

2009 Trails Forever Project Schedule

To participate in the Trails Forever program, you must apply at <http://smokiestrailsforever.org/about/>. Applications must be received **AT LEAST** two weeks before the dates you wish to volunteer. To view a map of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/grsm> and click on the “view map” button near the top of the page. Great Smoky Mountains National Park will provide all tools and safety equipment. Be sure to read the entire Trails Forever Program Information page before applying to Trails Forever.

Forney Ridge / Clingmans Dome Bypass Trail Schedule

Tuesday-Thursdays, May 19th - September 30th, 2009

Trails Forever will be working on two projects near Clingmans Dome, on the North Carolina side of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Volunteers who apply for this project may be working on the Forney Ridge trail or the Clingmans Dome Bypass trail. Meeting times and locations will be the same.

The Forney Ridge Trail: Volunteers will be working on a 1.5 mile section of the Forney Ridge trail from the Andrews Bald area back towards the Clingman’s Dome Parking lot. Work will include reconstructing the trail tread and constructing drainage structures with stone and timber materials. The hike in will be no more than 1.5 miles one way, (3 miles round trip). As the trail reconstruction progresses the hike into and from the project will become shorter each day.

Clingmans Dome Bypass Trail: The Clingmans Dome Bypass trail connects the Appalachian Trail to the Forney Ridge trail. Volunteers will be working on a 1/2 mile section of the trail, starting from the junction of the Forney Ridge Trail and moving towards the Appalachian Trail. Work will include reconstructing the trail tread and constructing drainage structures with stone and timber materials. The hike in will be no more than 0.6 miles one way and 1.2 miles round trip. As the work season progresses the hike in and from the project will become shorter each day. To volunteer in the program you must apply through the posted online application process **AT LEAST** 10 days before your desired volunteer dates to be considered.

Meeting Place (For both projects): Clingmans Dome parking area

Meeting Time (For both projects): 8:20 AM

2009 Monthly “Saturday in the Smokies” Schedule

Noland Divide Trail

Saturday June 6th 2009 (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM)

Come join the Park in celebrating **National Trails Day!** You will be working on a 3.5 mile section of the Noland Divide Trail from the Deep Creek trailhead to the Lonesome Pine overlook. There will be various types of work available for all ability levels. Work will include cleaning drains, pruning vegetation, and digging out sloughed off bank to redefine the trail tread.

Meeting Place: Noland Divide Trail trailhead. The Noland Divide trail head is located at the first left turn after entering the Deep Creek area of the Park near Bryson City, NC. Please carpool as parking will be limited.

Meeting Time: 8:20 AM

Smokemont Loop Trail

Saturday July 11th 2009 (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM)

You will be working on the 4 mile Smokemont Loop Trail from the Smokemont campground trailhead to the junction with Bradley Fork Trail. There will be various types of work available for all ability levels. Work will include cleaning drains, pruning vegetation, and digging out sloughed off bank to redefine the trail tread.

Meeting Place: Smokemont loop trail trailhead, located at the far left side of the Smokemont campground road loop. Please carpool as parking will be limited.

Meeting Time: 8:20 AM

Hemphill Bald Trail

Saturday August 29th 2009 (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM)

You will be working on a 3.5 mile section of the Hemphill Bald Trail from the Polls Gap trailhead to the Little Bald Knob area along the trail. There will be various types of work available for all ability levels. Work will include cleaning drains, pruning vegetation, and digging out sloughed off bank to redefine the trail tread.

Meeting Place: the Polls Gap trailhead located on the right hand side of the Balsam Mountain Road. Please carpool as parking will be limited.

Meeting Time: 8:20 AM

Twentymile Loop Trail

Saturday September 26th 2009 (8:30 AM to 3:30 PM)

You will be working on a 4 mile section of the Twentymile Loop Trail from the Twentymile Ranger Station trailhead to the end of the 4 mile section. There will be various types of work available for all ability levels. Work will include cleaning drains, pruning vegetation, and digging out sloughed off bank to redefine the trail tread. You must RSVP via the Saturday workdays RSVP link on the Trails Forever website, (smokiestrailsforever.org), in order to participate.

Meeting Place: The Twentymile Ranger Station trailhead located directly off highway 28 between Fontana and Deals Gap. Please carpool as parking will be limited.

Meeting Time: 8:20 AM

More Projects will be posted throughout the summer, so please check back for new Trails Forever Opportunities.