



BMTA ACTIVITY CALENDAR

July - September July

July 7 (Wednesday) Wildcat Creek Trail near Ellijay, GA. Approximately 7.5 miles with stream crossing to Fall Branch Falls Trail to Ammons Falls and return. Some brief strenuous segments. Hiking poles recommended. Trail located in GA Wildlife Management Area and requires a free GA Lifetime Sportsman license for Georgia residents over 65 or obtaining a permit thru GA Department of Natural Resources. Hike Leader Steve Dennison.

For more information hikeleaderSD@bmtamail.org.

July 10 (Saturday) GA Work Trip Weaver Creek > Boardtown Road. Sections 3, 5, 6 and 7. Logout, brushout and tread repair. For more information contact Bob Cowdrick GAMaintDirector@bmtamail.org.

July 12 (Monday) Cartecay River Loop Trails. Dog friendly hike (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Moderate 5-6 miles, much of it along the beautiful Cartecay River. Hike Leader Ken Cissna.

For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org.

July 14 (Wednesday) Laurel-Snow Trail to Laurel Falls 6.1 mile moderate trail out and back in Laurel-Snow State Natural Area near Dayton, TN. Two-hour drive each way from Blue Ridge. Leader will provide link to Google Maps directions from Blairsville, GA to trailhead. Hike Leader Steve Dennison. For more information contact hikeleaderSD@bmtamail.org.

July 16 (Friday) BMT: Hudson Gap to Fowler Mountain and back. Moderate 7.8 miles on the BMT. Co-sponsored with Georgia Forest Watch. Dog friendly hike (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). High clearance vehicles are recommended from Bushy Head Gap to the trailhead. Members only and register early—only six hikers permitted from each organization. Hike leaders: Ken Cissna (BMTA) and Andrew Linker (GFW).

For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org

July 17 (Saturday) Big Frog, Rough Creek, Benton MacKaye Trail loop of FS 221 in TN. This moderately strenuous hike has one significant climb in the morning with three creek crossings after lunch - over 6-miles with a brief gravel road walk to complete the loop. Hike Leader George Owen.

For more information contact hikeleaderGO@bmtamail.org.

July 19 (Monday) Four Season Hike Series – Summer: BMT - Hudson Gap, out and back. Dog friendly hike (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Moderate 4-5 miles. We're going to offer this relatively short and fairly easy hike during each season this year. Best I can offer this season may be heat and humidity, but a good hike for all is guaranteed. Hike Leader Ken Cissna. For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org.

July 24 (Saturday) TN Work Trip Section 16b Heart of Darkness. Annual logout and refresh blazes. Crew Leaders Keith Mertz and Ellie Doughty. For more information contact Keith Mertz keithmertz@hotmail.com.

August

August 9 (Monday) Coker Creek Falls Parking Lot to TN68, about 7 moderate miles. First 3 miles downhill through the Coker Creek Gorge with impressive waterfalls. Then cross bridge over Coker Creek on BMT and hike 4 mild-moderate miles uphill to TN 68. Meet at TN68 crossing of BMT at 9 AM, north of where TN68 leaves Hiwassee River. We will leave some cars there, then drive to the Coker Creek Falls parking lot. Hike Leaders: Rick and Brenda Harris, 423.253.6358. harrisri@aol.com. Note: Joint BMTA and Cherokee Hiking Club event.

The following two hikes are part of a Campground/Day hikes event at Lake Conasauga in the Cohutta Mountains west of Ellijay and Blue Ridge. Monday-Thursday, August 9-12, with Hike Leader Mike Pilvinsky. **Those people not camping are welcome join them for a day hike but must register by Friday, August 6.**

August 10 (Tuesday) Lake Conasauga, Grassy Mountain Tower, Songbird Loop and Lake Shore trail. A total of 7 moderate miles. Amazing views from the fire tower.

Hike Leader Mike Pilvinsky. For more information contact hikeleaderMP@bmtamail.org. **You must sign up by Friday August 6.**

August 11 (Wednesday) Lake Conasauga, Chestnut Lead Trail or part of the Upper Conasauga trail. Seven miles with a strenuous last half-mile. Hike Leader Mike Pilvinsky. For more information contact hikeleaderMP@bmtamail.org. **You must sign up by Friday August 6.**

August 14 (Saturday) GA Work Trip Sections 8a, b, c, d. Logout, brushout and tread repair.

For more information contact Bob Cowdrick GAMaintDirector@bmtamail.org.

August 16 (Monday) Emery Creek. Moderate 5 miles. The trail for this in-and-out hike is fairly easy, but 26 stream crossings (a number up to your ankles and two around your knees) and a section of potentially slippery rock toward the beginning and again at the end make it more difficult than it otherwise would be. Holly and Emery Creeks, two lovely waterfalls and a beautiful trail make it worth the trouble. Hike Leader Ken Cissna.

For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org.

August 16 (Monday) Cohutta Wilderness. Benton MacKaye, Hemp Top and Jacks River Trails. We will start hiking from Watson Gap, enter the Cohutta Wilderness on the BMT, then use the Hemp Top and Jack's River Trails to complete a circle and return over a 2.6 repeat of the BMT to Watson Gap again. About 8.3 miles. Hike Leader Steve Dennison.

For more information contact hikeleaderSD@bmtamail.org.

August 20 (Friday) Cohutta Wilderness. Benton MacKaye and Jacks River Trails in the Cohutta Wilderness. Moderate 8-mile hike through forest of hemlocks and rhododendrons. Requires a 5-mile drive on a USFS road to Dally Gap. Hike Leader Steve Dennison.

For more information contact hikeleaderSD@bmtamail.org.

August 20 (Friday) BMT from Reliance, TN, to the Lost Creek Campground and back, 8 miles. This hike parallels the beautiful Big Lost Creek through a deep limestone gorge with rippling cascades and lovely waterfalls. The rating is moderate due to the length of the hike, only two hills. We'll cross the cool creek

to eat lunch at the campground. Water shoes are a must for three creek crossings both ways. We'll return a slightly different trail with magnificent views of rock formations. There's ice cream at the Hiwassee Outfitters store at the end of the hike. Hike Leader Clare Sullivan.

For more information contact hikeleaderCS2@bmtamail.org.

August 27 (Friday) BMT Highway 515 to Weaver Creek and return. Dog friendly hike (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). Easy 5 miles. Mostly along dirt roads. Two “rock hopping” stream crossings could get your feet wet depending on stream levels and recent rainfall. Hike Leader Ken Cissna.

For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org.

August 28 (Saturday) TN Work Trip Section 13e. Annual logout and refresh blazes. For more information contact Steve Bayliss stevebayliss801@gmail.com.

August 28 (Saturday) TN Work Trip Section 13d. Annual logout and refresh blazes. For more information contact Anne Anderson, ahander@aol.com or Mary Alton Altongd@aim.com.

August 30 (Monday) Amadahy trail at Carter’s Lake. Easy/moderate 4-5-miles if you go out to the “boat/hike campground.” This will be a leisurely hike. Hike Leader Steve Dennison.

For more information contact hikeleaderSD@bmtamail.org.

September

September 10 (Friday) Gahuti Lite: Five Intersecting Trails Loop at Fort Mountain State Park. Dog friendly hike (adult humans may bring a leashed dog). About 5 moderate miles. Highlights include cascading creeks, a long-distance view and a lakeside walk. Ends with a moderate uphill walk. Hike leader Ken Cissna. For more information contact hikeleaderKC@bmtamail.org.

September 11 (Saturday) GA Work Trip Sections 8 e, f, g, h. Logout, brushout and tread repair.

For more information contact Bob Cowdrick GAMaintDirector@bmtamail.org.

September 12-17 (Sunday-Friday) Campout at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Hike each day, Monday –Thursday. Reserve your campsite now. Rick and Brenda Harris will be in campsite A30. You may also opt to reserve a room in the lodge if open by then (being rebuilt) or reserve a cabin. They go quickly.

September13 (Monday) we will hike trails at the State Park.

September14 (Tuesday) we will hike to Virgin Falls.

September15 (Wednesday) we will hike at Burgess Falls.

September16 (Thursday) we will hike to Cummins Falls and swim below the falls (online permit required).

Leaders Rick and Brenda Harris harrisri@aol.com. Note: Joint BMTA and Cherokee Hiking Club event.

September 25 (Saturday) TN Work Trip Section 16c-d. Annual logout and refresh blazes. For more information contact Rick Harris harrisri@aol.com.

***Before embarking on your hike, please read:**

[BMTA COVID-19 Hiker Guidelines](#)
[Hiker Guidelines](#)

[Guidelines for Bringing Your Dog on a Sponsored Hike](#) (if applicable)