

Hiking • Saving Trails • Making Friends  
Carolina Mountain Club eNews



## April 2026

**PISGAH PROJECT DAY 2026**

THE PISGAH CONSERVANCY

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

JOIN US ON APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> 2026

CMC is supporting The Pisgah Conservancy for Pisgah Project Day on Saturday, April 25th. We will be working off the Blue Ridge Parkway between Tennent Mountain and Black Balsam. Please register soon. Last year the registration was closed early due to the large number of volunteers.

### Important

To be assigned to Carolina Mountain Club (CMC), you must answer the following questions on the registration form:

*Do you want to work with a specific volunteer group or business? If so, please tell us here. If not, please type "none."* **Type: Carolina Mountain Club**

*Do you have a preferred project location? If so, please tell us here and we'll do our best to accommodate you.* **Select: No Preference**

Register

Carolina Mountain Club

## Volunteers at Historic Asheville Church Cemetery

Kit Ogburn, Asheville Thursday Crew

A recent workday for the Asheville Thursday Trail Maintenance Crew was not its usual work on a trail. The day was instead dedicated to a project that one of its members, Ann Kurtis, initiated after she learned about a need that she felt her crew was well suited to assist with.



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## Member Welcome Call Thursday, May 21

Are you new to CMC or looking for ways to get more involved? Join us for our first **New Member Welcome Call** on **Thursday, May 21 at 6:30 PM**. This 60-minute session, hosted on **Zoom (a virtual/online meeting platform)** and led by several **CMC Council members**,



will introduce you to CMC, highlight the work we do, and share the many ways members can get involved—from hikes and trail maintenance to training opportunities and volunteer roles.

While this call is especially helpful for new members, **any interested member is welcome to join**. We're planning for this to become a **quarterly event** moving forward.

If you'd like to attend, please email **Membership@CarolinaMountainClub.org** to be added to the Zoom invite.

We hope you can join us!

## Inaugural CMC Group Trail Run!

Paul Scalese



Seven runners joined on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> for the inaugural CMC trail run on an unseasonably hot day near Hot Springs. After two weather cancellations for this event, the weather finally cooperated and gave us wonderful conditions on the Laurel River Trail! Led by Paul Scalese and John Ribes, this run was set at a very social pace, and there was great energy all around. A few non-members were introduced to the club through learning about this event, and they left enthusiastic to join and become more involved with the club.

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**You are cordially invited to Hot Springs on Friday, May 1st for the dedication and ribbon-cutting of the rebuilt Walnut Mountain shelter.**

We will gather at the Hot Springs NC Welcome Center at 5:00 PM for the event. It will be a nice opportunity for you to see the shelter and the historical marker describing the history of the structure. Additionally, you can see all the improvements Hot Springs has made to their welcome center and perhaps enjoy a meal in town afterwards.



Hot Springs NC Welcome Center • 106 Bridge Street • Hot Springs • NC • 28743

**CMC-SAR and HCSAR Put Tires, Trash, and Training to Good Use Above Balsam Ranger Station**



If anyone happened to glance up the mountainside above the Balsam Ranger Station and spot a cluster of helmeted people carefully rigging ropes around a pile of old tires, the scene may have looked puzzling at first. But rest assured: this was not a rescue mission for vintage automotive relics.

### [Read Story](#)

#### **We have a winner!**

After an incredible round of submissions, the Carolina Mountain Club is proud to announce the winning design for the Art Loeb Thru-Hike Challenge Patch Design Competition.

**Congratulations to Meg Puett, whose design captured the spirit, landscape, and legacy of the Art Loeb Trail.** This patch will represent the challenge and become part of CMC history moving forward.

To everyone who submitted—thank you. The creativity, thought, and connection to the trail in each design made this decision no small task.

Stay tuned for the official patch release and more details on the Art Loeb Thru-Hike Challenge.





# Carolina Mountain Club, EcoForesters, and Others Make a Difference on Western North Carolina Trails

Glen Hess, Paul Curtin, and Kit Ogburn



For two days in March 2026, professional sawyers with the non-profit organization EcoForesters and Carolina Mountain Club (CMC) skilled volunteers collaborated on trail work in western North Carolina. In addition, several other land management organizations participated in this joint effort. This article covers three work efforts.

[Read Story](#)

It is time to order yellow trail crew shirts (standard waffle and smooth shirts) with the new CMC logo. Your email was provided to me by your crew leader. If you are interested, please click on the **Google forms link below** and complete. The **Google forms** enables you to order multiple shirts at one time and shows the new printing. **The deadline to order shirts is April 30th.** The shirts should arrive in June and will be delivered to you at that time. You pay when the shirts are delivered.

[Click Here to Order](#)

Thank you to Mike Phillips (Asheville Friday crew) for supplying the shirts and supporting CMC trail maintainers.



## Associate Editor for eNews

Join the Carolina Mountain Club communications team and help keep our members informed and connected.

We are looking for an Associate Editor for eNews. This role is well suited for someone who enjoys organizing content, editing, and working from home. It is a meaningful way to volunteer with the club.

To learn more or express interest, email **David Huff**

## Save the Dates

Saturday, May 23rd - Spring Social

Saturday, September 19th - Maintainers Picnic

Saturday, November 14th - Annual Meeting and Dinner

## Quarterly Workdays

Saturday, April 25th - Pisgah Project Day

Saturday, June 6th - National Trails Day

Saturday, August 15th - TBD

Saturday, September 26th - National Public Lands Day

## Remote Overnight Crews

April 18/19 - Appalachian Trail

June 27/28 - Shining Rock Wilderness

October 10/11 - Appalachian Trail

## 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 Club 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 David Huff at [communications@carolinamountainclub.org](mailto:communications@carolinamountainclub.org)*



[www.carolinamountainclub.org](http://www.carolinamountainclub.org)

Let's Go!



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