

PATH

PIEDMONT APPALACHIAN TRAIL HIKERS



WAYS

CLUB NEWSLETTER • SPRING 1998

In This Issue:

1 Paperwork Versus Payoff: PATH, the Appalachian Trail, and the Cooperative Management System

2 Q & A about PATH

Officers and Contacts

3 This Trail Ain't Wide Enough for the Both of Us!: Some thoughts on the "war" between maintainers and thru-hikers

4 Remembering Hazel Monroe

5 Spring Hike Schedule

Tax Tip

7 Notes from the President

Membership Form

8 Classes, Seminars, and Workshops

Notice!

First work trip to meet at Konnarock—Stony Fork Camp-ground will not be open for our March 21-22 work trip, but Paul Dore at Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area says we can use the Konnarock Base Camp at Sugar Grove. The kitchen and one bath house will be open.



John Mitchell, Paul Dore (USFS) and Clint Kawanishi study a section map during a January Trail Assessment Workshop (Photo: Parthena Martin)

Paperwork Versus Payoff

PATH, the Appalachian Trail, and the Cooperative Management System

By Parthena Martin and Gordon Burgess

What is the difference between "trail assessment" and "monitoring?" Why do we do monitoring? Why do we only monitor some of our corridor?

These are among the questions that some PATH members have asked this year as we begin updating our Local Management Plan and Trail Assessment and resume monitoring the boundaries of some of our AT corridor land.

It came as something of a shock to us when we realized that not everyone in the club remembers 1984, when the National Park Service (NPS) delegated management of Park Service-acquired lands to the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC). ATC, in turn, delegated management responsibilities to the AT maintaining

clubs. This agreement was historic—the first time that volunteers, like us, had been given the responsibility of managing a major chunk of federal land.

After we got over our surprise at discovering that not everyone is as old as we are, we decided it might be time to put something in the newsletter explaining our responsibilities, and why we're given them.

Besides that, it's just a really great story, and if you don't know it, you should.

How the Cooperative Management System Works

"The Appalachian Trail works the way the rest of the world ought to," county

Continued on page 6

Q & A about PATH

What is PATH?

Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers, Inc., is a nonprofit club that maintains a section of the Appalachian Trail in Virginia.

Where in the Piedmont?

PATH's members live in North Carolina and Virginia, mostly between Charlotte and Raleigh, North Carolina.

What is the Appalachian Trail?

It's a two-thousand-mile-long footpath that runs along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains from Mount Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mountain in Georgia. Originally constructed by volunteers in the 1920s and 30s, it's now maintained by dozens of volunteer groups like PATH, up and down the east coast.

What part does PATH maintain?

We look after fifty miles of the AT in the Virginia counties of Smyth, Wythe, Bland, and Tazewell, from SR 670 at the South Fork of the Holston River north to SR 623 atop picturesque Garden Mountain.

When you "maintain" the trail, what do you do?

We meet at a Friday night camp-out, once each month during the spring, summer, and fall. Then, Saturday mornings, we fan out in teams across our fifty-mile section. We do everything from clearing weeds, and chopping and sawing through fallen trees, to rebuilding footbridges and relocating miles of trail.

Are there other PATH activities beside trail maintaining weekends?

Yes. We also sponsor day hikes and backpacking trips for members and others who might be interested in learning more about trails, hiking, and enjoying the outdoors. We host an annual cookout with our "trail neighbors" each fall. And friendships established on the Saturday work trips lead to many informal hiking

trips along the AT, and as far away as the Rockies and the Sierras. These trips often develop by "word of mouth," and never make it onto any formal activities schedule.

Who belongs to PATH?

The volunteers that make up the membership of PATH include young and old, men and women, dedicated volunteers who never miss a maintenance trip and unseen volunteers that support our mission through monetary contributions. By far the most important aspect of PATH is that it brings together people who can share common interests and become new friends. Join us on one of our work trips or fun trips and see what you've been missing.

Where do you meet for work trips?

We meet at the US Forest Service's Stony Fork Campground, in the Jefferson National Forest in Wythe County, Virginia. Work trips are on the third Saturday of each month, from March to October.

Should I just show up on a work trip?

You could, but to make things

easier, we hold informal "get-acquainted" meetings in early March of each year, for new members. For more information, contact Parthena Martin (Triangle area) or Betsy Truscott (Greensboro area). If you are planning to show up for one of the work trips, call one of the contacts listed at the bottom of the page. They'll be happy to give you directions, and assign you to a work detail.

What does it cost to become a member?

PATH's annual dues are \$15.00 for an individual, \$17.50 for a family, and \$10.00 for students. Any donations to PATH are tax-deductible.

How can I stay in touch with other PATH members during the winter?

A PATH electronic mail "calling circle" has been established, over which impromptu outings and announcements are broadcast. To join, send an e-note to Clint Kawanishi <cnp@mindspring.com>. If you have a message that would be of general interest to other PATH members, Clint will forward your message to the PATH e-mail list.

PATH Officers and Contacts

New officers were elected at the November 1997 General Meeting. Feel free to contact them if you have any questions about PATH or the AT.

President	Paul Clayton	Winston-Salem	(910) 723-5470
Vice President	Betsy Truscott	Greensboro	(336) 605-3588
Secretary	John Hartpence	Raleigh	(919) 839-8623
Treasurer	Harrison Marks	Winston-Salem	(910) 768-8698
Newsletter Ed.	Robert Rubin	Durham	(919) 361-5869
Past President	Parthena Martin	Chapel Hill	(919) 967-4449
AT Field Rep	Mike Dawson	Newport, VA	(703) 544-7388
Trail Supervisor	Ken Rose	Greensboro	(336) 299-4046
Trail Monitor	Gordon Burgess	Winston-Salem	(336) 723-9819

Board Members

Karen Worthington, Raleigh; John Mitchell, Gastonia; Bill Medlin, Raleigh (919) 878-0403; Don Childrey, Mt. Gilead (910) 439-6204; Marsha Cope, Winston-Salem; Clint Kawanishi, Chapel Hill (919) 967-4449; Karl Kunkel, High Point (910) 882-8711; Bill Boudman, Raleigh; Gene Greer, Greensboro (910) 855-5906; Vaughn Thomas, Winston-Salem (910) 768-3314; Steve Williams, Charlotte (704) 541-1652.

"This Trail Ain't Wide Enough fer the Both of Us!"

Some thoughts on the "war" between maintainers and thru-hikers

by Robert Rubin

It's no fair. Thru-hikers get all the attention.

And why not? Walking two thousand miles is a big deal. But now that thousands of people try to do it each year, maybe a little of the novelty has worn off. We see a lot of thru-hikers come through our fifty-odd miles of trail each year, and it's only natural, as maintainers, to feel a little under-appreciated.

After all, we do a lot of work on this trail, and then the thru-hikers go cruising by: not a care in the world, grumbling about shelters and treadway, often oblivious to the work we've done clearing and relocating the trail, aloof from older, slower, recreational hikers (the kind of hikers so many of us are when we're not hefting pulaskis), sponging off everybody they get near, shrugging off or skipping entirely the little side-trips and scenic vistas that we've worked so hard to develop. Who wouldn't feel a little miffed?

Last year I had the opportunity to try on the other boot, though. Starting April Fool's Day in Georgia, I quit my job, put my life on hold for six months, and started walking to Maine. By the last week in May, I was camped out on the porch of the Mt. Rogers Visitors Center, eating pizza with half a dozen other stinking, scruffy-looking vagrants and happily informing the guy next to me that we were crossing the part of the AT that my club maintained.

"Cool," he said. "Hey, you gonna eat that last slice of pepperoni?"

Since then I've come to under-

stand things a little better. Maybe you'd never get a thru-hiker to admit it, but, as maintainers, we are The Enemy. Look at it from their perspective: Who sent the trail up that devious ridgecrest that doesn't show on the profile map? We did. Who maliciously routed the treadway through a field of fresh cow patties and tall, wet grass that soaks a thru-hiker's boots? We did. Whose cunning deception erected a sign that promised a trail shelter in three miles, when it's actually four-and-a-half? Ours.

Thru-hikers (and I'm generalizing here, for of course there are exceptions) are not like day hikers, or weekend backpackers, or even section hikers completing the whole AT piece by piece. Sure, they love the woods, the views, the glories of nature. It's what brought them to the AT in the first place. But they're usually too busy thru-hiking to spend much time smelling the evening prim-roses.

If you're going to get to Maine in six months, you have to hustle. You are at war with anything that slows you down, that gets in your way, that holds you back. The trail itself becomes a sort of beloved adversary, ready to trip you up one minute and surprise you with its wonders the next.

Thru-hiking is not about any one

section of the trail, any single overlook, any carefully-constructed switchback. It's about drifting like smoke through the landscape, about giving yourself over entirely to the journey, about the entirety of the experience, not the particulars.



The author sweating his way up Rocky Top, in the Smokies. He summited at Katahdin October 11, 1997 (Photo: Robert Rubin)

As maintainers, on the other hand, it is the particulars that occupy us. This stile. That bridge. Those switchbacks. That relo. What we don't see on our monthly maintenance trips, but the thru-hiker

Continued on page 5

Remembering Hazel Monroe

Editor's Note: Longtime PATH member Hazel Monroe died December 28, 1997. She was the wife of the late Dr. H.B. Monroe, and is survived by three children, three grandchildren, and seven brothers and sisters. Kenneth Rose delivered the following tribute as part of the memorial service for Hazel held January 3 at the First United Methodist Church of Wadesboro, NC.

By Kenneth Rose

I share with you the vacancy that has been created by the departure of a person whom we were privileged to know and after whom some patterned their lives.

My experiences with her have mostly involved the Appalachian Trail. These treasured memories include some fun times and then often times nothing to laugh about. On many of our group outings we had more miles of trail to maintain than we had maintainers. While H.B. was still driving the VW Minibus, Hazel relied on him to shuttle us—that is, put the workers out at one point and pick them up later some distance along the trail at an appointed hour. With some growling from H.B., we started this operation.

Surely nothing could go wrong: long summer days, the allotted time sufficient to get there before the sun went down, and nothing to work with but a paint brush and some paint in a discarded milk container. Not the case at all. Someone lost their brush, paint gave out, missed a turn in the trail. Needless to say, the appointed time was missed, but still H.B. waited. Some four hours late we arrived at the appointed place in the dark. We were tired and afraid to make excuses. Hazel was still very pleasant and some place in that VW Minibus found a cold bottle of V-8 juice for each person in the work crew. We all piled in that VW



Hazel Monroe (center) with PATH friends (Photo: Vaughn Thomas)

Minibus and back to Stony Fork Camp we went.

Another time we decided to get more efficient. The plan: each person bring an ingredient and we would cook our evening meal together—you know, "dump soup" (dump all ingredients together, warm and eat). Hazel took on the task of warming the ingredients for serving. Somewhere along the list of things someone brought "Freeze dried beans." With one pot, one spoon, a small backpack stove, a limited amount of fuel and candle light to work by, reconstituting freeze dried food is no easy task. We had our dump meal close to midnight. This took place at Chestnut Knob shelter, an abandoned fire tower tool shed, but with a beautiful sunrise and excellent views of Burkes Garden on clear days. Hazel loved the place.

With the passing of H.B., Hazel visited friends and relatives more often, and her time with the trail club was more limited. Some two years back the club decided to give recognition to this person who had given so much to the trail community. Someone made a very nice plaque and had her name placed on it, but she could not attend our regular meeting. So, through the

wisdom of the president of the club it was decided that the plaque would be hand-delivered to Hazel rather than through the mail. I telephoned her to set a time and place that was convenient and easy to find. From Greensboro, take Hwy. 109. At the intersection of US 74, turn right. Go a short distance; it will be on the right—The Hub. I met Hazel, who was already inside, chatted briefly, selected a table, waitress took my order for breakfast. I then proceeded to open the envelope and try in some way to convey the message from the club of our appreciation for her years of service. Finished in the Hub, Hazel introduced me to some of her friends, and on the way out to our vehicles I mentioned that I had some recent trail pictures. "Great," she said. "Bring them by the house and let's look at them." By the time we had finished it was near noontime and I made my way back to Greensboro. The next word out of Wadesboro was: "Hazel has an out-of-town boyfriend! He came to Wadesboro, spent most of the day with her!"

What a feather in my cap! Helen and I shared in the amusement.

Shortly thereafter I received a telephone call from Hazel: "I will

Continued on page 5

Remembering Hazel . . .

Continued from page 4

have surgery Thursday at Duke. Should be there less than one week." My reply: "I will visit you on Monday."

Arrived on Monday early. Gary and Terry were in the room waiting for the doctor to make his rounds. Hazel was dressed. No IVs. Just a very radiant person wanting to know about all the folks in the trail community and assuring me that the remaining time she would spend there would permit her to go about her normal activities. Thirty to forty-five minutes later I was able to leave her room.

Days later the message boards contained words like, "No more treatments," "Short telephone calls," "Nurses visiting in the home." But one of the most important events was already planned. It would take place December 20, 1997 at 2 p.m. in Boone. By way of a recorder these events were brought to her room—her mountaintop experience. Springer, Katahdin and all the peaks in between would pale in comparison to this. Here was her bright, clear sunrise and the clear views of the valley below. And then the words on the board: "Round-the-clock care," "Hospice."

Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the Joy of the Lord.

Tax Tip Reminder

PATH and ATC are 501(c)(3) charities, so all donations to them are tax deductible. Cash contributions are deductible in excess of the value of any services or property the contributor receives.

Be aware that those of you driving your own vehicle to PATH work trips can deduct the round-trip mileage from your home to the work site at a rate of \$0.12 per mile (every little bit helps).

This Trail Ain't . . .

Continued from page 3

does, is that the farmlands and bottom lands near Groseclose, Poor Valley, and Rich Valley make for a lovely contrast with all the highland ridges between Mt. Rogers and Springer Mountain.

After I'd spent a month up around 4000 or 5000 feet, our section, at times, reminded me of the English countryside. Ours were the first stiles, beaver dams, bog bridges, and cow pastures that I'd had to hike through. When crossing from Mount Rogers to Chestnut Knob, I was crossing an area rich in history: the Great Valley that settlers followed en route to Cumberland Gap.

I should say that I heard a number of the thru-hikers praise both our trail section and the shelters—particularly Chestnut Knob. It isn't an easy section, but from a hiker's point of view it's worth it. There's a lot of variety: towns, lowlands, high open ridges, and the Mount Rogers Visitors Center area.

We can be proud of our section of trail, of our part in this magnificent enterprise called the AT. And when the thru-hiker has reached Maine, or

Georgia, of some destination in between, when he's stopped being a thru-hiker and started sleeping under a roof and four walls again, then, perhaps, he or she will revisit in memory some small wonder that we had a part in revealing. We can be proud of that, too.

One of the things that makes the AT so important, I think, is that it doesn't take sides. It's there for all of us, and each of us brings a little something different to it: the trail maintainer out for an afternoon of camaraderie and fresh air in the service of a grand enterprise, the day hiker with a rucksack slung over the shoulder out to climb a hill and enjoy the view, the picnicker with a toddler in one hand and a cooler in the other, the weekender out to test himself by bagging a peak or two, the section hiker out to escape work for a two weeks, and the thru-hiker out for a summer of adventure, a summer listening to the voice inside that only begins to speak clearly after five months away from TV commercials and car horns.

There's room there for all of us, even though it's only a single track.

Spring Hike Schedule— Come join us!

Ready to stretch your legs this spring? Join us on an overnight hike. Contact Clint Kawanishi cnpm@mindspring.com or (919) 967-4449.

- March 28-29, Saturday and Sunday. Tinker Cliffs-McAfee Knob. 12 mile backpack over 2 days. Ascend to beautiful views from Tinker Cliffs and on to Campbell Shelter. Sunday will see us hiking leisurely to enchanting views from McAfee Knob and on to the cars VA 311. Limit 8.

- April 11-12, Saturday and Sunday—Cold Mountain backpack. Suitable for novices who want to try

their wings and seasoned hikers who like to "smell the roses"—a short backpack with lots of time to converse and enjoy the views and camping at my favorite campsite on the Old Hotel trail. On Sunday we'll return to the car and if you care to, do a 6-mile circuit dayhike to Pleasant Mt. Limit 8.

- May 23-25. Saturday to Monday. Roan Mountain Backpack. A two-day backpack on the North Carolina-Tennessee border. The last day is for a short hike back to US 19E and the drive home. Start on Roan Mt. and go through beautiful open balds with especially expansive views, weather permitting, from Hump Mountain. Roan Mt. is known for its impressive rhododendron blooms. Limit 6.

Paperwork Versus Payoff . . .

Continued from page 1

legislator Tavi Umhey said in 1987. And that pretty well describes the way the government and volunteers cooperate to manage the trail.

From the time that ATC was founded in 1925, it has worked with the NPS and the US Forest Service (USFS). The first ATC Board of Managers included both individual volunteers and representatives from these federal agencies, and subsequently it reached various agreements with the agencies. When the 1968 National Trails System Act passed, though, it provided for acquisition of a permanent, protected AT land corridor. This put a whole different spin on things.

Congress didn't begin to authorize money for the purchase of land until 1978. Together the ATC and the clubs convinced Congress that if the government would buy the land, volunteers could manage it. It wasn't an easy sell. At one point, the volunteers were told they couldn't handle the responsibility, and that if it was given to them, they'd be back within five years, begging the NPS to take over the management of the AT. By 1978, though, ATC and the maintaining clubs had over 50 years of trail management experience, and in the end, Congress and the federal agencies agreed to the deal—they were impressed by how sincere the volunteers were and by how strongly they felt about the AT. That's why today the AT is managed by volunteers like us, and is not a traditional unit of the NPS.

We told you this was a great story. But what does all this have to do with PATH?

PATH's responsibilities

In 1984, ATC signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Park Service in which management of federally-purchased trail lands or

easements was transferred administratively to the Forest Service, to be managed by ATC. In turn, ATC was given the authority to delegate management responsibilities to maintaining clubs. Both agreements were updated in 1994.

These agreements had a big impact on PATH. In 1984, sections of our trail ran along roads, and in areas that were a lot less scenic than the ones where the trail is now located. The federal agencies purchased lands that allowed us to relocate sections of the trail so that today it runs along ridgelines, and through pastures and valleys. It's a complicated arrangement, but essentially we have to manage and "monitor" the lands and easements (54 tracts comprising 1208 acres) that were purchased by the Park Service—the US 11 valley crossing, the VA 42 valley crossing, and along Garden Mountain from 623 to Chestnut Knob. Our corridor also has tracts purchased by the Forest Service, but we don't have to monitor those. The Forest Service is still acquiring tracts for the protection of our trail corridor, which is one reason we will be doing trail relocations for a few more years.

- **NPS Corridor Land Monitoring**—The areas purchased by the Park Service are narrow corridors vulnerable to abuse such as off-road vehicle traffic, dumping, and litter. Under the 1984 Memorandum of Agreement, clubs were given a special duty to monitor these lands. This involves inspecting the boundaries of the corridor. The most susceptible or endangered lands get the most frequent monitoring. Each club sends an annual report to ATC, due March 31 of each year.

- **Local Management Plan**—Starting around 1987, each AT maintaining club developed a written document, called the Local Management Plan, which outlines its trail management policies and goals. These plans, done in consultation with ATC and the

federal agencies, are updated periodically. PATH's current Local Management Plan was written in 1990, and it includes our policies on everything from signs, bridges, and shelters, to road closures, cultural resources, and wildlife management. It is our statement of how we want to manage our trail section.

- **Trail "Assessment"**—In 1987, the Trail Assessment program was started to provide each club with a way to analyze the maintenance and land-management needs for each section of trail. It provides two things. First, it includes an inventory of features such as shelters, bridges and steps, and describes where each is located. Second, it includes a list of projects that need work, and allows us to prioritize those projects. The Trail Assessment is included in the appendix of the Local Management Plan.

Paperwork Versus Payoff

Over the past 15 years, the responsibilities taken on by the volunteers in PATH, and in the other maintaining clubs, have increased. We are still responsible for maintaining the treadway, so we clear the blowdowns, rehabilitate the sidehill, and cut the brambles. But we have also taken on the responsibilities of land managers, so we survey our boundaries, assess our trail, and work cooperatively with our trail neighbors, ATC, other clubs and our partners in the federal agencies to resolve land management issues.

In PATH's case, these land management duties range from reviewing grazing permits to dealing with hunters trespassing on the private property of our trail neighbors. It's a lot of work. What we get in return, though, is a unified, protected trail that runs through the most scenic areas of the Appalachian Mountains. It's a system that works so well it has

Continued on page 7

Notes from the President

by Paul Clayton

• The PATH board met on January 25 and decided to have "get acquainted" dinners again this year. The Triad dinner was at Ronni's Restaurant in Kernersville on March 3. The Triangle dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 1998 at 6:45 p.m. at Sal's Restaurant, 2223 Hwy. 54, Durham, NC.

• Marcia Cope and I attended a meeting on January 9 at the Interstate 81 crossing of the trail. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has some big plans to bring I-81 out to six lanes all through the "Mountain Empire" area. We met VDOT personnel, Paul Dore of the Forest Service, and Mike Dawson and Don Owen of Appalachian Trail Council to present our opinions as to how this intersection should be set up to make it safest for hikers. There is a chance that future traffic volume here will pick up considerably.

Incidentally, one of the VDOT engineers mentioned that bear strikes have become an increasing problem on the section of I-81 between Marion and Wytheville.

Paperwork Versus Payoff . . .

Continued from page 6

become a model for other volunteer-maintained trails, and its something we should all feel proud to be a part of.

PATH members who would like additional information should look through the Local Management Planning Guide, published by ATC, PATH's Local Management Plan, and the segment maps we use for monitoring. Our crew leaders especially should be familiar with these documents.

• Our week with the ATC's Konnarock Crew was scheduled for the second and third weeks in May, certainly not the best time for many PATH members. I was able to swap with the Nantahala Hiking Club, so now Konnarock will be in our section the week of July 9 - 13. This way, schoolteachers and people with school-age children will find it easier to participate. This year's cooperative projects include a trail relocation in Crawfish Valley and additional work toward Tilson Gap.

• We had a great turnout for the

trail assessment training on January 10, with 16 PATH members in attendance. Don MacDougall of the ATC gave us a lot of good information, and then we broke out into groups and performed the assessments on four sections of trail. I went along with Barry Hester on his section, the new stretch that we picked up from Virginia Tech, and I must say that it is a beautiful and scenic walk. It needs about 5,000 feet of sidehill work, so we may have to call some of the duffbusters out of retirement.

1998 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please clip out this form and mail it with your check to the address at the bottom of the page.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____
 e-mail address _____
 New () Renewal ()

1998 Membership Dues:

Individual—\$15.00	\$ _____
Family—\$17.50	\$ _____
Student—\$10.00	\$ _____
Donations	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

PATH is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

Optional information: Are you interested in participating in:

Backpacking ? _____ Dayhikes ? _____

Trail maintenance ? _____ Other ? _____

How did you first learn about PATH ? _____

Age _____ Sex _____

Occupation _____

For PATH members, annual Appalachian Trail Conference dues are \$18.00. ATC dues are normally \$25.00. Send this form and payment to:

PATH Treasurer
 Post Office Box 4423
 Greensboro, NC 27404-4423

Classes, Seminars, and Workshops

• **March 20-22 — Wilderness Medicine Weekend Seminar**, Berryhill Hall, first floor, UNC-CH School of Medicine. Cost: \$50 for physicians, \$30 for others, and free for students at any accredited high school or college/university. For more information email <wildmed@med.unc.edu>. Pre-registration is requested.

The weekend will begin with a reception Friday evening, and include lectures and hands-on practical skills "breakout sessions" on Saturday and Sunday. Confirmed topics include: "Preventive Medicine for Large Groups," "Thor's Hammer: Lightning Injury," "Women in the Wilderness," "Ten Commandments for Tropical Travel," "Management of Poisonous Snake Envenomation," "High Altitude Physiology," "Temperature Related Emergencies (Hypo- and Hyperthermia)," "Canine Search & Rescue (SAR) Techniques"

• **March 28-29, Trail Construction Workshop**, Laurel Creek Virginia. Sponsored by the Outing Club of Virginia Tech and the Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Don MacDougall, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Whitney LaRuffa, (540) 953-1520.

• **March/April (TBA) Chainsaw Certification Class**, Cheoah Ranger District, Robbinsville, NC. Two-day course. Two-week advance reservation required. Sponsored by US Forest Service. Instructor, Laney Cutshaw, US Forest Service. Contact: Frank Findley (704) 479-6431.

• **April 4—Basic Maintenance**, Balsam Gap, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC. Worker safety, use and maintenance of hand tools, clearing brush, blazing, clearing waterbars, blowdown removal, overnight facility maintenance, and sanitation. Sponsored by Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Morgan Sommerville, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Joe DeLoach (423) 753-7903.

• **April 11—Basic Maintenance Workshop**, Konnarock Base Camp, Sugar Grove, VA. Sponsored by PATH, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Don MacDougall, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Don MacDougall (540) 544-7388.

• **April 25—Basic Maintenance—Peters Mountain**, VA. Sponsored by Outing Club of Virginia Tech, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Don MacDougall, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Whitney LaRuffa (540) 953-1520.

• **May 2-3—Wilderness First Aid Certification—Konnarock Base Camp**, Sugar Grove, VA. Fee: \$100 per person. Registration deadline: April 11. Sponsored by Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Justin Padgett, certified instructor with SOLO.

Minimum 12, maximum 20 participants. Contact: Appalachian Trail Conference (704) 254-3708.

• **May 9—Drainage Workshop**—Brown Gap, near Max Patch Mountain, NC. Sponsored by Carolina Mountain Club, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Morgan Sommerville, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Howard McDonald (704) 693-8258.

• **May 20—Basic Maintenance Workshop**, Nantahala Hiking Club Clubhouse, Franklin, NC. Sponsored by Nantahala Hiking Club, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Morgan Sommerville, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Fred Haller (704) 369-8727.

• **May 30—Rock Work Class**, Dragon's Tooth, Catawba VA. Sponsored by Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club, Appalachian Trail Conference. Instructor: Don MacDougall, Appalachian Trail Conference. Contact: Charles Parry (540) 951-1402.

• **June 6—National Trails Day**, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, NC-TN. Sponsored by Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Appalachian Trail Conference. Rehabilitation project in the Park. Bring lunch, work gloves, and sturdy boots for this all-day project. Contact: Phyllis Henry (423) 577-2604.



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