



## History of Bracken Preserve

### *1910-1915*

The City of Brevard purchases four parcels of land totaling 395.64 acres on the headwaters of both Brushy Creek and Bracken's Creek, which form part of the headwaters of the French Broad River Basin. The land was the City's first public water supply source, used until the City began to withdraw from Cathey's Creek in 1979.

### *1987-1988*

An appraisal and timber study prompts the City to consider either developing or selling the property.

### *February 2004*

Brevard City Council determines the property should be preserved from development while providing public access for low impact recreational activities.

### *August 2005*

The North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund awards the City of Brevard a \$1.04 million grant to fund the establishment of a permanent conservation easement on the property.

### *December 4, 2006*

Brevard City Council adopts the Bracken Mountain Master Plan, providing a framework for the property's preservation and development for public recreational purposes.

### *January 2007*

The City of Brevard and the State of North Carolina execute and record a conservation easement agreement for Bracken, preserving the property in perpetuity.

Work to develop Bracken for recreational purposes begins with negotiations to secure right of way into the property from Pinnacle Drive. Many neighboring property owners, including the Josephine Renzulli family, Brevard Music Center, and the Western North Carolina Service Corporation, were instrumental in creating legal access to the property.

### *January 2012*

Trail construction begins on Phase 1 trails. Volunteers provide 1,200 hours of trail work.

### *July 2012*

Bracken Preserve officially opens for recreation use.

