

Aspen Ranger District
806 W. Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445—Voice
(970) 925-5277—Fax



United States Department of Agriculture



HIKING

DISCOVERY/BRAILLE TRAIL

Length: 1/4 mile one-way (.4 km)

Elevation: 10,200 feet (3109 m)

USGS Map(s): Independence Pass

Difficulty: Varies

Trail Use: Low

OVERVIEW: A delightful hiking trail and picnic area that provides a wilderness experience for all who enjoy nature with trails specifically prepared for the physically challenged and visually impaired.

ACCESS: Drive 12.6 miles east of Aspen on Highway 82. Trailhead is on the right side of the road. Both trails are accessed from the trailhead parking lot.

NARRATIVE: These trails are looped trails and each is 1/4 of a mile (.4 Km) in length.

1. **BRAILLE TRAIL** to the right has been designed as a nature trail for the visually impaired which offers a delightful guide-line walk along the banks of the Roaring Fork River through forests and over bridges. The rocky paths require good support shoes and caution. Nature signs describing the flora are both in braille and printed text.

2. **DISCOVERY TRAIL** to the left offers wheelchair access along a heavily wooded trail which follows along the banks of the Roaring Fork River. Numerous picnic tables are sheltered amongst the trees. Printed signs describe the environment and ecology of the Roaring Fork Valley.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: The Discovery/Braille Trail is a non-wilderness trail. Please, educate yourself about hiking ethics and the following rules:

- * Out of consideration for others and wildlife - **DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH.**
- * No camping. No campfires!
- * Please respect the land and rights of others!

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!