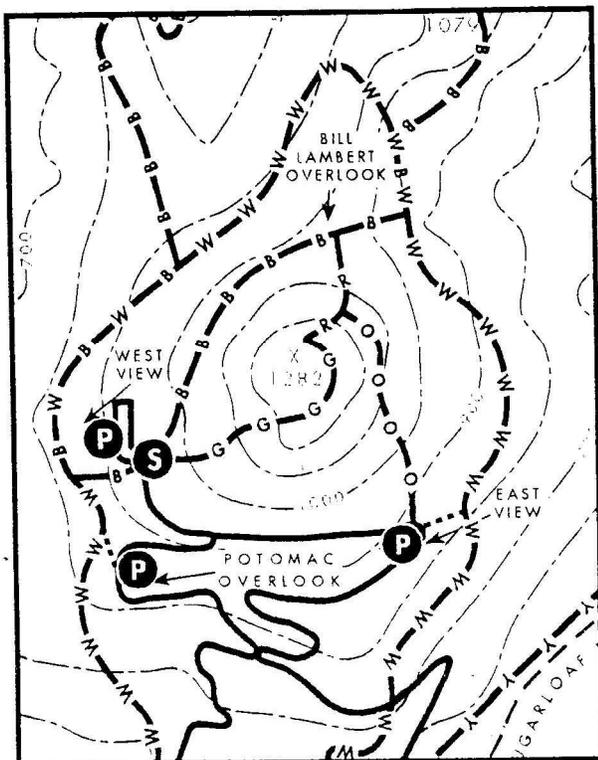


## SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN - GREEN, RED, BLUE TRAILS

If you enjoy the smell of leaves, the fun of seeing red, green, brown, and black acorns, and great view of the Frederick Valley, this is the trail combination for you. I hiked this trail on an absolutely, gorgeous fall day. The sky was a clear blue with not a cloud in the sky. When I arrived at the summit, I could see for at least sixty miles.

To get to Sugarloaf Mountain from Frederick, take I-270 south and exit at Hyattstown. Turn left at the end of the exit ramp onto state route 109 or Old Hundred Road. At the Old Comus Inn turn right onto state route 95 or Comus Road. Sugarloaf Mountain Park entrance is on Comus Road. Follow the park road to the West View parking area. The Green Trail starts just behind the Snack Shack, which looks like a picnic pavilion.

The Green Trail is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile long improved trail to the summit. This trail has stone steps which could be slippery if wet and are steep at times. The rest of the trail is rocky so tennis shoes or hiking boots are a must.



At the summit take some time to look down on the valley from the rocks. I could easily spot Point of Rocks, Buckeystown, Frederick, and beyond. If you are there in spring or fall, be on the lookout for migrating hawks. I spotted several.

To make a loop hike, I took the Red Trail down to the Blue trail and back to the parking lot. This was about one mile. I always watch for birds and spotted a pair of Pine Warblers, some Chickadees and a Hairy Woodpecker. Map from Sugarloaf Mountain