

Description

Starting from the parking area, you will find this well marked, technical singletrack trail a challenge. Its twisting turns, short hills, and several technical creek crossings, take even the best cyclists around 40 minutes to complete. The large pine, oak, hickory, and poplar trees provide shade, so riding during the summer months, is not so uncomfortable. Lynch's Woods is also a host to a section of the Palmetto Trail, which passes through this area. You will cross roads in several places, so be aware there may be car traffic. Be aware you are sharing this trail with hikers. Restrooms are available at the parking area.

Length

7.5 miles of trail and 4.2 miles of gravel road.

Admission/Fees

FREE

Features/Facilities

- * Public restrooms
- * Drinking water
- * Picnic tables, shelters
- * Hiking trails
- * Bicycling trails - Unpaved
- * Horse trails
- * Palmetto Trail Access
- * Primitive campground
- * Water features: Rocky Branch Creek

Hours

Open year round.

Camping

There are two primitive campsites off the four-mile dirt road that circles the woodland and Camp Holly Springs is open to equestrians.

Information

Contact Newberry Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 719 Kendall Road, Newberry, SC 29108-1711. Phone: 803-276-1978 Ext. 3 or 1023 or Palmetto Conservation Foundation, 1314 Lincoln St., Suite 213, Columbia, SC 29201-3154. Phone: 803-771-0870.



A Brief History

The history behind Lynch's Woods Park is almost as diverse, complex, and rich, as the land within it. If you were to visit the park today, you wouldn't see the park of yesteryear, but, in your very presence there, you'd be reestablishing what it once was; a place to commune with neighbors, and with nature.



In recent years the park has begun to attract more and more visitors, but there was a time when Lynch's Woods was once part of a larger tract of 700 acres with fairgrounds, a racetrack, and an American Legion Hall. Our earliest records show that the land was owned by a Rev. Elijah Lynch (or Linch) in the 1840's, hence the name, Lynch's Woods, and was deeded to Job Johnstone in 1849.



In the 1930's with the Depression becoming a harsh reality, the Johnstone family deeded the land to Newberry County and City for taxes. The Civilian Conservation Corps established roads, stone headwalls, and a camp. The Work Projects Administration also constructed a camp, and erected the fairgrounds in 1936.

Throughout the 1940's and 1950's sporadic improvements were made, such as the introduction of electricity to the property, due to the efforts of the Girl Scouts, who also ran a camp there, and the Exchange Club. From 1978-1980 however, Lynch's Woods was closed. Natural stresses on the land at the time necessitated some logging to be done, and though the forest was aided, the road became impassable. In the early 1980's, the Saluda National Guard was called upon to repair the road, but the park remained closed to the public. In the mid-1980's, the city deeded their half of the property to the county. Then, just when things were beginning to look up for the park, flood waters from a storm in 1986 washed out one of the larger bridges, and again made the road impassable. This time, the Newberry Soil and Water Conservation District (NSWCD) consulted with the East Piedmont Rural Conservation and Development council, and the two agencies were able to secure funding from the US Forest Service for a laminated, free span, timber bridge—another unique aspect of the park. The NSWCD, having kept up with the sporadic improvements and hindrances, felt that they too could make some valuable contributions to enhance and safeguard the property, and offered their assistance in managing the resources there. When the county disbanded the Park Commission in 1991, the NSWCD agreed to develop, control, and maintain the land in conjunction with county administrators.



From 1991 until the present, the Newberry Conservation District has spearheaded the development and management of the park, obtaining approximately \$140,000 in grant funding, and partnering with various organizations to bring Lynch's Woods back into our everyday vocabulary. Negotiations in the early 1990's have resulted in the park being incorporated into the Palmetto Trail as the Gateway to the Upstate, open to visitors from near and far.



It is a miracle that Lynch's Woods has survived through all these years, particularly with the more recent urban expansion, but the miracle workers here are all of those people that fought to protect its natural integrity. For the re-opening of Lynch's Woods to be a success, it has to be more than a recreational park, and more than a place to commune with nature. It has to be an illustration of a functioning community, one in which gratitude, and not graffiti exists; respect, and not rage; humility, and not hate. If you can enter the park with that sense of common ownership, Lynch's Woods awaits you!



Latitude

34.2719708111246

Longitude

-81.59005165100097

Directions

From Interstate 26, take SC Hwy. 219 (Exit 76), 2 miles into Newberry. Turn left onto US 76. Travel approximately 3/4 mile to second traffic light. Turn left and continue on gravel road into the park.

Lynch's Woods Park Trail Guide



Naturally!
Newberry
SOUTH • CAROLINA

www.visitnewberry.com

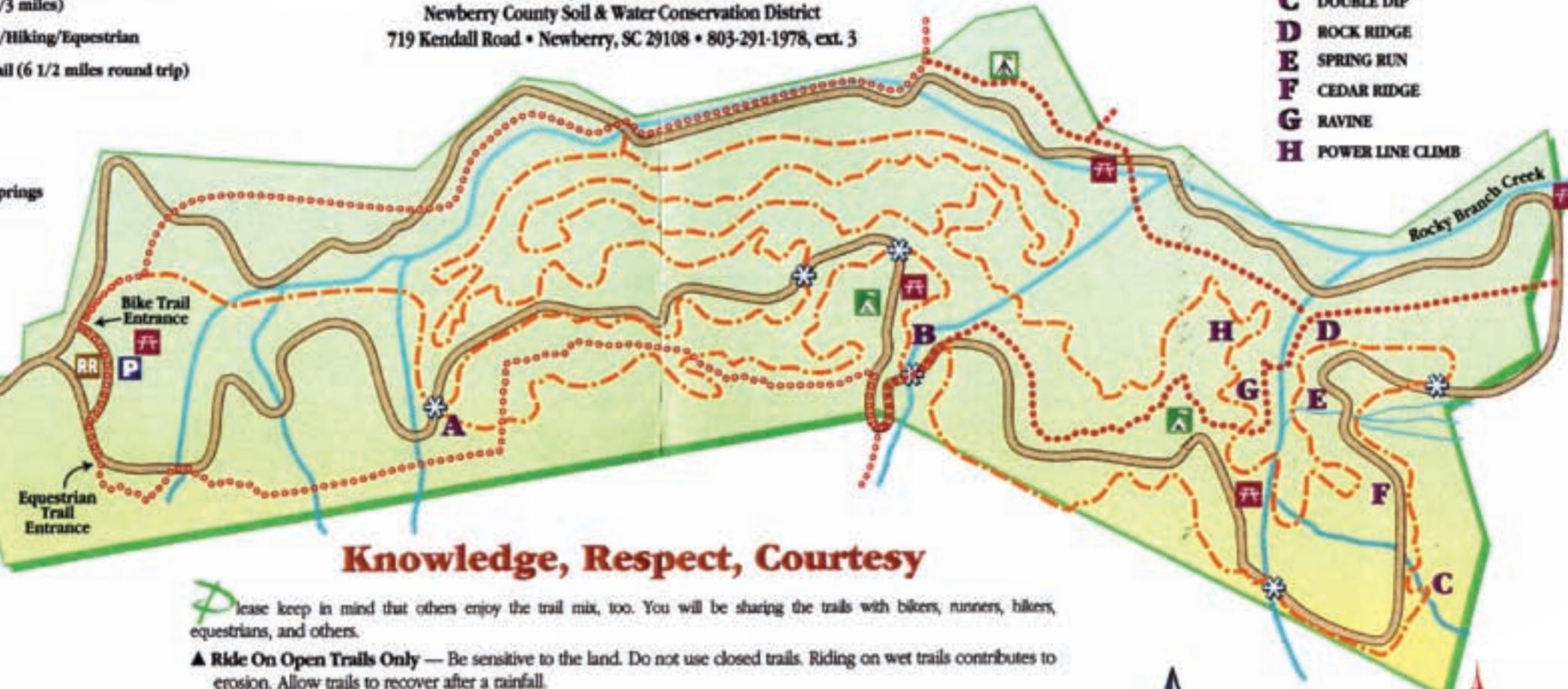
Lynch's Woods Park

Developed and managed by:
Newberry County Soil & Water Conservation District
719 Kendall Road • Newberry, SC 29108 • 803-291-1978, ext. 3

Legend

- Mountain Bike/Hiking Trail (7 1/2 miles)
- Dirt Road (4 1/3 miles)
- Palmetto Trail/Hiking/Equestrian
- Equestrian Trail (6 1/2 miles round trip)
- Creek
- Parking
- Campsites
- Camp Holly Springs
- Picnic Sites
- Restrooms

- ROAD CROSSINGS
- A** LOOP ENTRANCE
- B** STEPS
- C** DOUBLE DIP
- D** ROCK RIDGE
- E** SPRING RUN
- F** CEDAR RIDGE
- G** RAVINE
- H** POWER LINE CLIMB



Knowledge, Respect, Courtesy

- Please keep in mind that others enjoy the trail mix, too. You will be sharing the trails with bikers, runners, hikers, equestrians, and others.
- Ride On Open Trails Only** — Be sensitive to the land. Do not use closed trails. Riding on wet trails contributes to erosion. Allow trails to recover after a rainfall.
- Leave No Trace** — Do not litter.
- Control Your Bicycle** — Skidding is unsafe, and damages the trails.
- Always Yield Trail** — When approaching other trail users, slow down and prepare to stop, establish communication, and wait to pass safely. When passing equestrians, use extra caution: be ready to dismount and ask the horseback rider for instructions.
- Plan Ahead** — Carry a spare tube and pump, tools, food, water and a first aid kit. Always wear a helmet.
- Never Scare Animals** — Respect wildlife, stock and pets. Give them plenty of space.



This brochure was prepared by Newberry PRT.
For more information, contact the Department at
(803) 321-1015 or E-mail: prrt@cityofnewberry.com