The Athens Ranger District (Athens and Marion) Unit provides excellent opportunities for scenic horseback riding through a variety of vegetation: open fields, hardwood, mountain forest, and new forest. All horse trails are marked with gray diamonds. Maps show locations and configurations of the trails and loops, trailheads, and parking areas. The topography lines were included in order to give riders perspective on which trails provided a more challenging ride.

All horse trails are open to hikers as well. In addition, the Kinderhook and Plainview Horse Trail systems are open to mountain biking. For safety, please slow down and yield the right of way to hikers and their riders.

Yield the Right of Way

— Mountain bikers yield to hikers.
— Hikers yield to horse riders.
— Horse riders, control your speed.

Stone Church Horse Trail

The 13-mile Stone Church Trail winds through rolling hills in Perry County. Its trailhead provides a campsite specifically for equestrians. There are 10 campsites, and each has a covered picnic shelter, fire pit, grill, and parking space to accommodate vehicles with trailers (65’ long by 15’ wide).

The trail system is marked for the skeletal ruins of an old stone church nearby. Near the trailhead is all that remains of a once thriving community. The looming arched walls of the St. Peter’s Catholic Church and almost 100 tomstones were once the counterparts of a community of people who lived in these hills. The church was built in 1845 and Dominican priests came to give the first mass here.

During the Civil War, the town was in the surrounding hills was made to make cannon balls for the Union Army. According to legend, sometime shortly after the war, a group of men went into the community. The church fell into disrepair and was closed.

Another version of local history maintains that a group of men moved into the area that was once Stone Church Grove and purchased the iron ore mines, thus Carthage, OH.

Vehicles moved into the area that was a new church was built in nearby Sycamore. New St. Augustine Catholic Church was built in 1833, and the old stone St. Peter’s Church may have been abandoned. The 126-year-old St. Augustine Church was razed in 1990, leaving no trace of the stone church that was once the pride of the community.

The church and cemetery are on private land. Please treat them with the respect they deserve.

Kinderhook Trailhead Directions:

Kinderhook Trailhead - From Marion, follow State Route 7 North, 15 miles through Newport. 1/2 mile past Newport, at the Wayne W. sign, turn left on Davis Run Road (CR 244). Drive about 5/8 mile on Davis Run Road, then turn right onto the trailhead (11’13” 30.50’” W, 39° 36’ 26” 60’” N).

Plainview Horse Trail

The new Plainview Horse Trail is in Monroe County. It bisects through mature maple and bottomland hardwood stands. The trail features a wonderful view of downtown Athens, in the middle waterfalls at the confluence of two streams.

Plainview Horse Trail Directions:

From Fly, Ohio: Take State Route 800 north for 10.4 miles. Turn left onto Township Road 40 (Mohawk Rd.) and go 1.6 miles. Turn left onto County Road 40 (Pulaski Rd.) and go 0.3 miles. Turn left onto Township Road 008 (Graham Rd.) and go 0.1 miles. The trail will be on the right side of the road.

From Woodfield, Ohio: Take State Route 28 south for 2.3 miles. Turn left onto State Route 800 and go 1.3 miles. Turn right onto County Road 40 (Pulaski Rd.) and go 0.4 miles. Turn left onto Township Road 008 (Graham Rd.) and go 0.7 miles. The trail will be on the right side of the road.

We Need Your Help!

Adopt the Leave No Trace ethic and Trail Light-ly. For more information on these programs, contact our office. Encourage others to practice these land ethic.

• Report vandalism - missing signs, unsafe conditions, vehicles, etc
• Pick up after yourself and others, leaving the area cleaner than you found it
• Ramped closed areas. Stay on the trail, cutting switchbacks damages trails and erosion.
• The Stone Church and Kinderhook Communities are on private land. Keep your horses out of the cemeteries and treat them with the respect they deserve.

Volunteering

New trail improvements can only be made as rapidly as funding and resources allow. You can help by participating in the forest’s trail volunteer program. A little of your time and resources can go a long way to improving the trails and will give you an opportunity to give something back to the land.

Call the Wayne NF office closest to the site where you would like to volunteer. The phone numbers for our offices are listed on the back cover of the map.

In case of emergency, dial 911 or your local Sheriff’s Office.

Perry County (Stone Church) - 740-439-6123
Washington County (Kinderhook) - 740-576-7090
Monroe County (Plainview) - 740-672-5612

In case of Accident or Injury:

Nearest hospitals to Stone Church Trails are:
• Fairfield Medical Center, Lancaster - 740-363-8700
•Genesis-Good Samaritan Hospital, Zanesville - 740-544-5000
•Hocking Valley Community Hospital, Logan - 740-386-2105

Nearest hospitals to Kinderhook and Plainview Trails are:
• Marion Memorial Hospital, Marion - 740-387-9997
•Salaty Hospital, Marrieta - 740-568-2000

If you suspect a back or neck injury, do NOT move the rider. A medical service team will assist the injured rider.

Trails are Part of Forest Mix

Designated trails for horse riding, hiking, or just one activity provided on Wayne National Forest lands. Within the forest, you may see many other forest management activities and uses in progress. Wild- life habitat maintenance, timber harvesting, mineral activities, and other dispersed recreational uses may be occurring in the area. Mountain bikes and hikers share this trail.

Oil and gas roads cross the trail. These roads access oil and gas wells on private land and are not open for riding. You will likely see some and gas wells near the trails. Keep your horses out of the area and keep out of the trails. They are private property and are dangerous. Please keep away from them.

Both areas are popular for hikers. Be considerate and respect the rights of others to use Forest lands.

Legend

Horse Trail
Recreation Sites
Campground
Trailhead
Roads
State Route
County Road
Township Road
Municipal Street
Forest Service Road
Elevation Points
Wayne National Forest

This map supercedes all previous maps.
1.25:1,000
1 inch = 0.39 miles

Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 17 North
Map Datum: North American Datum 1983
Contour Interval: 20 feet

Stone Church Horse Trail

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During the Civil War, the town on the surrounding hills was made to make cannon balls for the Union Army. According to legend, sometime shortly after the war, a group of men went into the community. The church fell into disrepair and was closed.

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The church and cemetery are on private land. Please treat them with the respect they deserve.

Section of Stone Church Horse Trail

Stone Church Horsecamp - 82° 14’ 52.32” W, 39° 36’ 19.57” N

Stone Church Trailhead - 0.75 mile west of Stone Church Horsecamp on CR 38 (11’ 13” 30.50’” W, 39° 36’ 31.57’” N)

North Country Trailhead Trailhead for Stone Church Trail - along Forest Road 2021 (11’ 13” 34.47’” W, 39° 36’ 34.57’” N)

Stone Church Horsecamp

This camp provides facilities for horses and horse trailers.

• Two sites are provided, each with a 45-foot long by 15-foot wide parking space
• Each site includes a level area, fire pit, grill, and tent pad
• Water is provided in a tank for horses, bring feed or grain to carry water
• Before vacating your campsite, clean out the picnic area and place waste in the manure bin.
• A self-service camping fee is charged for the campground. See the website for current fee
• The campground is open year-round

The campground is closed December 15 - April 14.
Planning Your Ride

All horse trails are marked with gray diamonds. Trails connectors and loops can be distinguished by different color dots on the gray diamond. The main loop is marked with a gray diamond with no dot color.

**In Case of Emergency Call 911**

Lawrence County Sheriff @ 740-532-3525

In case of emergency call 911.

For non-emergencies call

**Wayne National Forest Horse Trails**

**Legend**

- Horse Trail
- Dot Color Matches Trail Markers
- Trail Closed to Horses

**Recreation Sites**

- Boat Launch
- Campground
- Trailhead/Parking

**Roads**

- Forest Service Road
- State Route
- County Road
- Township Road
- Municipal Street
- Elevation Points
- Wayne National Forest
- State of Ohio Land
- Signed Intersections

**Maps**

These maps were partially funded by a grant from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

**USGS National Map Center**

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this organization is prohibited from discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, disability, or where the person resides in an area with a high percentage of elderly persons, based on income and housing cost criteria. This organization also prohibit discrimination against any person in need of emergency services where the person is unable to afford the fee charged for the service or is unable to pay the fee because of lack of money or lack of ready access to the money.

**Wayne National Forest Civil Rights Statement**

We need the assistance of all riders to combat vandalism and maintain the trails. Be alert for ticks, snakes, and poison ivy. Bring your own water. Water in streams may be used when you’re far enough from the stream and can be treated with a water purification device. Best practices are to purify water before camping and after leaving a campsite.

To report vandalism, please call the USDA Forest Service at 740-532-3525. Help us fight vandalism by calling the USDA Forest Service at 740-532-3525.