<u>Description</u>: This is a moderate 9.5 mile (8.3 if you don't do the out/back to Lindy Point Overlook) hike using both park and MNF trails to form a loop. Of the total mileage only 1.3 miles of walking on CLR13 and the park road is required. The park trails are blazed with colored circles about every 20 yards, the MNF trails use sporadic blue plastic diamonds and the Allegheny/Davis Trail uses both blue diamonds and painted yellow rectangles as blazes. All but two stream crossing are over bridges.

The hike features a few modest climbs at the upper reaches of the Allegheny/Davis Trail and another one or two on the Plantation Trail, but nothing of serious consequence. The trek abounds in pretty streams, mature Red Spruce and Hemlocks, peat bogs and Rhododendron and Mountain Laurel thickets.

Directions from US219 and WV32:

- 1. Follow WV32 south through Thomas and into Davis.
- 2. Turn right onto Blackwater Falls Rd.
- 3. Follow signs to the Lodge. Start there. Optional starting points are at the Stable which you passed on the left on your way in and the Lindy Point Overlook parking area shown on the map.

<u>Trail Notes</u>: From the lodge parking lot walk out to the sign at its main entrance. Across the road find a sign for Yellow Birch Trail (yellow blazes). Follow it for 0.7 miles to its intersection with the stable drive. The official route of the Allegheny Trail is up the drive, through the stable gate and left on a wide trail. A route more agreeable to one's olfactory nerves is to cross the drive, remaining on Yellow Birch Trail. At this point you are actually also on Allegheny Trail-southbound. Cross Engine Run on a wooden bridge and soon arrive at a wide, unsigned or blazed trail. (This used to be a section of the Davis Trail. Its official trailhead has been moved further south at the park/MNF border on the Allegheny Trail.) Turn right here and merge onto the official Allegheny trail. There will be peat bogs to your left.

In 0.3 miles pass the park's Sidewinder Trail on your right. It crosses Engine Run on a badly damaged bridge. Stay straight on the Allegheny Trail. Soon come to the park boundary and the official trailhead of the Davis Trail. Both it and the Allegheny Trail share the same tread through the Canaan Mt area.

Soon cross Engine Run on a foot bridge. The trail turns left and follows the drainage for a while. Over the last 0.3 miles or so the trail veers away to the right of the stream and ascends through a series of steep but quick climbs. At 1.2 miles from leaving the park boundary arrive at a wide, flat rocky area with a shelter on your right. In 70 yards reach the intersection with blue blazed Plantation Trail.

Turn right on the Plantation Trail and cross the west fork of Engine Run. In 1.2 miles from the last trail junction pass Fire Road #6 on the left, arriving at the Lindy Trail at another 1.1 miles.

The sign here states that CLR13-north is 1.5 miles away. Turn right here and quickly descend to CLR13, crossing Lindy Run near the halfway point.

Turn right onto CLR13 and cross Lindy Run again. At 0.6 miles from Lindy Run Trail arrive at the parking area for Lindy Point Overlook. Turn left onto the trail. In about 0.38 miles, come to a fantastic view of the Blackwater River drainage.

Return to CLR13 (paved at this point) and turn left. In another 0.56 miles arrive at the Ski Warming Hut on the right. Begin to walk up the sledding slope. To your left there will be a trail with a green metal sign stating that it is a "fee trail" (for skiers) and a wood sign marking this as Shay Trace Trail. Turn left onto this trail. The blazes are blue.

Cross the intersection of Cherry Lane (yellow circles) and red blazed Red Spruce Horse Trail (They come together at Shay Trace Trail) and then the access road for the cabins (0.45 miles from the warming Hut). You will pass cabins 6 and 5 on your right and 2 and 4 on your left as you cross the road.

Once again cross Red Spruce Trail and then orange blazed Balanced Rock Trail (shown red on the map). In 0.7 miles from the cabin road arrive at the west entrance to the Lodge and your vehicle.