

# Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway

Through a collaborative effort between the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), Greater Lansing Area Development (GLAD), Ashe County, the towns of Lansing, Jefferson, West Jefferson, and the High Country Rural Planning Organization (RPO), the Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway was officially designated as a Scenic Byway by the North Carolina Board of Transportation on April 7, 2016 making it the 60th Scenic Byway in North Carolina.

North Carolina Scenic Byways are selected based on natural, cultural, and historic features along the route. The Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway begins in Warrentonville at the NC 88 and NC 194 intersection and ends at the Virginia state line for a length of approximately 17 miles. The Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway is comprised of 4 distinct sections as follows:

### **NC 194, Warrentonville to Lansing:**

Features views of the North Fork of the New River, Phoenix Mountain, historic downtown Lansing and Lansing Presbyterian Church.

### **Big Horse Creek:**

Follows creek with roadside pull-offs, rock outcroppings, Union Baptist Church, New Bethel Baptist Church and Husk General Store.

### **Rip Shin Road to Farmers Store Road:**

Follows 3 state roads through agricultural landscape, features views of the Old Virginia Creeper trestle, Pond Mountain, Apple Grove Church and Hall Cemetery.

### **Farmers Store Road to the NC/Virginia State Line:**

This section also provides for views of rural North Carolina, ending at the North Carolina and Virginia border. If you continue into Virginia you will eventually end up at Whitetop Mountain (a starting point for the Virginia Creeper bicycle trail to Damascus Virginia). This area provides a good point of interest and a place to turn around to enjoy the Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway from the other direction.



*"Old Home Place" — Found on a series of curves known locally as the Devil's Stairs*



*Traffic is light, with the occasional slow-down.*

According to NCDOT, signs will be erected in the future identifying the route as a Scenic Byway. In addition, the Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway will be featured in NCDOT's nationally distributed Scenic Byways Guide. The NCDOT Scenic Byway Program is designed to give residents and visitors a chance to experience North Carolina's history, geography and scenery while raising awareness for scenic protection and landscape preservation. No off-premise advertising (i.e., billboards) is allowed along the Byways.

# Proposed Ashe County Scenic Byway



Lansing

- Communities Crossroads
- Proposed Scenic Byway
- NC Hwy
- US Hwy
- Secondary Roads
- Municipalities
- Counties

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

