

# Godwin Trail

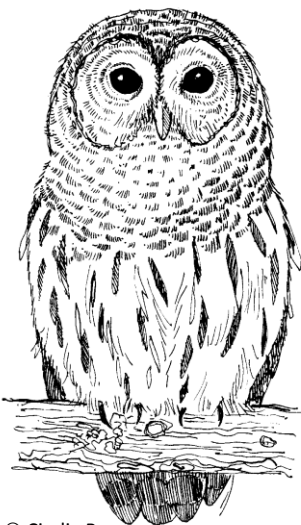


One of the most popular trails in the Shawnee National Forest, the Godwin Trail crosses both the Bald Knob and Clear Springs Wilderness, two of the largest wildernesses in the Shawnee National Forest. It is also part of a linear, long distance trail called the River to River Trail. All the trails in this area are designated horse/hiker use. A few side trails leave the Godwin Trail, offering the opportunity of creating loop trips.

Beginning at the western trailhead along Pine Hills Road, the Godwin Trail meanders along several ridge tops before descending to Hutchins Creek, a candidate Wild and Scenic River. After crossing the creek much of the rugged terrain is behind you and the trail stays in the valley where it leads through an old Poplar plantation and cane thickets.

## Wilderness & Wildlife

The Godwin Trail is located in large non-motorized areas called ‘Wilderness.’ Because there are no roads in these wildernesses, access is limited and you’ll encounter less people than other places in the Shawnee National Forest. Instead, you’re more likely to see a variety of wildlife. Here is a short list of local wildlife in the area: woodland songbirds, opossum, white-tailed deer, bobcat, skunk, wild turkey, woodpeckers, raccoon and a variety of reptiles and amphibians.



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## Other Attractions

LaRue-Pine Hills/Otter Pond Research Natural Area, Giant City State Park, Inspiration Point Trail, Pomona Natural Bridge Trail.

**Length:** 6.7 miles (one-way)

**Trail Surface:** Dirt/Natural

**Trail Markings:** Trail numbers on routed wooden signs (at trail junctions only).

**Trail Difficulty:** Difficult

**Recommended Season:** Spring and fall

**Parking:** East and west trailheads both have minimal parking (too small for trailers).

### Directions:

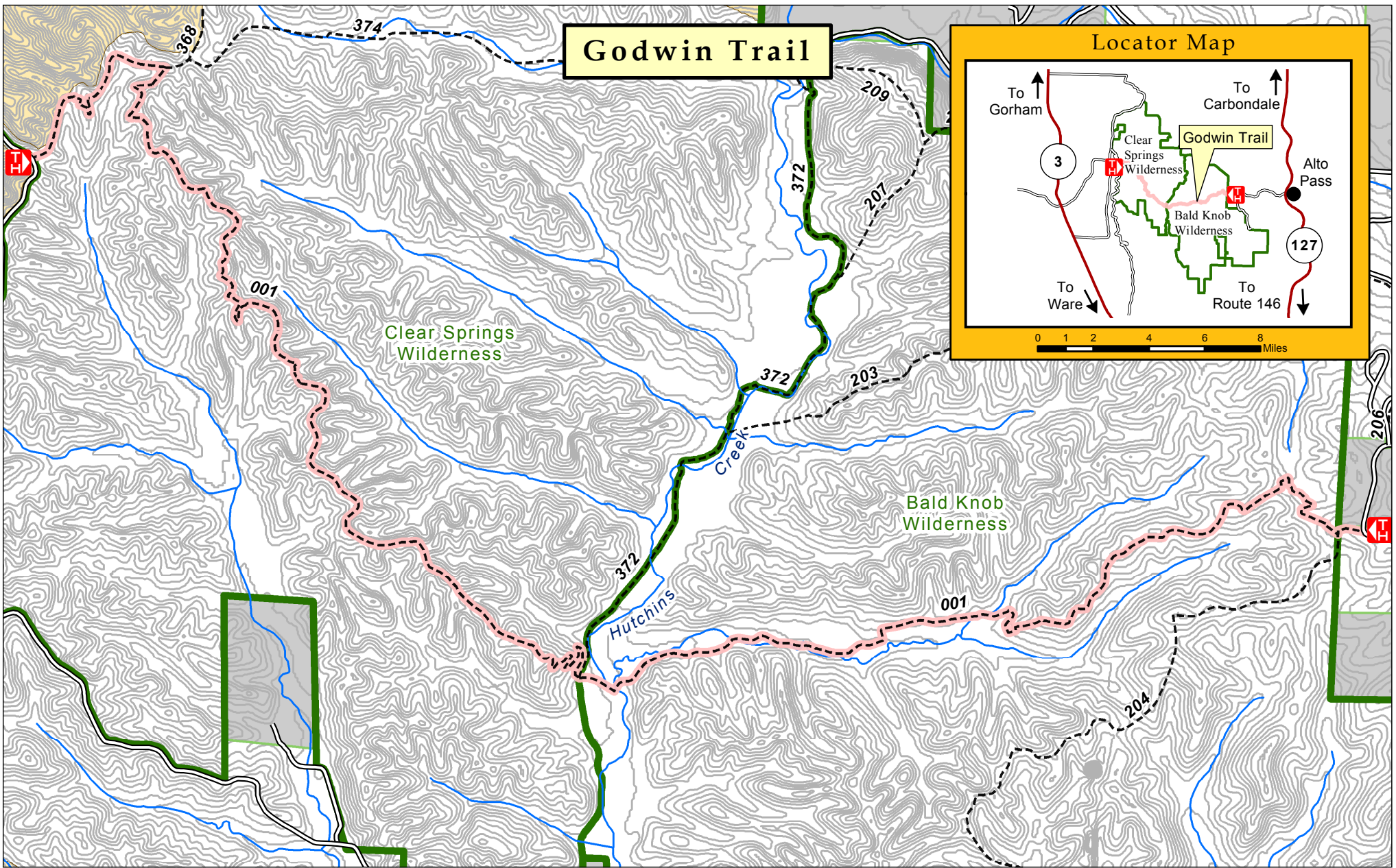
**To Eastside Trailhead, from Alto Pass:** Take Bald Knob Rd. west 2.5 miles, trailhead will be on the right side of road.

**To Westside Trailhead, from Jonesboro:** Take Highway 146 west 8 miles. to Highway 3; then north 8 miles on Hwy 3 to Muddy Levee Rd. Then east 3 miles to LaRue Rd. to the ‘T’ and turn left. Proceed 0.4 mile on LaRue Rd. then turn right onto Pine Hills Rd. for 1.2 miles to Godwin trailhead. Trailhead will be on the left side of Pine Hills Rd.

**Safety:** Summertime brings the usual pests, such as mosquitoes, biting flies, wasps, chiggers and ticks. Carry plenty of water or be prepared to treat or filter water taken from streams. Cell phone reception may be weak or non-existent. Be aware of changing weather conditions. Hutchins Creek rises fast after heavy rains so take the proper precautions. This area is open to hunting, be aware of hunting seasons.

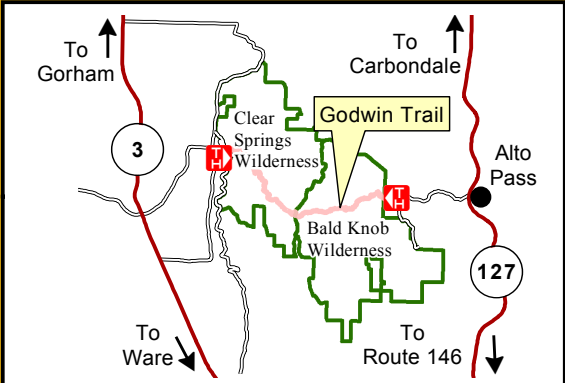
**In the event of an emergency call 911.**

**Trail Ethics:** Practice Leave No Trace outdoor ethics (<http://lnt.org/learn/7-principles>). Stay on designated trails. Hikers yield to equestrians. Camp away from trails and other visitors. In popular areas use existing campsites.






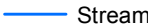






# Godwin Trail

## Locator Map



### Legend

-  Hiker/Equestrian Trailhead
-  State Highway
-  Road
-  Hiker/Equestrian Trail
-  Godwin/River to River Trail
-  Stream
-  Natural Area
-  Wilderness Boundary
-  National Forest Land
-  Non-National Forest Land

Contour interval = 20 feet

