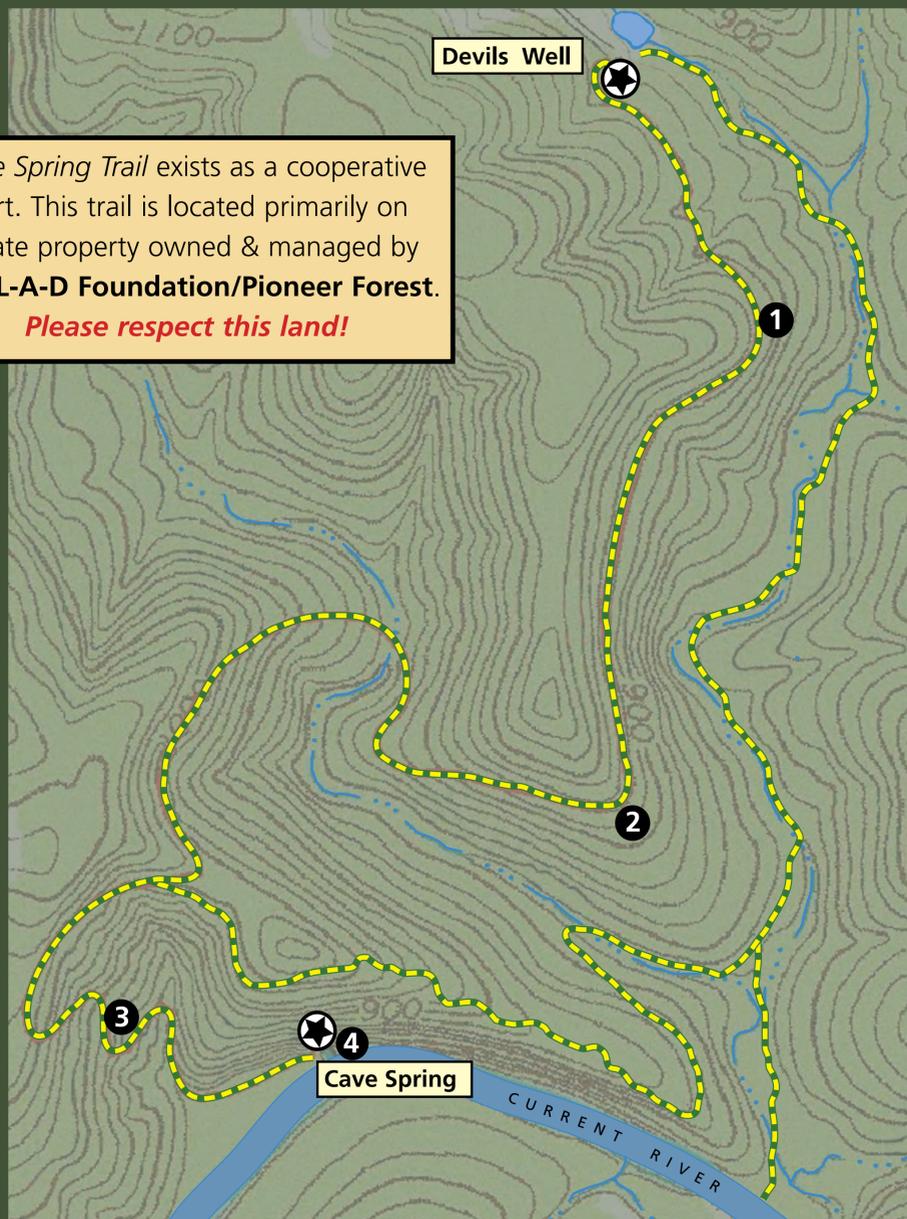




Cave Spring Trail

4.6 Miles
ROUND TRIP

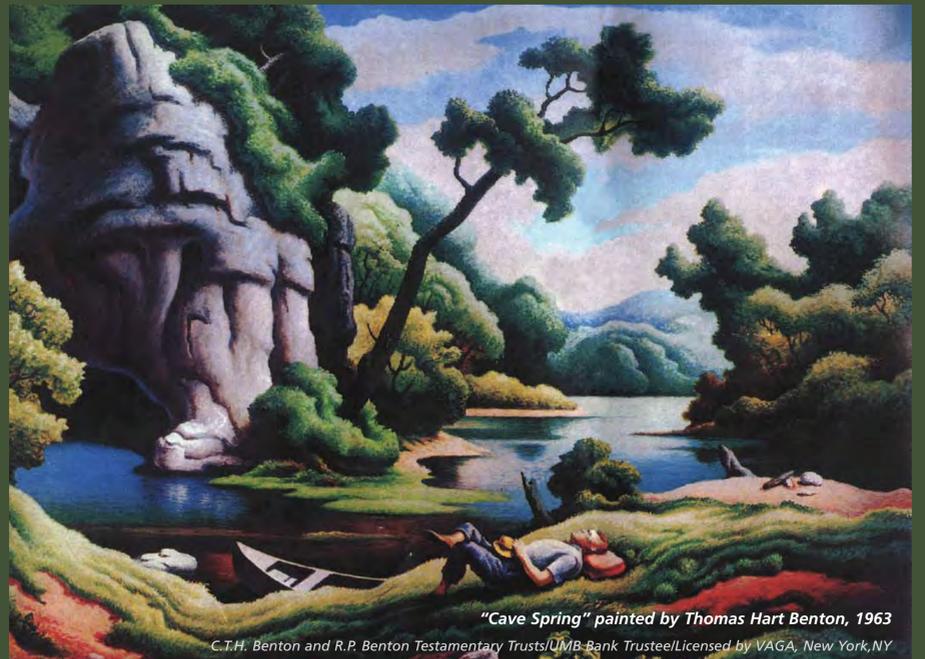


Cave Spring Trail exists as a cooperative effort. This trail is located primarily on private property owned & managed by the **L-A-D Foundation/Pioneer Forest**.
Please respect this land!

On Cave Spring Trail

You will encounter oak/pine forests along the rocky ridges, deep swales created by seasonal streams which run only during the rainy months, limestone glades where shallow soils support sparse forest growth and uniquely adapted plant species, the low lying riparian floodplain where sycamore and willow line the river's bank. From the wide mouth of Cave Spring, cold waters enter the Current River after traveling through an underground network of fissures and eroded limestone channels from the lake at the bottom of Devils Well.

Few People Know



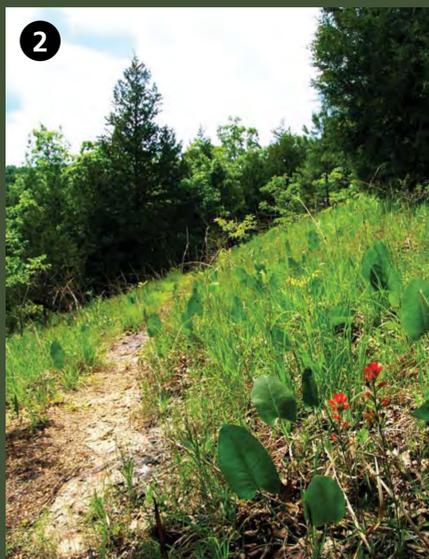
"Cave Spring" painted by Thomas Hart Benton, 1963
C.T.H. Benton and R.P. Benton Testamentary Trusts/UMB Bank Trustee/Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY

Cave Spring Trail offers an opportunity to explore a variety of natural habitats and geological formations which exemplify the limestone regions of the Ozark Plateau.

Allow approximately 3 1/2 hours for a round-trip hike to Cave Spring



Stone outcrops at Parker Hollow overlook.



Indian Paintbrush blooms on a sunny glade.



Moss and fern in a swale's deep shade.



Cave Spring spills into the Current River 160 ft. below Devils Well.

In his later years the famous Missouri regional landscape artist, Thomas Hart Benton, spent time 'floating and fishing' in the Ozarks. He captured the essence of the languid easy going life on the river... clear waters, banks cloaked in lush vegetation, the luminous blue of a Ozark sky dotted with white

clouds... on a lazy summer's day. An 'idyllic place' where time seemed to stand still and cares fell away. This trail will take you to the very spot on the Current River where the artist may have sketched the preliminary drawings for his painting of "Cave Spring."

Thanks to Volunteers



This 'loop trail' was constructed by young volunteers from the John Burroughs School (St. Louis) and AmeriCorps - St. Louis, with the assistance of funding from a Recreational Trails Grant administered by the Missouri

Department of Natural Resources. The effort to provide visitors with the opportunity to hike between Devils Well and Cave Spring began in 1994. Construction was completed in the summer of 2007.

Cave Spring Trail has been 'adopted' by the Outdoor Education Program — John Burroughs School