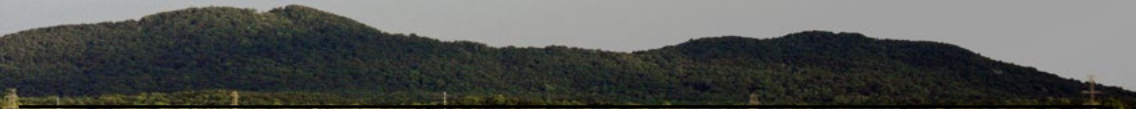




EARTHWORKS



Volume 14, Issue 1

January, 2020

Work Day 12/14/19

By Bill Gurry

We had a wet but successful workday on Saturday, 12/14 after 1.8 inches of rain the day before. The work was mostly to do light maintenance work on the trails in the north section of the Park. About 40 or so volunteers joined 1) Eric and Curt to clean out muddy ditches and to “knick” the Brumby Trail to deal with a large new spring that would have iced the trail this winter; 2) Geoff to clean out ditches and drainage features on the Lower Mountain Trail; 3) Donald to repair the drainage at the Picket Line Trail and the Lower Mountain Trail (once he got a crew after Geoff stole his crew – gotta watch that guy); 4) Gayle, Jay, and Mike to take care of drainage maintenance on the Lower Mountain Trail; 5) Jerry, Rich and Kelly to pick up and reorganize fencing materials;

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Thanks, Cobb EMC!

Cobb EMC has provided the Trail Club a grant to improve the Environmental Trail near the Visitor Center, to make it more ADA compliant. Thanks!



Work Day 12/14/19 Continued...

6) Scott and Fred to man the Gator and servicing the work crews; and 7) Bill walking around all over the place. It was nice to have this kind of ratio of crew leaders to volunteers.

And thanks to Geoff and Jay for walking the trails and helping to lay out the work the week before.

I’ve lost my clipboard, so, if I forgot anyone, I apologize. If I can’t find my clipboard, we may never be able to have another workday.

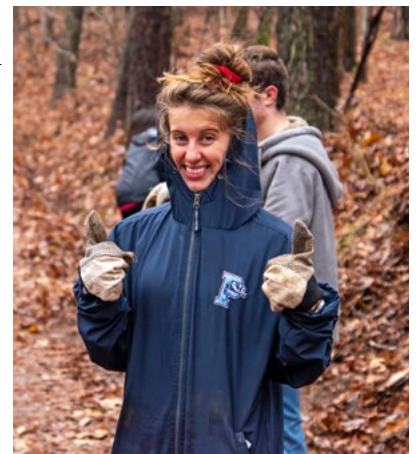
It was also a big day for the Trail Ambassadors who rolled out new registration forms and procedures and handled the workday entrance passes for the first time.

Big thanks to all.

A Happy Work Day Volunteer!

One of our volunteers enjoying the day’s work!

Photo by Fred Feltmann



A Note We Received From One Of Our Donors, Along With Their Check!

Thanks for the wonderful work you & volunteers do on the Kennesaw trails. I hike them a lot and see the great job you do maintaining them!

“Earthworks” is published monthly by the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

Editor: Fred Feltmann
770-516-9120

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

Trail Skills Workshop/Crew Leader Training - January 11, 2020

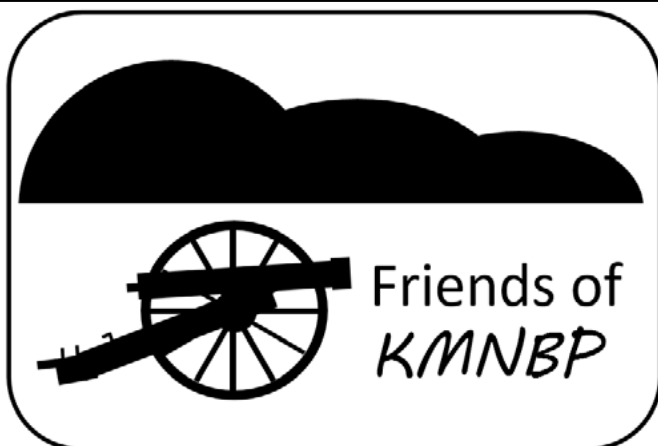
On Saturday January 11, 2020, there will be a Trail Skills Workshop for all Crew Leaders from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm starting in the Education room at the Visitor Center. This program is intended for both new and existing Crew Leaders. Park and club policies and procedures will be covered. A discussion of what being a Crew Leader at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is will also be included.

The thrust of the program is trail building and maintenance techniques. Most of the morning will cover an introduction of these skills and a review of the terms. In the afternoon we will break into groups and go into the field to look at current trail conditions and actually build sustainable dips. Lunch and materials will be provided.

All Crew Leaders and Trail Ambassadors are welcome.

To register go click it on Sign Up at <http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>. Please direct any question to jay@jaydphotos.com.

Jay Dement



The Friends of KMNBP's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Your Membership helps to fund this mission.

Please join us.

Our website is FriendsOfKMNBP.org.

Visit to find out more info, to donate, or to sign up for one of our Board positions or to register as a member of the Friends organization.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Friends of KMNBP is to work in partnership with the National Park Service and the local community to raise annual funding for projects and activities in the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Programs supported: Outdoor Education
KEMO Trail Club
Living History
Trail Ambassadors

Open Positions: Membership Chair
Audio File Transcriber
1-Year Board Members

Contact Scott Mackay for info/details:
box2105@mindspring.com

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 2019 (October 2018- Present):

FY 2019

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 008 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 144 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 200 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 277 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (3 PROJECTS)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 287 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (2 PROJECTS)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 433 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (2 PROJECTS)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 442 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 445 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 540
BOY SCOUT TROOP 540 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (3 PROJECTS)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 545 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (2)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 700 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 797
BOY SCOUT TROOP 797 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT) (2 PROJECTS)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 1011 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
BOY SCOUTS T 8880
BOY SCOUT TROOP 8880 (EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT)
CUB SCOUT PACK 204, MARIETTA
GUMBERLAND SCHOOL
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FLIGHTWORKS
FRIENDS TO THE FORLORN PITBULL RESCUE
GEORGIA TECH
HARRISON HS BETA CLUB
HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB
HARRISON NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS HOPE
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS NJROTC
KSU
KSU BETA ALPHA PSI
MARIETTA HS
MT PARAN CHURCH
PACESSETTER STEEL
SCA
SPRAYBERRY HS HOPE

Thanks!


TRUST

US ARMY

VOLUNTEER KSU

WHEELER HS

WOODSTOCK HS NJROTC

FY 2020

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC

BOY SCOUT TROOP 89

KING'S ACADEMY HS ARMY JROTC

HILLGROVE HS NJROTC

RIVER RIDGE HS ARMY JROTC

TRUST (KSU)

WALKER HS

The following groups participated in our December work days:

POPE HS - NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

RIVER RIDGE HS

ALLATOONA HS JROTC

HILLGROVE HS JROTC

We had 35 volunteers, along with Crew Leaders and Trail Ambassadors who participated in the December Work Day. Thanks, for a job well done!

Wanted: Membership Chair!

"The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is looking for a personable, self-starting, take-charge volunteer to lead their membership team. Contact Scott Mackay at box2105@mindspring.com."



Crew Leaders Wanted

Want to take on the opportunity to make a difference in trail maintenance at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park? See Bill Gurry at our work days, or contact him at trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org. Our next Crew Leader Training class is tentatively scheduled for January 11, 2020.



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Superintendent Nancy Walther Retires

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Superintendent, Nancy Walther, is retiring on December 31, 2019 after almost 28 years of service with the National Park Service. Her last day of an illustrious NPS career is fitting to ring out the year.

Ms. Walther grew up in northern Virginia, and had a love of nature and being outdoors from early on. She graduated with a degree in Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies from George Mason University. Her National Park Service career began in 1992 as a living history interpretive ranger at Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historic Park. After her first season at C & O, Ms. Walther became a supervisor over the interpretive program in the lower district, a heavily visited section of the park. She later became the Volunteer and Partnerships Coordinator and developed an award-winning Hartzog volunteer program for utilizing volunteers to aide in the rebuilding of the park after two devastating floods.

In 2002, Walther moved to the Atlanta area to become Chattahoochee River National Recreation's first Chief of Resource Education, managing the park's interpretation, education, and fee programs. It was there she met her husband, Dan, and it was there she built a name for herself in the Southeast Region as a trailblazer and visionary. Her leadership efforts took the park to a higher level, with the installation of automated fee machines, and grossed \$730,000 in her last year at the park. She served as Acting Superintendent of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in 2008.

In November 2011, Ms. Walther became the first female superintendent of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield. She immediately went to work to make the park's operations

more productive and established Eastern National as the park's cooperating association. In 2013 she was named the "Woman of the Year" by the Cobb Branch American Association of University Women. 2014 saw her effectively lead the park into its sesquicentennial Civil War commemoration, a highly-anticipated and highly visited week-long event. In 2015, she was placed in a four-month Acting Superintendent position at Vicksburg National Military Park where she addressed personnel challenges and community issues.

As superintendent of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, she has been a champion of community efforts – in park trail accessibility projects, in establishing and maintaining partnerships at national, regional, and local levels, in acquiring lands to increase park boundaries which will enhance the park's story, and in building staff size so as to better serve the visitors. She has worked tirelessly to better the park for the future financially, in the establishment of a new fee program, and in the establishment of a fundraising organization to serve the park.

Her retirement plans include spending time with family, traveling abroad and across the country, and enjoying time devoted to her hobbies which include canoeing, biking, hiking, and gardening. Says Ms. Walther, "It's been a wonderful career and I look forward to the next chapter of my life, where ever that may lead".

Happy trails to you, our beloved Superintendent... leader, champion, and friend. You will be missed!

Geoffrey Grosguth Honored by National Park Service



At the recent holiday party of the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club Geoffrey Grosguth was presented with the Silver Award from the National Park Service. Issued through the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, this award recognizes 25 years of service to the trail. As a trail maintainer Geoff was also the Tool Manager for many years.

WINTER

2019/2020 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 80+ 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, along with basic business expenses - e.g. insurance. For these expenses, we rely on your donations.

Each year we kick off a new round of fund raising and this is the 2020 big “ask.” We need your help with this, even small donations help. We will conclude this drive at the end of FY 2020 (September, 2020).

As we approach our 18th year in operation, we ask you to please think ‘20’, like \$20.. \$40.. \$60..... \$200... \$2000. 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 <https://smile.amazon.com/> - look for KEMO Trails Corps
- 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>
January, 2020			
1/11/20	9 am - 4 pm	Visitor Center	Trail Skills Workshop/Crew Leader Training - be sure to sign up, below, for this training session!
February, 2020			
2/8/20	8:30 am - Noon	TBD	Trail Work Day - Register at SignUp, below.
March 14, 2020			
2/8/20	8:30 am - Noon	TBD	Trail Work Day - Register at SignUp, below.

See pages 10 and 11 for additional events scheduled this month by the National Park Service!

Register for Our Work Days!

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

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:

While 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, this January's activity will be limited to the training class described on Page 2 herein. We will be in the Visitor Center at 9 am for the class. The day will be broken up into 2 sessions - the morning session will be classroom work. Weather permitting, the afternoon session will be hands-on outdoors. 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.

Regarding our regular work days during the winter months, 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!

Sometimes It Takes Just a Little More Effort

Recently an acquaintance contacted me to help get an interview set up for a newspaper article. I was asked to coordinate a meeting for the writer. This was actually a case of someone who knows me, knows that I know someone who knows someone to arrange for someone to contact someone so that they'll contact someone. See, just a little more effort.

Well, it turned out that the first several people I contacted asked, why would he want to talk to him; 'he' didn't have any direct information about the 'subject' event. Of course I discounted those remarks and got through to the right person to make the connection.

Thank goodness it happened, the writer got his interview, the article was published, and the man interviewed greatly appreciated the way it was written.

This type of interaction is important to the Trail Club, as there are many Crew Leaders, Trail Ambassadors, a Board of Officers and many Volunteer members. Sometimes one may be asked to contact someone about becoming a key member of the club. Maybe when talking to a friend they say that they wouldn't think that another person would be interested in taking on a supervision task. Probably the person you contacted didn't even think that the person you want to reach out to or have someone else make the contact would even be interested or qualified for the task.

However, persist and make it happen because without asking one will not never get an answer or worse the other person may not be given the opportunity to serve.

It's a New Year, hopefully everyone enjoyed the Holidays. Now is the time to keep the Trail Club a viable organization aiding the park. Be aware of others who you think may join and actively volunteer. Hey, there's a Crew Leader class coming up real soon. Y'all have helped in making and keeping the park a beautiful and safe place; so be sure to notice and reach out to others who will carry on this work. Please take a little extra effort and follow through, the person who was contacted will thank you.

Happy New Year,

Doug Tasse

Past President KMTC

PS: Best wishes to (Now Retired) Park Superintendent Nancy Walther.

So much was done under her leadership; She did good work. I can only hope that she'll keep up with and visit the park, as do I. Enjoy retirement, Nancy!

Thanks,

Doug

Mississippi State Alumni Tour Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

On 12/10/19, a group of 6 alumni from Mississippi State took a tour of the Park led by Cam Graham. They saw the NPS film at the Visitor Center and then visited the Mountain Top Parking Lot to get a perspective of the battle from this vantage point. They then went to Cheatham Hill to get a perspective of the battle from this location. Per their comments, they thoroughly enjoyed the tour.



12/14/19 Work Day Photos

Photos by Fred Feltmann



12/14/19 - Invasive Plant Crew

As part of our 12/14/19 Work Day, Rich Robinson took this small group to do eradication work on our customary enemy - privet. This perennial and persistent plant that we do continual battle with it. (Photos by Rich)

Thanks!



Contact List - Updated 9/24/19

POSITION

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Trails Director
Community Volunteer Director
Communications Director
Newsletter Editor
Information/Technology Director
Trail Ambassador Director
Plants Director
Fundraising Director

NAME

Donald Olds
Robert Willoughby*
Robert Brier
Tom Okerberg
Bill Gurry*
Rena Bailey
Fred Feltmann
Fred Feltmann
Jerry Givan
Janie Brier
Danny Leigh
Scott Mackay

E-MAIL

president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
vp@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
secretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
treasurer@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
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 January**

****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

January 4 @ 11:00 am – 11:30 am ‘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.

January 5 @ 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm ‘Guided Mountain Top Hike’

Join us for a ranger-led 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.

January 11 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm ‘Guided Assault Trail Hike’

Follow in the footsteps of the Union and Confederate soldiers who fought here in that summer of 1864 with this guided hike. A ranger will take you along the Assault Trail, detailing the events of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and Cheatham Hill.

The approximate length of this hike is 1 mile and will be weather dependent.

****This program is not at the Visitor Center; parking is at 902 Cheatham Hill Rd., Marietta (Recreation Area # 3 parking lot)***

January 11 @ 9 am – 4:00 pm ‘Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Crew Leader Training’

For registration information, forms, and location, please visit the club’s website:

www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

January 12 @ 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm ‘Memorial Field Walk’

Join us for a short, ranger-led history walk in our Memorial Field in front of the Visitor Center. This program will consist of an in depth look at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the diversionary attack that happened there.

Please prepare accordingly, as this is an outdoor program.

Program will be weather dependent.

**January 18 @ 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’!

January 19 @ 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm ‘Guided Mountaintop Hike’

Join us for a ranger-led 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.

January 25 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm ‘Guided Environmental Trail Hike’

Come out and enjoy a guided hike on one of our least traveled, but most informative trails. On this 1.3 mile gentle walk, you will see great examples of the varied geography of Kennesaw Mountain, the faint attack at the base of Big Kennesaw Mountain, and much more.

January 26 @ 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm ‘Guided Assault Trail Hike’

Follow in the footsteps of the Union and Confederate soldiers who fought here in that summer of 1864 with this guided hike. A ranger will take you along the Assault Trail, detailing the events of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and Cheatham Hill.

The approximate length of this hike is 1 mile and will be weather dependent.

This program is **not at the Visitor Center; parking is at 902 Cheatham Hill Rd., Marietta (Recreation Area # 3 parking lot)*

*** 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*

Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!



<http://americanhiking.org>



leave no trace
CENTER FOR OUTDOOR ETHICS

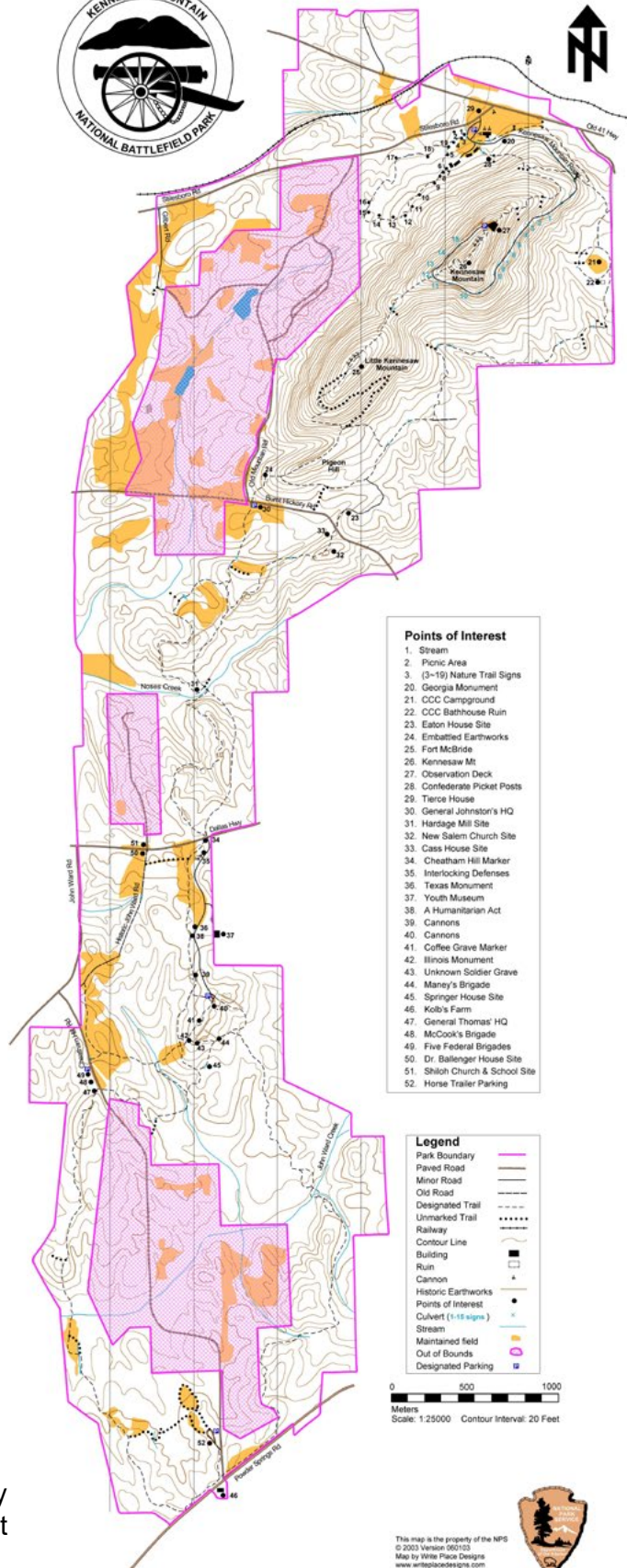


TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map



February Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the February Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than January 20th!