



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

Published by the Appalachian Trail Maintainers Committee of the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club

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Upcoming Work Trip Opportunities

There are no work trips currently scheduled for September.

A. T. Work Trip Reports 7-14 to 8-14

7/14 - Phyllis Henry, Mac McNutt, Wayne Williams

Russell Field Shelter

Went with park service personnel to start the NEPA process for the rehabilitation project. Cleaned shelter and fire-ring. Carried some trash from the toolbox and removed trash that had been left at shelter and on bear cables.

7/16 - Ron Beatty

High Pt E of Walker Gap to Yellow Creek Gap

Cut vegetation, removed two blow downs, replaced binder on trail log at Cable Gap Shelter, and carried trash out from Cable Gap Shelter.

7/16 thru 7/17 - T.J. Tolnas, Carl Smith, Jimmy Smith - Cody Gap to Brown Fork Gap

Cleared brush from Cody Gap to Hogback Gap. Cut some brush further south. Cleared 4 blow downs.

7/16 - Tim Ryan, Steven Epps

Route 28 to High Pt E of Walker Gap

This was the second five day trip to Bee Cove Lead led by the Konnarock crew and volunteers. Two cribs were built, one rock and the other rock and logs. New stone steps were set as well as the resetting of older stone steps. Four new log steps were also added. Tread way was improved in several areas with side hill digging. A major drainage problem was resolved in one of the stone outcrops.

The Konnarock crew and volunteers were fed a BBQ dinner (Buddy's) and homemade cheesecake, which was made by Karen Brackett, as a token of appreciation from the SMHC AT Maintainers. Meal and dessert were thoroughly enjoyed.

7/17 - Jason King

False Gap to Dry Sluice Gap

Went up to clear vegetation along my section on Saturday. In a freak coincidence, I ran into a crew from the ATC who was also doing work on this section. Between the two of us (me and the trail crew) we were able to clear the trail of all the overhanging vegetation. Also performed normal trash cleanup and waterbar clearing.

7/18 - Franklin LaFond, Koni Helton

Brown Fork Gap to Stekoah Gap

Cut back vegetation along trail. Cleaned a few water bars.

7/24 - James Burton

Mt Sequoah to Pecks Corner

Cleaned trash around shelter, swept out shelter & filled mulch buckets for privy. Cut back weeds and brush along trail.

7/24 - Patti Grady, Steve Grady

Indian Gap/Rd Pr Tr to Rd Prng/Tom Prng Lead

Cleared brush growing into trail.

7/25 - Charlie Klabunde

Lewellyn Branch to Fontana Dam

Cut back encroaching vegetation, and threatening thorny things. Sawed, removed one small deadfall. Made easy passage, either over or under a blowdown left resting on trail's edge.

7/30 - Dick Ketelle, Ann Farrar, Betty Royer, Philip Royer

Sugarland Mt Tr to Collins Gap

Cut briars and vegetation on the entire section. Cut two 8" blowdowns with bow saw. Painted blazes.

7/30 - George Minnigh, Phyllis Henry, Mac McNutt, Stewart Taylor

Cable Gap Shelter

Went to Cable Gap shelter with GRSM Backcountry Specialist Melissa Cobern to inspect privy. Discussions are underway to possibly replace the Tricorner shelter privy with a similar design. Cleaned shelter and carried out a bag of trash, filled mulch buckets with leaf matter and swept floor of privy.

7/31 - Jim Quick, Lynda Bryan, Mac McNutt, Stewart Taylor, Kathleen Kitzmiller, Karen Brackett, Pete Berntsen, Ed Peck, Scott Moser

Collins Gap to Clingmans Dome

Wacked weeds, cleaned out waterbars, clipped vegetation, removed a couple of smaller blow downs, and widened trail in a couple spots. Work was stopped early due to thunderstorms overhead.

8/1 - Edward Fleming, Pamela Brown

Mt Cammerer Side Tr to Sunup Knob

Trimmed back blackberry briars and other encroaching vegetation, cleared waterbars, removed a couple of blowdowns (the larger one around 8" in diameter at the small end), and worked on improving drainage in two boggy areas and added some rock to the larger area.

SEPTEMBER 2010

8/1 - Franklin LaFond, Ed Peck

Russell Field Shelter

Cut blackberry briars from around shelter in preparation for the shelter rehab. Repaired steps .2 miles North of shelter on AT.

8/2 - Steve Higdon

Newfound Gap to Indian Gap/Rd Pr Tr

Cut weeds and briars.

8/3 - Judy Wade, Keith Mertz

Fontana Dam to Route 28

Trimmed brush and briars from trail, removed branches, and cut back mountain laurel.

8/3 - Mark Shipley

Cosby Knob Top to Camel Gap

Cleared vegetation along AT from Camel Gap to Cosby Knob Shelter. Re-stocked mulch in the privy at the Cosby Knob Shelter and cleared vegetation near the privy and shelter at Cosby Knob.

8/6 - Charlie Klabunde

Lewellyn Branch to Fontana Dam

Finished the job started 7/25/10 -- cutting back vegetation, especially threatening thorny things.

8/7 - Franklin LaFond

Indian Gap/Rd Pr Tr to Rd Prng/Tom Prng Lead

Cut out reported blowdown. Backfilled a couple of the new steps installed at NTD. Cut back blackberry that was encroaching trail at Indian Gap. Removed remaining NTD flagging.

8/7 - Franklin LaFond, Scott Moser, Ellen Manneschmidt, Chelsea

Herron, Tamara Sammons, Eric Manneschmidt, Noah Herron,

Margaret Manneschmidt, John Manneschmidt, Amos

Manneschmidt

Boulevard Tr to Sweat Heifer

Installed 7 remaining waterbars, light brushing/pruning, added dirt to 20 ft of turnpike, backfilled 4 steps with additional dirt, and cleaned all water bars between Boulevard and Sweat Heifer Trails. Removed all remaining NTD flaggings between NFG and Boulevard Trail.

8/11 - Phyllis Henry

Fork Ridge Parking area to Mt. Collins Shelter

Went in to assess privy and area, cleaned privy and filled mulch bucket. Fireplace very dirty - filled with trash. Had no trash bags with me.

8/12 - Stewart Taylor, Ed Peck

Goshen Prong Tr to Knob W of Jenkins Knob

Removed reported blowdowns from across trail

8/16 - Phyllis Henry, Pete James

Fork Ridge to Mt. Collins Shelter

Cleaned shelter fireplace, cleaned waterbars, did some lopping, and carried many, many buckets of dirt to fill in 1st turnpike.