

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends

Carolina Mountain Club eNews



June 2025



National Trails Day June 7th at Hot Springs a Huge Success!

Story by Donna Bange
Photo captured by David Huff

What better to spend a Saturday than outside in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains working trails, supporting a community absolutely devastated by Helene and enjoying a beer with Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) friends afterwards. 123 volunteers did just that on Saturday, June 7th to celebrate National Trails Day in Hot Springs. The volunteers ranged in age from 8 to over 80. We had multiple families come out including the Boyle and Dektor families that worked alongside their grandsons. Chris Werbylo (Quarterly Crew CMC Leader), Richard McDaniel (Hot Springs Crew Leader) and Paul Curtin (CMC A.T. Supervisor) organized six work sites. By design, these work sites ranged in ability from easy to moderate to skilled so that there was something for everyone. Over 40% of the volunteers were new to trail maintenance.

[Read Full Story](#)

An unusual request from the NC Wildlife Resources Commission in Asheville

Story and photo by Jan Onan



An unusual request came to CMC from Wildlife Diversity Biologist Kathrine Etchison of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission in Asheville. She needed able-bodied volunteers to carry steel beams of various sizes, extension cords, and tools down a steep, 0.2-mile mountainside in Polk County.

The opportunity arose after former CMC Chair of Conservation, Steve Law, reached out to Kathrine to explore potential community partnerships back in February of 2024. This opportunity turned out to be a fun project.

[Read Full Story](#)

SMOKY MOUNTAIN
Living MAGAZINE

Word from the Smokies:
**All hands on deck to rehab a rugged and
beloved Appalachian Trail section**



Somewhere after 2 p.m. on a sunny Wednesday in mid-March, the chaotic wind of a descending helicopter whipped the calm skies above the Appalachian Trail near Icewater Spring Shelter. Four people — two Smoky Mountains Hiking Club volunteers and two Appalachian Trail Conservancy employees — waited at the intersection of the Boulevard and Appalachian trails, watching the bundle of black locust logs suspended below the chopper come to a gentle rest in the small forest opening.

[Read Article](#)

**Explore Beyond the Trail:
A Night Sky Adventure!**



CMC hikers recently discovered a new dimension of nature usually unseen on day hikes: the night sky. As part of a weekend excursion in June, we wound our way to the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI), nestled above Rosman near Balsam Grove off NC 215.

[Read Full Story](#)

Save the Date!

Click on date to register

August 16 – Cat Gap Loop

September 27 – Max Patch (National Public Lands Day)

Volunteer Opportunities

The Club is currently seeking both section maintainers and members for our weekly trail crews.

Section Maintainers "adopt" a portion of trail and are responsible for tasks such as quarterly walk-throughs, routine maintenance (including tread work, trimming, and clearing water diversions), and reporting any downed trees or other trail obstructions.

Weekly crew members join scheduled group outings to help with a variety of trail maintenance projects. It's a great way to learn trail skills, meet other volunteers, and make a meaningful impact.

Like to join a weekly crew or become a section maintainer? Like more information? Click the **Volunteer** link below.

[Donate](#)[Volunteer](#)[Hike](#)

Carolina Mountain Clubs is the oldest and largest hiking and trail maintenance organization in the Southeastern United States. As a member-run volunteer organization, we embody the spirit of community and shared passion for the outdoors, welcoming everyone who wishes to participate in its activities.

Leading over 200 hikes per year, the club maintains more than 440 miles of trails in Western North Carolina, including 94 miles of the Appalachian Trail and 150 miles of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

Questions or feedback on the CMC eNewsletter and content can be directed to Alessia Farley at carolinamountainclub2015@gmail.com



www.carolinamountainclub.org

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