

Please carry out what you carry in.
CIGARETTE BUTTS ARE LITTER!
PLASTIC BOTTLES AND SODA CANS ARE LITTER!!



Waterfall Site, Red Cedar Trail Giant City State Park, Makanda, IL © Jan Sundberg, 5 Nov 2014

**Thank you for visiting
 Giant City State Park.**

The Red Cedar Hiking Trail was built by Park Staff and IYACC – two years from start to finish. The trail was completed in April of 1979.

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This information may be provided in an alternative format if required. Contact the IDNR Clearinghouse at 217/782-7498 for assistance.

Red Cedar Hiking Trail

12 Miles



Red Cedar Trail, south end of park Giant City State Park, Makanda, IL © Jan Sundberg, 5 Nov 2014

Trail Objectives:

- ◆ Provide a local long-distance hiking resource for backpacking clubs, Scout groups, and novice backpackers preparing for a more rigorous trip.
- ◆ Provide variety in trail length for visitors to Giant City State Park.
- ◆ Spread the impact of hiking over a larger area to decrease the damage to traditional trails.



Giant City State Park
 235 Giant City Road
 Makanda, IL 62958
 618-457-4836
<http://www.dnr.state.il.us>

The Red Cedar Hiking Trail

Be careful – steep cliffs are dangerous.

Sandstone can be slippery.

Poison ivy exists on this trail.

Copperhead snakes (venomous) hibernate in the sandstone cliffs

All plants, animals, and artifacts are protected by law in your state parks.

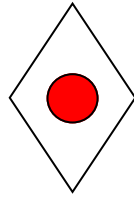
Welcome to the Red Cedar Hiking Trail! Please note that this trail is very rugged and meant for the person wanting a more rustic hiking/camping experience. The Red Cedar is not maintained or walked as frequently as most of the other designated trails at Giant City State Park.

CHECK-IN PROCEDURE

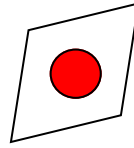
The trail begins at the back of the Family Camping Area. Fast hikers can cover the 12 mile trail in seven hours. Leisurely hikers should allow two days. It is recommended that hikers be on the trail before noon.

Camping permits for this trail are issued at the Visitors Center or received from Site Security, if present, at the main campground. Please place the permit in your car on the driver's side front window. If no vehicle is left behind, please carry the permit with you. Day hikers may wish to inform park staff that they are on the trail in case of accident.

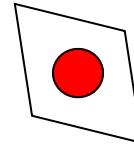
TRAIL MARKERS



Trail continues straight ahead



Trail turns to the right



Trail turns to the left

Sign markers are a white diamond with a red spot. Passing between two marked trees indicates a road ahead – so watch for traffic!!

Blazed trees have a single or double white paint band with a red spot on it. When you see a double white paint band with a red spot, this means that the trail is changing direction.

A marked tree should always be in your line of vision. If lost, please use the map to find a road.

The Red Cedar Hiking Trail intersects the Horse Trail and the River to River Trail in spots. Hikers and horseback riders also share the trail in spots. Please give your right-of-way to horses when they are present. Please talk loudly as horses approach so they will be aware of your presence. Sudden movements can frighten horses.

Also be aware that hunters may be in the area.

This trail is closed during shotgun deer seasons.

CAMPING ANYWHERE BESIDES DESIGNATED CAMP SITES IS PROHIBITED.

TIPS ON THE TRAIL

- ◆ Keep your eyes on the trail – rocks can be slippery and venomous Copperhead snakes inhabit the park.
- ◆ Wear long pants and sturdy boots for protection from thorns, sharp rocks, and poison ivy. Check yourself for ticks.
- ◆ Carry in all of your water. Park streams are NOT drinkable without purification and may even be dry.
- ◆ Lock your car before leaving it.
- ◆ Please report any problems with confusing or missing trail markers and any large downed trees crossing the trail to the Visitors Center.
- ◆ Watch for fast moving vehicles when crossing roads.

PLEASE DO NOT:

- ◆ Cut standing trees for firewood.
- ◆ Build fires except on fire pads at the camping area.
- ◆ Take your car to the backpack camping area.
- ◆ Pick up snakes or other animals. When animals feel threatened, they bite.