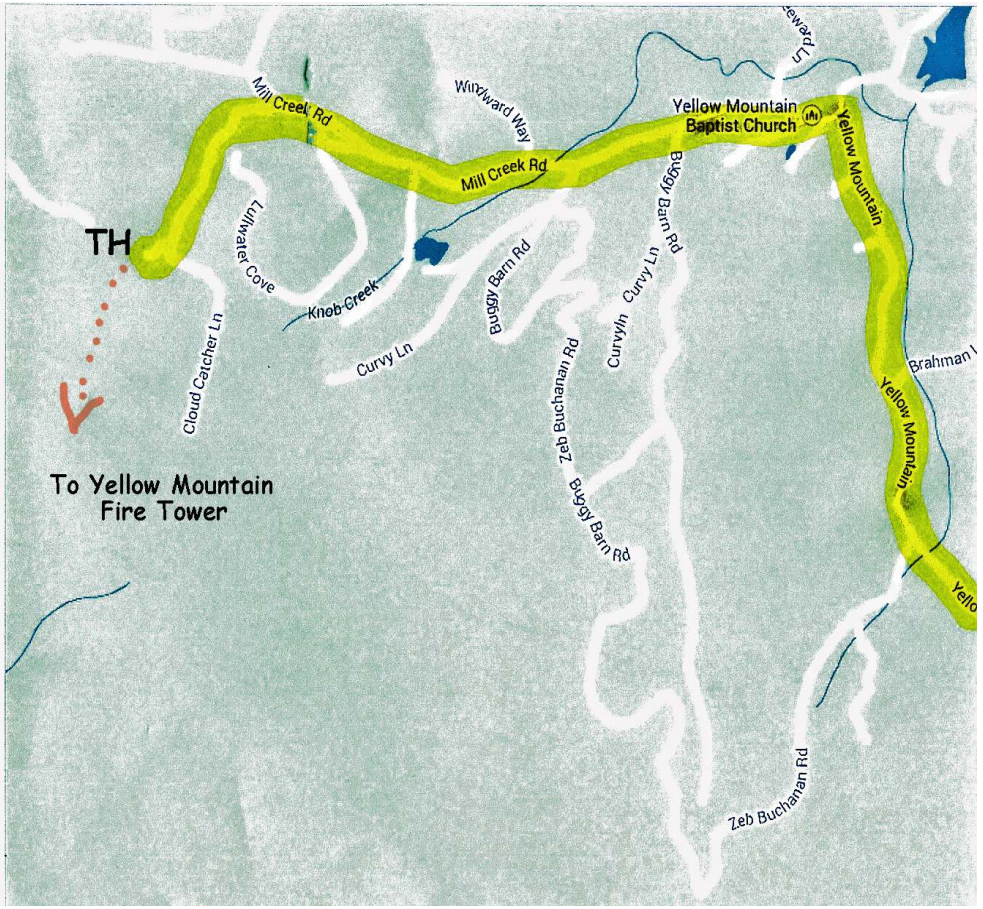
YELLOW MOUNTAIN via YELLOW MOUNTAIN PRESERVE off MILL CREEK RD

DESCRIPTION: This trail is the “back door” route to the old Yellow Mountain Fire Tower and its magnificent 360 degree views of the NC mountains. The alternate route, across Cole and Shortoff Mountains is longer and more difficult than we usually hike. Our choice is only about 2.5 miles round trip; outbound on an often rough rocky trail with a climb of about 800ft; easy on the return. Another forest road/trail to the west from the same trail head winds gently downhill to, and across, tributaries of Mill Creek. It can extend the hike, but adds little visual reward. Another forest road near the summit winds down into a large lot housing development; also lacking scenic reward.

DIRECTIONS (GPS: 35.133408, -83.180586)
Gather and pool from Sloan Bridge Picnic Area for a 915AM departure. This requires leaving KKEPA or Walhalla by 830A. From SBPA, go N on SC107 for 9 miles and turn left on US64W, go 3.3mi then right on Norton Rd for 2mi, then left 2.6mi on Yellow Mtn Rd, and left onto Mill Creek Rd 1mi to Cloud Catcher Lane. Bear left and continue for 0.7mi on gravel ALONG private property to the parking and trailhead...about 40 minutes from SBPA. There are no fees and no facilities after SBPA.. Expect to return around 230 PM



UPDATED Jul 2017