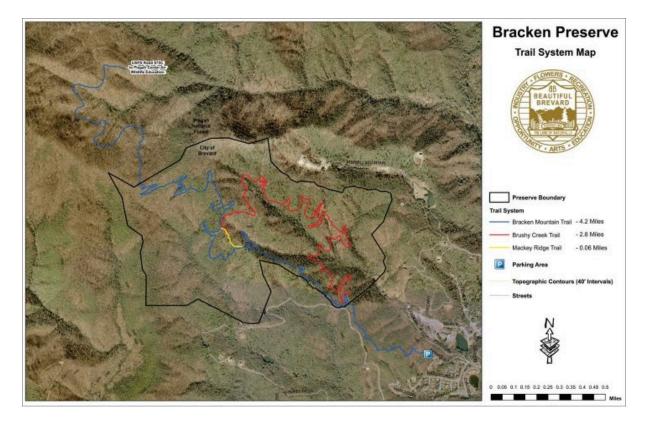
## **Brevard's Bracken Mountain Recreation Area**

More information: facebook.com/BrackenMountain



Mountain bikers, trail runners and nature lovers now have new ground to explore when 7.1 miles of trails within Brevard's **Bracken Mountain Recreation Area** opened to the public on July 27, 2012.

The 395-acre **Bracken Mountain tract off Pinnacle Road, next to Brevard Music Center**, has been off limits to recreationalists for decades, originally to protect the city's water supply but until recently because it was landlocked by private property and lacked trails.

"It's going to provide a great after-work run or ride," said Julia Tellman, 23, one of roughly 30 bikers who had the chance to test out the new trail system last week as part of the city's Volunteer Appreciation Day. "It's so convenient. It'll be so nice to have an 8- to 10-mile loop, right out your backdoor."

More than 75 volunteers, including Schenck Job Corps students and local cycling club members, helped clear the way for city contractor Long Cane Trails to build two loops within the interior of the Bracken Mountain tract, along with a connector trail to Forest Service Road 475C.

Work will continue on amenities such as benches, observation platforms, and a group campsite. Also, volunteers will be needed to perform routine maintenance on the property. See below for more information about volunteer opportunities.

**Volunteer Opportunities** The City of Brevard is seeking volunteers to assist in trail construction and long-term property maintenance. Individuals and organizations are welcome. Interested parties should contact Daniel Cobb, Planner, at (828) 885-5630 or <u>dcobb@cityofbrevard.com</u>.