



### **Caney Creek Gourmet Backpack**

**Description:** Spend a fall weekend backpacking in the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas. Hike along the Buckeye and Caney Creek trails and enjoy a gourmet dinner around the campfire.

**Dates:** Saturday, November 14 and Sunday, November 15, 2009.

**Leaders:** Blair Williams - [engrblair@yahoo.com](mailto:engrblair@yahoo.com) or 405-823-8085 (evenings only)  
Les Imboden - [lesnpat@yahoo.com](mailto:lesnpat@yahoo.com) or 405-533-1532

**Number of Participants:** The group will be limited to 10.

**Difficulty:** The hike will cover about 5 miles per day on a moderate trail. The trip is not appropriate for all beginners. If you would like to come, but have no prior backpacking experience, contact one of the leaders to discuss.

**Departure:** Those who want can arrive Friday night and camp at Bard Springs Campground. The group will meet at the Buckeye trailhead at 9:00 a.m. to begin the hike.

**Directions to Trailhead:** From Oklahoma City take I-40 East to Sallisaw and exit South onto US 59. Follow US-59 to Mena, AR. Take State Hwy 375 southeast from Mena AR to Shady, AR where it becomes County 64/Forest Road 25. After 4.6 miles, Co 64 splits from FR 25 and joins FR 38. Go south on Co 64/FR 38 for 3.8 miles to the Buckeye Trailhead. For those who would like to drive out on Friday night, we will be

camping at the Bard Springs campground. To get to the campground, continue on Co 64 until a Y where the road splits into Co 64 and Co 82. Stay to the left to take Co 84. Follow this road for half a mile to the campground.

**Transportation:** Everyone is responsible for their own transportation. As always the Sierra Club encourages carpooling and communication with each will be made available. The going rate for carpooling is \$0.10/mile per passenger.

**Early Departures:** Please let the leader know if you plan to travel to the campground Friday evening.

**Food:** Each participant will need one lunch, as well as snacks for the trail. Water is plentiful, but will need to be filtered or treated. The leader will have a filter available. The main event is dinner Saturday. The leaders will coordinate food items to bring for the big joint meal and Sunday's breakfast. Please inform the leader of any special dietary needs.

**Equipment:**

- Backpack
- Lightweight, packable jacket
- Tent & bedroll
- Dependable hiking boots
- Flashlight
- Raingear
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Warm clothing for the evening
- Water container
- Orange clothing (optional, but it is deer season)

**Fees and Costs:** Suggested contribution of \$10 for the weekend.

**Liability Waiver:** Every participant will be required to execute a waiver of liability before beginning the outing. The leader will have forms available at the trailhead.

**Trail Information:** (copy and paste link into your browser)

[http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/ouachita/maps/documents/TR-12\\_Caney\\_Creek\\_Wilderness\\_Trail\\_000.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/ouachita/maps/documents/TR-12_Caney_Creek_Wilderness_Trail_000.pdf)

**Map to Bard Springs Campground:** (copy and paste link into your browser)

[http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s\\_d&saddr=Oklahoma+City,+OK&daddr=34.446485,-94.106741+to:Bard+Springs+Campground+%4034.390750,-94.008150&geocode=%3B%3BFd7CDAldqoxl-g&hl=en&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=1&sz=14&via=1&sll=34.430629,-94.1](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=d&source=s_d&saddr=Oklahoma+City,+OK&daddr=34.446485,-94.106741+to:Bard+Springs+Campground+%4034.390750,-94.008150&geocode=%3B%3BFd7CDAldqoxl-g&hl=en&mra=dme&mrcr=0&mrsp=1&sz=14&via=1&sll=34.430629,-94.1)