

## MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR

Winter 2023

❖❖ Trails maintained by MHH

## Designated Wilderness Area (limit 10 hikers/group in NC, 12 hikers/group in GA)

Jan 3 C3	Miller Trek at Brasstown Valley Resort. This 6.5 mile loop is moderately difficult with an elevation change of 1,400 feet and some rough, rocky footing. Meet: Trailhead parking lot on service road at the Resort. <b>Please contact Kim Blankenship (770) 880-8358 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 3 E4	Byron Reese to AT. AT northbound over Levelland and on to Wolf Laurel Top and return. Approximately 11 miles. <b>Please contact Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 5 B3	<b>Leisure Hike - Two Trails of Jackrabbit -</b> This low, lake-view, easy set of two trails in NC is a winter favorite. It includes the 3.1 mi. Central Loop and 1.5 mi. Upper Ridge Loop for a very pleasant 4.6 mi. outing. <b>Please contact Marjorie Hornsby (850) 322-8078 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 5 (Easy)	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> <b>Wagon Train Trail (Wilderness)</b> the first mile from Young Harris college side of the trail head. Trees and brush clearing. 3 miles total. <b>Contact Michael O'Brien (706) 994 1569 if you can help out.</b>
Jan 10 C3	Woody Gap to Gooch Gap on the AT 7.2 miles round trip. A moderate hike with two nice viewpoints. <b>Please contact Candy Retter (706) 897-9538 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 10 D4	Dick's Creek Gap to Kelly Knob on the AT. Start at Dicks Creek Gap and hike south over Powell Mountain, McClure Gap, Deep Gap and climb the north side of Kelly Knob. Great view from Kelly Summit. Return the same way. 9 miles total. <b>Please contact Ted Shemella (<a href="mailto:tshemella@yahoo.com">tshemella@yahoo.com</a>) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 12 B2	<b>Leisure Hike - Springer Mtn. Upper Loop -</b> This 4.7-mile loop is a favorite of the leader, and makes a circle out of the AT Springer Mtn. parking lot. First is the hike on the Appalachian Trail to the Springer Mtn. summit view. Then more downhill is used to reach the Benton MacKaye Trail vista for lunch, then onward upon undulating BMT to complete this GA loop. Three easy low stream crossings in the second half. <b>Please contact George Owen (706-374-4716) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 12	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> <b>OPEN</b>
Jan 17 C3	Neels Gap to Wolf Laurel Top and back on the AT. A 6.8 mile round trip. Great views from Wolf Laurel. <b>Need Hike Leader. This hike is cancelled.</b>
Jan 17 E4	Skeenah Gap to Fish Gap on the Duncan Ridge Trail. Out and back for 11.5 miles and just over 2500 ft of elevation gain. <b>Please contact Susan Paul Susan Paul (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 19 B3	<b>Leisure Hike - Quartz Loop, BMT -</b> Start with both trails at the parking on FS Rd. 221. First do the 2-mi. Quartz easy loop, then the 3.1 mi. Benton MacKaye Trail mostly downhill to Thunder Rock Campground. Shuttle. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 19 (Easy)	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> <b>Desoto Falls –</b> 3 miles round trip on moderate trail. Mostly water diversion and lopping. <b>Contact Steve Dennison (706) 299 6825. if you can help out.</b>
Jan 24 B4	Unicoi Gap to Indian Grave Gap on the AT and return on the Rocky Mountain Trail. A 5.5 mile loop hike with 1,000 ft. elevation gain going and 500 ft. returning. <b>Please text 770-880-8358, Kim Blankenship if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Jan 24 E5	Neel Gap to Lake Winfield Scott. Hike SOBO on the AT to Slaughter Creek. Take Slaughter Creek down to Lake Winfield Scott. Have lunch by the lake and return the

	same way. About 13 miles with 3200ft. of elevation gain. <b>Please contact Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Jan 26 B3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Springer Mtn. Upper Loop - This 4.7-mile loop is a favorite of the leader, and makes a circle out of the AT Springer Mtn. parking lot. First is the hike on the Appalachian Trail to the Springer Mtn. summit view. Then more downhill is used to reach the Benton MacKaye Trail vista for lunch, then onward upon undulating BMT to complete this GA loop. Three easy low stream crossings in the second half. <b>Please contact George Owen (706-374-4716) if you plan to do this hike.</b></b>
<b>Jan 26</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance OPEN</b>
<b>Jan 31 B3</b>	Piney Knob trail in Murphy. Approx. 6 miles.... <b>Please contact Laurie Colombo (530) 295-7639 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Jan 31 D4</b>	Hogpen Gap to Low Gap Shelter on the AT. Strenuous. Elevation gain in both directions. 9.5 miles. <b>Please contact Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 2 B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Brush Creek Trail Inner Loop - This 4-mile circle goes in-and-out above the shore of a remote Ocoee River lake in TN with views of the higher mountains of the Cherokee Nat. Forest just to the south. <b>Please contact Laurie Colombo (530) 295-7639 if you plan to do this hike.</b></b>
<b>Feb 2 (Difficult)</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance Arkaquah Trail (<i>Wilderness</i>) from Trackrock Trail head to Buzzard Roost Overlook and back. Saw and lopping and small hand saw work. <b>Contact Steve Dennison (706) 299 6825. if you can help out.</b></b>
<b>Feb 7 B2</b>	BMT: BMT parking lot at Springer MTN to the crosstrails then back on AT to top of Springer Mtn. Lunch at Owen Overlook then back to parking lot for 5 miles. <b>Please contact Pam Sullivan at <a href="mailto:pams11@tds.net">pams11@tds.net</a> if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 7 E5</b>	Wilscot Gap to Skeenah Creek: Hike SOBO on the BMT. Short shuttle required. A challenging 12 miles with 3,000+ ft. of elevation gain. Climb Deadennen Mt., Licklog Mt., and Wallalah Mt. Enjoy great views in the winter. <b>Please contact Susan Paul (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 9 B3-4</b>	<b>Leisure Hike – Piney Knob Trail system. <b>Please contact Doreen Sasso (239) 565-8482 if you plan to do this hike.</b></b>
<b>Feb 9</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance OPEN</b>
<b>Feb 14 C4</b>	Duncan Ridge Trail from Mulky Gap to Fish Gap for 6 miles round trip. This section has some moderate to strenuous ascents and descents. <b>Please contact Candy Retter (706) 897-9538 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 14 D5</b>	Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald on the AT. A classic hike in all seasons and everyone's favorite long hike. Great views on top of Siler Bald. 9.6 miles. Strenuous. <b>Please contact Marjorie Hornsby (850) 322-8078 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 16 B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike - Murphy River Walk - This is another really good and low winter hike in NC. The leader chooses among two-three options for length, but count on at least 3.0-4.5 mi. out and back. <b>Please contact Paul McCord at <a href="mailto:epaulmccord@gmail.com">epaulmccord@gmail.com</a> if you plan to do this hike.</b></b>
<b>Feb 16 (Difficult)</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance Fires Creek Rim Trail from Leatherwood side from 2<sup>nd</sup> road crossing to Short Off. Brush cutting, lopping and chainsaw work. <b>Contact Michael O'Brien (706) 994 1569 if you can help out.</b></b>
<b>Feb 21 C3</b>	Woody Gap over Big Cedar Mt. to Jarrard Gap on the AT, then down to Lake Winfield Scott for a total of 6.3 miles. Shuttle required. <b>Please contact Linda Hiles (954) 445-4358 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Feb 21</b>	Tesnatee Gap to Neel Gap on the AT and back. Views from Cow Rock, Wolf Laurel, and

E4	Levelland. A strenuous 12 miles on the rocky Appalachian Trail. Lunch break at Neel Gap. <b>Please contact Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Feb 23 B1	<b>Leisure Hike - Ocoee Trails, TN - Start at Boyd Gap's fabulous overlook of the high peaks to the southwest, then this trek is mostly downhill. Use the trail west out of Boyd Gap, then the Old Copper Rd. Trail along the Ocoee River, and wind up with the Rhododendron Trail to Tumbling Rock Campground and parking. Overall the distance is about five miles. Please contact Anne Anderson (423) 284-7032 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Feb 23	<b>Trail Maintenance OPEN</b>
Feb 28 C3	Jack Rabbit hike/bike trail 7.6 miles. Hike four loops of the Jack Rabbit Hike/ bike trail- 3.1 miles on the white blazed loop, 2 miles on the blue blazed loop, 1 mile on the orange blazed trail, 1.5 miles on yellow blazed loop. Great views of Lake Chatuge and variety of hard woods. <b>Please contact Margorie Hornsby (850) 322-8078 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Feb 28 C3	Benton MacKaye Trail from Wilscot Gap to Brawley Fire tower, and then take the forest service road back to Wilscot Gap. Breath taking views of long range mountains along this road. 6.1 miles with a strenuous uphill to Tipton Mtn. (Views of Lake Blueridge), but moderate after. <b>Please text Kim Blankenship for weather updates and meeting place and time. 770-880-8358.</b>
Mar 2 B2	<b>Leisure Hike - Carter Lake Amadahy Trail - This lakeside loop of four miles plus the half-mile to/from the peninsula picnic area has become a favorite leisure hike. Please contact Darcy Douglas (404-431-3614) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Mar 2 (Easy)	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> <b>Coppers Creek Area. Yellow Mtn. Trail to Connector Down Mill Shoals. Brush cutting, lopping and chain saw work for 5 miles. Contact Bill Johnston (954) 931 1947 if you can help out.</b>
Mar 7 C3	Aska Trails to Deep Gap at Aska to Rock Gap, 6 miles. Steady steep incline. Those wanting a shorter hike (5 miles) can turn around at the BMT crosstrails. Meet at Food Lion in Blue Ridge. <b>Contact Pam Sullivan at <a href="mailto:pams11@tds.net">pams11@tds.net</a></b>
Mar 7 D5	Vogel State Park to Blood Mountain via Bear Hair Trail to Coosa Backcountry Trail to Duncan Ridge Trail to the AT. NOBO on the AT to Blood Mtn. Return same way. 10 miles, strenuous. About 2400 ft of elevation gain. <b>Please contact Susan Paul (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Mar 9 B2-3	<b>Leisure Hike - Smokies Hike, close to 5 mi.- We take multiple trails including a bit of the Benton MacKaye Trail for a loop out of the "Road-to-Nowhere" tunnel - have only done this hike once before, some years ago, and it introduces you to a more remote NC part of the national park. Please contact George Owen (706-897-3366) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Mar 9 (Moderate)	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> <b>Ravens Cliff Falls (Wilderness) – 2.5 miles along Dukes Creek and return. Moderate up at beginning and creek crossing. Level but rough trail with moderate up and end. Contact Bill Cox (850) 417 0696 if you can help out.</b>
Mar 14 C3	Standing Indian Area. Rock Gap to Glassmine Gap on the AT for 6 miles. Beautiful views, rhododendron canopy, old shelter. <b>Please contact Linda Hiles (954) 445-4358 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Mar 14 E5	Hogpen to Jacks' Gap on Hwy 180 via AT and Jack's Knob Trail. This 12+ mile hike is generally moderate with a few strenuous sections. Great early spring views. <b>Please contact Michael O'Brien 706 994 1569 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
Mar 16	<b>Leisure Hike - Benton MacKaye Trail northward from Thunder Rock Campground - Hike</b>

