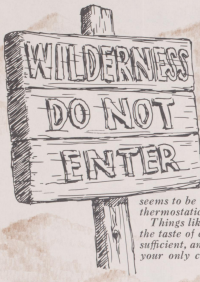


# SHINING ROCK WILDERNESS



... UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU are seeking something elemental that seems to be missing from your mechanized, thermostatic life. Things like the sounds of tumbling streams, the taste of clean air, a feeling of pride in being self-sufficient, and a slice of solitude with your thoughts as your only companion.



... IN HOW YOU show your respect for unspoiled nature, Glass, metal, and plastic are not the most polite means of saying, "Thank you for being beautiful!"



... OF WILDERNESS areas if you require lots of canned entertainment for your fun. There's not much "sawing" action to be found on the wilderness trails.



Visitors to Shining Rock Wilderness won't see any warning signs such as those on this "trail." Nor will they see roads, buildings, utility lines, or any man-made structures. They won't see any powered vehicles or machinery, either. This 13,600-acre tract is preserved in its natural state to provide a primitive, remote retreat from civilization.

The "shining rocks" that give the area its name really do exist. They are huge, glistening, snow-white quartz rock outcrops that cap Shining Rock Mountain at 6,000 feet elevation.

Most visitors enter Shining Rock Wilderness off the Blue Ridge Parkway, turning off onto the dirt road at Milepost 420.2. This is Forest Service Road 816, which runs 1 1/2 miles to a dead-end at a parking lot. The hiker then has a 3 1/2 mile walk over relatively easy trail to reach the Shining Rocks. There are no powered vehicles permitted in the Wilderness. Another entrance to the Wilderness is near the Daniel Boone Boy Scout Camp, located off North Carolina 215, near Sunburst. A third way in is from off U.S. Highway 276 where it crosses the East Fork of the Pigeon River. This is about three miles northeast of the Blue Ridge Parkway, on U.S. 276.

The 25 miles of trails in the Shining Rock Wilderness take the hiker to the high places where he finds unsurpassed views of mountain panoramas. The area is one of the southernmost extensions of the vegetative zone called the Canadian Zone. Spruce, fir, hemlock, and Appalachian hardwood forests delight the eye. An unusually wide variety of shrubs and flowers grow in profusion in many areas. Spectacular plants include five species of rhododendrons, two mountain laurels, mountain ash, which hazy, service berry, orchids, and fire pinks.

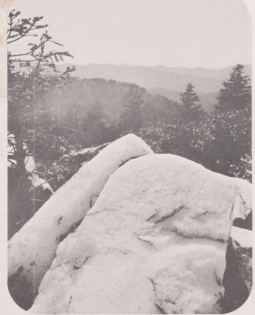
Elevations vary in the Wilderness from 3,500 feet near the mouth of Dry Branch to 6,030 feet on Cold Mountain, a beautiful cone-shaped peak. The lower slopes of Shining Rock Mountain are quite steep, but the topography along Shining Rock Ridge is undulating, with gentle slopes. Pigeon River, a tributary of the Tennessee River, is born amid the high valleys of this Wilderness.



... FOR THOSE WHO MAY have a tendency to become addicted to quiet, peaceful beauty — you may soon find that the bright lights and noisy crowds have forever lost their glamour and appeal.



... AND THEY REQUIRE your consideration. The delicately balanced ecosystems in the wilderness environment are easily obliterated by the thoughtless actions of a few.



BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL WITH FIRE

Great care is required at ALL times when using fire in the woods. Remember—the greatest wilderness is no stronger than a single match or a stray spark.

REMEMBER, TOO—

PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN. Burn all trash that fire will consume completely. Pack out all metal, plastic, and glass. Use the trash-disposal containers provided at trail entrances and exits.

AND FINALLY—

Boil or otherwise treat water from streams before drinking it.



Pack it in—Pack it out!!

- Please DO
- ... pack out all unburnable trash.
  - ... extinguish campfires with water.
  - ... keep hiking parties small.
  - ... burn all trash that your campfire will consume completely.
  - ... carry a survival kit.
  - ... use only wood that is "dead and down" for fires.
  - ... sterilize all drinking water.
  - ... bury human waste.
  - ... "take only pictures, leave only footprints."
  - ... use a backpacker stove to eliminate the need for firewood.

- Please DON'T
- ... litter.
  - ... kill or injure vegetation.
  - ... use motorized vehicles in Wilderness areas.
  - ... wash you, your clothes, or utensils in streams.
  - ... leave fires unattended.
  - ... deface rocks or trees.
  - ... smoke while hiking.
  - ... bury garbage.
  - ... fail to leave word with friends or family as to where you plan to hike, and when you will return.



The National Forests in North Carolina offer another Wilderness in addition to Shining Rock — The Linville Gorge Wilderness, also in the Pisgah Forest.

In contrast to the high places of Shining Rock, Linville Gorge affords a chance to hike to the bottom of a rugged canyon where Linville River tumbles along a rough watercourse that is filled with huge boulders, cascades, and waterfalls.

With the cooperation of visitors, and through the protective custody of the Forest Service, these two areas will continue to provide delightful experiences to adventurous hikers for centuries to come.

### PERMITS REQUIRED

Permits are required to enter either of these wilderness areas. Permits for Shining Rock Wilderness may be obtained from:

District Ranger  
P.O. Box 8  
Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768  
Phone: 704-877-3265

Southern Region — 13 1976

## Shining Rock Wilderness

PISSAH NATIONAL FOREST SOUTHERN REGION



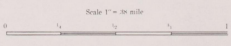
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE—SOUTHERN REGION

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Shining Rock Wilderness



SHINING ROCK WILDERNESS



- 1.5 • SYSTEM TRAILS AND MILEAGE
- OTHER TRAILS
- ▲ PRIMITIVE CAMPING SITES

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FT.

The District Ranger Station near Brevard, North Carolina, issues permits for entering Shining Rock Wilderness. The Ranger Station is on U.S. 276, two miles north of the intersection of U.S. 64 and U.S. 276. Permits are also available from cooperators in Cruse area, U.S. 276 west Lake Logan area, U.S. 215.