


- Troop 55 New Scouts will have the opportunity to see Crabtree Falls, the State Hatchery, and Spy Rock adjacent Appalachian Trail.
- New Scout Patrol will camp at Crabtree Falls Campground or behind Hatchery.



George Washington National Forest

- ▶ Strickler Knob ▶ Virginia Hiking Books ▶ Hiking Tips
- ▶ Ramsey's Draft BP ▶ Crabtree Falls ▶ Cold Mountain
- ▶ Halfmoon Mountain ▶ Stephens Trail ▶ White Rocks

Crabtree Falls - Nelson County, Virginia



Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
4.4 mls	★	★	★	★	N/A

Hiking Time: 3.5 hours plus a half hour for lunch
Elev. Gain: 1,380 ft

Links:

- ▶ George Washington National Forest
- ▶ Montebello Camping and Fishing Resort
- ▶ The Cabins at Crabtree Falls
- ▶ Printable Topo Hike Map (PDF)
- ▶ Montebello Weather Forecast
- ▶ Graphic Precip/Temp Forecast
- ▶ Current Weather Radar Loop (Java)
- ▶ Garmin (GDB), GPS exchange (GPX) (What's this?)
- ▶ 3D View of Route!

Resources:

From: Get Directions

e.g., 12000 Government Center Parkway 22035 or Fairfax VA



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Spy Rock - Nelson County, Virginia



Length	Difficulty	Streams	Views	Solitude	Camping
3.1 mls	★	N/A	★	★	★

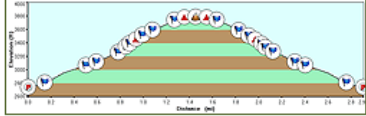
Hiking Time: 1.5 hours plus a 1/2 hour for lunch
Elev. Gain: 1,260 ft

Links:

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Resources:

From:



Printable Topo Trail Map

- Click for location shots
- Click for Parking/Start location
- Hike trail blazed colors
- Other trail



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1 [Click Here For Detailed Location](#)

Crabtree Falls is arguably the most beautiful set of waterfalls in Virginia. Billed as the tallest waterfalls east of the Mississippi, Crabtree Falls is a must see for anyone who lives in the mid-Atlantic region.

The falls are believed to be named after William Crabtree, who settled in the area in 1777. The Tye River, at the bottom of the falls, is named for Allen Tye, who did extensive exploration in the local Blue Ridge Mountains.

Take note of the [footbridge that crosses Tye River](#), a laminated arch that was shipped from New York state in one piece and installed in 1978. Until the mid 1980's the footbridge was the starting point for the hike up Crabtree Falls. Today the parking area is on the other side of the river, and the bridge now serves primarily as a decorative addition to the hike.

From the [end of the parking area](#), follow the [paved trail](#) to the bottom of the lower most falls. At this point the [trail becomes dirt](#), and does the first of nine switchbacks on its way to the top of the highest set of falls. The trail is well maintained, and has [wooden guardrails](#) along its steeper portions, as well as [railed overlooks](#) at the most scenic points.

At 0.5 miles look for a rock formation that appears to be a small cave. You can pass through the cave and [exit on the other side](#) rejoining the trail.

Arrive at the top of the falls in 1.1 miles from the parking area and cross over a [wooden bridge](#) to an overlook. From here you can't see Crabtree Falls below as it falls away, but still get a nice view of the [valley floor and Blue Ridge Mountains](#). Don't be tempted to climb over the steep wall into the uppermost



Troop 55
March 16-17, 2013

Troop 55 New Scout Patrol (NSP)

March 16-17, 2013

Our March 16-17, 2013 outing is especially planned to acclimate the new scouts a Troop 55 outing. It includes a short hike to and from Crabtree Falls, car-camping at Crabtree Campgrounds (restrooms & water) next to the Tye River, visit to a state hatchery, and depending on the weather, a hike to Spy Rock. The scout leaders for the New Scout Patrol (called Troop Guides) and adult leaders will lead the cooking for the new scouts at the campground.

Details

Prior to the trip:

- New scouts should dress in layers and pack for car-camping. See the BSA55.com website for car-camping packing list. Details to purchase troop 2-man tents will be provided later.
- Bring a daypack to carry a trail lunch, water, and rain gear. (For this trip, a backpack is completely optional for new scouts).

06:30AM Saturday, March 16th

- Meet at St Francis parking lot (eat breakfast before you arrive). Depart for George Washington National Forest Crabtree Falls trailhead.
- All the new scouts will be in a New Scout Patrol (NSP) with Troop Guides and Uniformed Adult Leaders. The NSP will hike up (1.1 miles) to Crabtree Falls with the whole troop, eat lunch with the troop, and take troop photo at the falls.
- Depending on the weather, the NSP will continue to hike up (1 mile) to Crabtree Meadows (where the older scouts will be camping that night) before returning back downhill to the Crabtree Campgrounds.
- The NSP will camp at the Crabtree Campgrounds (restrooms, water, sinks, etc.) next to the Tye River.
- The NSP Troop Guides will lead the cooking with the NSP for Sat dinner and Sunday breakfast.
- There will be a campfire and snacks.

Sunrise, Sunday, March 17th

- After breakfast and cleanup, the NSP will be driven to the Montebello State Hatchery.
- There is a short tour planned at the hatchery.
- Depending on the weather, the NSP will hike up (1.5 miles) to Spy Rock.
- Also depending on the timing, the NSP will meet up with the rest of the troop at Spy Rock. (The older scouts will have been hiking along the Appalachian Trail). The whole troop will hike back down to the hatchery.
- Bring money for lunch on the drive back to St Francis.
- 4:30PM arrive at St Francis. Scouts will call from the road to give you and updated ETA.

