

ROAD APPROACHES & PARKING

Three public roads touch the trail route. Tower Road is the northeast terminus of the trail. The road is dirt and somewhat rough at the trailhead. It is recommended that regular and low clearance vehicles access this road from the north, from New Valley Road out of Marysville. Tower Road continues as a dirt road over the mountain, but it is not recommended. There may be no winter maintenance of the dirt portion of this road. There is parking for only a few vehicles at or near the trailhead, which is located at a Game Commission gate. The trailhead is 0.8 mile along Tower Road from New Valley Road; the last 0.4 mile is unpaved.

In the mid-section of the trail is Lambs Gap and Idle Roads. A large Game Lands parking area is located on the crest of the ridge off of Lambs Gap Road, only 150 feet south of the trail crossing of the paved road.

Toward the western end of the trail is Millers Gap Road. This road is dirt on the north side of the mountain, and is not maintained in winter. The road on the south side of the mountain is a narrow paved road. A Game Lands parking area is located off of the dirt portion of the road just over the crest of the mountain heading north. The trail is 150 feet north of the parking area along the dirt road.

GENERAL TRAIL DESCRIPTION

The Darlington Trail runs for 7.74 total miles, from the Appalachian and Tuscarora Trail junction at the western end, to Tower Road at the eastern end. The entire route is located on State Game Lands #170, with the permission and cooperation of the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The trail is maintained for the dayhiking public by volunteer members of the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club in Harrisburg. Trail maintenance is occasional, so there may be times when portions of the trail are overgrown or hampered with fallen debris.

The trail is marked with 2" by 6" vertically oriented orange paint blazes on trees and posts, at approximately eye level. A double blaze, one above the other, indicates a significant change in trail direction. The trail treadway varies from a very narrow footpath to woods roads. Portions of the trail are rocky. There is one intermittent stream crossing in Bryson Hollow, which has no bridge. The stream can be crossed on rocks, except during high runoff events. Elevations above sea level range from a low of approximately 600 feet in Bryson Hollow, to a height on Blue Mountain of 1,300 feet. There are no expansive year-round views, but there are abundant winter views through the bare trees to valleys on

either side of Blue Mountain. Views to the south are of the Cumberland Valley, which contains a variety of land uses: farms, fields, suburbia, and Interstate 81. Views to the north are more rural, and consist of other wooded ridges, with scattered houses and farms in the valleys. A noteworthy view of the Cumberland Valley and beyond can be found along the Appalachian Trail 0.29 mile south from the western terminus of the Darlington Trail.

DARLINGTON TRAIL LOCATION

OTHER UNMARKED TRAIL / LOGGING ROAD / JEEP ROAD

DARLINGTON TRAIL

(Lambs Gap to the Appalachian Trail)

Prepared by the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club

1" = 2000 feet

July, 2002

base map is from U.S.G.S. Wertzville quadrangle

