



Rim Rock Recreation Trail



A wonderfully scenic trail, Rim Rock National Recreation Trail leads around the rim of a rock escarpment, hence its name. Rim Rock has a long history of drawing people to its forested bluffs for hiking and picnicking. In 1980, it was designated a national recreation trail because of its exceptional scenic beauty and historic values. To early settlers this unique formation was known as ‘the Pounds,’ an old English term meaning “some sort of enclosure.” This is how the valley lying to the east got its name, Pounds Hollow.

Trail Highlights

This area is known for its spectacular show of spring woodland flowers along both its upper and lower trails. The upper trail however is paved and less strenuous for hikers. The lower trail has a dirt surface and leads along the base of the bluffs before looping back to the parking lot. Along the lower trail, you will find impressive sandstone rock formations, massive bottomland hardwood trees and Ox-lot Cave, a massive rock overhang where 19th century loggers kept their oxen and horses.

The upper trail features interpretive signs explaining the past uses of the area and the natural and cultural characteristics found today. The trail leads past remnants of a stone wall built by prehistoric Native Americans, a CCC plantation and an observation platform. Here you have the option of descending the stairs to the valley and Ox-lot Cave.



Surrounding Area

Pounds Hollow Recreation Area, Camp Cadiz Campground, High Knob Picnic Area, Garden of the Gods Recreation Area, Ohio River National Scenic Byway and the River to River Trail.

Length: 0.5 miles

Travel Time: 1 hour

Surface Type: Flagstone

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Recommended Season: All year

Facilities: Accessible picnic area and vault toilets; interpretive signs and connecting trails to Pounds Hollow Recreation Area.

Access: From Harrisburg,IL follow Highway 34/145 south 6 miles, then continue on Highway 34 south for 9 miles. Turn east onto Karbers Ridge Road, 8.3 miles to the Rim Rock entrance road.

From Evansville, IN, take Highway 62 west & continue on IL. State Route 141 to Highway 1. Go south on Highway 1 about 24 miles to Karbers Ridge Road, then west 3 miles to the Rim Rock entrance road.

Safety: Trail tread may be slippery during and after rain. Use caution when using the wooden staircase and stone steps leading to the canyon floor and Ox-lot Cave. Be aware that large icicles form along the bluff walls during the winter months.

Trail Ethics: Picnic area is open 6 am–10 pm. Stay on the designated trail, rappelling and rock climbing are prohibited, pack it in-pack it out and pets are allowed only on a leash.

Emergencies

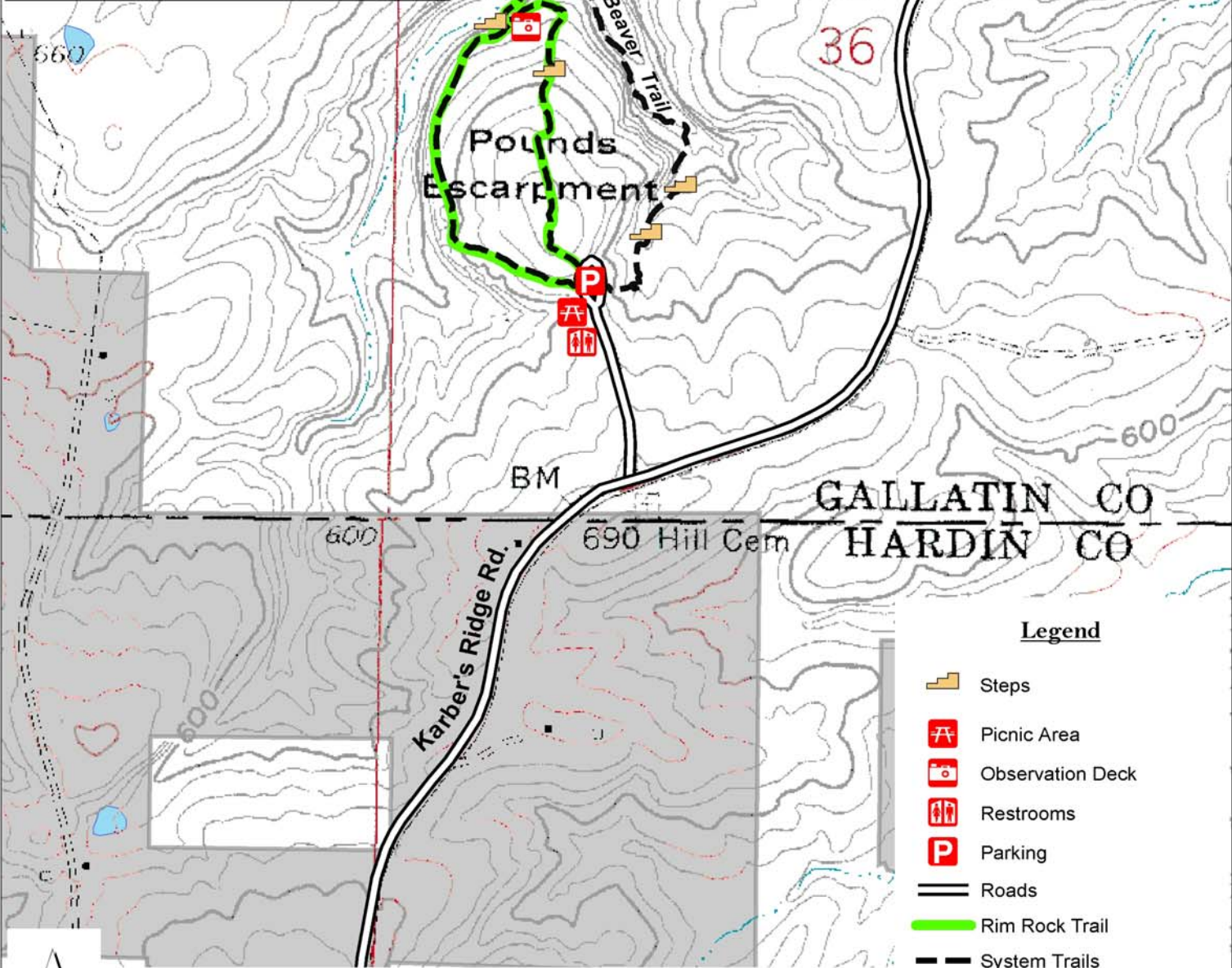
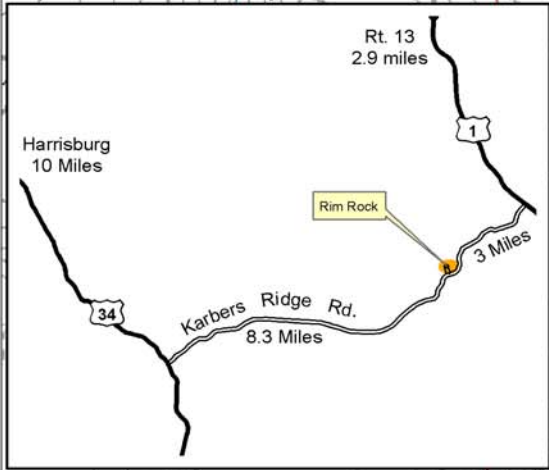
The nearest hospital is Harrisburg Medical Center in Harrisburg, IL. The nearest public phone is at the intersection of Highway 34 and Karbers Ridge Rd or in Elizabethtown, IL or Harrisburg.

For More Information

Hidden Springs Ranger District
602 N. First Street
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2111

www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee

Rim Rock National Recreation Trail



- Legend**
- Steps
 - Picnic Area
 - Observation Deck
 - Restrooms
 - Parking
 - Roads
 - Rim Rock Trail
 - System Trails
 - National Forest Land
 - Non National Forest Land

