

Backcountry Camping Trip Guide

One Night

National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Shenandoah National Park
Emergency: 1-800-732-0911



Hannah Run and White Rocks, 1 night

Standard - Circuit

Level: Experienced

Total Length: 16.5 miles

Trip Description: Cascading streams, swimming holes, history; access from Old Rag Parking

Entry: Weakley Hollow Boundary

Exit: Weakley Hollow Boundary

Map(s): PATC #10 Central District

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Nethers

Central District; East side; Route 600 - Nethers

Day One

Campsite: Hannah Run - backcountry

6.8 to 7.8 miles

Hike from parking area to Nicholson Hollow trailhead, up to 0.6 mile.

Hike up Nicholson Hollow Trail, 2 miles.

Turn right onto Hannah Run Trail, hiking 2.5 miles.

Turn right onto Catlett Mountain Trail for 200 feet.

Turn left onto Catlett Spur Trail and hike 1.1 miles.

Turn left onto Hazel Mountain, hiking 0.6 mile.

Turn right onto White Rocks Trail and begin looking for a place to camp in the next mile. Be sure to take the cave/falls side trail where you can also get water (0.4 mile roundtrip).

Day Two

8.7 to 9.7 miles

Finish hiking White Rocks Trail, a total of 2.4 miles from Hazel Mountain Trail.

Turn right on Hazel River Trail and hike for 1.6 miles.

Turn left on Hazel Mountain Trail and hike 1.2 miles.

Hazel Mountain Trail ends at intersection of Hot-Short Mountain Trail and Pine Hill Gap Trail.

Follow Hot-Short Mountain Trail for 2.1 miles until it ends at Nicholson Hollow Trail.

Turn left onto Nicholson Hollow Trail, hiking 1.8 miles to SR 600.

Hike to your vehicle, up to 0.6 mile.

Notes

Both the Hughes River, which runs through Nicholson Hollow, as well as Hazel River can run very high in the spring or after heavy rains (knee to waist high). Each trail crosses the river several times, so be prepared. The plus side is the excellent swimming holes that exist even in drought.

While this can be a popular place on the weekends, during the week you can often have this wilderness area to yourself.