

Using the Schedule

Hikes in the schedule are graded according to difficulty using the table below. Consult the hike leader for a more specific appraisal.

E	Easy hike, 2-5 miles. Expect good trails, often old roads
EM	Easy to Moderate, 3-6 miles. Expect steeper trails and more hills
M	Moderate, 5-8 miles. Trails may be difficult walking in places
MS	Moderate to Strenuous. Expect longer hikes with more climbing, perhaps bushwacking
S	Strenuous. Expect long hikes and hill climbing with large elevation gains, bushwacking

Other standard acronym's used in the hike descriptions are:

HD	Hiking Distance
DD	Driving Distance
MRT	Miles Round Trip

NBATC Response to COVID-19

Please Do Not Join a NBATC Hike If You -or- Anyone in your Household -or- Someone You Recently Met has any Covid-19 Symptoms. Carpools are allowed if you have been fully vaccinated for Covid-19 and have met your waiting period (with the following Restrictions): Wear a face mask, do not use the middle seat, use full car ventilation. Hiking groups are limited to 10 participants. Maintain 6-foot distance between hikers in your group and/or when passing other hikers on the trail. Face masks may be needed in larger group situations when maintaining 6-foot distance is not possible.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY

There are certain risks that are inherent in any hike or other club activity. These include, but are not limited to, weather conditions, trail conditions, ticks, wildlife, plant and insect allergens, etc. Each NBATC member, guest, or non-member agrees to accept responsibility for his or her own safety. Adults who are accompanied by minors agree to accept responsibility for those minors. Hike leaders are responsible for hike organization, reasonable instruction and guidance, and proper documentation. Hike participants are responsible for following this reasonable guidance and instruction. By signing the hike sign-up form, each hike participant is affirming that he/she has read and understands these responsibilities.

Before You Go

If you are planning to go on a hike, please call the hike leader at least the evening before the hike. That's not only a courtesy to the hike leader, but also an aid to planning transportation to the trail head. Hiking in each season can require very different types and amounts of equipment, but food, water, and layered clothing are a minimum. If you have any doubt contact the hike leader for more information.

NBATC Hike Meeting Places

Madison Height Goodwill – Next to Lowe’s at the River James Shopping Center on Business-29. Park in the very front, close to the access road.

Boonsboro Shopping Center – On Boonsboro Road. Meet on the Starbucks side of the shopping center.

Buena Vista Food Lion – On US 60 west of downtown Buena Vista. Meet on the side of the parking lot adjacent to US 60.

Lynchburg Kohl’s – Off Wards Road, just before the US 460. Park in front, far from the store.

Forest Square Shopping Center – On Rt 221 in Forest. Meet near the Kroger Gas Pumps.

Waterlick Plaza – On Timberlake Road (Rt 460 Business). Meet near Wells Fargo Bank.

Other Hiking opportunities

Wednesday Work Hikes - We have work hikes almost every Wednesday. If you are interested in a trail work during the week, contact Eric Anderson at 540-721-1994 (eric.anderson.sml@gmail.com) or Trudy Phillips at 434-384-4870 (trudyephillips@gmail.com).

Thursday Hikes - For easy-to-moderate hikes, contact Coby Pieterman 540-586-8464. For moderate-to-strenuous hikes, contact Patricia Held at 540-586-1051 (oldenacres@gmail.com).

Various Weekdays - For more strenuous hikes, call Bret Boman at 434-841-0554 to hike with the Summit Seekers.

Saturday Work Hikes - We have work hikes almost every Saturday. If you are interested, call Jason Hammer at 434-401-4204 for the meeting place and time.

Apr 2022

Fri Apr 01 Hike #6438(M)
Early April Maintenance Hikes- Spring A.T.
Walk-Through HD:TBD
Leaders:Jason Hammer, 434-401-4204; Trudy Phillips, trudyephillips@gmail.com
TBD Contact hike leader - See Section Leaders -
<http://www.nbatc.org/maintenance.htm>
(Local)

There is a lot of work needed to make sure our whole 90+ miles of Appalachian Trail is ready for spring traffic. A.T. section maintainers should walk through their sections sometime during early April. Other members who would like to do trail maintenance should call Jason Hammer (434-401-4204) or Trudy Phillips (434-384-4870) to participate in a Wednesday or Saturday Work Hike. Also, you can call the maintainer of one of your favorite NBATC sections to help him or her get the trail ready for the A.T. thru-hikers.

Sat Apr 02 Hike #6439(M)
Sheppe Pond/John's Hollow Loop HD:6 / 7
Leader:Kathy Fraley, 434-509-6949
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
Could meet other hikers at the Foot Bridge
about 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, share cost)

Our hike will start at the Foot Bridge and follow the A.T. along beautiful Rocky Row Run, before taking a spur trail to Sheppe Pond. After viewing the pond, we will continue on the blue blaze trail, taking us near John's Hollow Shelter. The blue blaze trail will climb from the shelter, intersecting with the A.T., on our way back to the Foot Bridge. We might add to our adventure by bushwhacking a bit to see a small waterfall if there has been sufficient rain. Please call Kathy to reserve your place on her hike.

Sun Apr 03 Hike #6440(S)
(88 Miler) Floyd Field to Jennings Creek on the A.T. HD:9

Leader:Edward D. Wayland, 434-249-2870
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
Meet other hikers at the Peaks Ranger
Station about 8:30 AM (DD:75 MRT, \$4)

This up and down hike will rise 1200' and descend 2500' on a beautiful portion of the A.T. We will see two shelters which our club maintains. After enjoying lunch near a creek at the impressive 2-story, Bryant Ridge Shelter, we'll continue our hike to the Jennings Creek trailhead. Key Exchange Hike. Important hike for club members working on their 88-miler patch. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sat Apr 09 Hike #6441(MS)
Exploring East of the Parkway near Apple
Orchard Mountain HD:8
Leader:Eric Anderson, 540-721-1994
8:30 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
form carpool, meet hike leader at Sunset
Field Overlook about 9:15 AM (DD:75 MRT,
\$3)

We will start at Sunset Field and go across the road to explore the east side. We will soon join the Glenwood Horse Trail and follow it for a ways. We will then cut through on an old road bed to reach the fire road on White Oak Ridge, which will take us to the Parkway across from the entrance to the radar dome. We will get onto the A.T. and hike over Apple Orchard Mountain to return to Sunset Field.

Sun Apr 10 Hike #6442(S)
North Creek Basin HD:8
Leader:Larry Austin, 540-491-3184
8:15 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
Meet Larry at Peaks Visitor Center at 8:45
AM, Carpool to Sunset Field (DD:60 MRT,
\$3)

This hike will start on the White Tail Trail near the North Creek Campground. We will hike about one mile on this trail then veer off onto a gated forest service road. We will follow several forest service roads until we intersect a portion of the former Apple Orchard Falls Trail. We will take this old trail and Forest Service Road 59 back to our vehicles. Note: We will ford North Creek once so be prepared for the event. Please TEXT Larry to Join his hike.

Sat Apr 16 Hike #6443(S)
Chestnut Mountain Lollipop HD:9
Leader:Larry Austin, 540-491-3184
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
Arrive Peaks Visitor Center about 8:30 AM
and carpool to the trailhead (DD:80 MRT,
\$4)

Our hike starts on the Glenwood Horse Trail (GHT) off Jennings Creek Road. GHT will climb Chestnut Mt. for about 3-miles before it flattens out on top. We will continue until we take an old trail over a ridge and pass through a couple of game fields. Then we will descend off the ridge on an old road to a gap where FSR 3101 meets the GHT. We will take the GHT south down to the headwaters of Fallingwater Creek where there should be an incredible display of False Hellebore. Expect Beautiful Mountain and pond views.

Sat Apr 23 Hike #6444(VS)
(88 Miler) Crabtree Falls, Spy Rock, Wolf
Rocks, Salt Log Gap HD:15
Leader:Jim Grondin, 540-425-5588
7:30 AM @ Madison Heights Goodwill
(DD:80 MRT, \$4)

We will start by hiking up the fairly steep Crabtree Falls Trail next to the cascades and follow a hanging valley along Crabtree Creek to Crabtree Meadows Road and its junction with the A.T. We will hike south on the A.T. to Spy Rock and scramble to the top to enjoy a snack and the 360 degree view. Then continue south on the A.T., passing the shelter and N. Branch of the Piney River before enjoying another snack with a view from Wolf Rocks. Then we will continue south on the A.T. until we end our hike at Salt Log Gap.

Sun Apr 24 Hike #6445(M)
Springtime on Flat Top Mountain (Parkway
to the Picnic Area) HD:5
Leader:Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843
8:30 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center
(DD:50 MRT, \$3)

We will begin the hike from the Parkway Trailhead, rising up 1600' to the Flat Top summit at 4001' elevation and enjoy the fantastic views from the rock outcroppings. After enjoying the view and a snack we will hike down the mountain to the picnic area. The trail has many rock formations and changing forest ecology. PLUS, we will be taking our time to enjoy a variety of springtime wild flowers along the trail. Please call the hike leader to join the hike.

Sat Apr 30 Hike #6446(M)
Falling Creek Park, Bedford County HD:7
Leader:Coby Pieterman, 540-586-8464
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
form carpool, meet other hikers at park
entrance at 8:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)
Come along and enjoy this lovely park in Bedford County. This park has lots of trails, leading us alongside a pond, through woods and along a creek. Falling Creek Park...1257 County Farm Road, Bedford. Please contact the hike leader for directions; to let him know you are joining the hike; and where you will meet the group. This hike will be limited to 5 hikers.

Sat Apr 30 Hike #6447(S)
(88 Miler) Crabtree Falls and The Priest
HD:10
Leader:Edward D. Wayland, 434-249-2870
7:30 AM @ Madison Heights Goodwill -
Carpool to The Priest trailhead on Route 56,
arrive about 8:15 AM (DD:80 MRT, \$4)

We will start by hiking up the fairly steep Crabtree Falls Trail, next to the cascading falls. Then we will follow along Crabtree Creek to Crabtree Meadows Road and its junction with the A.T. We'll head north on the A.T., climbing 700 feet to the top of The Priest. After enjoying lunch and the spectacular view of Pinnacle Ridge from a rock outcropping, we will start our 3,000 foot decent to the trailhead on Route 56. NOTE: Wilderness Hike...Limited to 10 hikers. Please call Eddie to reserve your place on the hike.

May 2022

Sun May 01 Hike #6448(EM)
(88 Miler) Trillium Hike - Thunder Ridge to
Petites Gap on the A.T. HD:4
Leader:Larry Scott, 434-525-7126
1:00 PM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
Meet Larry and leave car at Petites Gap at
1:35, arrive at Thunder Ridge 1:45 (DD:50
MRT, \$3)

This will be an easy paced walk on the A.T. from the Parkway at Thunder Ridge Overlook (Mile Marker 74.7) to Petites Gap (Mile Marker 71). Along the way we will look for spring wildflowers, including trillium. Come out and enjoy the spring wildflowers.

Sat May 07 Hike #6449(S)

Hoop Hole Trail...Combo Hike HD:10

Leader:Eric Anderson, 540-721-1994

8:30 AM @ Peaks of Otter Visitor Center -

Can meet others in Buchanan at Lowe St

8:55 AM (DD:150 MRT, share cost)

The Hoop Hole Trail is off Craig Creek Road west of Eagle Rock. The 3.8-mile lower loop has rhododendron groves, rock cliffs and 15-water crossings. The upper loop is 5.9-miles with both hardwood forests and rhododendron/mountain laurel groves. Our hike starts at 1300-feet, climbing to 2000-feet at the junction between the two loops, and reaches a high point of 3350-feet. Hiking sticks and Croc's or water shoes are highly recommended if the streams are running high. We can also offer a 2nd hike option on just the lower loop.

Sun May 08 Hike #6450(EM)

Mother's Day Lady's Slippers Hike on Cove Mountain HD:4

Leader:Nora Cox, jimandnor3@gmail.com

9:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -

Meet other hikers at Peaks Visitor Center at 9:30, then carpool to trailhead (DD:70 MRT, \$4)

This spring wildflower hike is an NBATC Mother's Day tradition. Come and count the lady's slippers on Cove Mountain. In some past years, we have found dozens of them on this beautiful section of the A.T. Please contact the hike leader to join her hike and to give her your Emergency Contact Information.

Sat May 14 Hike #6451(MS)

Reservoir Hollow Trail HD:7

Leader:Coby Pieterman, 540-586-8464

8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -

Carpool to Foot Bridge to meet Coby then drive to the trailhead 8:30 AM (DD:65 MRT, \$4)

The hike will begin in Buena Vista. We will encounter 6 creek crossings (each way) and be climbing a long hill up to the Blue Ridge Parkway. There are lots of trees to enjoy and some great open (winter) views. A picnic table awaits us for lunch when we arrive at Indian Gap, on the Parkway. After lunch we will travel back down the trail to our cars. Recommend you bring hiking sticks for the creek crossings. This hike will be limited to 5-hikers. Carpool Fees:\$4 Boonsboro to Buena Vista / \$2 from Foot Bridge to Buena Vista.

Sun May 15 Hike #6452(M)

(88 Miler) Bearwallow Gap to Jennings

Creek HD:7

Leader:Mary Beth Nickolich,

8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -

Meet Mary Beth at Peaks Visitor Center at

8:30, then carpool to the trailhead (DD:75 MRT, \$4)

This hike will start at Bearwallow Gap, climb 500-feet in the first mile, then mostly descend for the next 6 miles to Jennings Creek. There should be a variety of spring wildflowers along the trail and fantastic mountain & valley views. The hike is important to members working on their 88 miler patch. We will do a key exchange if enough hikers participate. Call Mary Beth at (252-514-3580) to Join her hike.

Sat May 21 Hike #6453(M)

(88 Miler) Black Horse Gap to Bearwallow Gap HD:9

Leader:Roger Park, 434-228-5036

8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -

Carpool to Peaks Visitor Center then Black Horse Gap (MP 97.7) (DD:70 MRT, \$4)

This hike is on the southernmost part of our club's maintained section of the A.T. The trail parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway and has lovely overlook views. We will be stopping at Bobblets Gap for for a snack before continuing to Bearwallow Gap. Please Call or TEXT Roger in advance to (1) join his hike (2) let him know where you will meet the group (3) Give him your Emergency Contact Information. This could be a key exchange hike.

Sun May 22 Hike #6454(M)

Old Hotel Trail / Cold Mountain Loop HD:7

Leader:Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843

8:00 AM @ Madison Heights Goodwill -

could meet other hikers at the Rt. 60, Long Mountain Wayside about 8:45 (DD:70 MRT, \$4)

We could see some lady's slippers on this great loop hike starting at the Mt. Pleasant parking lot. We will take the Old Hotel Trail to the Cow Camp Gap Shelter, then continue on the blue blazed trail to the A.T. We'll hike north on the A.T., as we climb to the top of Cold Mountain where we will take time to enjoy the fantastic 360 degree views. Then we will hike down to Hog Camp Gap and take the forest road back to our cars.

Sat May 28 Hike #6455(M)
(88 Miler) Floyd Field to Sunset Field and Return HD:6
Leader:Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Carpool to Peaks Visitor Center at 8:30, then Floyd Field about 8:50 (DD:60 MRT, \$3)

We will hike north on the A.T. from Floyd Field (Mile Marker 80.5) until we reach the turn-around point at Apple Orchard Falls Trail then hike back to Floyd Field. This is a beautiful hike with many rhododendron tunnels, moss covered boulder fields, springs and interesting trail features. On our way back to Floyd Field, we will enjoy lunch with a view at Black Rock overlook. Please call the hike leader to reserve your place on the hike.

Sun May 29 Hike #6456(MS)
Sprouts Run/Wilson Mountain Loop Hike HD:8

Leaders:Bret Boman, 434-841-0554; Lisa Boman, 434-941-5218
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Carpool to Peaks Visitor Center, arrive 8:30 then carpool to trailhead (DD:80 MRT, \$4)

This loop hike in Jefferson National Forest south of Cave Mountain Lake involves multiple stream crossings through a very pretty valley and adds some great views as we climb Wilson Mountain, before hiking back to the trailhead. Highly recommend water shoes (boots) and hiking sticks if the stream is running high. Contact the hike leaders to join their hike and tell them where you will meet the group.

Jun 2022

Sat Jun 04 Hike #6457(S)
(88 Miler) Long Mountain Wayside to Salt Log Gap HD:9
Leader:Jim Grondin, 540-425-5588
7:30 AM @ Madison Heights Goodwill - form carpool and meet leader at Long Mountain Wayside at 8:15 AM (DD:65 MRT, \$4)

This A.T. hike starts at Long Mountain Wayside, climbs 2000' to the top of Bald Knob, descends to Cow Camp Gap, then climbs 500' to the top of Cold Mountain. After enjoying lunch with a 360 degree spectacular view, we will descend to Hog Camp Gap, hike over Tar Jacket Ridge then descend to Salt Log Gap. Key Exchange Hike.

Sun Jun 05 Hike #6458(EM)
Percival's Island HD:3 / 6
Leader:Larry Scott, 434-525-7126
1:30 PM @ Percival's Island Parking Lot (Local)

We will walk from the Percival's Island parking lot to the end of the trail on the Amherst side and back. It is all blacktop, level, with various views of the James River. If you don't want to walk the full 6 miles you can turn around at any time. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Please call the hike leader to join the hike.

Sat Jun 11 Hike #6459(E)
Adopt-a-Highway HD:3
Leader:Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - Arrive about 8:30 AM at the pull-off between the 501 Bridge and Foot Bridge (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

NBATC cleans up litter along a section of US 501 and VA 130 near the A.T. crossing at the Foot Bridge. Please come out and help keep our area free of litter and earn some maintenance hours, too! Please call Herb to sign up for his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jun 12 Hike #6460(S)
(88 Miler) Foot Bridge to Saddle Gap to Hercules Road HD:10
Leaders:Bret Boman, 434-841-0554; Lisa Boman, 434-941-5218
8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - Carpool to Foot Bridge...arriving about 8:35 (DD:45 MRT, \$3)

We will start at the Foot Bridge and hike north on the A.T. along side Rocky Row Run, climb to Fullers Rocks and Big Rocky Row (2300' elevation gain). Then take the blue slash trail to Hercules Road after reaching Saddle Gap. Please call the hike leaders to join their hike and to let them know where you will meet the group.

Sat Jun 18 Hike #6461(M)

Holliday Lake State Park HD:7

Leader:T. C. Harvey, 434-352-8763

9:00 AM @ Lynchburg Kohl's - Meet T.C. about 9:30, at the Appomattox Kroger on Hwy 460, behind the gas pumps (DD:45 MRT, \$3)

Come out and enjoy this gentle forest trail circling the lake through enjoyable rolling hills and scenery. We will cross over the rock dam walkway and enjoy looking at the lake from wooden piers built into the lake. The creek crossing may require hiking sticks and water shoes if it is running high. Please call the hike leader to join the hike and let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jun 19 Hike #6462(M)

(88 Miler) Sunset Field to Thunder Ridge

O/L HD:5

Leader:Wally Blair

8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Meet other hikers at Peaks Visitor Center at 8:30 before driving to trailhead (DD:80 MRT, \$3)

We will start the hike from Sunset Field (Mile Marker 78.4) and go north on the A.T. We will climb to the top of Apple Orchard Mountain to view the radar station and surrounding mountains. Then we will follow the trail as it descends on some large rocks and goes under The Guillotine. We will take time to enjoy a snack at Thunder Hill Shelter, before we continue our hike to Thunder Ridge O/L for some amazing mountain and valley views. Call Wally (434-426-1554) to join his hike.

Sat Jun 25 Hike #6463(M)

Peavine Lake to the Foot Bridge HD:6

Leader:T. Upshur, 434-610-8808

8:30 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - or meet the hike leaders at the Foot Bridge parking area about 9 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

Starting at the camping area along Hercules Road, we'll hike trails and an old forest road to Peavine Lake wildlife area. The return route will be by way of Forest Service road 36E, a short section of the old A.T., and a section of the current A.T. along beautiful Rocky Row Run. Please call the hike leader to join the hike and let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jun 26 Hike #6464(M)

Otter Creek Trail: Locks, Creek and Tree Trail HD:7

Leader:Mary Beth Nickolich,

8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - Carpool to meet the hike leader at the James River Visitor Center at 8:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

Mary Beth will take you on this hike which will include crossing the James River on a foot bridge to view a canal lock from the days of the pre-railroad Kanawa Canal. We will also explore the Tree Trail, then enter Otter Creek Trail following Otter Creek past large rock formations, an old homestead, under the Blue Ridge Parkway and by a CCC constructed rock dam. A hiking stick recommended for creek crossings (and water shoes if the creek is running high). Call Mary Beth (252-514-3580) to join her hike.

Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club
P.O. Box 3012
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NBATC is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, an affiliate of member of the American Hiking Society, and a maintainer of the A.T. from the Tye River to Black Horse Gap.

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