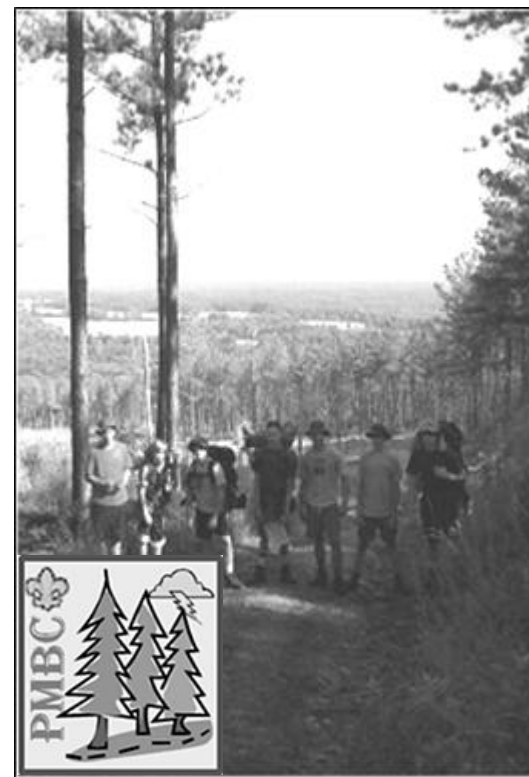
1. Pocketknife or multipurpose tool.
2. First-Aid kit.
3. Appropriate clothing/jacket/shoes/socks.
4. Flashlight or headlamp.
5. Rain gear or poncho.
6. Water bottle per person.
7. Map and compass/GPS.
8. Matches and fire starter.
9. Sun & bug protection, sunglasses.
10. Trail food or snack.



Geocaches:

There are caches located on this hike. Contact the Camp Headquarters for details.

BACKPACKING TRAIL GUIDE



18 FEB 12

Pine Mountain

Backcountry

INI-TO Lodge #324 Service Project



Find us on Facebook

Flint River
Adventure
Area



**Bike & Hike
Trail Ratings**

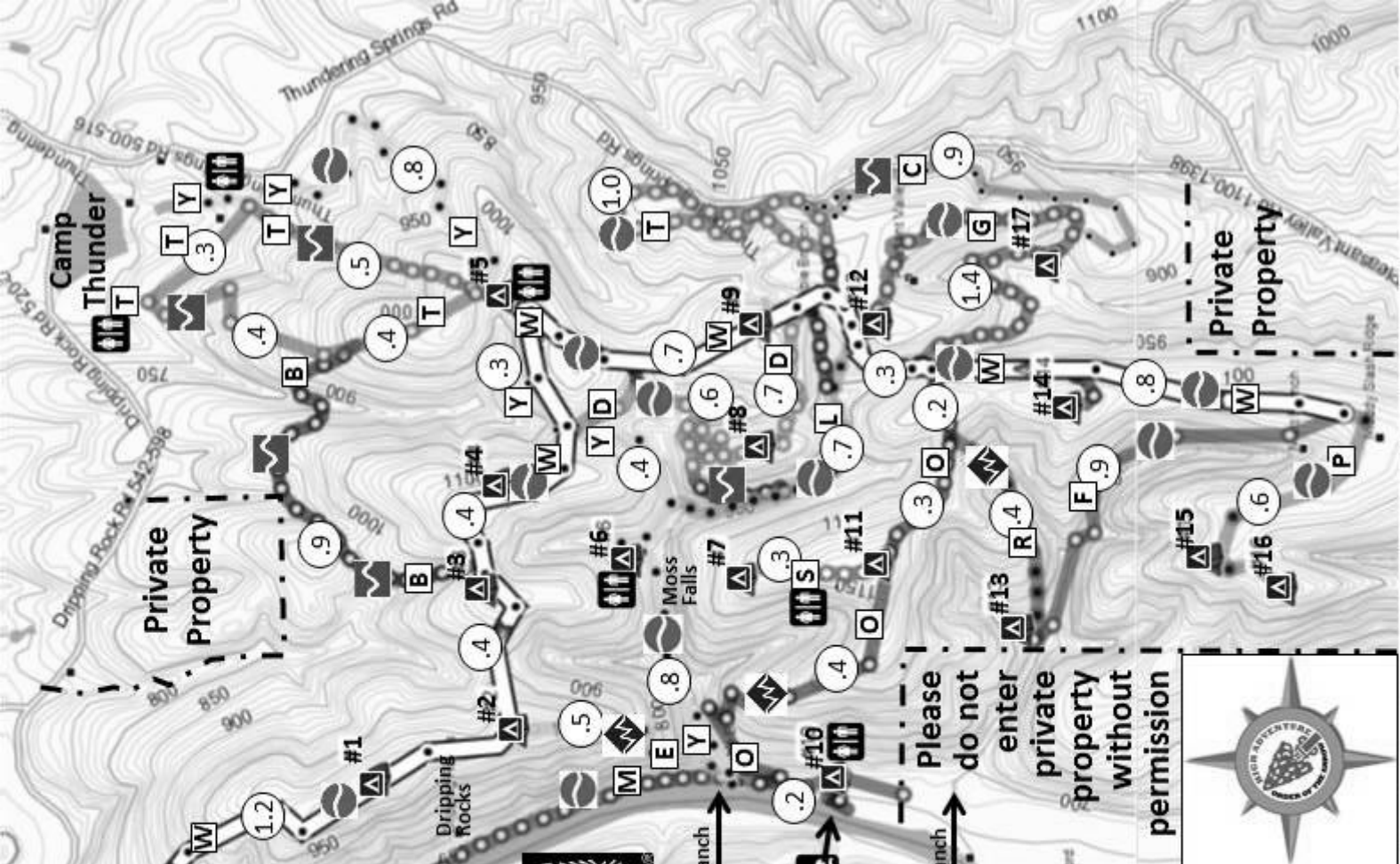
EASIEST	MORE DIFFICULT	MOST DIFFICULT

**Camp only in
designated sites**

Trails and Blazes	
Muddy Slash	W White
Dripping Rock	M Maroon
Moss Falls	Y Yellow
Water Tower	T Turquoise
Valley Vortex	B Berry Blue
Peak-to-Peak	D Desert Brown
Falls View	S Silver
Eagles View	E Sky Blue
Deer Run	L Lime Green
Switchback	O Orange
Heart Attack	R Red
Turkey Run	T Pumpkin
Long Branch	G Mint Green
Thunderbird	C Cherry Red
Matt Branch	F Forest Green
South River	P Salmon Pink
Side Trail	■ Cobalt Blue



Please do not enter private property without permission



**PINE MOUNTAIN BACKCOUNTRY
ADVENTURE AWAITS** <http://ini-to324.org/trails/>

Sponsored by
Ini-To Lodge #324



1.1 Distance in 1/10 of mile

Know Before You Go:

You will be challenged – physically and mentally – so be prepared for a great adventure. Your crew can practice some of the same **Leave No Trace** backcountry techniques here as required to navigate the North Georgia Mountains, the Appalachian Trail, Philmont, or the Northern Tier. Cell phones other than Verizon generally have poor coverage.

Water Sources:

Always carry sufficient water and treatment means for your planned activities. Campers can secure replacement drinking water from Double Branch Creek and Matt Branch Creek year round. The purity of water from unprotected sources cannot be assumed. To be safe, all water from creek and river sources should be purified by filtering, boiling or chemical treatment before use. Carefully follow the filter or chemical treatment instructions.

Dispose of Waste Properly:

All trash must be removed with your group. There are four campsites with latrines. Human waste must be buried at least 6 inches and 200 feet from water or camps.

Respect Wildlife:

Your food, smellable items and waste will draw the interest of animals of all sizes in the Backcountry. Armadillo, juvenile black bear, wild boar, chipmunk, coyotes, mice, raccoons, opossum, and squirrel all inhabit the Pine Mountain region.

A smellable is anything that has an odor that might interest an animal. Animals are not attracted by human scent. A list of smellables includes food, candy, garbage, drink mixes, toothpaste (and toothbrush), soap, medicines, duct tape, batteries, film, deodorant, lotions, sunscreen, lip balm, pens, insect repellent, blood, soiled clothing, and any bottle that has EVER had anything besides water in it.

The Bear-muda Triangle

There should be four areas in your campsite. The first is where you prepare, cook and eat your food (near a fire ring). The second is where your smellables are stored. The third is the sump which is a pipe in the ground where wastewater is dumped. The fourth is where your tents are located. If you take the first three areas, they should roughly form a triangle called the Bear-muda triangle. Your tent area should lay outside of this triangle.

#	Campsite 	Location	Services	Capacity
1	Lumberjack	N32 57.492 W084 31.085		1 crew
2	Eagles Loft	N32 57.250 W084 31.080		2 crews
3	Hilltop	N32 57.329 W084 30.717		2 crews
4	Forest Glen	N32 57.329 W084 30.717		3 crews
5	Meadow View	N32 57.283 W084 30.151	    BCS	5 crews
6	Indian Camp	N32 57.084 W084 30.652	     BCS	2 crews
7	Upper Falls View	N32 56.880 W084 30.694		1 crew
8	Salt Lick	N32 56.863 W084 30.427		1 crew
9	Rocky Top	N32 56.876 W084 30.000		2 crews
10	Riverside	N32 56.741 W084 31.083	     BCS	3 crews
11	Mountain Man	N32.56.666 W084 30.663	   	3 crews
12	Scrub Oak	N32 56.667 W084 30.184		2 crews
13	Matt Branch	N32 56.429 W084 30.793	 	2 crews
14	Muddy Slash	N32 56.350 W084 30.351		3 crews
15	Crater Rim	N32 56.116 W084 30.645		2 crews
16	River View	N32 55.992 W084 30.705		1 crew
17	Arrowhead	N32 56.374 W084 30.058	 	3 crews

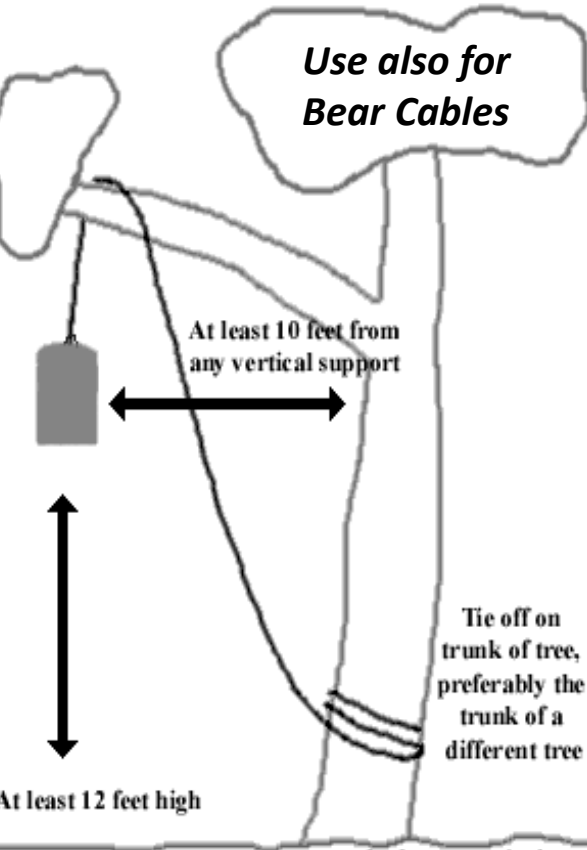
 Campsite  Fire Circle  Drinking Water  Latrine  Shelter
 Info Kiosk/Board  Canoe Landing **BCS** Bear Cables & Waste Water Sump

Bear Bag Skills

You should always secure from animals at night your food, smellable items as described, and trash in a bag at least 12 feet off the ground. Do not leave smellables in your packs or tents.

Crews should plan on bringing sufficient rope and sacks to lift their vulnerable supplies and waste off the ground. It does get heavy – plan on lifting several sacks per crew, plus a late night “oops bag.”

Single Tree Bear Bag Method



Here are some notes on how to put up bear bags.

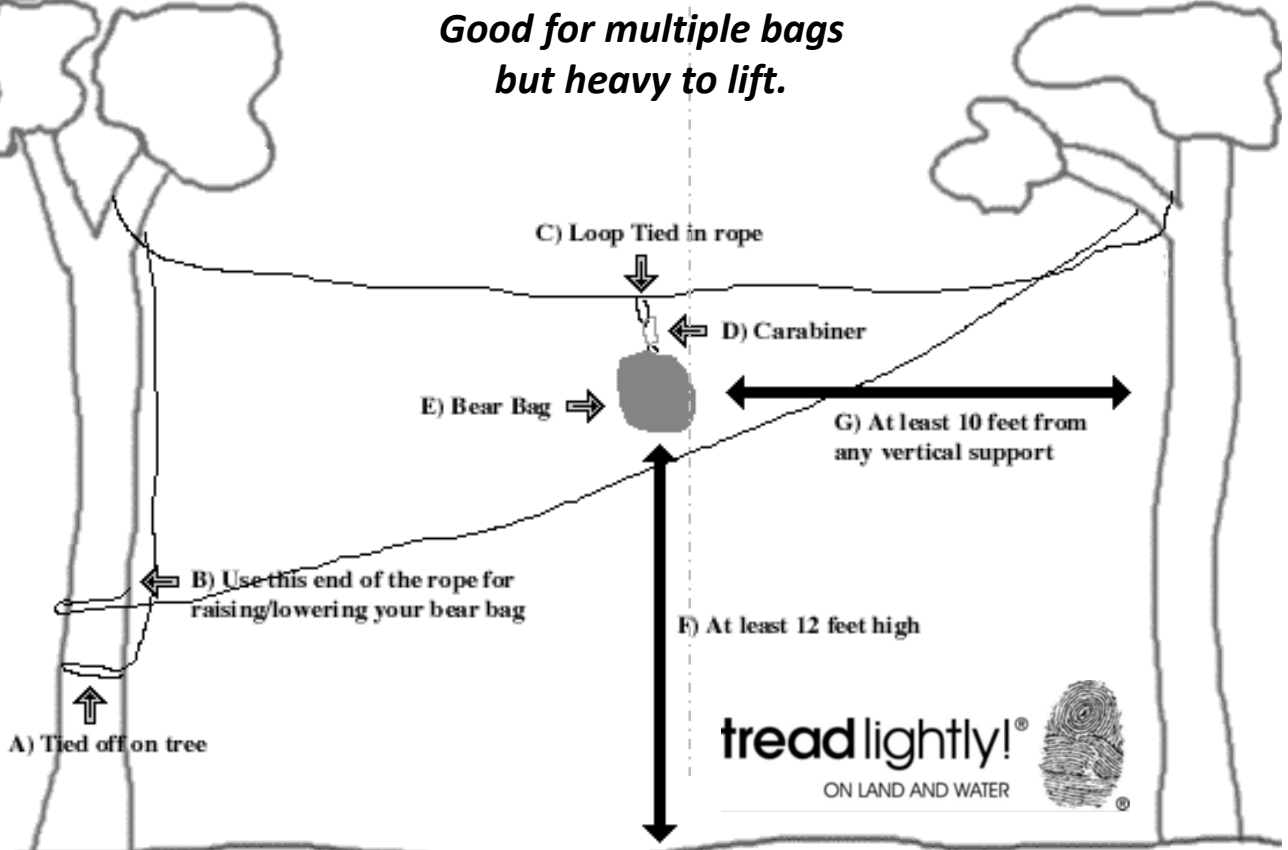
Select a pair of branches 20 feet apart and at least 15 feet off the ground.

Attach one end of a 100-foot utility cord (3 mm) to a fist-sized rock that's heavy enough to drag the line through dense boughs.

Tie the other end to a tree trunk or any nearby sturdy anchor. Throw the rock over both branches in succession.

Two Tree Bear Bag Method

Good for multiple bags but heavy to lift.



Tie a knotted loop (bight) in the cord midway between the branches. Attach the food bag (the stuff sack for a tent works fine) to the loop using a simple overhand or slip knot, or a carabiner to reduce friction.

Pull on the unsecured end of the cord to lift the bag high enough up to be out of a bear's reach from the ground (at least 10 feet) or in either tree (4 feet). Ropes will stretch with weight. Tie off.