**Backcountry Sites FAQ’s answers from Jim Hall –PMTA – revised May 12, 2016**

**Always buy and carry a Pine Mountain Trail Map. Study it (including legend.) Review emergency numbers and other basic info on the back cover of the map. Any questions/need help with route after you review map, call Jim at 706-569-0497 See SITE DESCRIPTIONS @** [**www.pinemountaintrail.org**](http://www.pinemountaintrail.org) **for photos of some sites too.**

Best site for:

**First visit, never camped before, with little kids?**

 Less than a mile in is Little Bridges (from Overlook Parking Area)

Dead Pine (from No Name Parking Lot) or better yet my favorite .7 mile in

is Bethel Creek Campsite from BootTop Trail Parking Lot. Nice easy, down -hill walk in.

**First visit, never camped before, adults, great shape?**

 Leave the Fox Den Cove Parking Lot and go across the road onto the PMT, take the Sawtooth Trail east back to the PMT then the PMT west to Beech Bottom Campsite. Next day continue west back to Fox Den Cove PL. 7.8 mile total loop (4.8 in and 3 out).

**First visit, never camped before, not best athletes, little dog?**

Park at No Name Parking Lot, follow signs to PMT then right on it short ways to Dead Pine Campsite.

Mainly a flat trail hike. Make sure dog STAYS on 6’ or less leash.

**Only can camped once-best campsite adults**?

 A down and back from the WJSP-TV Tower to Old Sawmill is a great scenic route. 2.5 miles in (and out). Get to see the waterfalls and the nice creeks along the way.

**Sunrise? Sunset**..

 Sunrise and Sunset times vary with season. There are several websites that can show you a list of times for Pine Mountain/FDR area. Remember, down in the woods, in most places it will be

quite a bit darker at least 30 minutes before stated sunset. No good scenic campsites to view either.

**Most water/ stream access nearby?**

 All sites have water nearby close except Whiskey Still and Bumble Bee Ridge (see note on PMTA

website under SITE DESCRIPTIONS on these two.)

 The one with the largest stream nearby is Old Sawmill Campsite.

**I have camped all my life---impress me campsite?**

Backpacker magazine had someone submit an overnight route from Mile 23/ WJSP-TV Tower Trailhead west on the PMT 6 miles to Big Oak Springs the return via the Beaver Pond/White Candle Trail. Big Oak Springs being on an old home place area, neat rocked in spring (and two other spring) and HUGE oak tree is a awesome campsite .

**In general, best view at the site?**

 None of the campsites have a overlooking view per say of a valley below or anything except Bumble Bee Ridge. Best general view out from campsite is Big Knot, as camp sits on a small ridge and you can see woods below on two sides.

**Best campsite for scouts or a big group?**

 As noted on the PMTA website, the largest campsite is Turtle Hollow which can hold a bunch of tents

 and boys (in fact it is rated for 35 or so compared to max 20 on most others.) Second favorite for a Scout or large group would be suggesting Jenkins Springs Campsite or Beech Bottom.

For a “through hike” of the entire trail, two nights three days. West to east use Jenkins Springs first night, Brown Dog Campsite or push on to Sparks Creek second night and end out last day with either 7 or 6 miles.