

### Eagle Creek Trailhead

Distance from CCC: 48.9 miles, 52 minutes

Length of Trail: 4+ miles

Parking fee: \$5

Escaping the city noise to be surrounded by the sound of rushing water, the Eagle Creek trailhead is a start for many different hikes. There's also a fish hatchery, a day use picnic area and the Eagle Creek campground.

One of the extra trails in the area is the Gorge Trail that starts by a bridge and will lead hikers to Wauna Viewpoint. This trail is above I-84, so people can still hear the traffic but there are breaks in the trees, providing beautiful views of the Gorge. I didn't go very far on this trail.

Distance for the Eagle Creek Trail will vary depending on how far someone wants to hike: Punchbowl Falls, High Bridge or Tunnel Falls. Hikers can even reach Wahtum Lake if they choose, about a 26.5 mile loop. The trail does get narrow at times and provides a beautiful getaway from the city. I went past Punchbowl Falls but didn't make it to the High Bridge.

Be careful with valuables and identity information. With the trailhead being right off of I-84, it's appealing to thieves. I didn't experience any problems while I was there.

STORY AND PHOTO BY KATIE ARCHER



The rebuilt Benson Footbridge stands tall over Multnomah Falls.

### Multnomah Falls

Distance from CCC: 38.6 miles, 48 min

Length of Trail: 2+ miles

Parking Fee: none

Multnomah Falls is one hike that is a must for anyone, whether you're a nature lover or not.

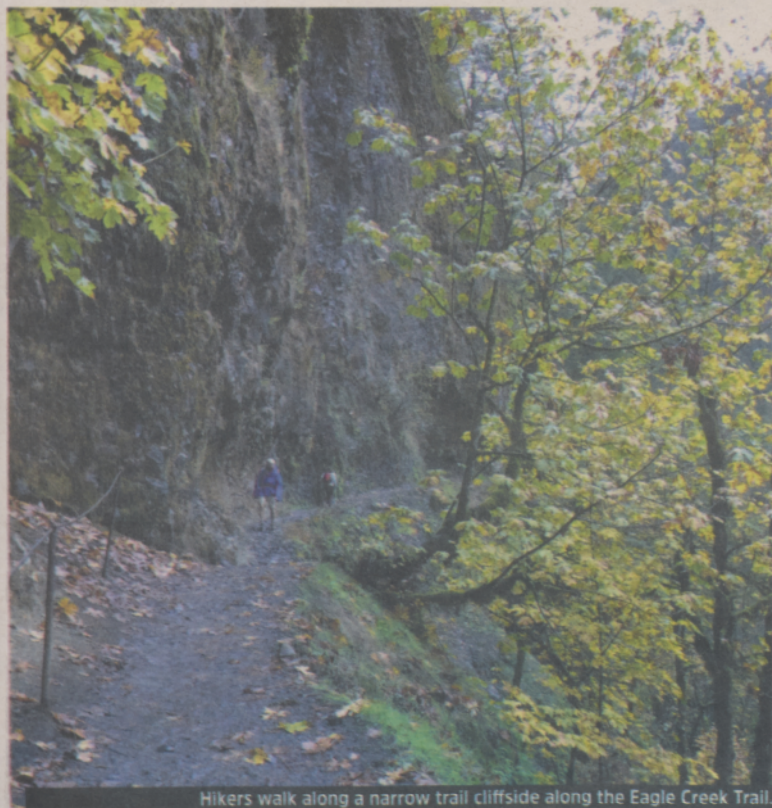
The trailhead is approximately 40 miles from Clackamas Community College. You can get to this spot by taking I-205 North, exit 22 to I-84 East and continuing until exit 31.

At the base of the hike is a historic stone lodge. The hike itself is a little more than two miles, round trip. The difficulty level is considered moderate because it has quite a slope. The elevation gain is about 700 feet. Starting on the hike, after a couple turns, you will end up at a stone bridge.

I actually thought this was the end, but if you pass the stone bridge and stay right, you can hike to the very top. The viewpoint at the top features a balcony of sorts to look out from, as well as other trails to a further hike. The paved path is a bit bumpy so you will need to watch your step, especially if it rains, which it always does. If you have asthma, bring an inhaler.

Also, expect the trail to be crowded. The viewpoints are definitely worth the hike. Not only is there Multnomah Falls, there are numerous falls, viewpoints and nature spots to stop off at on the way.

STORY AND PHOTO BY SHAYLYN STRUNA



Hikers walk along a narrow trail cliffside along the Eagle Creek Trail.