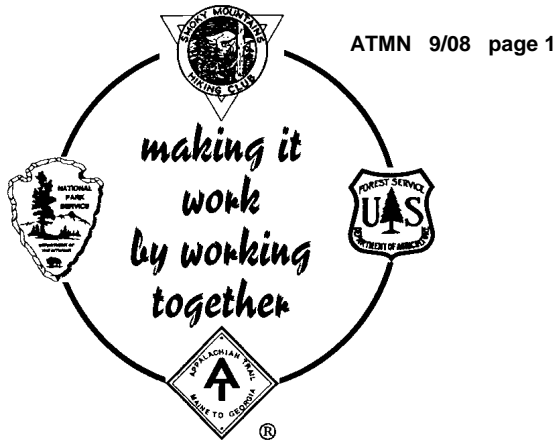


Appalachian Trail Maintainers News

*Remote for detachment; Narrow for chosen company; Winding for leisure; Lonely for contemplation;
It beckons not merely north and south, but upward to the body, mind and soul of man...Harold Allen*



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September 2008

ATMC Work Trip

Saturday September 6th

We will support the Rocky Top Crew as they work on trail improvements in the Cosby Knob area of the AT. Join us and learn from the professionals! We will car pool from the Asheville Highway Food Lion meeting place; meet there ready to leave at 8:00 AM. Bring gloves and normal hiking gear. If you can attend, please call Mark Shipley at **865 693 9795** so he can arrange tools.

A.T. Work

6/12/08 Dick Ketelle downloaded the privy logger data at the Spence Field shelter.

6/28/08 Jason King cleared many overhangs and some small blow downs between Dry Sluice Gap and False Gap.

7/9/08 Mac McNutt, Phyllis Henry, Stew Taylor and Ed Peck cleaned waterbars, cut vegetation, and removed two blowdowns between Clingmans Dome and Goshen Prong.

7/11/08 Tim and Janet Bigelow trimmed vegetation for half a mile at Wright Gap

7/12/08 Donald Box, Susan Faidley, Jerry Wright, Spears McAllester, and John Rowland clipped, lopped, and cleaned waterbars along the trail from Fontana to the Shuckstack tower spur trail.

7/16/08 Phyllis Henry, Stew Taylor, Jerry Troxler, and Ed Peck carried in buckets for the Mt. Collins privy and bungee cords to secure the lid on the mulch tub. They left extra cords and buckets in the tub in case **Mr. Bear** decides he wants the new ones. They decided the reason the bears are taking the buckets is that they are using them to pick blackberries!! They also cleaned waterbars, filled in one of the turnpikes, cut vegetation, and did some lopping from Spruce Fir Nature Trail to Sugarland Mtn Trail junction.

7/16/08 Steve and Donna Higdon cut a healthy crop of briars and weeds between Newfound Gap and Indian Gap.

7/19/08 Maryville OTTERS Terry Elmore, Joey Andrews, Tyler Martin, and Jamal Brazan cleared vegetation from Newfound Gap to Sweat Heifer trail.

7/19/08 Ron Beatty cut vegetation and removed one blowdown between Yellow Creek Gap and the High Point east of Walker Gap.

7/19/08 Philip and Betty Royer cut blackberries and weeds from The Narrows to 1.5 miles south of Silers Bald. They delivered a cold treat to the SWEAT crew working south of Silers Bald.

7/29/08 Arthur Barker cleared waterbars, cut brush and ferns, and removed one fallen tree starting at the Road Prong Trail intersection and working 0.9 mile SE.

7/30/08 Jerry Troxler, Phyllis Henry, Stew Taylor, and Mac McNutt used a chain saw and cross-cut saw to cut out several blow-downs/leaners that were hanging over the trail. Most of the leaners were the result of the bad storm from a couple of years back and now they are dying and dropping closer to the ground. We also used loppers to cut back smaller limbs, brush and weeds between Spruce Fir and Indian Gap.

7/31/08 Ed Peck cleaned water bars from Goshen Prong Trail to SW of Jenkins Knob, and carried out trash left in the tool bin.

8/2/08 Dianne Gruber, Julie Labhart, Jean Gauger, Hiram Rogers, Paul Tanquay, and Jack Millsbaugh started at Spruce Fir Nature Trail and worked $\frac{3}{4}$ miles north. They cleaned out 12 to 15 water bars. Paul, an excellent water bar engineer, led crews rebuilding another eight waterbars. Hiram, Dianne, and Julie whacked a swath through the grasses, while Jean and Jack were in charge of lopping and multiple tree removal. Hiram and Julie rebuilt about 15 feet of turnpike, and everyone mined rocks to build up some mud holes.

8/3/08 Ed Fleming and Pam Brown worked from Sunup Knob to Mt Cammerer side trail. They trimmed vegetation and cleaned waterbars.

8/9/08 Jim Quick, Lynda Bryan, Kathleen Kitzmiller, and Andy Zimmerman worked from Collins Gap to Clingmans Dome. They installed several waterbars and steps, reset a couple of steps, and clipped tree growth away from the trail.

8/10/08 Charlie Klabunde cleaned waterbars and cut blackberry growth 'preemptively' from the Fontana trailhead up to the Lewellyn Branch stream crossing (~1/2-way to Shuckstack). Discovered a large new oak deadfall filling 25 feet of the trail at a prominent corner midway up this section, and cleared a workable detour around it. Removing this will require several simple cuts of logs and branches less than 9 inches diameter and free of bark; but the main 18 inch log, flat on the ground, will be difficult without power tools.