

PATH 2011 March Worktrip/Volunteers Report

It was a great work week with some great weather and a cold Saturday. We had 37 workers for the week and 32 on Saturday. We had a total of 104 Volunteer Workdays. Thanks to everyone who participated in making it a success. All the trail was covered and we only have 10-12 blow downs on Brushy Mt. (622-86) to cut in April.

Special thanks goes out to those monitors that did their monitoring beforehand, and to Harry, Will, Jim, Karl, and Chris for cutting the blow downs and planning the evening meal.

Thanks to all of those that worked and Saturday and came up early during the week.

Work Accomplished for the week:

Fri, Sat, Sun: RPC Meeting in Hendersonville (Bill, Jim)

Sun: met Harry at KFC in Marion

Mon: Bill, Jim and Harry- Hiked 623 to Wilderness and cut blow downs and back tracked to Davis Farm. Jim Hiked thru to 615.

Bill drops Chris off at 615 to walk and clear N to I-77/52/21

All camped Mon. evening at Walker Gap, while there we installed new trail sign at new water source.

Tue: Bill, Jim and Harry- Harry walked to Chestnut Ridge Shelter cutting along the way and putting new lock on the ladder and later joining Bill and Jim at new water source N of Walker Gap. Blazed new water source and new AT.

Deblazed 100 ft of old AT and next year will blue blaze it as a side trail to a winter view. Cleaned out COFFIN Cistern and put a collection bucket in place. (blue blazed) On the way out cut Dwight's blow down on Garden Mt. Camped in Poor Valley.

Wed: Bill, Jim, Harry cut blow downs and debriared AT from 222 to Lynn Camp Mt. We also looked at bridge and the blow downs in Lick Creek. Jim and Harry also cleared the AT parking lot of debris and briars. Went food shopping

in Marion and Camped at Sugar Grove that evening.

Aubrey walks and clears Olystery (42) to Lynn Camp Mt.

Thur: Jim, Steve, Marcia, Trudy and Sylvia hiked to Davis Path Tent Pad and back while Steve hiked through to 610.

Harry and Chris hiked 610 to US-11 cutting blow downs on the trail.

Atila and Aubrey worked/repared Weed Whackers at Green Building.

Marvin worked on sorting and cleaning chains for saws

Hollyce tended to the fire and cleaned kitchen and dining area

Fri: Bill met with Sue and WJ (USFS) gathering USFS map of AT area (622-86) on private land. 2017 Konnarock Relocation

work site. Later takes 2 weed whackers and 3 husky chainsaws to Marion for repair.

Marvin worked in Green Shed repairing items

Hollyce tended to camp and kitchen

Jim, Andrew and Chris met with RR personnel on ramp over RR tracks behind Cumbows. Met with Mrs. Cumbow and received permission to cross their land when time is appropriate.

Tom, Harry and Will cut blow downs from river N to ridge above 670

Harry and ? cut blow downs from Partnership south about 2 miles in.

Noon meeting with ATC, PATH and USFS at Sugar Grove. Jim and John will report on the happenings later

Will Merritt volunteers to be our invasive species exterminator /pesticide permittee training

Sat: Work details-

1. Trail Boss trail walked and Cleared- Will Burke
2. Poor Valley to Pond cleared- Harry, Aubrey, Jeff and David
3. US-11 to Settlers cleared- Bill
4. 86 to Settlers - Jim, Andrew access trail condition and Shelter for Vir. 2011 ATC working worktrip.

Atila joins at 644

New signage designed and made by Paul Haag is installed

5. 610-42 - walked and cleared by Jack Bookman
6. 622-86- walked and cleared- Danny Shields, John H., ?
7. 16-622- cleared and water bars cleaned out- Martha & Karl
8. Partnership S to 2 streams/rock work - Herb, Sylvia, Drew, Emily, 4 scouts & 2 leaders
9. 601 N- water bars and check dams cleaned - Ed & Trey Martin
10. 601 S to below ridge - debriared by Tom and Dan Ditto.
11. Tilson Farmstead Hike - Diana Billips

Volunteers: Houck 12, Boudman 10, Atkins 8, Hartpence 3, Swain 4, Yonts 2, Billips 2, Arrington 5, Bracknell 4, Faucette 2, Shields 3, Dillon 2, Scout Troop 942- 12, Kunkel 1, Bookman 2, Mitchell 4, Haag 1, Tito 1, M. Kirkland 4, H. Kirkland 4, Jeff Brown 1, Pletsch 1, Burke 3, Jones 1, Cope 3, Whitney 3, MacDonald 1, M. Emory 1, Ed Martin 1, Trey Martin 1, W. Merritt 2.

Let me know if I left you out of the volunteer list:

Bill Boudman

PATH

Trail Supervisor

March 2011 Hike Report

We had a cold overcast day for our Plaster Bank Turnpike - Crawfish Valley hike but still had an enjoyable outing. The hike started at the VA610 AT crossing and followed VA610 for short road walk passing the Tilson Farmstead site, Tilson Cemetery and Dewey Tilson house before accessing the turnpike. Steve did an excellent job of 'storytelling' as we moved along the route. The climb up the turnpike was interspersed with history and the hopes of catching a view of Chestnut Ridge from several of the potential overlook areas but the 'smoke' on the mountains did not allow much of a view. Upon arriving at Tilson Gap, we had a small group opt to shorten the hike by returning North off Walker Mountain on the AT. The rest of the group descended into Crawfish Valley stopping for lunch along Reed Creek. The return trip North over Walker Mountain to VA610 was interspersed with some 'tall tales' and enjoyable conversation. We had 11 participants including 2 canine companions (PATH Members: Diana Billips and Maddie, Steve Yonts and Dalton, Trudy Whitney, Marcia Cope, Tammie Lowry, Donalee White, Chris Allison GUESTS: Dick and Judy Moose, Kevin Sharp, Stephanie Wright)

Hike Photos: www.path-at.org/gallery/Path-Photos-2011

Mark your calendars and don't miss a hike!!! Upcoming hikes www.path-at.org

Thanks

Diana Billips

PATH Hike Coordinator