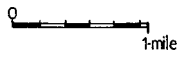


BEREA

ROCKY RIVER
LEG-1

EMERALD NECKLACE
TRAIL



CAMPS

① South Mastic Picnic Area

② Bonnie Park Picnic Area

ROCKY RIVER TRAIL CLEVELAND METRO PARK LEG 1

As you descend into the valley of the Rocky River at the beginning of the Trail, you literally walk back in time into the edge of an old glacial valley where the river leaves its new valley and lays there the "till" and rubble deposited by some ancient glacier. This "till" is evident on the north side of the valley at Mastic Road but, as you head South, you soon find great banks of sedimentary rock in the form of shale, each layer of shale being at one time the floor of some sea. This formation is known as Cleveland Shale and is exposed at Old Fort Hill at Valley Parkway and Cedar Point Road. At this point the east and west branches of the Rocky River meet. North of this junction are two large flat topped hills that have been cut out by the rivers and left isolated at the junction of the two rivers retreated south. The shale hill that presents a sharp point just to the south of Cedar Point Bridge is even now being slowly eroded by the rivers that will eventually find a weak point in the hill and rejoin, leaving a third hill standing. The shale dates from the Devonian Period when sharks and other fish had become abundant. Fossils of fish have been found in the Cleveland shale, the largest being that of the five-foot shark. Most of the fossils are broken up. However, a sharp eye can detect impressions of fish scales and other partial remains of primitive fishes. In the lower portion of the shale and at the riverbed a modern prospector can find "Fool's Gold" or iron pyrite. On this stretch of the Trail, there are many wild flowers that come into early bloom because of their sheltered position, and also because these early blooming hills are facing south and presenting a plan that is more perpendicular to the slanting rays of the spring sun.

A wild flower trail at the beginning of the hike and a nature trail along the river are marked with the names of the flower named Gold Cup literally carpets the ground with yellow in the spring. This is a significant "nuisance" plant out competing most natural wild flowers. This flower is a stranger to Ohio and makes its appearance in this small area, the only spot west of the Appalachian where it spreads its yellow blooms.

As the town of Berea is approached, the east branch of the Rocky River tumbles down sandstone falls or rapids. This sandstone is known as Berea Grit and is not eroded as easily as the shale and at many points along the Trail it forms the lips of the various falls of rivers draining from the higher plateau into the river valleys. At Berea are three lakes, which are flooded sandstone quarries and the Trail passes between two of these lakes. The quarried sandstone was used for many a grist mill and grind stone, and because of its resistance to erosion by water, it is used on the Lake Erie breakwaters. Some large pieces of this rock have been left in this general area as reminders of the once busy quarries. To uncover this rock, the early settlement of Berea and the first structures of what is now Baldwin Wallace College were moved to their present location on high ground.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ALL HIKERS

1. All camping equipment used must be backpacked by hikers.
2. Responsible adult leadership must be present at all overnight camps. If the adult is not taking the Trail arrangements should be made to meet at campsite.
3. Camping is permitted only in the specified Park area. Local tour permits are required and can be obtained by applications through the Greater Cleveland Council, Boy Scouts of America, 2241 Woodland Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115, Phone number 216-861-6060. Reservations may be made at Cleveland Metroparks Visitor Services, 4101 Fulton Parkway, Cleveland, Ohio 44144, Phone number - 216-351-6300.
4. Firewood, if available, may be secured by calling or visiting the Park District Maintenance Headquarters in the reservation in which you are camping. The Park Ranger will direct you to the nearest Maintenance Headquarters. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** should any tree or vegetation, be touched.
5. "No Trespassing" posters must be honored.
6. Hikers must be at their campsite by 11:00 p.m.