

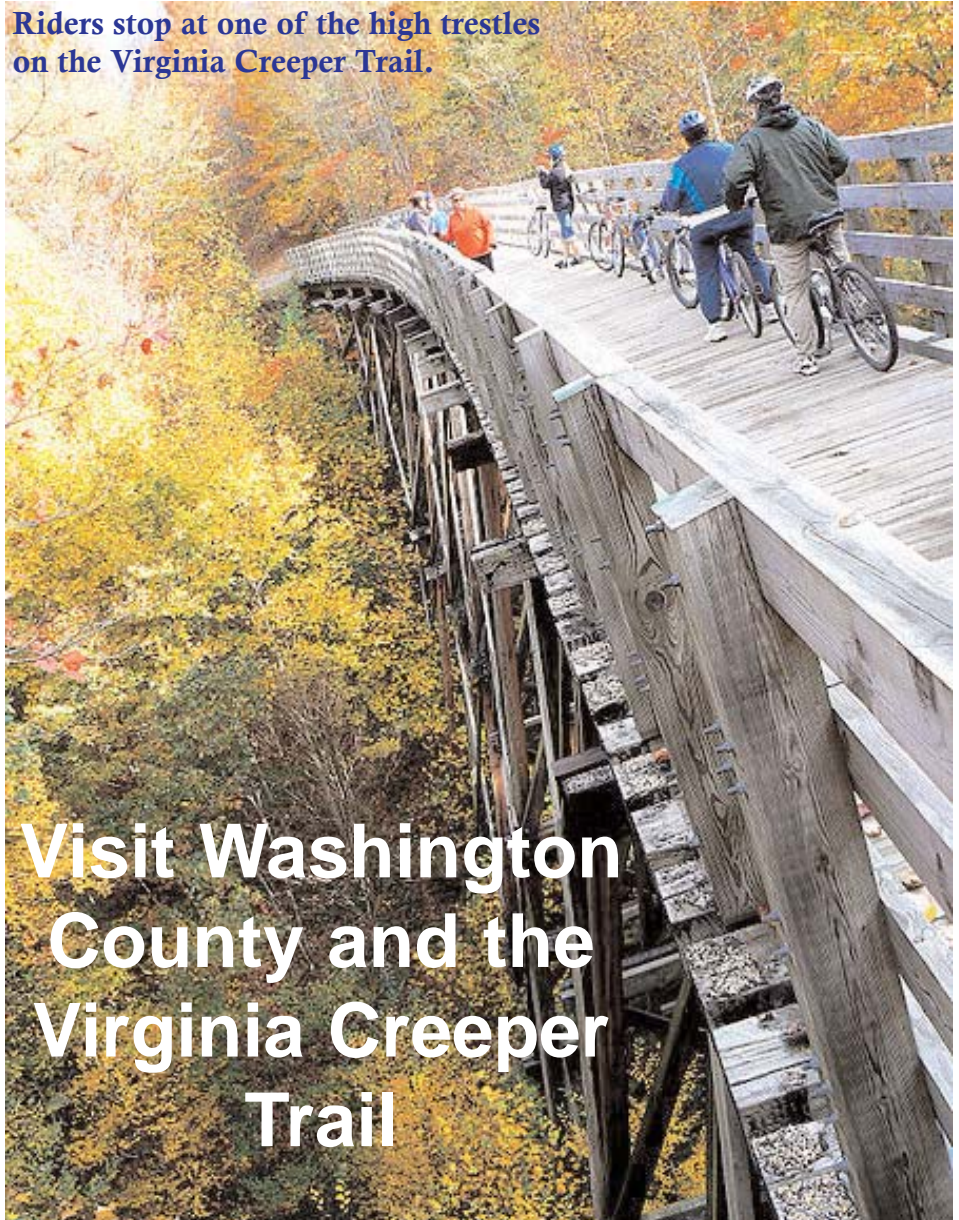
VIRGINIA CREEPER TRAIL

Facts about the Virginia Creeper Trail in Washington County

Source: www.vacreepertrail.us

- The last Virginia Creeper train ran in 1977.
- Three agencies own and manage the Virginia Creeper Trail: Damascus and Abingdon administer the trail from Abingdon to Damascus (mile 0-16); and the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area manages the trail from Damascus up to the NC line (mile 16-34).
- There are 3 visitor centers along the trail: one at the Damascus Caboose, the old Green Cove Station, and the rebuilt Whitetop Station. All are open weekends May-October. Mount Rogers Interpretative Association has a variety of items for sale at each center.
- There are 47 trestles on the trail. The U.S. Forest Service and Virginia Creeper Trail club volunteers have refurbished the decking & railings on 23 trestles in the last three years.
- Bathrooms are available in Damascus near the caboose, Straight Branch parking lot, Creek Junction parking lot, Green Cove train station, Whitetop train station and at the Abingdon parking lot.
- Refreshments can be purchased at several places along the trail. Communities along the trail such as Alvarado, Damascus, and Taylors Valley have businesses that offer refreshments. Bottled water and drinks are for sale at Green Cove on weekends from May-October. Free water is available at Whitetop Station during frost-free months.

Riders stop at one of the high trestles on the Virginia Creeper Trail.



Visit Washington County and the Virginia Creeper Trail

- The only public phone along the trail is in Damascus. Cell coverage is poor or non-existent.
- More than 200,000 people enjoy the trail each year.
- The U.S. Forest Service operates a bike patrol along the Creeper from Damascus to Whitetop Station during the summer.
- A fast moving biker or a hiker with a large backpack can easily spook a horse. Bicyclists and hikers should yield to horseback riders. When passing a horse, a biker should yell out that they are “passing left”.
- When the Virginia Creeper ran from Abingdon, VA, to West Jefferson, N.C., it was 55 miles long and had 108 bridges and trestles.