



# The Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Paddling News

November 2020

[tehcc.org](http://tehcc.org)

Co-Editors – [Terry Oldfield](#) and [Sharon Burnette](#)

## In This Issue

[Fall Lunch Meeting Highlights](#)

[TEHCC Welcomes New Members](#)

[Trail Wiki Hike Summary](#)

[Event Schedule – Next Two Months](#)

[Details of Upcoming Events](#)

[For the Record](#)

[A.T. Maintenance Reports](#)



## Fall Lunch Meeting Highlights

*Submitted by Chantel Roberts*



*Hiking Club Fall Lunch*

On a beautiful fall afternoon, the Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club had their Fall Lunch event. Panera boxed lunches and drinks were served. After lunch and a bit of socializing, the group headed over to the original Eastman lodge, where the Forest Trail starts. This trail runs between the Eastman Recreation Area and Bays Mountain Park. Tony Messina, Todd Gray and many others have spent the last few months restoring this trail and it's finally ready to be hiked once again! The club



*Vic Hasler and Tony Messina*



*Forest Trail Near Historic Water Piping*

held a ribbon-cutting discussion and walked on the 0.7 mi trail. The trail meanders along the Dolan Branch stream and passes the historic water supply piping for Kingsport city water that came from the reservoir on Bays Mountain. Although the trail is in much better shape, Mr. Messina and others still plan to make more improvements including the addition of a bridge in a rugged area. Megan Krager, the senior naturalist from Bays Mountain Park, spoke on upcoming volunteer opportunities for trail maintenance as well as capital campaign projects ongoing at Bays Mountain Park. Ms. Krager hopes to continue the collaborative relationship between TEHCC and Bays Mountain Park.



*Updated Forest Walk Signs*

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## TEHCC Welcomes New Members

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Victoria Arnold

Zachary Chandler

Larry McClain

Christopher Estep

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## Trail Wiki Hike Summary

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*Submitted by Tim Schaefer*

Log your hikes on our Trail Wiki. Keep track of your SB6K, area hikes completed, share with others the hikes you like to do. Recent hikes are now viewable at [http://tehcc.org/wiki/Recent\\_Hikes](http://tehcc.org/wiki/Recent_Hikes).

Date	Trail(s)	Hike Distance	# of Hikers	Tags	Reported By
<a href="#">19-Sep-2020</a>	<a href="#">Azalea, Bays Mountain Road Lake Road (Bays Mountain Park)</a> <a href="#">Bays Mountain Park</a>	3.8 mi	11		<a href="#">Jshumaker</a>
<b>Comment:</b> We had a wonderful morning hiking in Bays Mountain Park with a good group of people from the club.					
<a href="#">20-Sep-2020</a>	<a href="#">Old Shawnee Trail, Raider's Run Trail</a> <a href="#">Hungry Mother State Park</a>	1.9 mi	1	GPS Logged, Wiki Detailing	<a href="#">Tim</a>
<b>Comment:</b> Second half of the day of Hungry Mother Hiking.					
<a href="#">22-Sep-2020</a>	<a href="#">CCC Trail, Molly's Knob Trail, Vista Trail, Lake Trail Loop</a> <a href="#">Hungry Mother State Park</a>	8.4 mi	1	GPS Logged, Wiki Detailing	<a href="#">Tim</a>
<b>Comment:</b> Morning portion of hike around Hungry Mother. Started with Molly's Knob to the Vista, then continued around taking CCC trail to the Lake Trail Loop and around the lake back to the Jeep. Bagged many ge... <a href="#">more</a>					
<a href="#">17-Oct-2020</a>	<a href="#">Holston Bluffs</a> <a href="#">Warriors' Path State Park</a>	1.1 mi	2	Daybreak Dog Hike	<a href="#">Tim</a>
<b>Comment:</b> Had a hike buddy. Old ladies needed the weekend to recoup.					
<a href="#">24-Oct-2020</a>	<a href="#">Holston Bluffs</a> <a href="#">Warriors' Path State Park</a>	1.1 mi	1	Daybreak Dog Hike	<a href="#">Tim</a>
<b>Comment:</b> Taking the old ladies out!					

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## Event Schedule – Next Two Months

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For the latest, up-to-date information, see [tehcc.org/schedule](http://tehcc.org/schedule).

For additional information on APEs/TEHCC paddling events, see <http://regions.worldkayak.com/tri-cities/category/regional-events/> or <http://www.riverapes.org/calendar.html>.

Date	Description	Contact	Telephone
November 14	<a href="#">Second Saturday</a> , Hiking with Tools!	<a href="#">Tim Stewart</a>	423-483-9329
November 19	Steering Committee Meeting, 11:30 am	<a href="#">Jonathan Shumaker</a>	417-389-6987

December 17	Steering Committee Meeting, 11:30 am	<a href="#">Jonathan Shumaker</a>	417-389-6987
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## Details of Upcoming Events

**Note:** Due to COVID-19, the following regularly scheduled paddling activities are not being held in November. Be sure to check the December newsletter for updates.

- Tuesday Evenings: Johnson City Roll Practice, 7:30 – 9:00 pm
- Thursday Evenings: Kayak Session, Kingsport Aquatic Center, 6:45 – 7:45 pm

## Recurring Events

### TEHCC Steering Committee Meeting - Third Thursday of the Month, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Contact: [Jonathan Shumaker](#) 423-389-6987

Location: Teleconference

The Steering Committee guides the general program for the club. The Committee normally meets at lunchtime on the third Thursday of each month. Meetings are open to all TEHCC members. We are using teleconferencing due to Eastman's directions to current employees. If you want to listen/join in, please contact me.

### Most Thursdays: Weekly A.T. Trail Maintenance

Contact: [Carl Fritz](#), 423-477-4669, [atvolunteer@tehcc.org](mailto:atvolunteer@tehcc.org)

Join a group of maintainers who work somewhere on our 133.8-mile section each week, usually on Thursdays.

## Scheduled Events

### Second Saturday, Hiking with Tools! Saturday, November 14, 2020, 9 am

Contact: [Tim Stewart](#), 423-483-9329

Hiking with Tools! is an introductory opportunity for giving back to the Appalachian Trail by helping out with routine maintenance. All tools will be furnished, and no prior experience required; we'll provide hands-on training! Please note that this Saturday is the second one in November instead of the traditional third. We will target 2nd Saturday from now on. The plan is to gather at Indian Grave Gap trailhead at 9 am to work south primarily by using a battery-powered hedge trimmer and loppers to cut the uphill growth of rhododendrons from pushing hikers to the lower side of the path. We'll work as far and long as the group chooses, and then return to the parking area. Last month we cut closer to Curly Maple Gap Shelter. Please email/text/call me by Thursday 11/12 evening so sufficient tools can be obtained – and if you have any questions.

## For the Record

### A.T.: Spivey Gap to Big Bald Hike Report, Saturday, October 3, 2020

Submitted by Jonathan Shumaker

It was a beautiful cool morning when we hit the trail. Eight of us enjoyed the climb up to big bald. There were a few points where we were teased with great views along the trail to the top, but the 360° views from the top were by far the best. The group enjoyed lunch in the clearing at Big Bald. The hike ended up being more than 13 miles, but the group all made it back safely. Attending the hike: Samuel Timlick, Noah Daugherty, Peyton Whitehead, Kelsey Niehoff, Teni Butler, Tori Knollmeyer, Nicholas Schallan, and Leader: Jonathan Shumaker.



View to the North at Big Bald



## A.T. Maintenance Reports

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 9/25/2020

**Purpose:** Complete TNATLP Grant

**Location:** Kingsport

**People:** Dan Firth

**Summary:** This year, Dan obtained a Tennessee Appalachian Trail License Plate Grant to purchase two Katanaboy saws and an 18" Dewalt battery chainsaw. He and Tony Messina did the purchasing. Dan has completed the final report to ATC. These saws have already been used frequently. The Katanaboy hand saws are popular for cutting smaller blowdowns and can be borrowed from Carl Fritz.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 9/26/2020

**Purpose:** Inspect trail and minor brushing

**Location:** Section 7, Vandeventer Shelter to Wilbur Dam Rd, Big Laurel Branch Wilderness

**People:** Dan Firth, Carl Fritz, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** We hiked about 2.5 miles on an old Forest Service road to just south of Turkey Pen Gap. We checked out the lower relocation done by SAWS (Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards) several years ago. Then we hiked on towards Wilbur Dam Road. We only encountered four hikers. But one was completing the A.T. with his last section. A number of rhododendron along this section have a disease and show yellow leaves. So they are dying and some are dead. SAWS has redug some short sections north of Vandeventer Shelter and improved the trail. They also have cut most of the bothersome weeds (briars) this summer. There was very little evidence of ATVs. The wilderness boundary sign is still at the old boundary. Vandeventer Shelter looked in good shape except graffiti board needs painting (and we had wrong paint) and a new 10-foot piece of guttering is needed in back. The front guttering could use a minor splice in the middle. There is a large dead oak beside the shelter and it will be evaluated further. Carl and Dan did some follow up work with communication, data analysis, and obtaining shapefiles of the wilderness area.

**Reporting:** Vic Hasler

**Date:** 9/29/2020

**Purpose:** A.T. Partnership Discussion

**Location:** Zoom Meeting

**People:** Dan Firth, Carl Fritz, Vic Hasler, Steve Perri

**Summary:** The Fall 2020 A.T. Partnership was again held as a joint video conference with the Carolina Mountain Club, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, US Forest Service districts, and Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards. CMC opened with an extensive discussion regarding excessive visitor use on Max Patch during the September 19th weekend, as a tent city sprawled across the bald. Joint club topics covered included recent staff changes within partner organizations, policies, and projects. TEHCC representatives shared our intention to open the A.T. relocation south of US321 this winter, a review of a field visit to the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness, and an outline of our efforts for 2021.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/1/2020

**Purpose:** Rehab trail

**Location:** Section 18, Beauty Spot south to power line

**People:** John Beaudet, Michael Casper, Carl Fritz, Van Hovey, Greg Kramer, Tony Messina, Joe Morris, Bill Murdoch, Tim Stewart; Hikers: Fantastic and Blueberry

**Summary:** We reworked many water diversions and added several from Beauty Spot to the power line south of there. In one low spot we added a turnpike, plus digging a couple of 1 to 2-foot deep ditches to drain water. We added a couple of log steps to slow down water erosion on one hill. "Fantastic" and "Blueberry" stopped their hike to install those steps. They were on their last leg to complete their thru-hike after skipping all around when the pandemic stopped their northbound hike. We also saw "Potato Head," who we saw in Big Laurel Branch wilderness last Saturday, as he is on his last section to complete his section hike since 2012.

The Old Timers Hiking Club is doing a great job of cutting weeds and encroaching vegetation.

**Reporting:** John Beaudet

**Date:** 10/1/2020

**Purpose:** Remove blowdown

**Location:** Section 19b, Curley Maple Gap Shelter to Nolichucky River, Jones Branch

**People:** John Beaudet, Van Hovey

**Summary:** Van Hovey and I hiked in from the parking near the outfitters to remove a reported 30" hemlock blowdown 1/2 mile in. After removing 5 blowdowns, including a 16" white pine 1/2 mile in, we reached the switchback where the trail starts up the mountain and we turned back. While there we saw three thru-hikers we had seen earlier in the day near Beauty Spot, including Blueberry and Fantastic, who helped us with the work earlier in the day.

**Reporting:** Vic Hasler

**Date:** 10/2/2020



**Purpose:** Discuss visitor use management with Recreation Subteam of the Roan Stewardship Committee

**Location:** Section 14c, Carvers Gap to Round Bald

**People:** Carl Fritz, Vic Hasler, Steve Perri

**Summary:** The chief purpose of this outing was to introduce the new Appalachian District Ranger, Jen Barnhardt, and the new Roan Mountain State Park Ranger, Monica Johnson, to the challenges and issues facing the Roan Highlands, while also meeting participants of the Recreation Subteam of the Roan Stewardship Committee. Besides the above listed TEHCC members, in attendance were Marquette Crockett (SAHC), Matt Drury (ATC), Chad Ingle (USFS), Stephen Eren (ATC), and Travis Bordley (SAHC). The group started at Carver's Gap on a chilly and windy morning reviewing the parking issues down both the North Carolina and Tennessee highways. We then hiked to Round Bald, stopping frequently to point out and discuss the current and potential upcoming trail projects like kiosk posters, social path signs, fencing, spruce tree habitat improvement, trail capacity, step installation, destination with peakfinder displays, and dispersing a fire ring.

The group chose to skip the hike out to Grassy Ridge, thus proceeded to visit the Pritchard Tract just below Carver's Gap in North Carolina. This acquisition could provide another scenic valley view with a possible trail up to Carver's Gap.

After lunch, Vic tagged along with Jen, Stephen, and Matt, so that Matt could look at two study sites in the spruce/fir forest off the A.T. near the former Hack Line Road. The objective was to evaluate whether the second site was sufficiently similar to the first to allow inclusion in a planned investigation (it was). The purpose of this initiative is to learn whether making selective openings in the canopy will allow a new generation to thrive, resulting in increased forest health. This research is being done by Western Carolina University.

**Reporting:** Tim Stewart

**Date:** 10/3/2020

**Purpose:** Check section

**Location:** Section 11b, Canute Place to Bitter End

**People:** Tim Stewart

**Summary:** I went in from Bitter End for about 2.5 miles, a fairly easy outing. I removed 7 step-over or easy-under blowdowns. Of course, I did some lopping of rhodos as well.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/3 to 10/5/2020

**Purpose:** Remove and report blowdowns

**Location:** Sections 11, 12, and 13, Dennis Cove to 19E

**People:** Aaron Brown

**Summary:** Aaron hiked these sections October 3-5. He cut simple blowdowns under 8" with his handsaw. Larger and more complex blowdowns he reported with pictures and mileage. Kayla (Section 12c) was the big winner of the largest number of blowdowns. Some trail erosion is taking place near Dennis Cove and also near Elk River. Elk River erosion is due to a lot of ATV traffic.

**Reporting:** Gayle Riddervold

**Date:** 10/6/2020

**Purpose:** Routine Maintenance

**Location:** Section 8, US 321 to Wilbur Road

**People:** Gayle Riddervold and Becky Kinder

**Summary:** We cut back weeds and thorny bushes from the iron gate to the shook branch parking lot. At the small bridge, there are 3 to 4 blowdowns that are completely blocking the trail. One large tree fell on the bridge and put so much pressure on it that the bridge is starting to bow and break down. We tried to clean up the debris on the bridge but hikers still have to hike around this area.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/8/2020

**Purpose:** Remove blowdowns

**Location:** Section 8, Wilbur Dam Road to US 321, Bridge at Oliver Hollow Rd

**People:** Carl Fritz, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** Becky and Gayle found several large blowdowns near the bridge at Oliver Hollow Rd this week. One hit the bridge. We were able to clear the trail and the bridge. One span of bridge is broken and will need to be replaced before the lake rises in the spring. Hikers can easily bypass the bridge for now.



*Matt Drury presents Marquette Crockett with 2020 ATC Deep South Regional Award for Partner of the Year in appreciation for her efforts as SAHC's Roan Stewardship Director.*



*Oliver Road Bridge Blowdown*



*Oliver Road Bridge After*

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/8/2020

**Purpose:** Rehab trail

**Location:** Section 14c, Stan Murray Shelter to Carvers Gap, Round Bald

**People:** Dean Baird, Mike Casper, Carl Fritz, Van Hovey, Elzear Lemieux, Tony Messina, Joe Morris, Bill Murdoch, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** This was a sunny day with fall leaf color in some nearby mountains. There were hundreds of hikers including many backpackers. We installed two dozen locust steps to reduce the height of some of the steps. We also rehabbed some steps and side hill, and removed an abandoned tent from near the top of Round Bald.

**Reporting:** Eric Middlemas

**Date:** 10/8/2020

**Purpose:** Routine maintenance

**Location:** Section 18, Indian Grave Gap to FS230 Switchback

**People:** Eric Middlemas, Judy Middlemas, David Polon, Janice Miller, Allan Liggett, Rich Ritter, Lana Scott

**Summary:** We walked through the section mainly cutting back encroaching, woody growth. We also removed one large blowdown. The Trail is in good condition.

**Reporting:** Cory Franklin

**Date:** 10/9/2020

**Purpose:** Maintain Trail section

**Location:** Section 9a, US 321 to Pond Flats, Watauga Lake

**People:** Cory Franklin

**Summary:** I cut back a lot of encroaching vegetation from the rhododendron and worked on making the trail easily accessible. There were 3 separate trees that had fallen on the trail. I purchased a Katanaboy saw to clean these up and recieved it today in the mail (10/16). I'm planning to do the cleanup Sunday, October 18.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/9/2020

**Purpose:** Routine Maintenance

**Location:** Section 16b, Iron Mountain Gap to Greasey Creek

**People:** Joe Morris

**Summary:** I cut weeds with a string trimmer from Iron Mtn Gap to Weedy Gap, including the water source access. I met five section hikers; they reported no blowdowns on sections north of the Orchard.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/10/2020

**Purpose:** Shelter Impairment

**Location:** Section 14b, Overmountain Shelter



**People:** Carl Fritz, Bill Murdoch

**Summary:** On a very rainy day with events canceled for the day, Bill and Carl decided to spend the day in Overmountain Shelter. We had a glimpse of the nearby mountains which were at





peak fall color. But most of the time it was cloudy and pouring. Since the shelter is closed because it is unsafe, we had approval to remove the plywood from the two lower level sleeping platforms. There was a total of six sheets of particle board that had been nailed and six sheets of plywood screwed down. So we removed 5 pounds of hardware. We hauled everything away.

**Reporting:** Kevin Sedgwick

**Date:** 10/11/2020

**Purpose:** Walk through section

**Location:** Section 12d, Campbell Hollow Road to US 19E

**People:** Kevin Sedgwick, Gloria Sedgwick

**Summary:** Gloria Shuttled me today. I cut back vegetation as needed. In spots, the rhododendron seem to have grown crazy since last time. I fixed the trail where it was eroding at the northern bog bridge, placing a log from a small blowdown that might help. I hand cut 4 small blowdowns, cleaned 16 water bars, and rehabed 4 feet of trail where a small tree fell taking the edge of the trail with it. I was looking for a reported larger blowdown, but at that location I found only a cleared tree. I met a day-hiker couple that hike in my section a lot. They carried a handsaw; I believe they cleared the blowdown earlier in the day. I put up signs Carl gave me this spring at 4 locations. I ran into a suprisingly high number of day hikers, and also a handful of southbound thru-hikers.

**Reporting:** Joe Morris

**Date:** 10/13/2020

**Purpose:** Repair access to bridge

**Location:** Section 19b, Curley Maple Gap Shelter to Nolichucky River, Jones Branch near outfitter

**People:** Van Hovey, Johnny Jones, Tony Messina, Joe Morris

**Summary:** We created a combination of steps and a ramp for access to the second bridge north of the Nolichucky outfitter. We also created some stream diversion to protect the bridge abutment and constructed a significant crib on the "current" side of the bridge. In addition, we replaced one of the steps on bridge number one.

**Reporting:** Pat Loven

**Date:** 10/14/2020

**Purpose:** Clear reported blowdown.

**Location:** Section 11b, Canute Place to Bitter End

**People:** Pat Loven, Karen Loven

**Summary:** We cut one step-over out of the trail using a handsaw and later determined the larger tree that had been reported was 100 yards farther up. We tried to clear it with the handsaw, but the tree was too large. We will return in a few days with a chainsaw.

**Reporting:** Vic Hasler

**Date:** 10/15/2020

**Purpose:** Trim rhododendron

**Location:** Section 19b, Curley Maple Gap Shelter to Nolichucky River, Bottom of long switchback to shelter

**People:** Vic Hasler

**Summary:** This was a pre-dawn start to move into position at the switchback bottom using an iPhone flashlight and then gathering twilight. The section was last thoroughly cut in 2017 and 2018, except for a few spots found to be in very reasonable condition. I'm a big fan of the battery-powered hedge trimmer paired with loppers. The combination is quick to slash through the small diameter growth with subsequent removal of larger branches. After a couple of hours rapidly passed, I was well up the rising path to where the regular crew had installed rock cribbing back in February 2018. Only then did I realize the second battery was still in my daypack hidden at the bottom of the switchback. I chose to continue working in this manner. The trimmer ran out of power where the large blowdown is still high above the trail. I proceeded to lop until near CMG Shelter when my turnaround time was reached – a short section, about 0.2 mile was not finished. I headed downhill to reach the daypack and swapped the battery; then quickly walked out while trimming missed dog hobble spots along the way. Five pairs of hikers, all NOBO, were seen – one trail running, two on day trips with a shuttle, and two section backpacking. Fall color is still changing in this section.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/15/2020

**Purpose:** Rehab trail



**Location:** Section 14c, Stan Murray Shelter to Carvers Gap, Round Bald

**People:** Dean Baird, Richard Carter, Carl Fritz, Elzear Lemieux, Tony Messina, Joe Morris, Bill Murdoch, Kevin Sedgwick, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** One pile of locust



logs that we hauled to the top of Round Bald eleven months ago had mostly disappeared. We hand-carried about twelve new locust logs today. We installed ten new steps to lower some high steps. We also repaired about three water diversions. We installed five very large stepping stones to get through a constant wet area that some hikers were avoiding even though water is only a half-inch deep most of the time. Hikers were also cutting the upper switchback in the woods regularly, so we trashed it with dead wood and branches. We also trimmed rhododendron close to Carver's Gap that were narrowing the trail to 3-feet wide at many points. It was a beautiful windy day with many hikers. The trees at this elevation are basically bare.

**Reporting:** Dan Firth

**Date:** 10/15/2020

**Purpose:** Repair Curley Maple Gap Shelter

**Location:** Section 19a, Curley Maple Gap Shelter

**People:** Dan Firth, Dave Hrivnak

**Summary:** We added a sister rafter to reinforce a damaged rafter.

**Reporting:** Richard Carter

**Date:** 10/17/2020

**Purpose:** Retrieve abandoned tents

**Location:** Section 14c, Stan Murray Shelter to Carvers Gap

**People:** Tim Stewart, Carl Fritz, Richard Carter

**Summary:** We were responding to several reports of three abandoned tents at the campsite just south of Stan Murray Shelter. We hiked in from Carver's Gap, and found the three tents, two one-man and one four-man, containing a total of six sleeping bags and several camping items including a camp stove, a new pair of shoes, two dog backpacks, food items and considerable trash. The equipment, Walmart brand, was all new. With some effort we contrived to attach most of this to our day packs and hoisted the remainder in our arms, then trudged back down the trail to the gap probably looking like three bindlestiffs. Hikers of all description were out literally in the hundreds for the beautiful day, and Tim became our spontaneous clarifying spokesman in response to the many strange looks we received. His explanations resulted in many of our visitors giving lots of thanks.



*Packing out three tents, six sleeping bags, food, two dog packs, etc.*

**Reporting:** Tony Messina

**Date:** 10/19/2020

**Purpose:** Clear blowdown

**Location:** Section 12b, Walnut Mountain Road to Sugar Hollow Creek, near Mountaineer Falls Shelter

**People:** Tony and Renee Messina

**Summary:** We cleared a 16-inch blowdown at Guthook Mile 404.2 (south of Mountaineer Shelter). We had awesome weather, near 70 degrees and sunny. It was a very pleasant hike, crunching through freshly fallen leaves.

**Reporting:** Van Hovey

**Date:** 10/22/2020

**Purpose:** Clear blowdowns

**Location:** Section 19a, From Indian Grave Gap, South about 1.75 miles

**People:** Van Hovey, Carrie Hovey

**Summary:** We cut 4 blowdowns and cleared several other smaller items over the trail.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/22/2020

**Purpose:** Rehab trail

**Location:** Section 14c, Stan Murray Shelter to Carvers Gap, North of Grassy Ridge

**People:** Richard Carter, Carl Fritz, Van Hovey, Greg Kramer, Elzear Lemieux, Tony Messina, Joe Morris, Bill Murdoch, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** Primarily, we worked on probably six wet areas. In some cases we provided a new path for the water to get across the trail. We installed a number of rock stepping stones, one very large rock plus four other large rocks, to make stepping stones through one large boggy area. We also set some rock steps in several areas. At the end of the day, some of us found mud in our socks. We felt like we had accomplished a great deal.

**Reporting:** Pat Loven

**Date:** 10/22/2020

**Purpose:** Remove blowdown

**Location:** Section 11a, Dennis Cove Road to Canute Place

**People:** Pat Loven, Karen Loven



**Summary:** We returned today to remove a blowdown about 3/4 miles south of Dennis Cove Road. This time we took a chainsaw. We cut a few other smaller trees and did some lopping. It was a beautiful day with the mountains in full color.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/23/2020

**Purpose:** Install lath on stiles

**Location:** Section 4b, Double Springs Shelter to TN91, Osborne Farm

**People:** Ed Speer

**Summary:** Ed added new lath to the two stiles on Osborne Farm.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/23/2020

**Purpose:** Inspect trail, minor tree removal

**Location:** Section 3a and 3b, McQueen's Gap to Low Gap

**People:** Ed Speer

**Summary:** Ed hiked Low Gap to McQueen's Gap. With his small handsaw he removed small blowdowns. He reported 7 step-overs and 2 leaners. There was a larger climb-over near the spring; he was able to cut branches off, but it needs to be removed.

**Reporting:** Tony Messina

**Date:** 10/24/2020

**Purpose:** Repair Griphoist and prepare instruction sheet

**People:** Tony Messina, Tony Gilley

**Summary:** The TEHCC T508 Griphoist wire rope hoist had fallen into disrepair, some internal parts had fallen out, and it was not functional. Tony Gilley took it apart, figured it out, and reassembled it in just a few hours time. He also welded the end of the cable so that it is easier to insert in the tool. Tony Messina found documentation on the internet, obtained a manual, and developed a one page front/back instruction sheet with pictures for future reference. All of this took place over the past several months, but the Griphoist was finally used today on Bays Mountain and proved to be working correctly.

**Reporting:** Carl Fritz

**Date:** 10/27/2020

**Purpose:** Rehab trail

**Location:** Section 12b, 0.5 miles north of Sugar Hollow Creek

**People:** Mike Casper, Carl Fritz, Van Hovey, Bill Murdoch, Tim Stewart

**Summary:** Aaron Brown had alerted us that there was an eroded, wet area a half-mile north of Sugar Hollow. This has been an ongoing problem area for many years. It is at the foot of an old road that was used as the A.T. This area gets a lot of additional spring water crossing the A.T. from the sidehill. ATV traffic is heavy on this old road, especially this year. ATVs dig up the wet area. Several years ago, we tried to isolate about 150 feet of the A.T. to the uphill side of the path in this low area. We were partially successful. This time we added more side logs, rock cribbing, a number of rock stepping stones, and more soil. It looked good when we left. Time will tell. (See photos next page.)

