

From Mabbit Spring to Falling Water Falls – Signal Mountain

This is a pleasant walk, approximately 2.3 miles in length, on mostly level or gently sloping ground through attractive woodland. I thank Hubert C. Gray for providing information on this trail. At the northern end there are spectacular views over the valley. However, the trail does have some significant problems:

1. It is not marked - you have to look for a slight depression in the ground, which is difficult to see in places, particularly when covered by leaves;
2. A construction site interrupts the trail, so you have to search for the continuation of the trail;
3. It includes three stream crossings, on somewhat wobbly stepping stones;
4. It terminates on high and unguarded cliffs, which are a safety hazard;
5. Between this trail and the short trail from Forest Park Drive to Falling Water Falls, there is a 15 foot high cliff; this is easy for agile people to scale, but would present a problem for some.

Update, June 2005 - according to a friend (thanks, Rebecca!), a fence around the construction site has now blocked the trail. If you find a way around it, or know of an alternative route, please let me know. In the meantime, you might not be able to hike the trail end-to-end.

Directions: To approach from the southern end, follow the directions to the trailhead for Mabbit Spring and follow the trail. After crossing the stream, continue along the trail, and look for another trail on the left, directed slightly backwards. To approach from the northern end, follow the directions to the trailhead for Falling Water Falls and follow the trail to the top of the falls. Cross the stream and climb the low cliff, about 30 yards upstream from the falls. A footpath takes you uphill to the trail.

Coordinates:

Mabbit Spring trailhead	N35° 10.12' W85° 18.21'
Junction with trail to Falling Water	N35° 10.25' W85° 17.92'
Falling Water Falls trailhead	N35° 11.25' W85° 16.93'

Map corners:

Top left	N35° 11.55' W85° 18.50'
Top right	N35° 11.52' W85° 16.76'
Bottom left	N35° 10.07' W85° 18.53'
Bottom right	N35° 10.04' W85° 16.79'

