The Crossville Greenway: Cumberland State Park Connector Trail

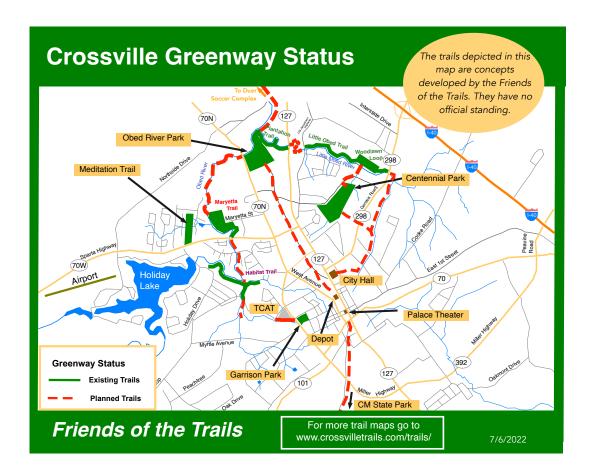
Overview

There are over 80 miles of hiking trails already in the county, up from 30 miles ten years ago, and these trails are well used by residents and visitors. The historical growth of the trails systems in the county shows there is a lot of public support for more trails as evidenced by the number of volunteers who do physical work on the trails, the enthusiasm shown by hikers when new trails are added into the inventory, the responses in the recent public survey and the enthusiastic participation in the local Hiking Marathon.

Trails are used more when they are constructed near population centers and that is why the Friends of the Trails, a 501(c)3 volunteer organization is concentrating its efforts on building the Greenway within the Crossville City limits.

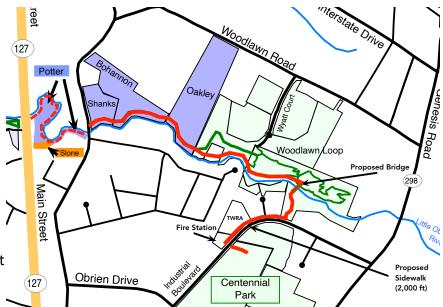
A number of miles of dirt trails have already been constructed including the Woodlawn Loop, Little Obed River Trail, the Plantation Trail and Maryetta Trail. Work continues on filling in the gaps to produce a ring of trails around the city and some spokes into the downtown area.





Grant Application

Although not related to the State
Park Connector it is encouraging that
the City of Crossville has submitted a
Community Development Block
Grant, CDBG, application to the State
of Tennessee. It is my understanding
that if successful they will receive
about \$630K which together with a
\$70K matching contribution gives
about \$700K to build a paved, ADA
trail between Centennial Park and
the Obed River Park. It is doubtful
that it would be sufficient to construct
the whole trail but it may be enough
to go from Centennial Park to Old



Jamestown Highway, including the bridge over the Little Obed River. The proposed ADA trail is shown as the solid red line. The grant will be awarded in October 2022.

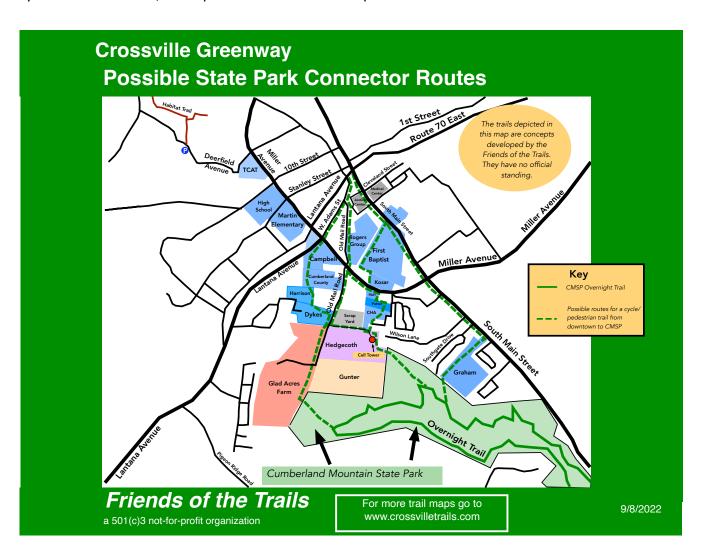
Cumberland State Park Connector Trail

There is a network of trails within the state park and there is a desire to connect the park to the downtown area with a cycle path. The area between the park and downtown is developed so it is not easy to find a suitable route for a trail. The current preferred concept is to construct a "sidewalk trail" along Old Mail Road. This would be a paved multiuse trail for walkers and cyclists. A connection would then be needed from the end of the trail into the state park property.

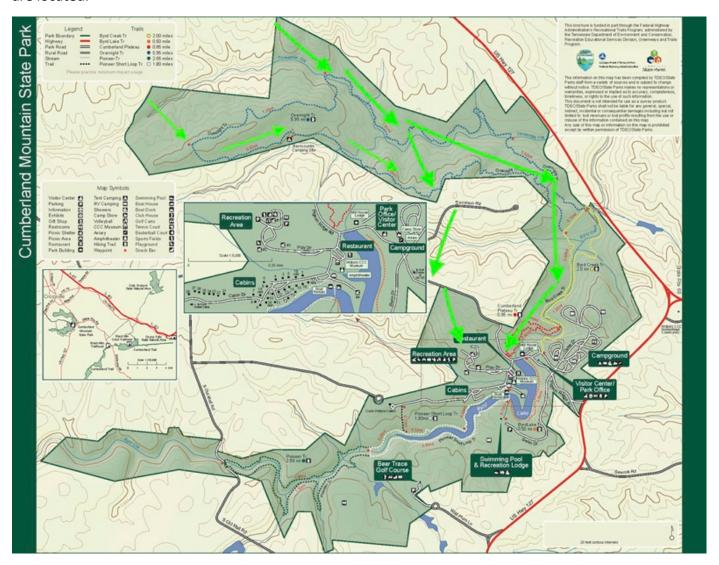
One solution would be to obtain an easement to use the 1,200 ft private access road to the cell-tower on the Hedgecoth property. The easement would be on property owned by Tim Hedgecoth. An additional 1,800 ft of new trail would be required along edge of the Hedgecoth property.

Another Solution would be to obtain an easement to construct the trail on the Glad Acres Farm property as that property abuts both Old Mail Road and the State Park.

We have considered many alternative routes but using Old Mail Road, providing there is room in the Right of Way to construct a trail, is the preferred route. This Map shows some of the alternative routes.



Once inside the park there is a considerable distance to go to the central area where the dam and restaurant are located.



There are many hurdles to be overcome before a connector trail can be built but I am optimistic that if we can keep the discussions going then support for the concept will grow and one day this trail will become a reality.

John Conrad, 9/9/2022

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