

## MOUNTAIN HIGH HIKERS CALENDAR

### Fall 2024

❖❖ Trails maintained by MHH

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

<b>Oct. 1 E4</b>	Hike on the BMT from Wilscot Gap to Skeenah Gap and back. This hike is considered strenuous at 10.5 miles and 3000 ft. of elevation gain. <b>Text Kelly Motter at (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 1 C3</b>	Riverview Loop at the Ocoee Whitewater Center. Go across the upper bridge, do 1 limb of Bearpaw to Chestnut, then around the Riverview loop and back to the WW center for a total of 7.3 miles. <b>Please contact Pam Sullivan pams11@tds.net if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 3 B1</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Murphy River Walk, NC. This pleasant shady, easy, mostly flat walk is always a favorite. The trails lead along the Hiwassee River and Valley River, out and back as far as the leader and group decide, from 3 to over 4 miles. <b>Please contact Paul McCord at (828) 835-3991 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Wagon Train Trail: From the second overlook going towards Young Harris College. Heavy lopping and some saw work; 6 mile walk downhill. <b>Leader: Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 <a href="mailto:kellylee28@aol.com">kellylee28@aol.com</a> Blairsville Park and Ride (8:30 AM)</b>
<b>Oct. 8 C3</b>	10/8- C3 Hike to the Swinging Bridge on the BMT from Hwy 60 and return. This hike is about 8 miles with 1800 ft. of elevation gain and has climbs in both directions. Moderately strenuous. <b>Please contact Candy Retter (706) 897-9538 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 8 B3</b>	Deep Gap (4,341 ft) to the top of Standing Indian Mountain (5,498 ft.) on the AT. This is a 5-mile round trip hike in the Southern Nantahala Wilderness Area. Year-round spectacular views. Meet at the Ingles Parking Lot in Hayesville. <b>This hike is CANCELLED. The trailhead is closed.</b>
<b>Oct. 10 B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Start at Thunder Rock Campground and hike up the Thunder Rock Express, then down the Benton MacKaye trail back to the campground. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Open</b>
<b>Oct. 15 C4</b>	Hike on the AT from Woody Gap to Jarrard Gap. Take Jarrard Gap trail down to Lake Winfield Scott. Short shuttle required. National Parks Pass or parking fee for Lake Winfield Scott is required. This hike is about 7 miles with 1800 ft of elevation gain. <b>Please contact Candy Retter (706) 897-9538 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 15 C3</b>	<b>## Chunky Gal Trail</b> from Perry Gap over the top of Shooting Creek Bald (Boteler Peak) to Glade Gap on Hwy 64 in NC. 6.5 miles Outstanding view from the top. Shuttle required. Meet at the Ingles parking lot in Hayesville. <b>Please contact Michael O'Brien (706) 994-1569 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>## Leisure Hike</b> This is now an autumn tradition, led by our immediate

<b>B2</b>	past president. It's a very colorful autumn drive/hike event. We slowly drive the beautiful fall-colored Forest Service Rd. 67 for several miles, leisurely drinking in the autumn beauty all the way to Pickens Nose. There we complete an in-and-out hike of just over 2 miles to 2 awesome vistas. Returning to FS 67, we stop at Mooney Gap to enjoy a very short walk to a display of hundreds of bright red bee-balm wildflowers. Then on our way back out we trek short trails in-out to 2 waterfalls, Mooney and Big Laurel. Total hiking distance is about 4 miles. <b>Hike is limited to 2 groups of 10 (total 20 hikers) because of wilderness area. Please contact George Owen (706) 374-4716 if you plan to do this drive/hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 17</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Chunky Gal. From Bob Allison Campground to the Big Buckeye. A short 1.5 mile trail. <b>Leader: Steve Dennison (706) 299-6825 <a href="mailto:sjd50@etcmail.com">sjd50@etcmail.com</a> Ingles Hayesville 8:30 am</b>
<b>Oct. 18 B2</b>	<b>Special Event</b> Drive and hike the Cherohala Skyway. See scenic overlooks, hike to a bald with 360° views and in an old growth forest. Total hiking distance is 4.5 miles. This is an all-day event and is limited to 20 people to limit the number of cars required; parking along the Skyway is limited. <b>Contact Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you are interested in this event. NOTE: This event is currently full with a waiting list.</b>
<b>Oct. 22 D4</b>	Hike from Vogel State Park to Blood Mtn and back using Bear Hair Gap Trail, Coosa Backcountry Trail, Duncan Ridge Trail, and the AT. This hike is about 10 miles with 2400 ft of elevation gain and is considered strenuous. Parking fee or state park pass required. <b>Text Susan Paul at (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 22 B4</b>	<b>## Arkaquah Trail</b> from Brasstown Bald parking lot down. This is a moderate hike of about 5.5 miles, mostly downhill. Spectacular views. Some rough footing. Shuttle required. Meet at the Blairsville Park and Ride. <b>Please text Steve Savrda at (407) 322-2558 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 24 B3-4</b>	<b>## Leisure Hike</b> From the Brasstown Bald parking lot out and back along the Wagon Train Trail to the second overlook, with a vista including the Brasstown Tower and fall color. <b>Hike is limited to 12 hikers because of wilderness area. Please email Ken Cissna <a href="mailto:kcissna@usf.edu">kcissna@usf.edu</a> if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 24</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Open</b>
<b>Oct. 29 D3</b>	Winding Stair Gap to Siler Bald on the AT. This hike is 9.4 miles with around 2000 ft of elevation gain and is considered strenuous. Outstanding views from the top of Siler Bald. A favorite hike in every season, but especially in the Fall! <b>Please contact Steve Dennison (706) 299-6825 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 29 B3</b>	Wayah Gap to Siler Bald on the AT. The trail climbs 1,000 feet in 1.9 miles, but the view from top is well worth the effort. A 4-mile round trip hike. Meet at the Ingles in Hayesville. <b>Please contact text Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 31 B2-3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> PART NEW. This trek begins with a spectacular 360-degree fall view at over 5,300 feet on Wayah Bald, then continues 4.2 miles to Wayah Gap, all on the AT. The first half of the hike undulates over high country, then drops mostly downhill on the second half. Shuttle. <b>Please</b>

	<b>text Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Oct. 31</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Chunky Gal. From Perry Gap to Tate Gap. This is 2.1 mile mostly downhill with shuttle. Brush cutting, water diversions and lopping. <b>Leader: Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 <a href="mailto:kellylee28@aol.com">kellylee28@aol.com</a> Ingles Hayesville 8:30 am</b>
<b>Nov. 5 D4</b>	Hike southbound on the Appalachian Trail from Dick's Creek Gap to Kelly Knob and return. This hike is just over 9 miles and is considered strenuous with 2700 ft of elevation gain. <b>Text Susan Paul at (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 5 B3</b>	Amadahy Trail on Carter Lake, GA - This loop trek is augmented by a half-mile over-the little-ridge side jaunt round trip to a lovely lakeside picnic area. Easy hiking on a peninsula with lake views, 4.5 mi. <b>Please contact Darcy Douglas <a href="mailto:bmtadarcy@yahoo.com">bmtadarcy@yahoo.com</a> or (404) 431-3614 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 7 B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> PART NEW. This later autumn color hike with take in the trails of Amicalola Falls State Park. We start out with rubberized pavement to the main waterfall, then drop off downhill on part of the West Ridge Trail to the new visitor's center. Then is out 0.9 miles to the first overlook on the Hike Inn Trail and back, with an optional short trek on another trail. Lunch in the midst of hiking will be at the Lodge dining room with an awesome vista to the distant peaks. Total mileage is approximately 4 miles. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 7</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Open</b>
<b>Nov. 12 D6</b>	Wayah Crest to Wayah Bald on the Appalachian Trail. Excellent views from the Wayah Bald Fire Tower. This hike is 8.6 miles with 2100 ft of elevation gain and is considered strenuous. <b>Please contact Steve Dennison (706) 299-6825 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 12 B3</b>	<b>##</b> Tesnatee Gap on the Richard Russell Highway to Wolf Laurel Top and return. This is a 5-mile round trip hike with magnificent views from the Rock outcrops. Meet at the Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180. <b>Please contact Candy Retter (706) 897-9538 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 14 B3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Walk in the lovely Smithgall Woods State Park, along Martin's Mine Trail. Hikers will see the remnants of an old gold mine and a small waterfall. About 5 miles round trip. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 14</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Coleman River. Brush cutting and lopping on a 1 mile trail along the river. Brush cutting and lopping. <b>Leader: Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 <a href="mailto:kellylee28@aol.com">kellylee28@aol.com</a> Blairsville Park and Ride.</b>
<b>Nov. 19 C4</b>	Hike from Lake Winfield Scott up to Blood Mountain using a loop of the Slaughter Creek Trail, the AT, and the Jarrard Gap Trail. This hike is about 8 miles long with 1800 ft of elevation gain and considered moderately strenuous. National park pass or parking fee required at Lake Winfield Scott. <b>Text Kelly Motter at (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 19 C3</b>	Unicoi Turnpike Trail and BMT. Come walk some actual pieces of the famous Cherokee Trail of Tears of 200 years ago, 7 miles total. The trip

	includes CCC camp site and a side trip to Buck Bald's vista. Shuttle. <b>Please contact Pam Sullivan pams11@tds.net if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 21 A3</b>	<b>Leisure Hike.</b> High Shoals Falls. An out-and-back hike to two waterfalls. The trail is downhill to the falls, so uphill on the return but elevation gain is only about 550 ft. Trail can be rocky and rooty, so trek poles might be helpful. Round trip distance is 2.6 miles. <b>Please contact Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 21</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Open</b>
<b>Nov. 26 C3</b>	Hike from Byron Reese parking area to Levelland Mtn and back using the Byron Reese Trail and the AT. Pass through Neels Gap and Mountain Crossings. This hike is about 7 miles with 1700 ft. of elevation gain and is considered moderately strenuous. <b>Please contact Bob Frankis (505) 220-8706 (call or text) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 26 B3</b>	Enjoy the trails of Jackrabbit Mountain for a 5 mile hike. Lake views. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 28 B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Need a morning walk before the Thanksgiving feast? Hike the main loop of the Lake Nottely Trail, about 2.5 miles, with an option for the trail across the dam north of GA 325. <b>Please email Ken Cissna kcissna@usf.edu if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Nov. 28</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
<b>Dec. 3 D4</b>	Hike on the BMT from Skeenah Gap Road to Wallalah Mtn. and return. Beautiful view from the top of Wallalah Mtn! This hike is about 9 miles with 2400 ft of elevation gain and is considered strenuous. <b>Text Susan Paul at (407) 663-4457 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 3 B3</b>	Boyd Gap to Thunder Rock Campground. This TN hike is almost all downhill, most quite modest slopes, and much alongside the Ocoee River on the old Copper Road wagon route predating the Civil War. Cool and shady, about 5 miles with a short shuttle. <b>Please contact Darcy Douglas bmtadarcy@yahoo.com or (404) 431-3614 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 5 B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Smithgall Woods State Park, GA. This little wooded paradise is near Helen. We will hike the Martin's Mine Trail. Hikers will see the remnants of an old gold mine and a small waterfall. About 5 miles round trip. This hike was previously cancelled due to rain. State Parks pass or \$5 per car required for parking. <b>Please contact Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 5</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Arkaquah Trail (Wilderness) from Brasstown Bald Parking 2.25 miles past the Arkaquah overlook and back. <b>Leader: Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 <a href="mailto:kellylee28@aol.com">kellylee28@aol.com</a> Blairsville Park and Ride (8:30 am)</b>
<b>Dec. 10 E4</b>	Hike from Tesnatee Gap to Neel Gap on the AT and back. This hike is 12.1 miles with 3000 ft of elevation gain and is considered strenuous. Great views from Cow Rock. <b>Please text Kelly Motter at (979) 480-6413 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 10 C3</b>	<b>##</b> Woody Gap to Gooch Gap on the AT, for 7.2 miles round trip. A moderate with several climbs, two nice viewpoints. Meet at the Choestoe Baptist Church parking lot on Hwy 180. <b>Please contact Mary Frankis</b>

	<b>(505) 220-8706 (call or text) if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 12 B2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Hanging Dog, NC. We'll do both loops of Ramsey Bend South and the lower loop of Ramsey Bend North for a total of 4.4 miles. Great views of the lake from multiple perspectives. Most of the trail is undulating, with the final loop having some short descents/climbs; trek poles will be helpful for those short sections. <b>Please contact Sherry Savrda (407) 924-1499 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 12</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: Open</b>
<b>Dec. 17 D4</b>	Hike on the Duncan Ridge Trail from Mulkey Gap to Fish Gap and on to Sarvis Gap. This hike is about 8 miles and is considered strenuous. <b>Please contact Steve Dennison (706) 299-6825 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 17 B3</b>	Benton MacKaye Trail from Hwy. 60 at Wilscot Gap to Skeenah Gap. This 5.3-mile section is constantly going up and down. Many of these short grades are steep. Shuttle required. Meet at the Park & Ride in Blairsville. <b>Please contact hike leader Ann Sylvester (239) 543-9563 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 19 B1-2</b>	<b>Leisure Hike</b> Tanasi Trail System, Ocoee River, TN. Starting on FS road 221 high on a ridge at the point the Benton MacKaye Trail crosses, a meandering traverse including the Quartz Loop Approach Trail, Quartz Loop Spur, 1330 Bypass, the easternmost part of Chestnut Mountain Trail, and part of the Bear Paw Loop, ending at the river near the old Whitewater Center. From there we walk down the river past the picnic area to our cars. Total distance is 3.5-4+ miles, depending on which section of the Bear Paw loop is taken. <b>Please email hike leader George Owen at <a href="mailto:gowen2@tds.net">gowen2@tds.net</a> or call 706-374-4716 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 19</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance</b> Arkaquah Trail (wilderness) From Trackrock Trail head to Buzzard Overlook and back. <b>Leader: Kelly Motter (979) 480-6413 <a href="mailto:kellylee28@aol.com">kellylee28@aol.com</a> Blairsville Park and Ride (8:30 am)</b>
<b>Dec. 24 B2</b>	Hike the Green Mountain Trail in Fannin County, Aska aera. A moderate hike of about 5 miles with good views of Lake Blue Ridge. <b>Please contact Pam Sullivan <a href="mailto:pams11@tds.net">pams11@tds.net</a> if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 24 B2</b>	<b>##</b> Holiday Escape! Wagon Train Trail from Brasstown Bald parking lot down to the Tower Overlook and back for about 4 miles round trip. Outstanding views. Can add a trip to the top of the Bald for another mile. <b>Please contact Ralph Collinson (904) 305-7139 if you plan to do this hike.</b>
<b>Dec. 26</b>	<b>Trail Maintenance: None</b>
<b>Dec. 31 B3</b>	Need to burn off some holiday calories? BMT Across Sisson Property, from Hwy 515 to Boardtown Rd. A tumbling cascade, the only BMT shelter in Ga, a couple of small lakes, a chapel - it's all a trek of about 4 miles with a mixture of woods, cabins, trail, and short road walks. Some up and down, including a couple of steep ups for a few tenths of a mile, but the last mile is downhill. Short shuttle. Meet at Home Depot in Blue Ridge. <b>Please contact Pam Sullivan <a href="mailto:pams11@tds.net">pams11@tds.net</a> if you plan to do this hike.</b>

Please contact the Hike Leader or visit [www.mountainhighhikers.org](http://www.mountainhighhikers.org) for schedule changes.

**In order to accommodate different hiking levels, we might do “timed-in-and-out” hikes.**

**Hike Rating: Distance: A = up to 3 miles**

**B = 3 - 6 miles**

**C = 6 - 8 miles**

**D = 8 - 10 miles**

**E = over 10 miles**

**Terrain / Footing: 1 = easy**

**2 = average**

**3 = moderate**

**4 = strenuous**

**5 = very strenuous**