



Distances to Coosa County from around the Southeast

- Birmingham 66 miles
- Montgomery 42 miles
- Huntsville 167 miles
- Mobile 212 miles
- Atlanta 146 miles
- Chattanooga 175 miles

Important Contact Numbers

- Coosa County Extension Office (256) 377-4713
- Coosa County Sheriff's Office (256) 377-2211
- Coosa Valley Medical Center (256) 401-4000
- Alexander City Rescue Squad (256) 825-4264
- Alabama Forestry Commission (800) 492-3711
- (To Report Wildfires)
- Geological Survey of Alabama (205) 247-3636
- (Topo Maps)

Helpful Websites

- Coosa County Extension www.aces.edu/counties/Coosa
- Geological Survey of Alabama www.gsa.state.al.us/publications.aspx
- (Topo Maps)
- U.S.G.S. (Alabama Stream Flows) www.waterdata.usgs.gov/al/nwis/rt
- Alabama Scenic River Trail www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com/
- Outdoor Alabama (ADCNR) www.outdooralabama.com/
- Google Earth www.google.com/earth/index.html

For larger, more detailed images of locations along the creeks, go to Google Earth.



www.aces.edu
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A Note About GPS

GPS locations represent latitude (degrees above or below the equator) and longitude (degrees east or west of the prime meridian). GPS readings are represented in degrees, minutes, and seconds. One degree latitude is about 69 miles, one minute is 1.15 miles, and one second is about 100 feet. Example: N 25 07 27 is about 1733.5 miles above the equator (25x69=1725 miles, plus 7x1.15=8 miles, plus 27x100 = 2700 feet or 0.5 miles). Coordinates can also be represented in decimal terms. All three below are equivalent:
 N 25.124167 (124167 degrees x 60 minutes per degree = 7.45 minutes)
 N 25 07.45 (0.45 minutes x 60 seconds per minute = 27 seconds)
 N 25 07 27 (degrees, minutes, and seconds)

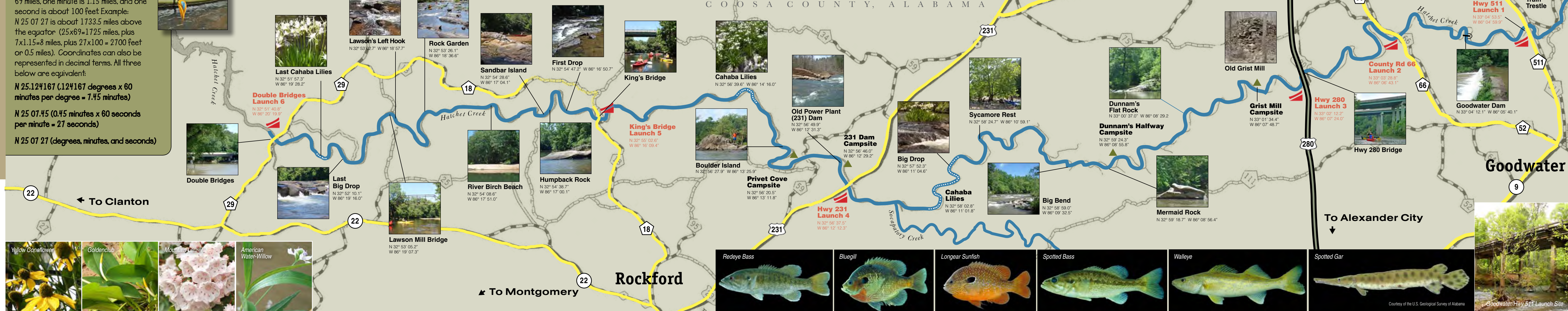


HATCHET CREEK ACTUAL FLOAT DISTANCES

Section 1	Hwy 511 to Co. Rd. 66	3½ miles
Section 2	Co. Rd. 66 to Hwy 280	3 miles
Section 3	Hwy 280 to Hwy 231	13 miles
Section 4	Hwy 231 to Co. Rd. 18	6½ miles
Section 5	Co. Rd. 18 to Co. Rd. 29	9 miles

Hatchet Creek

COOSA COUNTY, ALABAMA



A Look Back

Traveling along the shoals and white-water stretches of Hatchet Creek is more than a wilderness adventure—it's a history lesson. In the 1830s, the earliest settlers to the region recognized the creek and its tributaries as prime power sources and built dams and mills for grinding corn, ginning cotton, sawing lumber, and weaving cloth. The foundations of these remain today as moss-covered stone reminders of the day when Hatchet was the industrial artery of Coosa and Clay Counties. Early settlers also took respite from their long work days to relax along the creek. Best known among the fun spots was Traveler's Rest, a combination blacksmith shop, distillery, and barroom. The coming of the War Between the States brought life-altering changes to the people of the region, while the creek rolled on, responding only to the march of the seasons.

In the following years—in good times and bad—the creek remained the common thread that wove the scattered farms into a community. The present railroad trestle built in 1910 near Goodwater was the highest railroad bridge in the United States at that time. Sentries were posted on both banks of the creek during World War II to guard against German saboteurs. A new use for the swift-flowing waters of Hatchet Creek came in 1905 when hydroelectric plants were built along the banks. While moss-covered evidence of these remains today, the later construction of large and efficient power plants on the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers made them obsolete. Today the scenic creek has returned to a basically free-flowing stream inviting adventurers to embrace the serenity of its unbroken walls of green and the roar of its rapids.

Courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey of Alabama