



### Directions

Since GPS/Map Apps sometimes do not recognize our address and bring visitors to the wrong location, we have included some written directions.

**From Johnson City, TN:** I-26 E for approx. 16 miles. Take Exit 43 for US-19W toward TN-352/Temple Hill Rd. Turn left onto US-19W S. Turn right to stay on US-19W S for approx. 1 mile. Make a slight right onto TN-352 W for 4.8 miles. Turn right onto Rocky Fork Rd. and go approx. 1 mile to Rocky Fork State Park Main Entrance Gate.

**From Asheville, NC:** I-26 W/US-19 N/US-23 N/US-70 W for approx. 27 miles. Continue on I-26 W for approx. 4.3 miles and take Exit 50 toward Flag Pond Rd. Proceed for approx. 0.4 miles. Turn left onto Upper Higgins Creek Rd for 0.6 mile. Turn right onto Old Asheville Hwy for 2.3 mile. Turn left onto Rocky Fork Rd. for 1 mile to the Rocky Fork State Park Main Entrance Gate.

**Cherokee National Forest's Lower Higgins Creek Falls from RFSP Parking Lot:** Head South on Rocky Fork Road (approx. 1-mile). Turn left onto TN-353 E for approx. 4.8-miles. Slight left onto US-19W N for approx. 0.4-miles. Turn left onto Lower Higgins Creek Road (travel uphill approx. 1.6-miles). Lowers Higgins Road changes at a cul-de-sac from paved to gravel/dirt road. Travel approx. 0.3-miles to a dirt turnaround/parking area in front of a U.S. Forest Service Gate. Hike approx. 0.5-miles to Lower Higgins Creek Waterfalls, on the right.

**To the A.T. Crossing and Parking Lot at Devils Fork Gap from RFSP Parking Lot:** Head South on Rocky Fork Road, approx. 1-mile. Turn right onto TN-352 W. Travel for approx. 0.1-miles. Turn right to stay on TN-352 W. Travel uphill approx. 4.2-miles.

**To the A.T. Devils Fork Gap Parking Area on Left as you cross TN State Line into NC:** To reach RFSP from here travel on foot A.T. South for approx. 3.5-miles to Flint Gap for access to RFSP via A.T. Access Route.

**Hours of Operation**  
Sunrise to Sunset

**Rocky Fork State Park**  
423-271-1233

**Physical Address**  
501 Rocky Fork Road / Flag Pond, TN 37657

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 22 / Flag Pond, TN 37657

**Tennessee State Parks**  
William Snodgrass Building TN Tower  
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd floor  
Nashville, TN 37243  
888-867-2757

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and the Friends of Rocky Fork State Park assist in protecting and preserving the cultural and natural resources of Rocky Fork. They do this by giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy. It's easy to show your support - join the Friends group or participate in one of the many volunteer opportunities offered. For more information, visit [www.rockyforkfriends.org](http://www.rockyforkfriends.org).



T E N N E S S E E  
**State Parks**

# ROCKY FORK STATE PARK

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T E N N E S S E E

### Camping

At this time there are no campsites and camping is not permitted. Primitive backcountry camping is in development. Please visit the website to check the status of this project or reserve a site.

### Annual Events

- April - Annual Upper East Tennessee Fiddler's Convention
- July - Annual Rocky Fork Hikers Jamboree
- October - Annual Haunted Hikes
- Ranger-led hikes are offered throughout the year.



### Other Nearby State Parks

- David Crockett Birthplace - 35 miles
- Roan Mountain - 42 miles



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The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for more information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 800-848-0298.



[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)



**Rocky Fork State Park** is 2,076-acres of scenic wilderness in Unicoi County, in the southern Appalachian Mountains. The park is surrounded on three sides by the Cherokee National Forest. The steep, rugged terrain is drained by numerous cool mountain streams including its namesake, Rocky Fork Creek, which flows through the park. The stream is located in the pristine Rocky Fork watershed. With large moss covered boulders and deep pools, Rocky Fork Creek is noted for miles of excellent native trout fishing. A corridor of the AT and the Sampson Mountain Wilderness Area are nearby.

The land was designated a Tennessee State Park in October 2012, but was not officially opened and staffed until May 2015.

Weather can change abruptly in the mountains, so be prepared. In the event that you see a black bear in the backcountry, do not approach the bear or throw food to the bear. Keep your pets leashed, for the safety of your pet and for the safety of park wildlife. It is recommended that hikers have familiarity with the area and experience with navigating backcountry terrain. Geo-referenced maps and other maps are available online.



### Hiking

There are nearly 14-miles of marked trails ranging from easy to strenuous. Trails offer stunning views of the southern Appalachian Forest, waterfalls and direct access to The Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

### Fishing

The swift moving waters surrounded by lush native vegetation are ideal for native brook and wild rainbow trout. The waters of Blockstand and Rocky Fork Creek are favored for fly-fishing. The higher elevation streams in Rocky Fork are known as one of the top three brook trout fisheries in the state. The last mile of Rocky Fork (roadside section) is stocked seasonally and can be fished without special restrictions. TWRA regulations above the gate provide only for single hook, artificial fly/lure fishing.

### Horseback Riding

At this time, there is not any horse access inside the park. The park must be accessed from the Cherokee National Forest's horse access trails, [www.fs.usda.gov/cherokee](http://www.fs.usda.gov/cherokee). A new equine access trail in Rocky Fork is in the planning stage. Almost 8-miles of marked horseback riding trails in the park connect to 8,000-acres of remote, unmarked and unsigned logging roads in the Cherokee National Forest. Expect rough terrain, stream crossings and picturesque vistas. Horse trailer parking is located at the old Morrill Motors Plant 1503 Hwy 352, Flag Pond, TN, 37657.



### Mountain Biking

Nearly 10-miles of marked mountain biking trails inside the state park boundary connect to 8000-acres of remote, unmarked and unsigned logging roads in the Cherokee National Forest. These trails provide for scenic and challenging rides for the ambitious mountain biker. The primitive trails are shared with hikers and horseback riders on some trails. Expect rough terrain, stream crossings and outstanding views.

