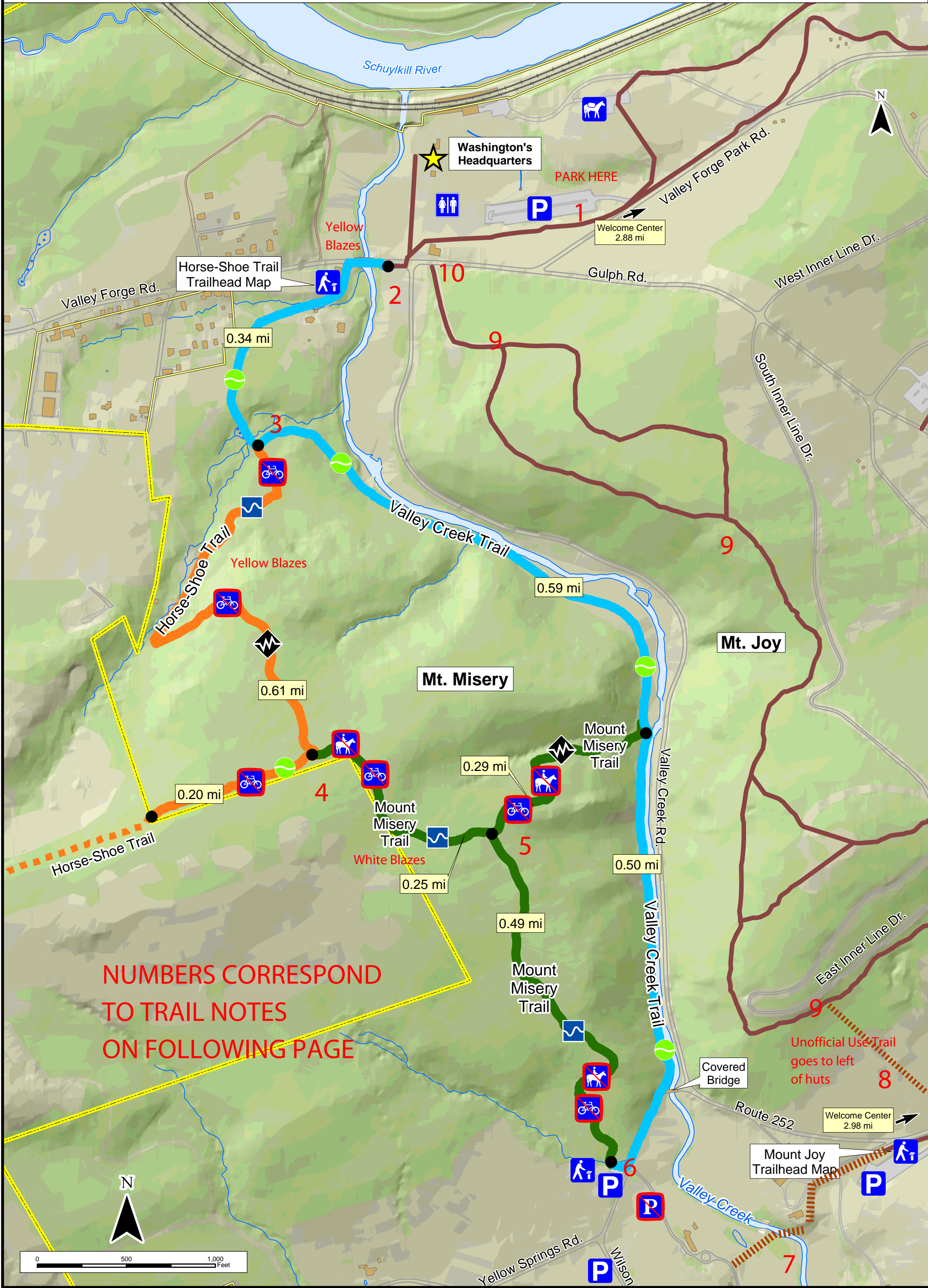




Mount Misery, Valley Creek and Horse-Shoe Trails



Legend

Authorized Trail Use

- Biking, Hiking and Horses
- Hiking and Horses Only
- Hiking Only
- Other Park Trails
- Horse-Shoe Trail on Private Land

Trail Difficulty:

- Easy -- 0-5% Slope
- Moderate -- 5-12% Slope
- Challenging -- Greater than 12% Slope



Trailhead Information Kiosk



Bikes NOT Permitted on Trail



Horses NOT Permitted on Trail



Parking Area



NO Parking



Restrooms



Horse Trailer Parking Area



Authorized Park Boundary



Privately Owned Inholdings



Roads



Parking Lots



Buildings and Structures



Water



Wooded Areas

Trail Notes

1. Notes assume you park at “Washington’s Headquarters”. This is not the Visitor’s Center. To get there, drive past the Visitor’s Center a little more than 2 miles on Rt. 23 (West). Park at the Washington’s Headquarters parking lot.
2. To find the trailhead, walk downhill past the buildings. If you follow the lowest path, you’ll see Valley Creek on your right. Cross Rt. 23. On the opposite side, you’ll see a boulder with a brass plaque marking the origin of the Horseshoe Trail. If you look carefully, you’ll see yellow blazes across the bridge. Cross Valley Creek and make the first left onto a gravel road. Continue to follow the yellow blazes, and it will quickly start to climb and turn into a walking trail.
3. Stay right and follow the yellow blazes to follow the Horseshoe trail up Mt. Misery. Don’t worry, it’s really only a moderate climb.
4. Make the left at a T intersection to switch to the white-blazed Mt. Misery trail. Signpost will point to the “covered bridge”. The trail starts to descend almost immediately.
5. Stay right here to continue the main loop. The trail will continue to descend gradually to a small parking lot. [Optional] If you’re out of time, you could make the left to descend quickly and loop back along the Valley Creek Trail.
6. From the parking lot, you’ll want to cross Yellow Springs Rd and walk past the PC Knox estate. [Optional] If you’re tired or out of time, you can loop back on the Valley Creek Trail from here. It will save you at least half an hour, and be a much easier walk.
7. There’s a small, humpbacked wooden footbridge across Valley Creek approximately here. Once you’re past the estate house, edge down to the river, where you’ll find an informal use trail along the bank. Follow it until you find the humpbacked bridge. You’ll then want to edge up past the cluster of Knox’s Headquarters, and east along 252 past the parking lot. Note: the humpbacked bridge is not very far along Valley Creek. If you end up finding a steel bridge with an unpaved auto road crossing it, you’ve gone too far. You can cross there, and then walk back downstream along the far bank until you’ll see a break in the lawn leading to Knox’s Headquarters.
8. Cross 252 at the official pedestrian crossing just past the Knox’s Headquarters parking lot. Almost immediately after you cross, you’ll see a well-worn, unofficial footpath climbing the hill to the left of a couple of huts.
9. When in doubt, stay left.
10. The trail dumps you on the road just opposite the bridge you crossed in step 2. Retrace your steps up to the parking lot.