

The Algonquin Trail *Camp Thunderbird*

The Algonquin Trail was named in honor of the Indians who left evidence of their life on this land and these streams dating back to the time before Christ. We do not know the name of those who were here before the Algonquins – only those who followed.

Post # 1 is a junction of an old lake road and the road to the North Area campsites. Follow the red blazes along the road West across the dam, over looking the rifle range, cross the archery range meadow, to the spillway. Post # 2 is located at the spillway. Between the spillway and Post # 3, is an old road that ran into the bottoms, that is now the lake. About half way between Post # 2 and Post # 3, was a small farmhouse. Seventy to seventy-five years ago, a rabid skunk bit the farmer's mule. He in turn bit the farmer, who took the rabies and died. His farm was sold and the house torn down shortly after that. The pond by Post # 3 was his.

Between Post # 3 and Post # 4, you cross an old road that leads to Executive point, formally known as Rattlesnake Ridge. At one time, two house trailers were set there for the Camp Director's families to stay in. They were abandoned, however, when rattlesnakes became too numerous. Several nests of them were also found when the lake was built. Scouts have long since run them out.

When you reach Post # 5, you are within 200 yards of an old buffalo wallow. It is located North of our present day parking lot. "Granny Hick's" place stood near the old cedar tree you can see from Post # 5. The house and 40 acres were sold 50 years ago. The man who brought it with a small down payment came, jacked up the house and took it away. He never paid for the farm and the heirs repossessed the property, but did not get the house back.

After leaving Post # 5, you go down in a gully for quite a spell, along the creek until you turn up the hill toward Post # 6. Did you notice the ferns and moss along the trail? If you had gone on the down the creek for another quarter mile, you would have come to the old "Wash Hole". It is a good sized hole washed out in solid rock. About 100 years ago all the neighborhood women would gather there to wash their clothes, and visit on Saturdays. Before that, the Indians gathered there and did much the same thing.

Going on past Post # 6, you pass through another creek, just before Post # 7. This creek runs north/south.

Just past Post # 7, up the hill, is an old log cabin. It is called the old "Rowe Place". Five generations were raised here in over a 100-year span. At one time, 18 people lived there at the same time.

Halfway between Post # 8 and Post # 9, is the Thunderbird Cave. This is registered with the National Register of Historic Places, as the Mitchell Petroglyph Site. It is believed, some of the carvings date back to Indians who were here before the birth of Christ. As you face the Cave, look to your right about 6 feet high, and you will see the following:



Near Post # 9, the Nature Trail joins the Algonquin Trail. Most of the way from Post # 9 to Post # 10, you have been in the Mud Creek bottoms. Soon after leaving Post # 9, you will come to a large Sycamore Tree, the largest tree in this part of the state. The Pine Trees in the Bottoms were planted in the 1970 as small seedlings by a group of Scouts from the old Chariton Valley District. Part of the way between Post # 10 and Post # 11, you are on our neighbor's property.

Between Post # 11, where the two trails separate, and Post # 12, North of Camp Thunderbird on another farm is an ancient Indian Mound and a small hole in the ground, known as "Rebels Roost". It is said that two rebel soldiers spent the winter during the Civil War at this location. These places are not marked, as they are not on our property.

Trail Information

Who: Any group under adult supervision with permission from the Great Rivers Council, Boy Scouts of America.

What: The Algonquin Trail is the boundary trail located on Camp Thunderbird property. The trail is 5.8 km (3.7 miles).

When: The trail is open year-round except during firearm deer season.

How: Permission and reservations may be made through the Great Rivers Council, Boy Scouts of America, 1203 Fay Street, Columbia, MO 65201. The phone number is 573-449-2561.

Patch: A cloth patch is available after completing the trail. The cost of the patch is \$1.50 each.



Application for Awards

After the Hike
Algonquin Trail
1203 Fay Street
Columbia, MO 65201

Or by contacting the Camp Ranger

Unit type and # _____ Community: _____ District: _____

Unit Leader's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please list the name of each participant:

1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.
7.	8.
9.	10.
11.	12.
13.	14.
15.	16.
17.	18.
19.	20.

Registration before the Hike

You may register to hike the Algonquin trail by filling out a short-term camping permit available from the council service center in Columbia, MO. No walk-ins allowed.

TRAILS

CAMP THUNDERBIRD

Great Rivers Council BSA

T55N R13W

Algonquin Trail (Red) —————
Nature Trail (Yellow) ++++++

