

LOST CREEK TRAIL

ABOUT THE TRAIL:

Lost Creek trail is a twenty (20) mile circular hiking and riding trail located in Warren County, Missouri. The entire trail is over County and State roads, 11.3 miles on light duty and the remaining 8.7 miles on generally unimproved roadways. The trailhead is the common ground area of Pendleton, Missouri, located along the Norfolk and Western railroad tracks just east of highway B (across from the M.F.A. buildings). Parking is permitted in this area. The trail follows highway B south from Pendleton to the intersection of highway E.E. (0.5 mile marker.) Hikers continue south and remain on highway EE past the intersection at Lost Creek road. (1.0 mile marker.) The route travels along Pendleton Gore Ridge past the R.Q. Ranch, (3.2 mile marker), until the pavement and highway EE ends. (6.5 mile marker.) The trail leads down Low Gap road into the Lost Creek Valley at the road wye. (9.0 mile marker.) This section of the hike is very primitive and passable with an off-road vehicle only. Hikers will go east (left), at the Low Gap road wye and travel northeasterly along the creek valley crossing six fords. (15.2 mile marker.) The trail turns northwesterly (left), leaving the valley at the Lost Creek road wye and then intersecting with highway EE. (19.0 mile marker.) Hikers will go north on highway EE and then B to return to Pendleton, the trail terminus.

TRAIL HISTORY:

MISSOURI INDIANS (ONEOTA), 1500-1790

The native Indians who hunted along Lost Creek Trail gave their name to the river, then to the territory and eventually to the State. Between the years 1723 ad 1750, the French trader Bourgmont traveled through this area on his many expeditions from St. Charles to Fort Orleans to trade with these people. The Oneota established a limited number of permanent camps in central Missouri, the most prominent being the Utz site preserved in the Van Meter State Park, near Miami, Missouri. The Oneota were closely related to the Winnebago, Iowa, and the Oto, as all four tribes spoke the Chiwere Sioux language. The life of these people included hunting trips from their homes to acquire food. The me hunted the abundant deer and turkey while the women and children gathered edible seeds and roots from the valleys and lowlands. Recent excavations containing fish and turtle bones indicate an additional dependence upon water animals for food by these people. Many small caves along the hike trail served as temporary shelters during the long hunting excursions. It is not unusual to find various artifacts along the trail and in the rocky creek bed.

TRAVEL INSTRUCTIONS:

Pendleton Missouri is located approximately forty-five (45) miles due west of St. Louis city limits and one mile south of Interstate 70. If traveling west from St. Louis, take the Truxton exit (exit 188) off Interstate 70. (... this is the exit after Warrenton). If taveling east from Columbia, take the Pendelton exit off Interstate 70. (... this is the exit after Jonesburg). Go south on highway B for one mile to Pendleton.

RESERVATIONS:

Submit a completed standard hike request application form at least two (2) weeks in advance of the desired hike date to:

Camping Service, St. Louis Area Council, 4568 West Pine Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63108.

REQUIREMENT

Carry a compass

Each hiker should carry an extra pair of canvas shoes, and a towel

Trail will be closed during the deer and turkey hunting seasons

Do not litter trail or bury any trash, carry all trash out with you

Stay on trail as leaving it puts you on private property

Do not hack or cut any standing trees or bushes

Only contained fires for cooking permitted on the trail. This includes charcoal stoves or chimneys and reflector type ovens.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Trail markers are the Appalachian type two-inch by six-inch high white rectangles.

Boil or treat with water purification tablets all water taken along the trail.

Carry a 75 foot, 1/4 inch rope for use as a "safety line"

Note: Heavy, continuous rainfall during ground moisture saturation periods will cause fords to flood after several hours. (Usually less than two feet). Do not attempt to cross in fast water conditions.

Camping: Primitive camping is permitted in the Daniel Boone and Reifsnider State Forests year around at no charge and without prior arrangement. Both are located within an eight (8) mile radius of the trail. Maps are available from all Missouri Department of Conservation offices.

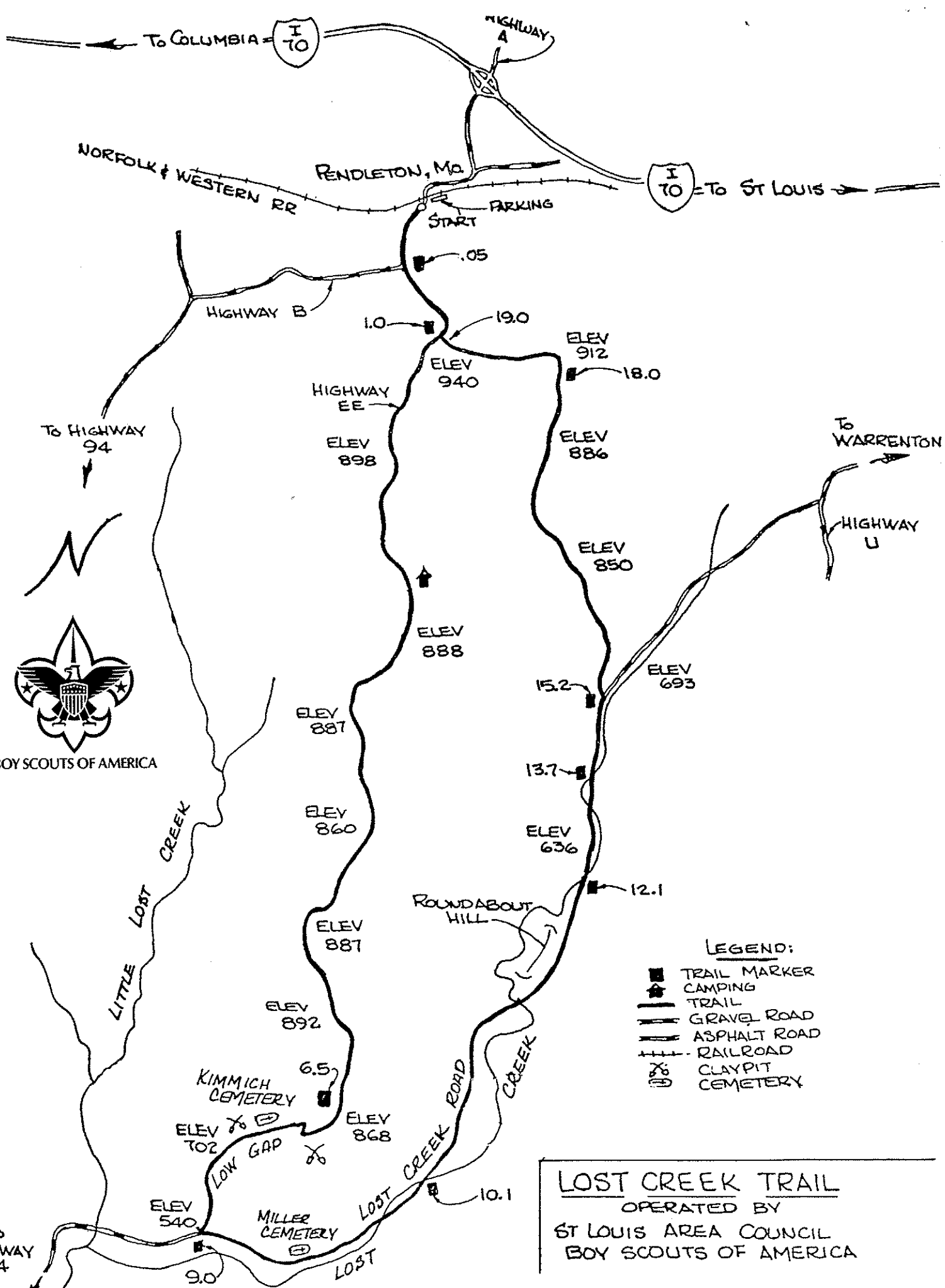
Conventional Vehicle Access: From highway 94 at the trail wye at Low Gap road and Lost Creek Valley. (9.0 mile marker); at the Lost Creek Valley wye at Lost Creek road. (15.2 mile marker); along highway EE until pavement terminates at Low Gap road. (6.5 mile marker.)

AWARDS:

Trail patches are available from:

Camping Service, St. Louis Area Council, 4568 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

THE DISCOVERY, MARKING AND MAPPING OF LOST CREEK TRAIL WAS
PLANNED AND EXECUTED BY TROOP 158 OF HOLY INNOCENTS CATHOLIC
CHURCH, TOMAHAWK DISTRICT.
(INAGURAL HIKE BY TROOP 158 ON NOVEMBER 12, 1977)



- LEGEND:**
- TRAIL MARKER
 - ▲ CAMPING
 - TRAIL
 - GRAVEL ROAD
 - ==== ASPHALT ROAD
 - RAILROAD
 - ⊗ CLAYPIT
 - ⊕ CEMETERY

LOST CREEK TRAIL
 OPERATED BY
 ST LOUIS AREA COUNCIL
 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA