

September 2012 Path Volunteer Report

Saturday, Sept-15th, Jim, Steve & Marcia attended the fall RPC meeting in Roanoke, VA. Meanwhile, PATH volunteers were busy at the following locations.

Walker Gap Crew: (Drew Jones, David John, David Faucette & Barry Morton) cleared blow downs & lopped North & South of the trailhead parking area.
(note: I spent Friday in this area & noted the fine work Dwight Levi has done on the side trail to the water source. Dwight has made the short 100' of steep trail, from the road down to the spring, a work of passion & keeping it a simple foot path. His placement of stepping stones mixed with a few log steps & water diversion are a work of art.

The same can be said of his work on the North end of his section @ VA-623. That steep section just South of the road is looking good & the water problem is under control.
Good work, Dwight & Thanks).

Partnership Crew: (Herb MacDonald, Ed Martin, Sylvia Swain & Kay Laffoon) worked between Partnership Shelter & VA-601, doing general trail maintenance, lopping, & installed a device to discourage "Riders" on horseback from using the A.T.
Herb reports his section "is clear and in good shape, but very dry (creeks all with only a trickle)".

Groseclose South Crew: (South from U.S.-11 to the Middle Fork of the Holston River).
(Tom Dillon, Grace Mauney, Margaret Wainwright) Lopping & trail assessment.

Groseclose North Crew: (North from I-81 to VA - 617). (Walt Davis, Charlene Davis, Ann Ramsey, Jenny Williams, Martha Emrey, David Emrey). Installed a pre-painted blaze post at that pesky intersection of the farm road, where the trail makes a dog-leg turn. Walt reports he & David could easily dig the hole & encountered no rocks.
The crew also did lopping, weed eating, freshened up some white blazes & cleaned the steps leading to the cemetery.

Afterwards, David & Martha drove to visit with JoNan Repass & were given some very tasty grapes, grown in her garden. Great addition to our pot-luck.
David, unable to sit still for too long, took his 4-cycle weed whacker & used it to cut back the weeds(?) along the trail, along the North Fork of the Holston River.

Pot-Luck: the PATH-RPC crew from Roanoke & the Saturday trail work crews met up for another yummy pot-luck meal at the cabin in Stony Fork Campground.
Followed by a glowing fire & lively conversation. We carried on till 10:07pm.

Good weather, Good folks, Good time for this volunteer weekend.

Oct-20 PATH vol. weekend will be @ Stony Fork Campground. Trail work in Poor Valley(South). more to come.

Paul Clayton - Sept hours: (All 1 day each) Drew Jones, David John, David Faucette, Barry Morton, Herb MacDonald, Ed Martin, Sylvia Swain, Kay Laffoon, Tom Dillon, Grace Mauney, Margaret Wainwright, Walt Davis, Charlene Davis, Ann Ramsey, Jenny Williams, Martha Emrey, David Emrey.

Thanks to the 17 club volunteers for coordinating the trail maintenance crews.

Jim Houck
Club President
Piedmont Appalachian Trail Hikers(PATH)