

Geology of the Historic Van Winkle and Sinking Stream Trails

Trail Description

This short trail gives the hiker a chance to see rock formations and karst features characteristic of the area.

Stop 1: This spring shows that joints or fractures within the rock control the flow of water. Notice the straight cracks in the rock forming right angles. The spring is flowing out of limestone near the contact of the Boone and St. Joe Limestone.

Stop 2: This outcrop is composed of the St. Joe Limestone. Notice the fractures within the limestone. Only about 8-10 feet of the rock is exposed here, though this unit ranges from 20-40 feet thick throughout this area.



Stop 2. St. Joe Limestone



Stop 3. Finger of Beaver lake with the Chattanooga Shale exposed along the shoreline.



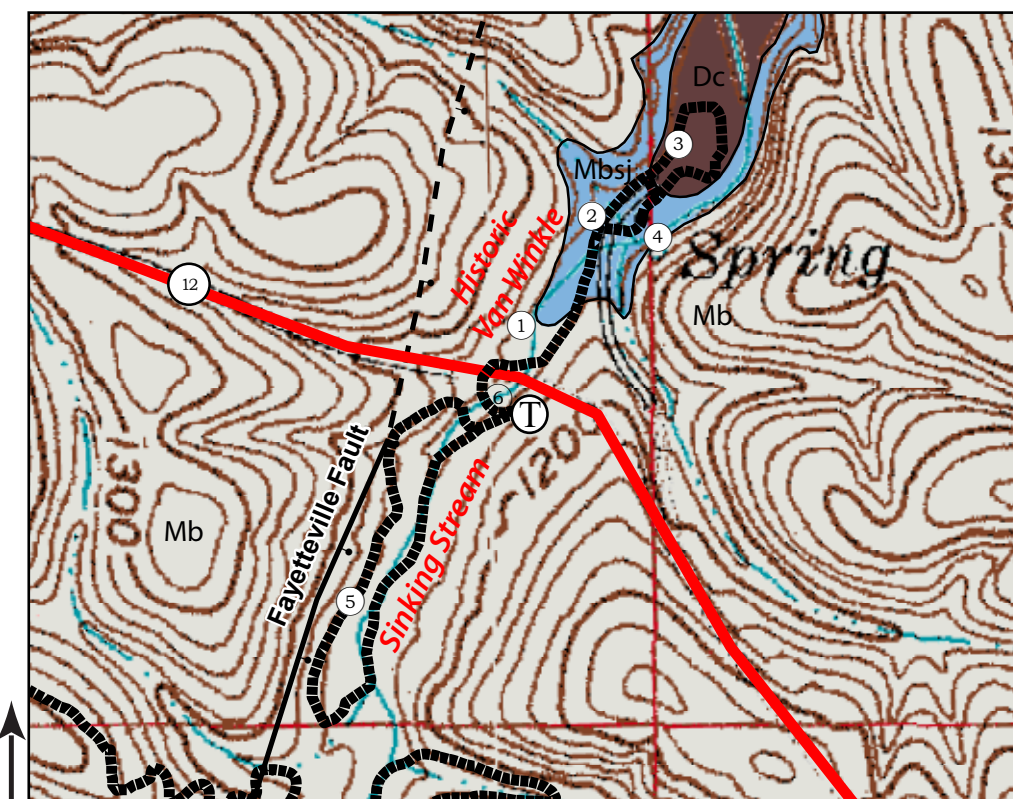
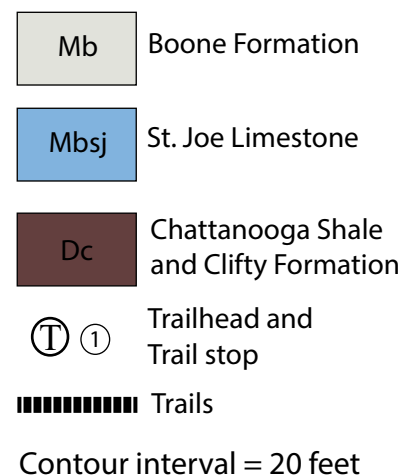
Stop 1. Spring at base of Boone Formation.



Stop 4. Van Winkle Spring.



Stop 6. Chert nodules in the Boone.



Scale |-----| 0.6 miles

Stop 3: As you walk toward the lake and lower in elevation, notice the soil color has changed to black. You can also see a different rock type exposed along the shoreline. The black shale is the Chattanooga Shale.

Stop 4: Van Winkle Spring is another spring along this trail that is flowing near the contact of the Boone and St. Joe Limestone. This contact is a common location for springs in the area.

Stop 5: The Sinking Stream Trail contains a disappearing stream or dry valley.

Stop 6: This stop allows you to view chert nodules within the Boone Formation. This chert is typical of the lower portion of the unit.



Stop 5. Disappearing or dry stream.

