

Start/Finish in Elizabeth Furnace Day Use lot.

Locate white-blazed Botts Trail head at southeastern (back left) edge of the big parking lot adjacent to Elizabeth's Furnace.

Follow relatively level Botts Trail to junction with pink-blazed Sherman Gap Trail. (1.1 mi)

Left on Sherman Gap Trail, and experience a roller coaster until the trail finally turns to ascend to the western ridge of the Massanutten Mountains. (2.6 mi)

Right on combined Tuscarora and Massanutten Trails (orange- and blue-blazed) (0.2 mi)

Left to descend on purple-blazed Sherman Gap trail to dirt road (Route 613/Panhandle Road). (2.1 mi; Cum = 6.0 mi)

Right on the dirt road (Route 613/Panhandle Road) with general inclines to the blue-blazed Tuscarora Trail head at Veach Gap (blazes are alongside the road, but be alert, as the entrance to the trail head looks like a gravel driveway) (1.8 mi)

Right off Route 613 onto the blue-blazed Tuscarora Trail, and ascend to junction with orange-blazed Massanutten Trail. (1.7 mi)

Right on combined blue- and orange-blazed Tuscarora and Massanutten trails to junction with Veach Gap Trail at the bottom of this descent into Little Crease (two privies and a camping shelter are here; trail junction is immediately after a stream crossing) (1.0 mi)

Left on yellow-blazed Veach Gap trail to parking lot at end of Veach Gap Road (Route 774). This gradual descent includes a short, early stretch where the trail is at times all but included in the Mill Run streambed. (1.1 mi; Cum 11.6)

Continue right and generally down the dirt Veach Gap Road to junction into paved Fort Valley Road (Route 678). (0.9 mi)

Right on Fort Valley Road, then quick left on paved Frenchman Pond Road (also Route 774). (0.1 mi)

Right on dirt Coverstone Road (Route 773), and continue gradual ascent towards western ridge of Massanutten. (0.25 mi)

Continue straight (right) as Coverstone junctions into dirt Boyer Road (Route 771), then left on dirt Mine Mountain Road at its triangle junction with Boyer Road. (1.25 mi)

Right on dirt Forest Road 66 (Powells Fort Camp or Signal Knob road) just after passing the ruins of Boyers Furnace on your right. (0.6 mi)

Left on purple-blazed Mine Gap Trail, and ascend to junction into orange-blazed Massanutten Trail. (0.1 mi; Cum 14.8)

Right on orange-blazed Massanutten Trail (0.9 mi), and roll along ridge through junction with blue-blazed Tuscarora Trail. (1.1 mi)

Right (and sharp descent) to continue on orange-blazed Massanutten Trail back down to the Forest road 66 at Powells Fort Camp. (0.5 mi)

Left on orange-blazed Massanutten Trail, which is also Forest road 66, to purple-blazed Mudhole Gap trailhead (0.4 mi; Cum 17.7) (*Note: reliable spring from a pipe is available less than a quarter mile past this trailhead on Forest road 66/orange-blazed Massanutten trail, on the left just prior to reaching a gate*).

Right on purple-blazed Mudhole Gap Trail (trail is on far side of camping area), and generally descend on single-track trail, crossing the Little Passage Creek five times in Mudhole Gap.

After the fifth crossing, the single-track trail will take a left away from Little Passage Creek and begin to ascend to a gravel road. This roadbed is still the purple-blazed Mudhole Gap Trail.

Continue up and then steady descent on the purple-blazed gravel road/Mudhole Gap Trail to the white-blazed Bear Wallow Spur Trail (this trailhead is easy to miss - if you reach the Bear Wallow parking area after a gate, you have gone a short distance too far). (4.1 mi; Cum 21.8)

Left on white-blazed Bear Wallow Spur Trail with slight incline to junction of blue-blazed Tuscarora Trail alongside an unnamed stream. (0.3 mi)

Right on blue-blazed Tuscarora Trail, over the stream and brief incline and then general descent to junction with orange-blazed Massanutten Trail. (0.8 mi)

Right on combined blue- and orange-blazed Tuscarora and Massanutten trail to Fort Valley Road (Route 678), then across road to end of the loop in the Elizabeth's Furnace Day Use lot. (0.3 mi; Cum 23.2)