



- 1.. Overnite camping is encouraged, before making hike, at Fox Ridge or Lincoln Log Cabin State Park.
2. Scouts check in at Main Shelter at Fox Ridge State Park. Hike begins there.
3. Scouts end hike at Main Building, Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, after seeing Lincoln Cabin. Patches and medals will be given after signing Trail Book.
4. This hike offers excellent opportunities for nature study and scouting skills.
5. This is a scenic Trail along the banks of the Embarrass River and will be closed down when severe flooding conditions are present.
6. All groups from outside Lincoln Trail Council must secure Official Travel permits to be shown to Scouter in charge before making hike.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Hike is open to Registered Scouts, Explorers and Scouters.
2. Each hiker must carry his own food and water.
3. The Trail must be hiked as a member of a unit, with at least one adult leader for every ten boys; each unit must hike together at all times.
4. Each hiker must complete the Trail in one day. Trail will be open from 7:00 A.M. until Sundown, on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays only. All units must be on trail by 10:00 A.M.
5. Regulation uniforms are strongly recommended.
6. Scouts will be hiking on private property, as well as State-owned parksites. You are requested not to deface anything, or leave litter. Each person hiking the Trail represents all Scouting; all Scouts will be judged by your actions.
7. A First Aid kit and compass should be carried as a precaution.

EMBARRASS RIVER TRAIL - 2

This 14.4 mile hike follows the Embarrass (pronounced Ambraw) River, leaving Fox Ridge State Park on an old Indian Trail. This high water trail was the hunting ground of the Pottawotany, Kickapoo, and Winnebago Indians and the early settlers. In 1818 the Embarrass hills were a battleground where Indians attacked the Illinois Rangers, under General Whiteside. To this country, in 1832, came Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham Lincoln, settling finally on Goosenest Prairie Farm, now Lincoln Log Cabin State Park. "Abe" came often to visit his family, to try legal cases in nearby Charleston, and for political campaigns. The 4th of the 7 noted Lincoln-Douglas debates took place in Charleston in September of 1858. On January 30, 1861 President-Elect Lincoln came for the last time, stopping at the grave of his father in Shiloh Cemetery, and visiting his stepmother and stepsister at Moore Home, before his departure for Washington. Later in 1861 Colonel U.S. Grant came this way to muster into service the first troops he led in the Civil War. This took place on the site of the present Illinois Central Station in Mattoon.

As you leave Fox Ridge State Park, you will come to the place once known as McCann's Ford, the crossing of early settlers. The Embarrass River was once navigable to the Wabash River, thence to the Ohio, Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. You will cross at Ryan Bridge, returning to the onetime Goosenest Prairie Farm of Thomas Lincoln, coming finally to the Lincoln Cabin, a replica of the original Cabin, built on the same site in 1837. Abraham Lincoln held title to it.

CAMPING FACILITIES:

Lincoln Log Cabin State Park - on Lincoln National Memorial Highway, 8 miles from Charleston, 17 miles from Mattoon

Fox Ridge State Park - Route 130, 8 Miles from Charleston, 11 from Greenup

MOTELS AND MOTELS:

Information on hotels and motels will be furnished upon request.

CHURCHES:

Catholic and Protestant in Mattoon and Charleston, Check times.

THINGS TO DO AND SEE:

Thomas Lincoln's grave, Shiloh Cemetery, on Lincoln National Memorial Highway Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, on Route 16.

Charleston Lake (Route 130) North of Fox Ridge-Swimming, fishing, pic nicking.

Mattoon, on South Route 45, trampolines, Go-Cart Races, Miniature Golf.

Outdoor swimming pools: Charleston and Mattoon (Lytle Park).

APPLICATION TO HIKE THE EMBARRASS RIVER TRAIL

(Proper hike credentials must be secured in advance; allow 2 weeks from time of application).

THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED BOY SCOUTS WISH TO HIKE THE EMBARRASS RIVER TRAIL ON:

TIME
DATE: _____
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

We agree to follow the requirements of the Embarrass River Trail.

Leader's Signature

Address City or Town

Group Name, or Troop/Post No.

Check enclosed. \$ _____ for _____ Medals and _____ patches. (Enclose \$2.00 for each medal and \$.50 for each patch. No fee is charged for hiking the Trail.

Other names may be written on the back of this form.

MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK TO:

William Sweeney
1100 S. 16th Street
Mattoon, Illinois