



Advocating for the  
preservation and  
appreciation of  
wildflowers

## Self-Guided Hikes



**Directions to Snodgrass Trail:** From the Town of Crested Butte take Gothic Rd. (Route 135) north 4.3 miles past Mt. Crested Butte to just before it turns into a dirt road. Parking is on the left. The trailhead is at the fence line and is well marked.

**Snodgrass Route:** From the trailhead walk over the fence and follow the steep dirt road, keeping to your left until you walk the steps over the next barb wire fence. Stay left as you continue following the trail, over a log bridge and across undulating hillsides where you'll encounter scenic panoramas of Mt. Crested Butte and Whetstone Mountain. The second half of the trail winds through thick aspen groves and descends towards Washington Gulch Road.

**Lower Loop**  
**BEGINNER/**  
**ADV. BEGINNER**  
(6.4 mi. loop)

1.2 mi. walk on road from lot to trailhead

**Snodgrass**  
**BEGINNER/**  
**ADV. BEGINNER**  
(3.6 mi. out)

**MT. C.B.**  
4.3 mi. to  
Snodgrass  
Trailhead

**Lower Loop**

**Route:** Two options exist to start; follow Peanut Lake Rd. 1.2 miles to the trailhead (best for strollers), or ascend the short, steep trail at the junction of Butte Ave. and Peanut Lake Rd. to the Woods Walk (single track trail). Head northwest until you cross the cattle guard and enter the main Lower Loop Trail. Follow the wide, stroller & wheelchair friendly path or choose the single track – they rejoin and continue to a bench that overlooks the slate river. Turn around for a shorter out and back hike or continue northwest, following the single track trail to Gunsight Pass Rd. Take the road up a few switch backs until you see the trail and fenceposts on the left. Head back on the Upper Lower Loop Trail staying left when it intersects the Bud Trail. The Upper Lower Loop rejoins the main Lower Loop Trail and you can head back via Peanut Lake Rd. or Woods Walk.

**Directions to Lower Loop from Town:** Take Elk Avenue west, turn right on 1st street, left on Butte Avenue, and follow until Butte Ave. turns to dirt and becomes Peanut Lake Road. Park in the designated parking on the right. Wheelchair parking is available 1.2 miles further up Peanut Lake Rd., on the left.

\*\*For wheelchair accessibility: Please continue driving on Peanut Lake Rd. 1.2 miles further, until you encounter the upper parking area on the left.

**Directions to Brush Creek Trail:**

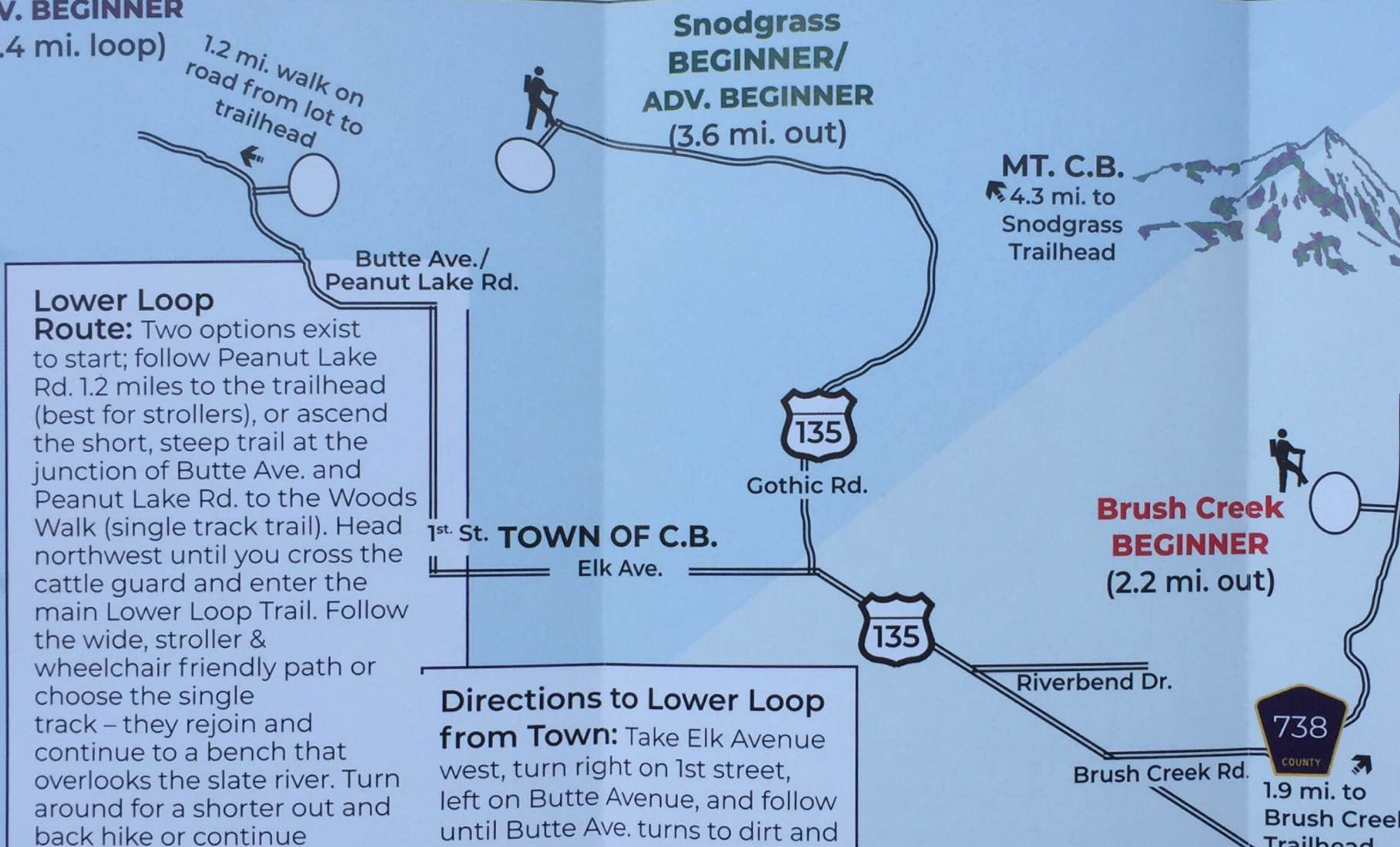
From Crested Butte travel south 2 miles on Hwy 135 and make a left on County Road 738 (Brush Creek Road). Continue 1.9 miles as the pavement turns to dirt and look for the parking lot and trailhead on the left.

**Brush Creek Route:**

Trailhead is well marked and route is an out and back, so feel free to turn around at any point or follow the trail to its end at the East River.

**Brush Creek**  
**BEGINNER**  
(2.2 mi. out)

1.9 mi. to  
Brush Creek  
Trailhead



### **Lower Loop Trail (Beginner, Advanced Beginner) \*Wheelchair Accessible**

This popular trail has it all! It's close to town, features abundant wildflowers with spectacular views of the surrounding mountains, and is stroller and wheelchair friendly. You'll stroll through wildflower covered meadows where lupine and mules ear bloom early season. Watch for columbine, red columbine, arnica, shooting star, and bluebells as you wind through the forest towards the river. The elusive fairy slipper is sometimes spotted along shady, north facing slopes. Corn lily, fleabane, monument plants, and goldeneye make appearances later in the season.

**The Brush Creek Trail (Beginner)** is straightforward and follows an old jeep road through wildflower filled meadows and small aspen groves. Early season you'll see displays of lupine and mules ear that blanket entire hillsides, followed by shoulder-high masses of larkspur in July. Closer to the East River you will walk through knee high fields of sneezeweed and curly golden weed. Mariposa lily and monument plants are often found mid to late season, along with fields covered in fleabane and showy goldeneye.

**Snodgrass Trail (Beginner, Advanced Beginner)** This rewarding hike is close to town and winds through lush wildflower meadows and thick aspen groves, complete with gorgeous mountain views including panoramas of Mt. Crested Butte. In June and early July you'll ascend hillsides covered in lupine and mules ears. As the wildflower season progresses mariposa lilies, paintbrush, penstemon, and monkshood abound. Columbine are prolific mid-season within the aspen groves towards the end of the trail. Please note: the beginning of this trail is steep!