1. McAffe’s Knob: Take 81 South to the 311 exit. Follow 311 to the little town of Catawba. The AT signs should be present on the left side of the road and a designated park lot. If you hit the little town of Catawba you have gone too far. From the parking lot take the AT north. You're only 3.5 miles from solitude.

McAffe’s Knob is a wonderful hike. There is a nice road that makes it a fairly easy one, too.

**Location:** Appalachian Trail parking area on Route 311 between Catawba and Roanoke/Salem outside Catawba. The large trailhead on top of 311 is hard to miss, especially if it's crammed with 50 or more cars as it often is on weekend afternoons with perfect weather. Pick up the AT across the road from the parking lot.

**Length:** 3.5 miles to McAfee Knob, 7 miles with the return

For more information, visit

http://www.roanoke.com/outdoors/hiking/wb/xp-42910
2. Montgomery Museum and Lewis Miller Regional Art Center

Art shows spotlighting local artists are housed in the second floor art gallery, and change every two months.

The museum houses and displays a wealth of historical artifacts that relate to our region, including have a library of historical and genealogical texts for use by researcher.

The side-yard contains a beautiful garden with year-round color, maintained by Master Gardeners. You can buy historical, regional, and affordable books, reproductions and gifts from our Museum Store.

For more information, visit http://montgomerymuseum.org/index.html
3. Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail: 2635 Park Road Blacksburg, VA

Children and Pets welcomed! The path is cleared for children for nice and easy walking, including handicapped accessabilities.

The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail travels through VA, TN, NC & SC for a total of 330 miles.

This trail commemorates the 1780 campaign that led to the battle of Kings Mountain. The battle was a key turning point in the American Revolution when southern patriots from VA, TN, NC, SC & GA tracked down and defeated a loyalist force commanded by Major Patrick Ferguson. The commander of the patriot force, Colonel William Campbell, was from Virginia, as were 200 of his men.

For more information, visit http://www.nps.gov/ovvi or call at (864) 936-3477.

4. The Duck Pond: Located near the Drill Field on Duck Pond Dr.

Located right on campus, the Duck Pond is ideal for lunchtime activities. Several picnic tables and park benches are available, and there is ample room for playing or fishing. Children seem to love feeding the ducks and other wildlife that live near the pond. However, don’t feed the geese. They’re jerks.
5. Smithfield Plantation: Built on the edge of the frontier in 1774, just a mile from the site of the Draper Meadows Massacre, Smithfield is a colonial-style frame house originally home to Colonel William Presto, a surveyor, farmer and patriot, and his wife Susanna. Tours given with costumed interpreters from 10am-5pm, Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday and 1-5 pm on Sundays. Admission is $6 for adults, $4 for students 12 and up or with college id, and $3 for children 5-11. For more information, visit: http://www.smithfieldplantation.org/index.html

6. The Cascades: Take VA 460 to Pembroke. Turn right onto VA 623. Follow 4 miles to Cascades parking lot.

The Cascades provide a very easy trail that’s family friendly. This four mile round trip trail meanders along a shaded mountain creek to a 70 foot waterfall within the Jefferson National Forest. A picnicking area can be found at the beginning of the trail. Trout fishing is also available in the Little Stony Creek.

At the mid-point of the trail, you reach a 66-foot Waterfall, along with a small swimming area. This is stunningly beautiful, and easily one of the best trails in the area.

Open all year round, day time only. Parking is $3 for the day. For more information visit http://ghs.gilesk12.org/public/cascades/cascades.html
7. **The Natural Bridge**: 15 Appledore Lane, Natural Bridge, VA 24578

One of the seven natural wonders of the world, the Natural Bridge is two-hundred fifteen ft tall and ninety ft wide! A visit to the Natural Bridge also includes a drama of the creation of the bridge, a hike through a cedar-creek trail and the recreation of an eighteenth century Native American village. For more information, visit [http://www.naturalbridgeva.com/](http://www.naturalbridgeva.com/)

8. **Mountain Lake Wilderness**: 110 Southpark Drive, Blacksburg VA; 540-552-4641

Mountain Lake, the only natural body of water in western Virginia, actually sits just outside the southwestern Wilderness boundary.

Several trails are part of the Mountain Wilderness Trail loop. Also at the area is the Mountain Lake Hotel and Resort, home of the movie *Dirty Dancing*. Here you will find a restaurant.

Dinosaur footprints, full-scale dinosaur model and fossils! Study tables and wireless connectivity are available.

Open Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

For more information visit http://www.outreach.geos.vt.edu/museum/

10. The Virginia Tech Memorial: Located in front of Burruss Hall, at the edge of the drillfield.