

# LEE FALLS on TAMASSEE CREEK



DESCRIPTION: The trail to this 75-foot falls...once voted Oconee County's most scenic... is unmarked, but well used and accessible by following its source, Tamassee Creek, upstream. **THIS HIKE HAS MANY STREAM CROSSINGS.** The trail first passes through open field, then across the creek, on through another field, and across a wider part of the creek. High water adds to the challenge and fun. Beyond, the trail leads deeper into the hardwood forest. It begins wide and open, then narrows as it crosses several smaller streams and winds past the remnants of an old gold smelter. Then the terrain becomes rocky, up hill, and encounters faster flowing water. As the falls come into view, the going gets more rocky and steeper (difficult). Enjoy a wonderful collection of mosses, ferns, and seasonal flowers that thrive in the cool and damp of the spray from the falls. Many hikers scramble up to the face of the falls, and choose a rocky perch for lunch. The scene is also nice, and safer, from further out. The choice is yours...memorable either way. Except for the short scramble up the falls, the hike is less than four mostly easy miles, with an elevation gain of only a hundred feet or so.

## DIRECTIONS (GPS: 34.8935, -83.0812)

Meet, pool, and depart from KKEPA at 9AM. Regroup at 920 at the Mini Mall at the intersection of Cheohee Valley Rd and SC11...about 8 miles north of SC28 on SC11. From there, we go 2.3 miles W on Cheohee Valley; turn left and go 0.5 mi on Tamassee Knob Rd, then right (NW) 1.5 mi on Jumping Branch; then left (NW) for 0.5 mi on gravel road FS715A. The parking area is on the right just before the small bridge. There are no potties and no fees. Expect to return by 2PM.

UPDATED April 2018

