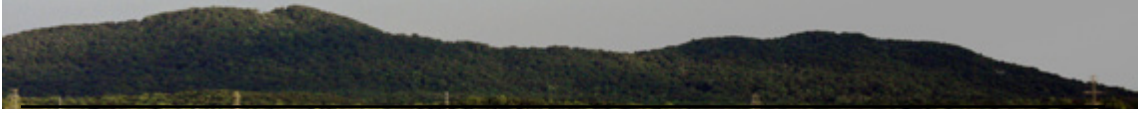




EARTHWORKS



Volume 12, Issue 12

December, 2018

November Work Day Cancelled

Digging in the dirt is fun, digging in mud - not so much!

Because of the amount of rain we received during the week prior to the November work day, we decided to cancel it. Working with mud on the trails is a very time consuming and frustrating task, not to mention very dirty. We did get an Eagle Scout Project completed that weekend that didn't require playing in the dirt. To show how saturated the soil was, the following weekend, on November 17th, we had several more Eagle projects completed. However one of them, at the parking lot at Burnt Hickory and Old Mountain Rd, suffered from the rain we had the previous week. The water table in the area was still less than 1 foot below the surface. This project required the digging of post holes approximately 18 inches deep. As each post hole was dug, it promptly filled with 6 - 8 inches of water. This caused a lot of frustration, as each post hole had to be filled with crush instead of the dirt that was dug out of



the hole - mud is not easy to work with - it couldn't be used to set the posts - it just flowed. (We had approximately 7 inches of rain between November 1st and November 14th.) So, for December, we'll attempt to get the November projects completed.

Fred Feltmann

Crew Leader Training Classes

The Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club will begin 2019 with two class offerings to enhance the knowledge and leadership skills of our volunteers on the trails.

On **Saturday, January 5th**, from 9 am - 4 pm, the trail club will hold a Trails Skills Workshop in the education room of the KEMO Visitor Center. All

crew leaders, prospective crew leaders, Trail Ambassadors, staff and any KMTC volunteer who would like to learn more about sustainable trail maintenance are invited to attend. The workshop will be led by Jay Dement. Jay has years of trail maintenance experience, is a long-time KMTC volunteer and is currently the President of the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club. Some of the workshop topics will include safety on the trails, water diversion techniques, and sustainable trail maintenance. The class will spend a few hours inside looking at examples of good trail work, then get out in the woods for a short project. Please email the KMTC volunteer coordinator at pocus6311@yahoo.com to register. You will be sent a confirm email with further instructions for the class.

On **Saturday, March 2nd**, from 9 am - 12 pm, the trail club will hold a crew leader orientation class in the education room of the KEMO Visitor Center. All current crew leaders, prospective crew leaders, and any KMTC volunteer interested in becoming a crew leader is invited to attend. The orientation will be led by KMTC co-founder and crew leader Jerry Given. Participants will spend time talking about the expectations of a crew leader, proper crew management, as well as, what the park expectations are for a crew leader. Please email the KMTC volunteer coordinator at pocus6311@yahoo.com to register. You will be sent a confirm email with further instructions for the class.

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12/8/18 Work Day Plan

Registration for this month's work day will be at the Old Highway 41 Parking Lot. Volunteers should then proceed to the amphitheater near the Visitor Center. Plans include working on the Main Trail and the 24-Gun Trail this month. We will also be working on eradication of invasive plants and removal of/repairing fencing in selected areas.

Bill Gurry

A Special Thanks!

Each year we have various groups who come out and help us. Henceforth, we will make every attempt to list your group here for the current/past fiscal year. If you are participating as a group, be sure to let us know when you are registering!

Following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the groups who participated during Fiscal 2018 (October 2017-September 2018 and Fiscal 2018 (October 2018- Present):

FY 2018

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
ALLATOONA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR SOCIETY
ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
BETA ALPHA PSI FROM KSU
BSA TROOP 75
BSA TROOP 17, ARAGON, GA
BSA TROOP 1011
CAMPBELL HS
HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS NJROTC
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS KEY CLUB
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS AP MAGNET ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CLASS
KSU
KSU BETA ALPHA PSI
KSU PHI SIGMA PI
PACK 405, McEACHERN UMC
PHI SIGMA PI FROM KSU
POPE HS HONOR SOCIETY
POPE HS SCIENCE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
SERVICE DAY - KSU
SWINERTON CARE CREW
U.S. ARMY TRAINING CLASS
VENTURE CREW 540
VOLUNTEER KSU
WALKER SCHOOL
WOODSTOCK HS NJROTC

FY 2019

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
BSA TROOP 797
BSA PACK 204, MARIETTA

HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS NJROTC
KSU BETA ALPHA PSI
MT PARAN CHURCH
WOODSTOCK HS NJROTC
BETA ALPHA PSI - KSU
VOLUNTEER KSU
FLIGHTWORKS

The November Work Day was cancelled because of weather. We did have 5 Boy Scout Troops complete Eagle Scout Projects this month.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 700
BOY SCOUT TROOP 277
BOY SCOUT TROOP 200
BOY SCOUT TROOP 545
BOY SCOUT TROOP 287



12/8/18 Work Day Plan

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Trail Ambassador

Highlights - November 2018

Trail Ambassadors have been busy since the start of FY19. In addition to those doing daily safety patrols, Trail Ambassadors supported 2 field trips, 1 day of artillery demonstrations, 1 day of infantry demonstrations, a ranger led hike, the kid card craft event, the Marietta mentoring for leadership and the October second Saturday work day. The November work day was cancelled due to inclement weather. Many thanks to all those who supported these events. The next call for volunteers will be for the December work day.

The park received several grants for school field trips. School events typically

start in March and run through the early part of May then resume in August and run through early November. I send out information on these events as soon as the park staff requests volunteer support.

Just a reminder, for our Trail Ambassador volunteers, there are short sleeved Trail Ambassador T-shirts available for the hot weather trail patrols. When you pick up a T-shirt you will receive a KMTC patch. While the patch is an iron on patch I strongly suggest tacking down the patch. Also suggest you wash the shirt before ironing on the patch.

The holiday season for many of us starts with Thanksgiving and ends sometime after New Years. The holidays are very busy times and can be quite stress filled. Take care of yourself! I hope you are able to spend time with those you love and greet the New Year renewed, refreshed and ready for a busy volunteer season.

Janie Brier

Trail Ambassador Director

Photo, front page, by Fred Feltmann.

Post hole immediately filled up with water, upon being dug.

"Earthworks" is published monthly by the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

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Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!



2018 Fund Raising

Your volunteer hours help greatly for the many projects we do in the park and we greatly appreciate you contributing your “sweat equity” alongside our 40+ staff volunteers who routinely support each event. We are a non-profit all volunteer organization. However, like any business, we do have bills to pay.

Many of our projects are funded by the park or through grants we apply for. These funds are typically targeted for specific projects and do cover the big expenses such as rocks, stone dust, dirt, wood beams, bridges, fences, and such. But, after all the big stuff is paid for, we still have need to cover our day-to-day operating expenses for things like saw blade sharpening, fuel, tool repairs, equipment maintenance, work gloves, bug spray, drinking water, snacks, and porta-potties. For these expenses, we rely on your donations.

Each year we kick off a new round of fund raising and this is the 2018 big “ask”. We need your help with this, even small donations help.

As we approach our 16th year in operation, we ask you to please think ‘15’, like \$15.. \$30.. \$45..... \$150... \$1500. All donations to the Trail Club support our work at the park, and are tax deductible.

We are a nationally recognized club - having been presented the highest award in the National Park Service in 2014, “The Hartzog Award for Volunteer Group.”. There are several ways to donate:

- Use Guidestar on the bottom of our home page on the Trail Club website <http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>
- Subscribe to Amazon “Smile” where they will donate to us based on your purchases
- Send a tax deductible contribution to:

Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club*
Attn: Tom Okerberg
Whitlock Accounting Services
739 Kennesaw Avenue NW
Marietta, Ga. 30060

ALSO: Please check with employers about matching donations.

* Corporate name is KEMO Trail Corps, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization.



Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
December, 2018			
12/8	8:00 am - 12 pm	Amphitheater near Visitor Center	Trail Work Day
January, 2019			
1/5	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Education Rm, Visitor Center	Trail Skills Workshop
1/12	8:00 am - 12 pm	TBD	Trail Work Day
February, 2019			
2/9	8:00 am - 12 pm	TBD	Trail Work Day

Be sure to look over the September Activities listed on pages 10 and 11 that are being presented by the National Park Service at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park during the month of November.

Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at [http://](http://signup.com/go/VvavYQj)

<http://signup.com/go/VvavYQj>. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

Our trail work days are open to the public on the 2nd Saturday of each month and are a wonderful way to get outside & enjoy nature while helping preserve the national park for future visitors. Registration will open at 8:00 am at the new parking lot, .2 miles north of the Visitor Center on Old 41 and usually are finished by 12:00 p.m. It takes approximately 5 minutes to walk to the picnic area near the Visitor Center - please arrive there by 8:30 am. Activities usually include the use of shovels, rakes, picks, and other tools to fix erosion problems on the 20+ mile trail system. Please do not wear open-toed shoes. Long pants are recommended.

As winter months approach, weather conditions can change quickly. We value our volunteers' health, comfort and safety so to promote safer work conditions, we'll cancel work days if the temperature is below 40 degrees and/or there's a high probability of precipitation. If we must cancel a workday,

we'll post an announcement on the front page of the KMTC website at: www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Trail work can be performed any day of the week.

We work closely with the Park Service and assist the park staff by providing critically needed volunteer effort to install signs, build bridges, and maintain the 20+ miles of trails. Since our beginning in 2002, the Trail Club has donated over 45,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day soon!

Troop 700 Eagle Scout Project

Photos by Fred Feltmann



Troop 277 Eagle Scout Project

Photos by Fred Feltmann



Troop 545 Eagle Scout Project

Photos by Fred Feltmann



Troop 200 Eagle Scout Project

Photos by Fred Feltmann



2018 Brumby Elementary Field Trips

Photos by Cam Graham



Contact List - Updated 11/2/18

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
President	Donald Olds	president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Vice President	Bill Gurry	vp@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Secretary	Robert Brier	secretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Treasurer	Tom Okerberg	treasurer@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Director, Program Planning	Jay Haney	programplanning@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trails Director	Vacant	trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Community Volunteer Director	Rena Bailey	membership@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Communications Director	Fred Feltmann	comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Newsletter Editor	Fred Feltmann	comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Information/Technology Director	Jerry Givan	webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trail Ambassador Director	Janie Brier	ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Plants Director	Danny Leigh	plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Fundraising Director	Scott Mackay	fundraising@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Amazon Smile		https://smile.amazon.com/
Website		http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/
Facebook Page		http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial
Volunteer Sign-up website*		http://signup.com/go/VvavYQj

* updated



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for **DECEMBER**

**All park programming is free and open to the public. No registration required unless noted.
Programs start at Visitor Center except when otherwise specified.

Everyday @ 1:00 pm Ranger Led Museum Tour

December 1 @11:00 am – 11:30 am ‘Commonalities amongst the Common Soldiers of the Union and Confederacy’

This interactive Ranger led program compares and contrasts the lives of Union and Confederate soldiers during the Atlanta Campaign and shows that these American soldiers were not so different.

December 2 @ 11:00 – 11:30 ‘Atlanta Campaign Map Talk’

This 30 minute ranger-led program focuses on the 1864 Atlanta Campaign and how the Union and Confederate forces moved through the north Georgia countryside to the city of Atlanta. This program will also utilize the various interpretive maps and signs within the Visitor Center.

December 8 @ 8:00 am – 12:30 pm ‘Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Work Day’

Volunteers are needed for each work day to help park staff maintain the 20-plus trails of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Parking and registration is at the Overflow Parking Lot on Old Highway 41. The NPS Volunteer Services Agreement is required. A parent must sign the form if the child is under 18 years old. The form and directions to the registration site are available on the club’s website: kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

December 8 @11:00 am – 11:30 am “Civil War Hygiene, Silent but Deadly”

Times were tough for the campaigning soldier in the 1860’s. This 30 minute program focuses on the poor hygiene of the average soldier during the American Civil War and explores how this led to large casualty rates and widespread diseases.

December 9 @ 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm ‘Appalachian Trail Lecture’

Hiker and National Park lover Rachel Poole will present a lecture about her experience thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail. Rachel’s story will highlight the importance of being outdoors, as well as give insight to ways that we can enjoy these places and help preserve them for current and future generations.

December 15 @ 11:00 – 11:30 ‘Civil War Sharpshooters’

With heritage dating back to Europe, the American sharpshooter has been a vital component of every American conflict. This program will discuss the history of the sharpshooter and the role these men played during the Civil War and the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

December 16 @ 11:00 pm – 11:30 pm ‘The Importance of NPS Battlefields’

This 30 minute ranger-led program discusses the importance of preserving historic battlefields and the preservation efforts taken by the National Park Service.

December 16 @ 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm ‘Kids’ Craft Program’

Participants can join volunteers Beth and Daniel Bramlett at the craft table to learn about mammals at Kennesaw Mountain and make a pop-up card. This is a come-and-go activity. While geared toward children/youth, all are invited to participate. We will have a simplified version of the pop-up card for younger participants.

December 22 @ 11:00 am– 11:30 am ‘The Western and Atlantic Railroad’

The Western & Atlantic Railroad would experience many extraordinary events that would not only lead to the development of the city of Atlanta but also major changes to the South and ultimately the nation. This program will discuss the origins of the Western & Atlantic Railroad and the history of the rail line from its creation through the end of the American Civil War.

December 23 @ 11:00 am – 11:30 am ‘A Civil War Christmas’

The holidays are usually a time when we join with our loved ones and reflect on the joys of the prior year and look forward to the promise of a new year. Join Ranger Jake Boling as he discusses how a Civil War soldier would have experienced the holiday in December 1864.

December 29 @ 11:00 am - 11:30 am ‘Freaky Funky Furs: Animals of Kennesaw Mountain’

Come out and enjoy a Ranger-led program on different animal species found here at Kennesaw Mountain. The program will utilize pelts from different animals found at our park to help teach visitors more about the diverse habitat here and the animals that call the park ‘home’!

December 30 @ 11:00 am – 12:30 pm ‘Guided Mountaintop Hike’

Join us for a ranger hike to the top of Big Kennesaw Mountain. The hike will focus on local and Civil War history, as well some of the ecology of the area. This is an outdoor program, so please prepare accordingly. Length of the hike will be approximately 2 miles, **and will be weather dependent.**

December 31 @ 11:00 – 11:30 ‘Civil War Artillery Talk’

This 30 minute Ranger led program discusses the differences between Civil War artillery pieces and how these differences changed warfare during the American Civil War.

*** Outdoor programs (Living History programs and hikes)
may be cancelled in the occurrence of inclement weather).*

**** For more program details, please contact Visitor Center at
770-427-4686, ext. 0, or visit our website at
www.nps.gov/kemo*

Best Ways to Preserve Nature While Hiking

Hiking is one of the best forms of exercise, not only because of the physical and mental benefits it provides, but you also get to experience some of the natural beauties



that mother nature has to offer. While there's no doubt about all of the benefits that hiking does, there are certain actions that hikers can do that can impact the environment. When you're out hiking, you want you do everything you can to preserve the area, so that it can be enjoyed by all walks of life for years and years to come.

- **Know the Rules of the Park Before Heading Out:** This is important for everyone to do, even if you go hiking every weekend. It's always a good idea to brush up on the rules. You don't want to do anything that you think might be okay, but in fact it's not. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park has rules and regulations in place to help preserve the area around the park and to keep everyone who likes to go there safe. That means that you should only hike during park hours, which right now are from 6:30 AM to 6:30 PM. If you see one of the cannons, do not sit on them. They are originals from the Civil War and if you play around on them it could be dangerous. If you like to bring your dog with you, make sure that they're not a leash longer than 6 feet and that they must be with you at all times. The National Park Service has some more safety tips on [its website](#) if you want to find out more.
- **Don't Approach the Animals:** If you see one of the many animals that inhabit Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, keep your distance and let them be. That goes for anything small like a squirrel or rabbit to something bigger like a fox or a deer. Don't approach them because you risk scaring them if you do. Know that there are some copperhead snakes that inhabit the areas around the battlefield. Stay away because they are poisonous. You'll be able to tell a copperhead by looking at its color. They have hourglass patterns and [brown and tan markings](#) on them.
- **Leave No Trace:** It's obvious, but this really needs to be repeated. If you bring trash with you, like water bottles and snacks, you need to properly dispose of them. If you can't find a trash or recycle can, keep it on you and throw it away when you get home. Don't just leave your trash anywhere. [Littering](#) does so much damage to the environment and it can really hurt the animals too.

Also, make sure to properly dispose of any waste from your dog as well.

- **Stay on the Trails:** Stick to only staying on the hiking trails. By going off the trails, you risk going on slopes which can lead to erosion. By going off the trails you also risk damaging the plants by breaking their roots.
- **Maintain Proper Hiking Etiquette:** As a hiker, you want to make sure that you are being respectful to all the types of people who are enjoying the park. Make sure to yield to any passing bikers or people on horses. If you're hiking with a group, don't take up the width of the trail. Do not disturb the relics from the Civil War that are around the park. If you bring your cell phone, either turn it off or put it on silent mode. That way you can enjoy the sounds of nature.

Just by taking small measures like the steps above can go a long way into helping preserve nature while hiking. Just remember to maintain a high level of respect for the area the next time you're out hiking Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. When you do, you'll be setting a great example for the other people to do so too.

This article was provided by www.personalinjury-law.com, an organization dedicated to providing the public with information about personal injury and safety information. Nothing in this article should be construed as legal advice, and it is intended for informational use only.

Troop 287 Eagle Scout Project



Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!

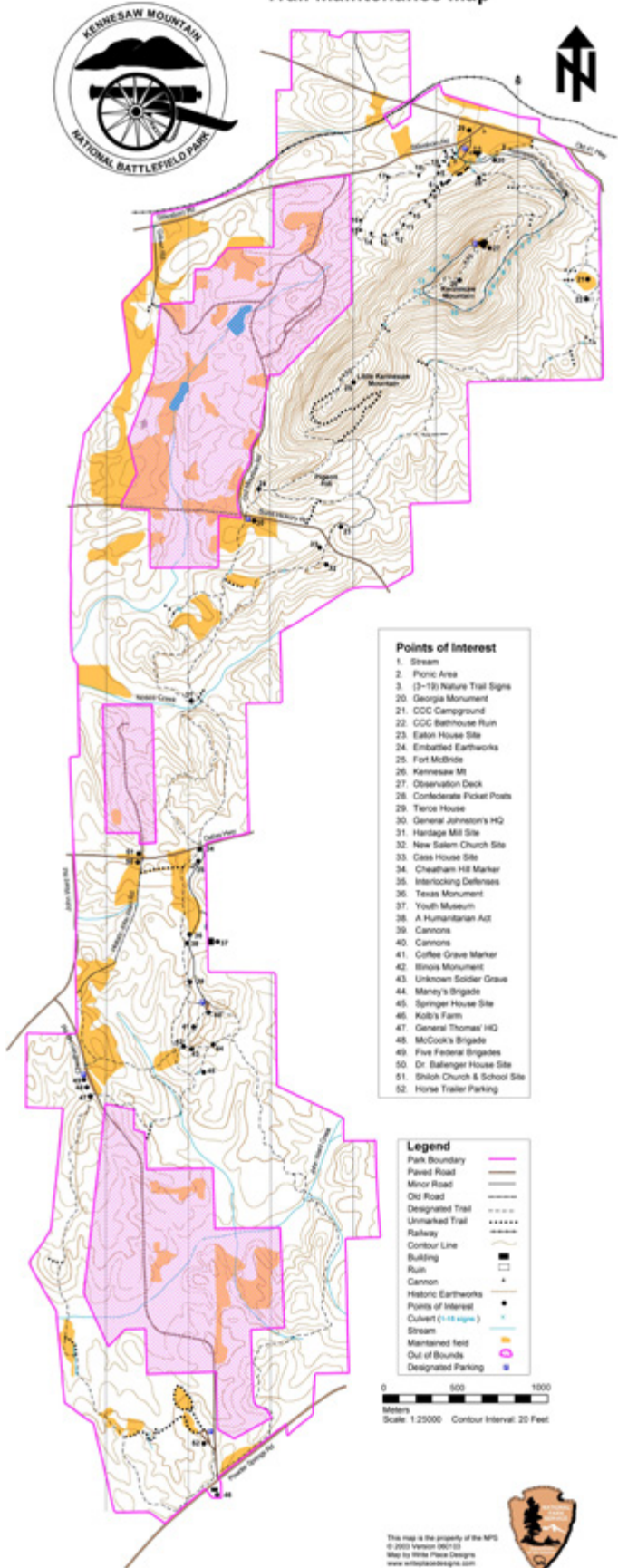


<http://americanhiking.org>



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map



January Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the January Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than December 18th!