



**20**  
DESTINATIONS  
UNDER  
**20**  
MILES\*

# SHAWNEE & THE LITTLE CITIES OF BLACK DIAMONDS OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE GUIDE

 Seasonal Events & Local Amenities

## ABOUT

Surrounded by the rolling hills of the Wayne National Forest, Shawnee sits in the heart of the Little Cities of Black Diamonds– the historic coal town mining communities of the Appalachian region in Southeast Ohio. Home to a vibrant community of artists and makers, its unique natural and historical location creates a wealth of opportunities for visitors year-round.

The Shawnee Trail Town Network is a group of non-profit and local government entities helping build an experience-based economy in the Little Cities of Black Diamonds region. Together we host workshops, historical tours, eco-adventures, festivals, volunteer opportunities, and celebrations of the arts. We collaborate to show off where nature and history meet in Shawnee!

## THE SHAWNEE TRAIL TOWN NETWORK PARTNERS



DESTINATION  
SHAWNEE



COVER: A view from the front of Tecumseh Lake, in Shawnee, #1. ABOVE: Signs are seen on Highway 93 with Shawnee in the background. OPPOSITE: The sun peaks out over Robinson's Cave, #5, in New Straitsville. ALL PHOTOS UNLESS NOTED: Delia Palmisano

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## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The *20 UNDER 20 Guide* provides visitors from near and far with a list of twenty oft-hidden outdoor destinations in the Little Cities of Black Diamonds region.

From the solitude of hiking and birding to the adrenaline rush of gravel riding and bouldering, there's something here for everyone! The numbers attached to each destination are cross-referenced to the locations on the map and include the mileage distance from Shawnee. They are meant to assist you in finding the destination of your choosing.

We've also included seasonal events and local amenities for fun and refreshment after your outdoor time.

## DISCOVER SHAWNEE:

[www.shawneehio.org](http://www.shawneehio.org)



20  
UNDER  
20

**EXPLORE 20 OUTDOOR  
DESTINATIONS WITHIN  
20 MILES OF SHAWNEE:  
WHERE NATURE  
MEETS HISTORY**

FIND YOUR ADVENTURE!

- 1- Tecumseh Lake & Buckeye Trail Loop**  
Fishing, Hiking

**2- Stone Church Trailhead** Camp & Horse Trail

**3- New Lex Gravel Grinder 33** 33.3 Mile Scenic Bike Loop

**4- Upstream Rock Run** Old Mining Area

**5- Robinsons Cave** Significant Historical Site, Short Hike

**6- Tecumseh Trails Offroad** ATV Trails

**7- Tinkers Cave** Sparse Visitation, Wildflowers

**8- Bouldering Opportunities on Wayne National Forest Land** Climbing

**9- Payne Cemetery** Historic Site

**10- Greendale Wetlands** Hiking, Birding, Eco-system Reclamation

**11- Ora Anderson Nature Trail & 4**
- Rutherford Wetland** Hiking, Birding

**12- Monroe Overlook Trailhead** Hiking Trails

**13- Wildcat Hollow** Backpacking, Hiking

**14- Burr Oak State Park** Boating, Hiking, Backpacking, Disc Golf

**15- Robbins Crossing Historic Village**

**16- Hocking River Access** Boating Access Points

**17- Hock Hocking Adena Bikeway**

**18- Boch Hollow State Nature Preserve** Unique Geology, Hiking, Birding

**19- Rock Stalls Nature Preserve** Hiking, Waterfalls

**20- Rockbridge State Nature Preserve.** Geology, Birding, Hiking





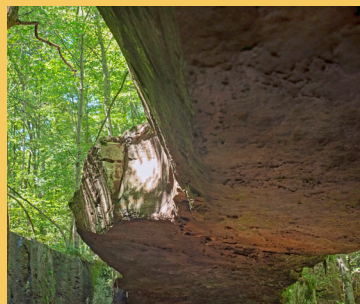
Discover camping,  
hiking, historical  
destinations, birding,  
biking & more!



Monroe Overlook, #12



Downtown Shawnee



Rockbridge, #20



Downtown Shawnee



Wildcat Hollow, #13



Burr Oak State Park, #14

### 1- Tecumseh Lake & Buckeye Trail Loop (.3 Miles)

Fisherfolk and hikers enjoy a stroll around the lake or a loop trail up in the shaded woods.

### 2- Stone Church Trailhead (2.1 Miles)

Great place to ride horseback or hike for miles and miles. Camping available.

### 3- New Lex Gravel Grinder 33

Start this loop in Shawnee and view rolling hills, wetlands, stone outcrops and more. More info: [www.ohiogravelgrinders.com/southeast-routes](http://www.ohiogravelgrinders.com/southeast-routes)

### 4- Upstream Rock Run (1.4 Miles)

Explore an old mining area So close to Shawnee, you might as well go have an adventure!

### 5- Robinsons Cave (1.5 Miles)

The natural sandstone

outcropping is known for its beauty and historical link to the labor-organizing movement.

### 6- Tecumseh Trails Offroad (2 Miles)

This offroad park caters to ATVs, UTVs and dirt bikes and offers riders 1,340 acres of signed and looped trails.

### 7- Tinkers Cave (5.6 Miles)

Shep Tinker was a horse thief who began stealing horses and hiding them in the cave in the 1840s.

### 8- Boulderling Opportunities on Wayne National Forest Land (~5.5 Miles)

Heading South on Salem Hollow Road, pull offs available on West side of road after crossing county line. Ridge with North/South aspect on Eastern side of road. Reach boulder field by using ATV trail.

### 9- Payne Cemetery (4.6 Miles)

This early African American settlement was made up of mostly freed or escaped slaves from Virginia. There were several farmsteads that served as logical stops on the Underground Railroad.

### 10- Greendale Wetlands (3.8 Miles)

After decades of polluted waterways from coal mining and timber, this partnership with the Wayne National Forest and the National Audubon Society has revitalized much of the local ecosystem.

### 11- Ora Anderson Nature Trail & Rutherford Wetland (10.5 Miles)

This location provides one of the most serene fully accessible out and back

trails in the region. Enjoy Monday Creek bottom lands and forest with birds galore.

### 12- Monroe Overlook Trailhead (8.9 Miles)

The 360 panoramic view from the top of the hill is a prime spot to view raptors and see which trail you would like to traverse.

### 13- Wildcat Hollow (12.4 Miles)

Choice of a five or fifteen mile loop option, soft rolling hills with valleys of wildflowers and needle covered trail.

### 14- Burr Oak State Park (13 Miles)

Rustic lodge with indoor pool, bar, restaurant, and wifi. Trail around lake, portions double with BTA for rolling landscape, water stops, campgrounds and a designated star gazing area.

### 15- Robbins Crossing Historic Village (14.3 Miles)

The historical village comes alive for special events and train visits. Next door to the Hocking College Nature Center. Near Doanville Trailhead for Baileys Trail access.

### 16- Hocking River Access

The river offers various access points- Kackelmatcher Park in Logan, State Route 328 Bridge Access. -Wandling Road Bridge in Haydenville. -Lake Hope Drive bridge in Nelsonville. -Nelsonville City Park on Watkins Road.

### 17- Hock Hocking Adena Bikeway (14.3 Miles)

Access from Robbins Crossing. Go South on bikeway toward Athens and visit Eclipse company town.

### 18- Boch Hollow State Nature Preserve (16.8 Miles)

There are three trailheads and seven miles of trail. The most significant natural feature in the preserve is a rare example of a canyon falls. An access permit is required from the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.

### 19- Rock Stalls Nature Preserve (19 Miles)

Rock Stalls Falls is a seasonal waterfall that half drops/ half-slides down a rock face. The waterfall is located in the Rock Stalls Nature Sanctuary.

### 20- Rockbridge State Nature Preserve (22 Miles)

This geologic wonder, the "largest natural bridge in Ohio," is situated adjacent to the scenic Hocking River.

## FEATURED DESTINATION: SO CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN SHAWNEE! BUCKEYE TRAIL & TECUMSEH LAKE LOOP TRAILS

At 1,400+ miles, The Buckeye Trail (BT) is the longest loop trail in the country and reaches into every corner of Ohio. Shawnee is home to its headquarters and a designated Buckeye Trail Town.

Less than 1/2 mile from Main Street Shawnee, The Tecumseh Lake Loop Trail portion of the BT takes visitors on a journey through a unique part of Ohio and through the Wayne National Forest.

In the Little Cities of Black Diamond Region, including Shawnee, coal mining was the economic engine for over a century. Acquired by the US Forest Service in 1934, this area, which was once dominated by extractive industries, has evolved into a place for wildlife, forestry and outdoor recreation. Today is public land and free for all to use and enjoy.

This 2.5 mile tour includes an interpretive sign every quarter mile. The 10 stops discuss the legacy of the land, the mining, the reforestation and the work of the community that went into changing this place from an industrial site to the beautiful forest that exists here today.



YOU CAN VISIT THE BTA HEADQUARTERS & LEARN MORE BY BECOMING A MEMBER OR VOLUNTEERING!  
[buckeyetrail.org](http://buckeyetrail.org)

### TRAIL POINTS

**1- Tecumseh Lake Loop Trailhead**

**2- Wood Thrush Loop, Entrance to former XX Mine**

**3- Find examples of coal slag, "gob" piles, and mine sinkholes caused by collapsed roofs of old, abandoned mines**

**4- Look for forest disturbance and succession—with clearings in canopy and trees adjusting for sunlight**

**5- Notice the decomposing trees on the ground improving the forest health, biodiversity and stream quality**

**6- Find a small stream bed with seasonal or**

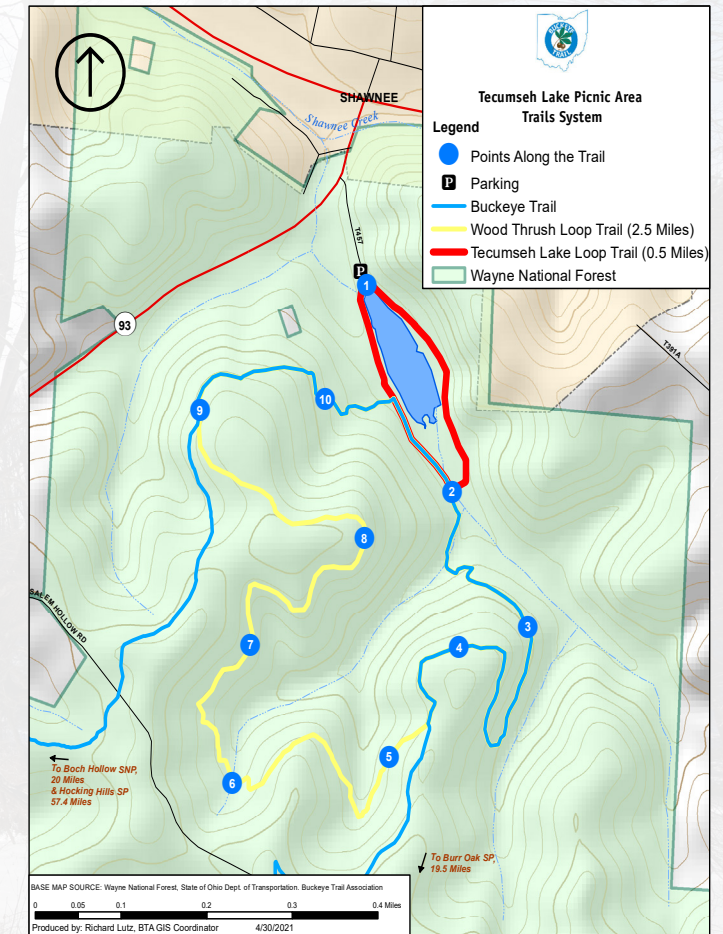
**intermittent flow—could be dry, depending on the season**

**7- In many edge habitats you will see invasive species growth, such as this multiflora rose**

**8- Entering a white pine forest planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps, (CCC)**

**9- Notice the wildlife opening maintained by the Wayne National Forest**

**10- Down the hill and approach Tecumseh Lake. Look for wild black cherry, american elm, slippery elm, black maple and black walnut**



ABOVE: Tecumseh Lake Loop, map courtesy of Richard Lutz, the Buckeye Trail Association.  
OPPOSITE: Snow covers the trail at the Tecumseh Lake Loop trail, #1.



For More Info On The Tecumseh Lake Loop Trails, Scan The QR Code On The Back Cover.



Historic Tecumseh Theater



Buckeye Trail (PHOTO: Scott Kreps)



Ohio's Winding Road Marketplace & Shawnee Mercantile



Miner's Park, Shawnee (PHOTO: Scott Kreps)



Downtown Shawnee



Payne Cemetery, #9



Black Diamond Tavern



Hock Hocking Adena Bikeway, #17



Burr Oak State Park, #14 (PHOTO: Jim Hart)

## DON'T MISS THE FUN!

Whether you are day hiking around Tecumseh Lake on the Buckeye Trail, riding your way through Shawnee to grab a drink at the tavern, or taking in a tour of the town and historical Tecumseh Theater — you will find your place for fun in Shawnee. Home to a handful of Air BnB options, Shawnee also has a campground within walking distance to Main Street. Public restrooms are available at the Tecumseh Theater during festivals, concerts, and posted working hours.

FOR MORE TRAIL TOWN INFO: [www.shawneeohio.org](http://www.shawneeohio.org)



## SEASONAL EVENTS

### Shawnee Second Saturdays

WHAT: Music, Food Trucks, Guided Hikes & Historic Tours  
LOCATION: Historic Main Street  
WHEN: Every second Saturday, May through September

### Shawnee First Friday Farmers Market

WHAT: Farmers Market  
LOCATION: Intersection of State Routes 93 & 155  
WHEN: Every first Friday during the Spring, Summer, & Fall

### Memorial Day Parade

WHAT: Celebration, Floats, Bands & More  
LOCATION: Historic Main Street  
WHEN: Every May

### Shawnee Homecoming

WHAT: Games, Live Music, Food  
LOCATION: Historic Main Street  
WHEN: Every third Saturday in August

### The Blue Blazes Festival

WHAT: Runners, Hikers, Musicians, Local Artisans  
LOCATION: Historic Main Street  
WHEN: First weekend in October  
CONTACT: [buckeyetrail.org/blueblazefest.php](http://buckeyetrail.org/blueblazefest.php)

### The Little Cities of Black Diamonds (LCBD) Day

WHAT: The LCBD Council hosted festival celebrating the history of the region  
LOCATION: Historic Main Street  
WHEN: Every third weekend in October

### Ongoing: Concerts, Shows, Trainings & Workshops at the Historic Tecumseh Theater

WHAT: Offered by the Shawnee Trail Town Network  
CONTACT: 740-580-2065, [shawneetrailtowncoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:shawneetrailtowncoordinator@gmail.com)



## LOCAL AMENITIES

### (ALL ON HISTORIC MAIN STREET) Ohio's Winding Road Pop-Up Marketplace

WHAT: Artworks, crafts, food, and wellness items, historical films, books, and music from the region  
WHEN: Every Winter & Spring  
CONTACT: [ohioswindingroad.org](http://ohioswindingroad.org)

### Shawnee Mercantile

WHAT: Shawnee Mercantile is a unique store offering Vintage, hand crafted and garden items  
CONTACT: (740) 856-8253

### Black Diamond Tavern

WHAT: A great place to grab a bite and/or a drink.  
CONTACT: [blackdiamond-tavernshawnee.com](http://blackdiamond-tavernshawnee.com)

### The Tecumseh Theater

WHAT: A historic opera house, built in 1907, offering seasonal events.  
CONTACT: [tecumsehtheater.org](http://tecumsehtheater.org)



An  
**OHIO'S**  
**WINDING ROAD**  
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Guide

With Support From



**JOIN THE FUN HAPPENING IN SHAWNEE, OHIO!**

[www.shawneeohio.org](http://www.shawneeohio.org)

Download The Digital Version & More Info Here:

