

Line Creek Nature Area

Line Creek Nature Area is a prime example of a hidden forest. Located less than a mile from shopping centers and restaurants, this 70-acre nature preserve has wetlands, stunning creekside views, historic sites, and granite outcrops. This route allows you to experience the highlights of the preserve as you hike through oldgrowth hardwood forests along the creek.

HOW TO GET THERE Driving Distance from Downtown Atlanta: 35 miles

Address: 2754 GA 54, Peachtree City, GA 30269

Closest Interstate: I-85

City, County: Peachtree City, Fayette **Parking:** Large gravel parking area

HIKE DISTANCE 3-mile lollipop loop

DIFFICULTY Overall: Easy to moderate

Navigation:: Blazes on trees; signposts at most junctions
Terrain: Hard-packed dirt trails; rock outcrop crossings
Elevation Change: Minimal elevation change with a few

rolling hills

SAFETY Usage ★★★☆

Visibility ★★★☆
Upkeep ★★★☆
Parking ★★★☆

HOURS Dawn to dusk

Dogs Leashed dogs allowed

• Toilets at parking area

• Picnic area, trash bins, benches

FEES & PERMITS None

LAND MANAGER Peachtree City Parks & Recreation



Can you find the "mule" carving on the granite outcrop?

Landmarks

MULE CARVING

This rock outcrop on the Mule Trail is one of the first places to view Line Creek up close. As you cross the outcrop, see if you can find the "mule" carving in the rock. As noted on the signpost, it was carved by Glen Allen in the early 1980s.

HISTORIC DAM SITES

Halfway through the hike, pass two historic dam sites from the early 1800s. Though the dams are no longer intact, you can still see the large rocks that were used to build the dams.

SENTINEL AMERICAN BEECH

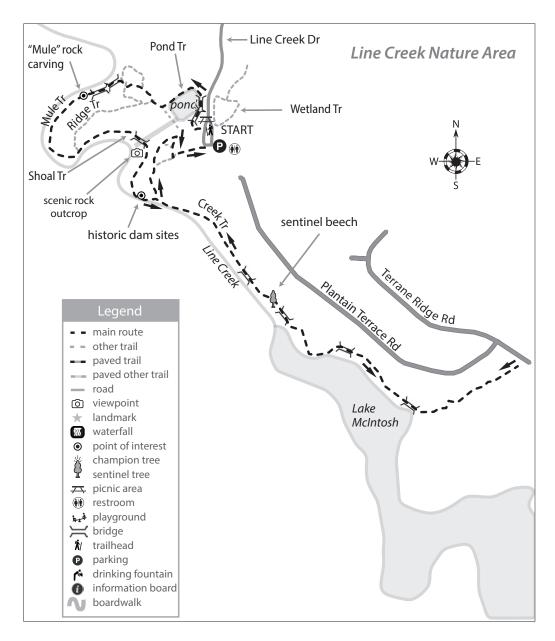
This sentinel American beech stands at the edge of the water. It's among the largest trees in this section of forest. Though beech trees usually have smooth gray bark, this one is tinted green from moss, which grows on but does not harm the tree.

Hike Route

Facing the driveway to the parking area, begin your hike at the front left corner of the parking lot at the signpost for Pond Trail. Fifty feet into the hike, go right and downhill toward the gazebo and observation deck for a close view of the sparkling pond. After exiting the deck, turn left and follow green blazes, immediately crossing two bridges. Hike along the edge of the pond, looking out for signs of beavers and downed trees.

Reach a junction at the edge of the pond and turn right onto Ridge Trail. In 100 feet at the next junction, go right and stay left at the next junction. In o.1 mile, go right and downhill toward the creek, then go left at a junction at the bottom of the hill, following the red blazes for Mule Trail.

Cross a small rock outcrop. Take either path when the trail splits. The paths reconnect in 100 feet before crossing a larger rock outcrop. Look for the "mule" carving in the stone. In 0.2 mile, come to a junction with Ridge Trail. Bear right, following the yellow blazes for Shoal Trail. In 0.2 mile, reach a large rock outcropping along Line Creek with great views of the running creek. Continue on the dirt path past a bench.



At a three-way junction, stay left and come to the site of a mill dam built in the 1820s. In just a few yards, reach the second mill dam site, this one erected in 1824. At this junction of Shoal and Creek Trails, stay straight across the outcrop and reenter the forest onto Creek Trail. A few yards in, the trail splits into a chooseyour-own-adventure option: you can hike either low and close to the creek or higher along the ridge. Both trails lead to the same destination.

Hike along Creek Trail with a residential area to your left and Line Creek to your right. Cross a footbridge, then look to the right for a large sentinel American beech. Enjoy this scenic section of trail traversing old hardwood forest along the water's edge, where the creek empties into Lake McIntosh. Hike for 0.4 mile, crossing several bridges and passing benches. The trail ends at a second parking area behind a residential area. Turn around here and retrace your steps to the junction with the 1824 mill dam.

Turn right and take the rock surface trail uphill to where it reaches a junction with a dirt path. Stay on the rock surface trail and then turn right at the next junction. Take this trail back to the parking area, generally staying left at any subsequent junctions to end your hike.