

Trail Markings:

General Forest Trails marked by white diamonds with trail numbers written onto them.

River to River Trail (R2R) features white diamonds with a blue “i”, except in wilderness where it is a natural wood diamond with the “i” routed.

Safety: Personal safety-Make sure someone knows your route and establish a check in time. Wear appropriate clothing and footwear depending on the weather and terrain. Carry plenty of water, food, compass and a first aid kit.

Environmental safety-Be aware of poison ivy and stinging nettle. Various insects including ticks and mosquitoes are present here during spring, summer and fall. Venomous snakes are also present here including timber rattlesnakes and copperheads.

At all times, this hike is remote and the closest vehicle accessible areas is the trailhead if troubles occur. Precautions should be taken for long hikes (water, food, first-aid kit, etc.).

Emergencies: The nearest hospital is Saint Francis Medical

Center in Cape Girardeau, MO or SIH Memorial Hospital of Carbondale depending where you are. Cell phone service along the trail can be spotty so be prepared and know where your closest outlet is when dialing 911.

Camping: There are no designated camping areas along the trail but numerous ideal trailside camping areas. Note camping is prohibited within Natural Areas. Use existing campsites, don’t create new ones. Use portable camp stove for cooking. If a campfire is needed, keep it small and use existing fire rings. Protect water quality by washing and camping 200 feet from any water sources. Leave the campsite cleaner than you found it.

Facilities: There are no facilities along this entire trail. Bury human waste and toilet tissue in a 6 inch deep “cat hole” at least 200 feet from water.

Travel Time: This depends entirely on how fast you hike and how much exploring you do but it is suggested that most should be able to do these hikes in 4-5 hours.

Surface Type: Dirt and rock



Godwin Trail Loops

Shawnee National Forest

2024

Description: The Godwin Trail is the section of the River to River Trail from Bald Knob Road to Pine Hills Road. It travels through Bald Knob and Clear Springs Wildernesses. This brochure describes ways to use other trails to create two loops off the Godwin Trail starting at the east and west trailheads.

Most of the trails into the valley typically follow ridge lines with steep forested hills on both sides of the trail. These trails gradually make their way up and down the 300’ climb into the valley. Trail 372 at the bottom of the valley mainly follows along Hutchins Creek with numerous views of it and crossings where needed.

Odie’s Place is an old farm site about a half mile north of where the R2R Trail crosses Hutchins Creek. It was the home site of Odie and Florence Bridgeman. At the site you will find the shelter shown nearby along with several pieces of abandoned old farm

equipment, a car, and some old building remnants. For more information on Odie and Florence Bridgeman, please go to this website for a 46 page book about the couple written by Bonnie J. Krause.

https://archive.org/details/CAT31383523/page/n1/mode/2up

The GPS coordinates are N37° 34.078' W89° 23.858'.

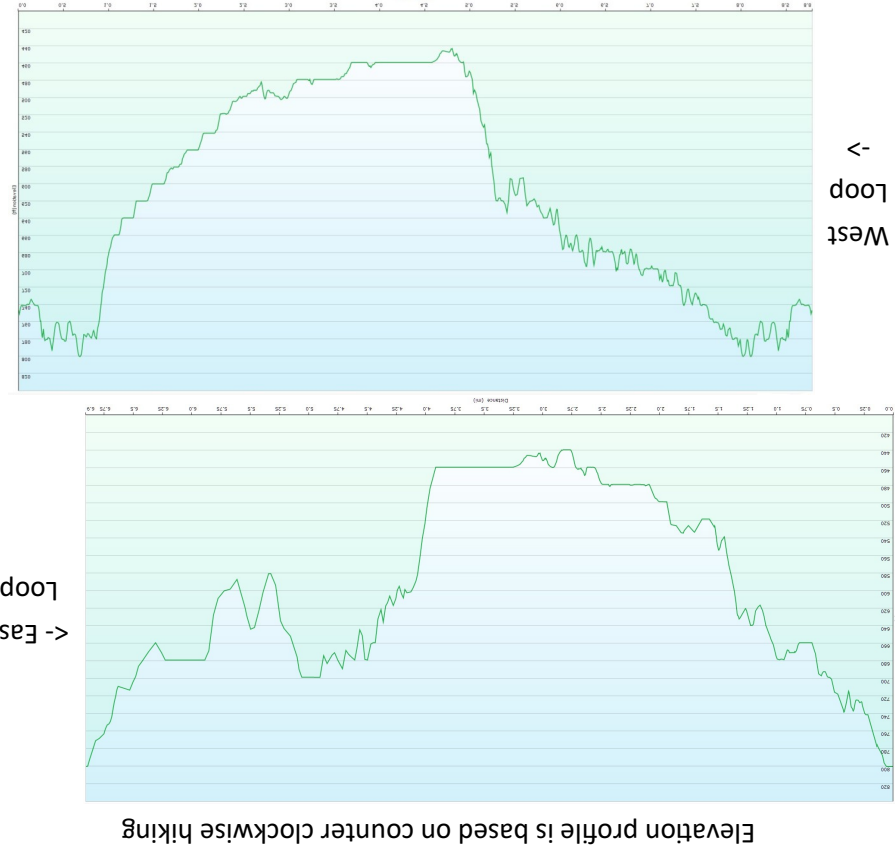
Trail Ethics: “Please practice Leave No Trace principles” Pack It In, Pack It Out. Some rare and endangered species of plants are located in the area so please stay on the designated trails and leave the rocks and plants for others to enjoy. Equestrians frequent this trail system: hikers should yield to horses.



The dropped pins on the adjacent page are a links to the trailheads so Google can give you the best directions depending on where you are coming from.

Directions to the Trailheads

This brochure will still be a handy reference to know what the points of interest might be. Shawnee NF One-Day Hikes for the following map: access the map store and search Once the app is downloaded The map included with this brochure is available in the Avenza Map Store for downloading to your smart phone. The Avenza App can be downloaded by searching the app store on your phone for this: Avenza Maps



Trail Elevation Profiles

Typical views of the rocky Hutchins Creek



Odie's Place and some of the old equipment left there



Trail Sections (see #s on reverse)	Mileage
East Loop Point 1 to 2	2.93 Miles
East/West Loop Point 2 to 3	0.86 Miles
East Loop Point 3 to 1	3.11 Miles
West Loop Point 4 to 5	0.68 Miles
West Loop Point 5 to 6	2.02 Miles
West Loop Point 6 to 2	1.34 Miles
West Loop Point 3 to 5	3.17 Miles

Godwin East Trailhead is located on Bald Knob Road https://maps.app.goo.gl/iqvYQPRDpTf6wT88 Godwin West Trailhead is located on Pine Hills Road https://maps.app.goo.gl/ZHuBERiT6yBHqLc5

