

Wildlands of Illinois

Shawnee National Forest

Ripple Hollow Proposed Wilderness

Ripple Hollow proposed Wilderness Area is 4,375 acres located in the Illinois Ozarks of southwestern Illinois. The rugged topography, with steep slopes and deep ravines, harbors old-growth, mixed hardwood forest. Twenty-one habitat types in relatively undisturbed condition, offer a wide diversity of plants and animals. Mammals such as bobcat, wild turkey, deer, squirrel, and beaver reside here. Bird species are numerous and include Mississippi kite and bald eagle.

Ripple Hollow has seventeen surveyed prehistoric sites, as well as remnant historical evidence.

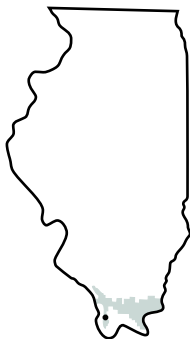
Visitors can enjoy nature walks, bird watching, hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding. Ripple Hollow has no officially designated trails. However, there are some user trails established. Trails are poorly signed — carry topographic maps and compass.

PRACTICE GOOD HIKING & CAMPING ETHICS -- LEAVE NO TRACE



The southern tip of Illinois was once a vast expanse of forested wildlands stretching from the Mississippi River to the Ohio River. Early settlers viewed the wilderness as an

enemy to be conquered, and industrialists later saw it as an endless supply of resources to be exploited. Today we are left with the remnants of our wilderness heritage. Ripple Hollow was identified as having wilderness characteristics, but was left out of the 1990 Illinois wilderness designation process.



Directions

From the Jonesboro, IL town circle take SR 127 south for 8.5 miles to the Union/Alexander County Line (just south of the town of Mill Creek) and turn right/west. Follow this road about 4.5 miles to the “**Ripple Hollow South Access**” parking area. Three trails, **Ripple Hollow Trail**, **Ripple Ridge Trail**, and **Dogwood Flats Trail** all lead to **North Ripple Hollow Trail**. To the northwest, **North Ripple Hollow Trail** connects with **Pine Knob Trail** and leaves the wilderness boundary. The other way **North Ripple Hollow Trail** meanders west/southwest to the junction of **South Ripple Hollow Trail**. You can follow this trail upstream/southeast for about a mile. By following the trail up a very steep hill (please avoid when soil is wet to prevent excess erosion) to the west you will connect with the **Vick Hill Trail** that leads back to the road about two miles south of the parking lot. You can either retrace your steps, or stage a vehicle at the **Vick Hill** trailhead. Referring to the map on the reverse side will help you estimate trail loop distances.

For more information contact:

Illinois Wilderness Action Network
(IWAN)
PO Box 117
Carbondale, IL 62903
www.illinoiswilderness.org

Where to Stay, What to See, and Other Helpful Information...

Campsites

Grapevine Trail Campground, SNF 681-833-8576
Horseshoe Lake, IDNR, 618-776-5689

Lodging

Anna Plaza Motel, Anna 618-833-5215
Super 8, Anna
Lincoln Motel, Jonesboro 618-833-2181
Horseshoe Lake Motel, Olive Branch, 618-776-5201
Southernaire Courts, Olive Branch, 618-776-5323
Worthington Motel, Olive Branch, 618-776-5333
Ridge View Lake B&B, Tammis, 618-747-9305

Restaurants

Many restaurants in Jonesboro, Anna & Olive Branch

Other attractions in area

Union County Conservation Area
Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area
Ridge/Hamburg Hill, SNF
Historic Thebes

Closest Medical Facilities

Union County Hosp.
517 N. Main Street
Anna, IL 62906
618-833-4511
St. Francis Medical Ctr.
I55 & Route K
Cape Girardeau, MO
573-335-1251

USFS Ranger Station

Jonesboro Ranger
District
521 N. Main Street
Jonesboro, IL 62906
618-833-8576

Recommended Topographical Maps

Mill Creek, McClure 1:24,000,
available from the USFS

Ripple Hollow Proposed Wilderness Area



0 MILE 1

0 KILOMETER 1

Trailhead

Trail

Wilderness Boundary

Private Inholding

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

7.5' QUADRANGLE
MC CLURE, IL-MO, MILL CREEK, IL

This map is intended to be used only as a general guide.
Please obtain USGS topographic maps for navigational use.

