

Pete's Branch Falls Hike

A 2 Mile One Way, 4 Mile Round Trip Moderate Hike - Elevation Gain 757 Feet
A Hike up the Forest Service Road from Horse Creek Recreation Area
to a nice Waterfall.

Caution: There are four creek crossings which usually must be waded.
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Directions to Trailhead: Leave Greeneville on 11-E Bypass North. Drive past the Wal-Mart Supercenter and turn right at the first traffic light on Highway 107 toward Erwin. Continue for 5.1 miles, turn right and follow the signs to Horse Creek Recreation Area. Upon entering Horse Creek continue straight ahead to the end of the paved road and small parking area.

Park and begin your hike up the old forest service road. After negotiating four creek crossings which will nearly always require wading. If you don't wish to wade, you can drive an offroad vehicle on the first part of this hike but the road is very rough and uneven.

After 1.12 miles, you will reach an obvious fork in the road. If you take the left (main) fork the road will continue to the top of Cold Spring Mountain and the Appalachian Trail.

For this hike you take the right fork along the Poplar Cove Trail. The first section of trail is flat and passes a big car primitive campground, then crosses a creek. Just past this creek crossing at mile 1.34, the Pete's Branch Falls Trail leaves the Poplar Cove Trail and heads steadily uphill where it ends at Pete's Branch Falls at mile 1.98. Spend some time at the falls, then return by the same route.



SYNOPSIS OF HIKE

| Mile | Elevation | Description |
|------|-----------|---|
| 0 | 1823 | Trailhead at Horse Creek. |
| 1.12 | 2134 | Fork in Forest Service Road. Poplar Cove Trail is to the right. |
| 1.34 | 2178 | Junction Pete's Branch Falls and Poplar Cove Trail. |
| 1.98 | 2580 | Pete's Branch Falls. |

