



# JUNEBUG BOOGIE 2026

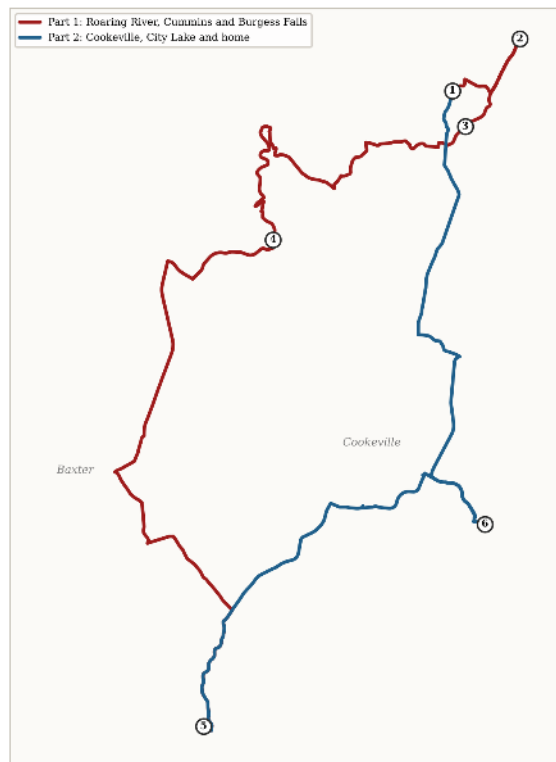
## GROUP RIDE

## THE WATERFALL LOOP

*A Gray Beard Biker Group Ride*  
*Four waterfalls around Cookeville, Tennessee*  
*Saturday, June 20, 2026 | Kickstands up 11:30 AM*

Four waterfalls on the edge of the Highland Rim, linked by farm roads and a state scenic river. We start at the Roaring River just up the road from camp, eat BBQ, follow Blackburn Fork down to Cummins Falls, swing west through Baxter to the big one at Burgess Falls, then come home through Cookeville past City Lake. Short walks only. No hiking required.

| START AND FINISH                | KICKSTANDS UP | DISTANCE       | RIDING TIME                      |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| JuneBug Boogie, 115 Waterloo Rd | 11:30 AM      | About 73 miles | About 2 to 2.5 hours, plus stops |



Numbers match the stops in this guide. Not to scale for navigation; use the GPX file.



## JUNEBUG BOOGIE 2026 GROUP RIDE

### The Day at a Glance

| # | Stop                     | Mile | Notes                                       |
|---|--------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1 | JuneBug Boogie           | 0    | Riders meeting, then kickstands up 11:30 AM |
| 2 | Roaring River Falls      | 4    | Roadside pullout, 5-minute walk             |
| 3 | Kurtdaddy's Pork Pit     | 7    | Lunch                                       |
|   | Blackburn Fork Rd        | 15   | Ride-through: state scenic river            |
| 4 | Cummins Falls State Park | 21   | Half-mile walk to the overlook              |
|   | Baxter                   | 32   | Ride-through                                |
| 5 | Burgess Falls State Park | 42   | The big one: 136 feet                       |
|   | Cookeville               | 52   | Ride-through, fuel if needed                |
| 6 | City Lake Natural Area   | 58   | Short trail to the cascade                  |
|   | Finish: JuneBug Boogie   | 73   | Back at camp                                |

Mileage is measured along the planned line and is approximate. Your GPS will differ a little.

### Know Before You Go

- **Fuel:** No fuel stop is built in. Start with a full tank. Cookeville (around mile 52) is the easy place to top off if you need it.
- **Walking:** Short walks only. Roaring River Falls is about 5 minutes from the pullout, Cummins is a half mile to the overlook, and City Lake is a short, partly paved trail. Boots are fine.
- **Fees:** The state parks and City Lake are free to enter. Lunch is on your own tab.
- **Pace:** Relaxed. Backroads, farm country, a scenic river road and a few miles of four-lane SR-111 on the way home.

### ONE WATERSHED, THEN ANOTHER

The first half of the day follows one river system: Blackburn Fork, home of Cummins Falls, flows into the Roaring River, where you start. The second half follows another: City Lake and Burgess Falls are both on the Falling Water River.

### THE ONE BACKTRACK

Burgess Falls is a dead-end park, so you ride the last few miles of Burgess Falls Rd (SR-135) in and back out. The approach comes from the Baxter side so the rest of the loop never doubles back.

### RIDE NOTES

If you get separated, don't chase the group. Ride your pace to the next stop in this guide and we'll be there. GPS apps route differently, so follow the leader, not your screen. Ride your own ride.



## PART 1 | Roaring River, Cummins and Burgess Falls (about 42 miles)

### 1. Start: JuneBug Boogie

#### Mile 0 | Stop

115 Waterloo Rd, Cookeville. JuneBug Boogie started in 2002 as a small motorcycle rally on private property in Middle Tennessee and has grown into one of the state's best-known rallies, with a spring rally and the fall JuneBug Boogie Too.

**The shot:** The group lined up and ready to roll out of camp.

**Good to know:** Riders meeting before kickstands up at 11:30 AM. Arrive with a full tank.

### 2. Roaring River Falls

#### Mile 4 | Stop

1634 Standing Stone Hwy (SR-136). It goes by two other names: **Crawford Mills Falls**, for the old mill that once stood here, and **Hardy-Reagan Falls**, for the nearby bridge where SR-136 crosses the river. The drop is only about 13 feet, but it's wide and right off the road.

The Roaring River was designated a Tennessee Scenic River in 1968. It rises on the Highland Rim near Livingston and runs 37.7 miles to Cordell Hull Lake on the Cumberland. The protected natural-river section starts right here at the SR-136 bridge.

**The shot:** The full width of the falls from the rocks at the bottom of the path.

**Good to know:** The gravel pullout is small, unmarked and easy to miss, on the left just before the bridge. About a 5-minute walk, partly paved, partly gravel and rock.

### 3. Lunch: Kurtdaddy's Pork Pit

#### Mile 7 | Stop

2824 Standing Stone Hwy, about 11 miles north of the Cookeville courthouse. A small local BBQ joint on the same highway as the falls, which is why lunch comes this early: it's right on the way.

**The shot:** The plate before the first bite, and the bikes out front on SR-136.

**Good to know:** Everyone pays their own tab. It's a small place, so be patient with the kitchen. (931) 397-5227.

### Thomas Allen Rd, Zion Rd and Blackburn Fork Rd

#### Mile 15 | Ride-through

West of SR-136, a chain of farm roads crosses the Highland Rim: Thomas Allen Rd, John Webb Rd, Old Dodson Branch Rd, Willis Martin Rd and Zion Rd. Then **Blackburn Fork Rd** follows the river for about five miles through river-bottom pasture and bluffs.

Blackburn Fork is a Tennessee Scenic River, designated in 1968. It's named for Benjamin Blackburn, who got this land in 1790 for his military service against the Chickamauga. Downstream it flows into the Roaring River, the same river you saw at the first stop.

**The shot:** Rolling footage along the river on Blackburn Fork Rd.

**Good to know:** Narrow country roads. Watch for farm equipment, gravel and loose livestock.



### 4. Cummins Falls State Park

#### Mile 21 | Stop

390 Cummins Falls Ln. Blackburn Fork drops 75 feet here. It's the eighth-largest waterfall in Tennessee, and Travel + Leisure once listed it among the ten best swimming holes in the country.

In 1825 Benjamin Blackburn sold the land to **John Cummins**, a Scottish mill builder. During the Civil War, the Cummins mill turned out gun stocks for Confederate soldiers. The family held the land until 2011, when it went to auction with a housing development planned. TennGreen and its partners bought it instead, and it was dedicated as Tennessee's 54th state park on May 22, 2012.

**The shot:** The falls from the overlook, with the gorge below.

**Good to know:** A half-mile trail to the overlook. The 1.6-mile trail to the base involves wading the river, so it's not part of this ride. Check [tntateparks.com](https://tntateparks.com) for current access rules.

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### Baxter

#### Mile 32 | Ride-through

From Cummins, SR-290 and SR-56 carry you south to Baxter, which grew up in the 1890s, was incorporated in 1915, and is named for Jere Baxter. The route loops through town on Main St and 1st Ave S, then picks up Baxter Rd, Academy Rd and Ditty Rd toward Burgess Falls.

Coming in from this side is deliberate: it lets you reach Burgess without riding SR-135 both ways.

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### 5. Burgess Falls State Park

#### Mile 42 | Stop

4000 Burgess Falls Dr, Sparta. The **Falling Water River** drops about 250 feet in less than a mile here, over four falls: the Falling Water Cascades (about 10 feet), Little Falls (about 30), Middle Falls (about 80) and Burgess Falls itself, 136 feet into a gorge with walls 100 to 200 feet high.

Tom Burgess, a Revolutionary War veteran, settled here in the 1810s, and his family ran a grist mill and later a sawmill on the rapids. In the 1920s Cookeville dammed the river upstream to make electricity. A flood in June 1928 collapsed part of the dam and wiped out the powerhouse. The city rebuilt it, and it powered Cookeville until the TVA arrived in 1944. Local residents pushed to protect the gorge, and the state park was established in 1971.

**The shot:** The main falls from the overlook. It's the money shot of the day.

**Good to know:** You can see the upper falls near the lot. The main falls overlook is on the river trail, railed most of the way. Flooding took out the stairs to the base, so there's no access to the bottom. The park closes on heavy-rain days.

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## PART 2 | Cookeville, City Lake and Home (about 31 miles)

### Cookeville

#### Mile 52 | Ride-through

SR-135 becomes S Willow Ave as you come into Cookeville, and the route cuts across town on Interstate Dr and Neal St. Cookeville was founded in 1854 and named for Richard Fielding Cooke, who settled here in 1810. It's the "Hub of the Upper Cumberland" and home of Tennessee Tech, here since 1915. The 1909 railroad depot downtown is now a museum.

**Good to know:** City traffic and stoplights. Best place on the loop to fuel up.

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### 6. City Lake Natural Area

#### Mile 58 | Stop

2010 Bridgeway Dr, off E Spring St (US-70N). This is the **Falling Water River** again, the same river you just watched go over Burgess Falls. Cookeville dammed it in the 1940s for its water supply, and the city's first water treatment plant was built here.

Today it's a quiet 35-acre lake with a short, mostly flat trail past a historic structure to a low, wide cascade with a viewing deck.

**The shot:** The cascade from the viewing deck.

**Good to know:** Bridgeway Dr is a dead end, so you ride out the way you came in.

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### Home on SR-111 and Hilham Rd

#### Mile 73 | Ride-through

About 3.5 miles north on four-lane SR-111, then Quinland Lake Rd, Fisk Rd and Hilham Rd (SR-136) north through the country and back to Waterloo Rd and camp.

**Good to know:** SR-111 is a fast four-lane. Stay together and watch the merge.

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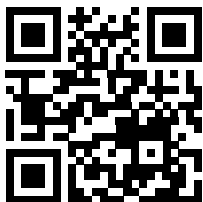
### Turn-by-Turn

#### PART 1

1. Leave JuneBug Boogie on **Waterloo Rd**, follow **Poplar Springs Rd**, then go **north on Standing Stone Hwy (SR-136)**.
2. **Stop 2:** Roaring River Falls pullout, 1634 Standing Stone Hwy, on the left just before the river bridge.
3. Turn around and ride **south on SR-136** about 5 miles. **Stop 3:** Kurt daddy's Pork Pit, 2824 Standing Stone Hwy.
4. Continue south briefly, then turn **right (west) on Thomas Allen Rd**, which continues as **John Webb Rd** and **Old Dodson Branch Rd**.
5. Turn **left on Willis Martin Rd**, **left on SR-135** briefly, then **right on Zion Rd** (about 3 miles).
6. Turn **left on Blackburn Fork Rd** and follow the river about 5 miles.
7. Turn **right on Cummins Mill Rd (SR-477)**. **Stop 4:** Cummins Falls State Park, 390 Cummins Falls Ln.
8. Continue on Cummins Mill Rd to **SR-290**, then **left (south) on SR-56** about 5 miles to Baxter.
9. In Baxter, turn **right on Main St (SR-141)**, **left on 1st Ave S**, then continue south on **SR-56**, which becomes **Baxter Rd**.
10. Turn **left on Academy Rd**, **right on Ditty Rd** (about 3 miles), then **right (south) on Burgess Falls Rd (SR-135)** about 4 miles.
11. **Stop 5:** Burgess Falls State Park, 4000 Burgess Falls Dr.

#### PART 2

12. Ride back out and go **north on Burgess Falls Rd (SR-135)** about 8 miles. The first few miles repeat the road you came in on.
13. SR-135 becomes **S Willow Ave** in Cookeville. Turn **right on Interstate Dr**, which becomes **Neal St**.
14. Turn **right on E Spring St (US-70N)** and ride east about 2 miles, then **left on Bridgeway Dr**.
15. **Stop 6:** City Lake Natural Area, 2010 Bridgeway Dr.
16. Ride back out Bridgeway Dr to **E Spring St (US-70N)** west, then take **SR-111 north** about 3.5 miles.
17. Exit at **Quinland Lake Rd**, turn **right on Fisk Rd**, then continue **north on Hilham Rd (SR-136)** about 6 miles.
18. Turn onto **Waterloo Rd** to JuneBug Boogie. **Ride ends.**



#### Scan for the route map and GPX file.

The GPX works with Kurviger, Garmin and other GPS apps, and it follows the same roads as this guide.

[graybeardbiker.com/rides](https://graybeardbiker.com/rides)

Park hours, trail access and restaurant hours can change. Check the state park sites before you ride. Riders are responsible for their own fuel, food, fees and riding decisions.

Published by Gray Beard Biker | B. Zachary Bennett | [graybeardbiker.com](https://graybeardbiker.com)