

FLORA

Great Laurel/Rosebay

- Flowers June through August
- Flowers are pinkish-white with a yellowish to greenish spot in the largest lobe
- One of the hardiest and largest evergreen rhododendrons



Wild Azalea/Pinxter Flower

- Flowers February through May
- Flowers are pink or white
- Most common native azalea in the Southeast



Flame Azalea/Orange Azalea

- Flowers February through April
- Flowers are yellow to orange to red
- Close in appearance to Pinxter Flower



Galax/Beetleweed

- Flowers May through July
- Green leaves turn red in the winter
- Food source for deer



Eastern Hemlock Tree

- Evergreen
- Bark used for source of tannin for leather goods
- Pioneers made tea from the leafy twigs and brooms from the branches



Contact SCDNR Diversity Outreach at
803-734-3729 en español al 803-734-9885 o en
www.dnr.sc.gov/spanish



SCDNR
Diversity



SCDNR
Español



The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, color, national origin, religion, disability or age. Direct inquiries to the Office of Human Resources, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, S.C. 29202.

18-11749

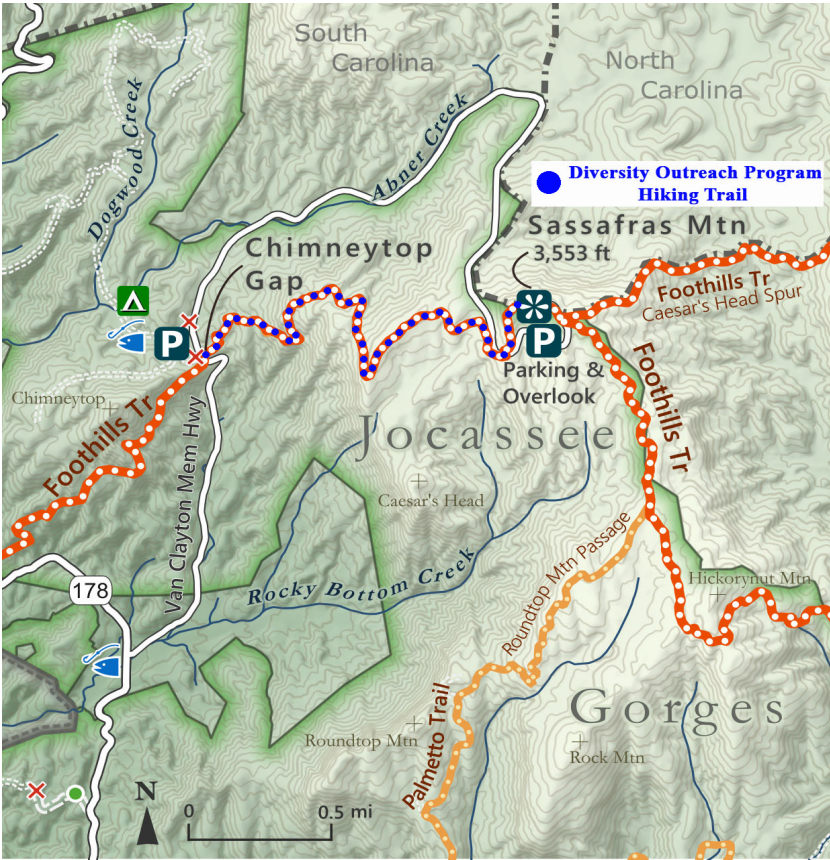
South Carolina Department
of Natural Resources

Foothills Trail at Sassafras Mountain



www.dnr.sc.gov

Foothills Trail at Sassafras Mountain Map



About the Property

- Jocassee Gorges established in 1998
- 43,500-acre tract of land
- It represents a partnership among federal, state and private organizations
- The “Blue Wall” - is the area where the base of the mountains transitions into the piedmont
- Sassafras Mountain - highest point in SC at 3,553 ft
- Foothills Trail - 77 miles long between Table Rock and Oconee State Parks

History of the Property

- Historically occupied by Cherokee Indians
- Patches of Yucca, or “Spanish Bayonet” reveal potential sites once inhabited by the Cherokee

- Early settlers grew corn and sugar for moonshine distillation
- 1800s: Managed for commercial timber interests

Biological Diversity

- Oconee Bell is a rare flower of the southern Appalachian Mountains, found in the Lake Jocassee drainage
- There are several ferns and mosses in Jocassee that usually only grow in tropical habitats of Central America
- Jocassee’s extensive rainfall throughout the year and shaded habitats from the steep river gorges promote unique combinations of both animals and plants
- Currently still a site for wildlife and fisheries restoration projects involving white-tailed deer, peregrine falcons and brook trout



Along the Foothills Trail at Sassafras Mountain, history and nature come together. This area has many different animal (**fauna**) and plant (**flora**) species. Here we have just a few:

FAUNA

Eastern Spotted Skunk

- Color: black with 4 to 6 contrasting white stripes starting at the head and breaking into spots further down the body
- Diet: insects, mice, frogs, fruits
- Life span: 2-6 years
- Habitat: woodlands, open farmlands, old abandoned fields



Eastern Garter Snake

- Color: three yellow stripes lengthwise down a brown-green body, checkered pattern, pale yellow belly
- Diet: worms, frogs, fish, salamanders
- Life span: 2 years
- Habitat: grassy woodlands, meadows, marshes near water



Black Bear

- Color: blue-gray, blue-black, brown, black
- Diet: grasses, nuts, berries, fish
- Life span: 18 years
- Habitat: forests, mountains, swamps

Carolina Chickadee

- Color: white cheeks with a black cap and throat, gray back and buff-gray chest
- Diet: insects, seeds, berries
- Life span: 10 years
- Habitat: forested areas or urban and suburban yards



Pileated Woodpecker

- Color: black bodies with white neck stripes and a red crest
- Diet: insects, fruits, nuts
- Life span: 12 years
- Habitat: mixed deciduous-coniferous forests



Wild Turkey

- Color: Males: bronze-green with fan-like tail; Females: tan-brown
- Diet: nuts, seeds, fruits, insects
- Life span: 3 to 4 years
- Habitat: mature forest with oak, hickory and beech trees

