

CHIMNEY ROCK STATE PARK



Hickory Nut Falls

Throughout the growing season, wildflowers and other plants carpet the meadows and mountainsides at Chimney Rock State Park. The mix of topography, rocks, soils, availability of moisture and exposure to sunlight give them just what they need to thrive. More than 550 species of vascular plants—including 32 ferns and fern allies—have been identified. The park is also a safe haven for several species on the list of North Carolina’s Endangered, Threatened and Candidate Plant species and one on the Federal list of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.

Challenge: The flora, fauna and features are what Chimney Rock State Park is most known for. On your visit to Hickory Nut Falls, pick your favorite flower or plant to take a picture of or draw.

To see what is in bloom at the park, check out their website: www.chimneyrockpark.com/whats-in-bloom/

Safety Tip: Wear Proper Gear

Bring rain gear and extra clothing, including socks in case your feet get wet. Rain gear is a necessity for any hike that isn’t close to the road. If you accidentally fall in the creek you could become hypothermic, even in mild weather. It’s also a good idea to pack an emergency blanket, even for a day hike.

WATERFALLS

Detailed hiking directions can be found online.

Hickory Nut Falls

Hike distance: 1.3 miles roundtrip
GPS for trailhead: 35.43077, -82.24880
Hike difficulty: Moderate
Elevation changes: Relatively flat

Little Bearwallow Falls

Located in Hickory Nut Gorge outside of park
Hike distance: 2.8 miles roundtrip
GPS for trailhead: 35.47308, -82.33266
Elevation changes: Moderate to steep

Additional Waterfalls:

Chimney Rock State Park has donated youth passes for all our Junior Waterfall Keepers. If you need a pass, please contact Holly Bass at holly.bass@waterfallkeepersofnc.org.



Waterfall Keepers of North Carolina

Junior Waterfall Keeper Waterfall Passport Program
www.waterfallkeepersofnc.org