



EARTHWORKS



Volume 5, Issue 5

May, 2011

Noses Creek Bridge Update

The ground work and footings are in place. The bridge was scheduled to be delivered May 5th. Subsequent to delivery it will be set over Noses creek and final set up and concrete poured. It should take about two to three weeks to complete the project.

Summer In The Park - (For Kids Only!)

Looking for something for your child to do during the summer? Go to "<http://www.nps.gov/kemoforkids/index.htm>" day and week-long activities!

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Letter Of Appreciation - Earth Day Event!

All,

I just want to say thank you once again to the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club volunteers that came together and made this a very successful Earth Day/Workday. We have made great progress on the removal of exotic plants, garlic mustard, privet and bamboo. The effort will have to continue for years to control/eradicate those exotic plants. The new amphitheater will bring new and great opportunities for visitors, volunteers and employees for years to come. Once again, thank you so much for your dedication and hard work!

Thomas Sparks

Facility Manager
Kennesaw Mountain NBP
Thomas Sparks
Facility Manager
Kennesaw Mountain
National Battlefield Park

National Trails Day Planning:

We are currently planning to field 8 teams of as many as 20 volunteers each to head out on trails, each with a crew leader, to do an annual inspection, along with pruning and general trail repairs. Every trail in the park will be covered in one day (a first for us). And, if additional volunteers are available, a team will head into the old CCC camp site to remove wisteria vines that are trying to kill the trees there. It should be a fun day.

Car pooling will help greatly as will arriving promptly at 8:30 am. We plan to be done at 12:30 pm. Volunteers should wear long pants, sturdy shoes, work gloves, and a water bottle.

See the flyer later in the newsletter for registration details. We need everyone to register, so that we can refine the size and finalize the number of crews and crew leaders needed to support this event. Hope to see you all here!

Scott Mackay

KMTC Trails Director

Special Thanks To Last Year's National Trails Day Sponsors!

Special Thanks To This Year's National Trails Day Sponsors!

Many of the sponsors listed below have supported the Trail Club for years & some of the sponsors are new partners this year. Either way, these area merchants show they value the natural beauty of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park and the work the Trail Club does every month to preserve the Park.

Please stop by these merchants & give them a big "Thank you!"

REI - door prizes - 2 Day Packs & two \$50 Gift Certificates - 740 Ernest Barrett Pkwy

Big Peach Running Co. - \$50 Gift Certificate & many energy bars to keep us going - 1625 Ridenour Boulevard off Barrett Pkwy

Daily Grind Coffee – free coffee got our morning off to a delicious start! The Shops at Due West on Due West Road

Chik-Fil-A – Free sandwich coupons for all volunteers! - 830 Ernest Barrett Pkwy

Target - 740 Ernest Barrett Pkwy – energy bars for volunteers

Kroger – many area stores – many cases of bottled water

Costco – energy bars for volunteers and a \$25 gift certificate for Club expenses for the National Trails Day Event.



*Picking up Garlic Mustard - Victor Williams
(Photographer)*

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

Editor: Fred Feltmann
770-516-9120

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

FAX: 770-516-9120 (*Call first, so I can turn it on!*)

Interested in Plants?

We seem to have more and more invasive plants popping up around the park. Also, opportunities to perform planting and transplanting have been increasing. If you have a passion for plants and would like to take on a bigger role in KMTC, please contact the Trails Director Scott Mackay. There is need for someone to help map where invasive plants are in the park and to work with the park to compile a list of preferred native plants for replantings. This person (or persons) will also help to monitor recent plantings and collect data on their progress. A passion to do this by using local community resources such as youth groups is a big plus. If you are not already a crew leader, you will be placed high on the list for next Winter's classes.

Like to write (or take pictures of events)?

Please submit your own articles to our newsletter. Let people hear about your favorite hikes in the park, why you volunteer, and what your most rewarding experiences with the trail club have been.

If you would like to take photos of our various events and help document them, let us know as well. We are always interested in getting our volunteers in the newsletter and what better way than while working on the trails? And as you can see in the monthly newsletter, photos are an important aspect of our story. So volunteer if you can! Just contact Fred - see info below.

No July Newsletter

The June Newsletter will serve as the June/July Newsletter this summer. I'll be taking a 17-day trip to Philmont Scout Reservation, followed by a one-week trip to St. Louis to visit with my family. (Someone jokingly suggested I take a laptop on the hike, since I carry "everything" else in my pack - not quite!)

Hiking Guides Needed!

Interested in hiking? We are looking for a volunteer to become our hiking expert and lead groups of all hiking abilities and age groups on hikes about the popular trails. The role includes being able to learn the trails and interesting facts about the history, plants, and wildlife as well as providing tips on how to make hiking more enjoyable. You would need to be able to commit to at least one weekend day per month. If you are interested, please contact Scott Mackay. (kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY MAY 14, 2011

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

We will have several projects going. The largest will be re-grading around the Illinois Monument to correct the erosion that has been occurring on the trails that go past and below the monument. While there we will also clean up the trail going between the monument to the parking lot. Another team will be installing a bridge from the new parking lot on Old 41 to allow visitors to have easy access to the group area field nearby. If there are enough volunteers, we will also fix a section of trail on the Kolb Farm Loop.

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY JUNE 11, 2011 (NATIONAL TRAILS DAY)

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

See page 4 article.

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY JULY 9, 2011

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

TBD

Earth Day Celebration - Kennesaw State University

On Thursday, April 21, Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club was represented at the Earth Day celebration at Kennesaw State University by Crew Leader Doug Tasse and Outreach Director Jay Dement. Our display included a Pulaski and McLeod along with maps and brochures about the club. Trail Maintenance and other park opportunities was discussed to almost 50 students. We hope to see many KSU students at upcoming workdays.



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

May Workday - 5/14/11

June Workday - National Trails Day - 6/11/11

July Workday - 7/9/11

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. We meet at the maintenance buildings up the hill from the Visitor Center at 8:30 a.m. and usually are finished by 1:00 p.m. 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 the summer 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 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 25,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day soon!

Trail Activities - April, 2011

Bamboo

Harry Carpenter & Doug Tasse have been working over and above our norm to remove the bamboo at the south of the park. They are truly showing what being a crew leader and setting up some of their own workdays can accomplish.

The “Bouncy” Bridge over Noses Creek

Ever wonder what became of the bouncy bridge that crossed Noses Creek? (The one that’s being replaced by the NPS.) Look closely at the new stage in our amphitheater and the short section of bridge going from the picnic area. One other piece will soon be used at the new parking lot off old 41.

National Parks Day (4/2/11)

Many of the club’s members showed up to help with National Parks Day. The goal was to carve out and build an amphitheater near the picnic area for use in educational programs. The project came out quite nicely! See the pictures in the April newsletter.

April Work Day (4/09/11)

On our April work day we once again set out after the invasive Garlic Mustard plant that likes to grow around the summit area of Kennesaw Mountain. Five teams of volunteers scattered about the summit to identify and pull first year “rosette” size plants and second year 9” tall flowering plants. In four hours the teams filled a trailer staged at the summit with bags of the plants for disposal.

While the Garlic Mustard pull was going on, a smaller team went south from the newly rebuilt Cheatham Hill Road parking lot to level out the Kolb Farm West Loop trail in a few of the spots where it has been eroding over the past years.

Earth Day (4/23/11)

We conducted our first annual Earth Day event on Saturday, April 23th. We had four projects going simultaneously:

- 1) Level the grade and install seats in the Amphitheater (it can now be used).
- 2) Chip up the privet we stacked a few weeks back across from Cheatham Hill Rd Parking.
- 3) Remove more Garlic Mustard from the Kennesaw Mountain summit area.
- 4) Fill the dumpster with bamboo at the south end of the park.

We had almost 40 volunteers come out along with most of the park’s maintenance staff. Weather almost forced a cancellation, but the skies started clearing up as we got assembled to start.

Our next Saturday Workday is May 14th.

Please send your friends to www.volunteermatch.com to sign up for either event. We now have a 5-star rating on that web site for exciting volunteer activities.

REI Grant Opportunity

On March 29, “**REI Gives**” notified Jerry Givan, KMTCC President and Jay Dement, KMTCC Outreach Director of a REI grant invitation. The letter stated:

Congratulations! REI employees have nominated the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club for grant consideration. Because of the valuable work you do and your relationship with REI, we are pleased to invite you to submit a proposal to be considered for funding. Your grant request should not exceed \$5,000. Please submit your completed



proposal by Thursday, May 12, 2011 through REI’s online application process. All applicants must have 501(c)3 tax status and general liability insurance in order to be eligible for a grant. Information about the REI grant program is available at www.rei.com/stewardship. Thank you for your inspiring work in the community and your relationship with our members, customers and employees. I look forward to receiving your proposal and learning more about your efforts. Signed,

Peter Strei

Market-based Grants Program Manager
REI, Sumner, WA 98390

On May 10, a grant application was submitted for \$ 5000.00 in REI grant funds to be used for tools, supplies and training fees for the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club to continue and expand its volunteer trail maintenance program. Special focus was placed on the growing involvement of the Trail Club with youth volunteers coming from colleges, high schools and scout programs. When describing what types of projects/programs REI will fund, they stated, “Engaging volunteers in active environmental stewardship to maintain, enhance and restore outdoor recreational areas.” Since this funding priority matches the mission of the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club, it is hoped that there will be a positive outcome from the grant request. If the grant is awarded, the funds will be available for a one year period, from approximately July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012. Hopefully there will be a grant award announcement coming soon!!

Anne Strand

KMTCC Secretary

Trail Club Shirts and Merchandise Available

http://www.cafepress.com/kennesaw_trails

100% Cotton Denim Embroidered Shirt \$35.00



Support your club and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park by showing the colors. We have a selection of shirts both long-sleeved and short-sleeved available in our online Gear Store. 20% of the purchase price of any of our products goes directly to support the park.

The yellow tee shirt (\$17.99) with the club logo on the back has become the default standard uniform shirt for trail workdays. The bright yellow color stands out in the woods, and the logo is clearly visible when you are bent over swinging a Pulaski or a MacCloud.

If you would like to have one or more shirts at this price, e-mail **Jay Dement** at kmtctees@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org with your name, size, and quantity of shirts. The Yellow shirt is available at a special price of \$15.00 during Trail Maintenance on the second Saturday of the month.

Reporting Your Hours - An Important Aspect of Volunteering!

"TIME = Money for the Park - Each Volunteer is currently worth more than \$20.00/hr."

Yes, we all are guilty - forgetting/neglecting to report our hours for working. How many hours did we REALLY work for the Park last year? Was it 500 hours, 2000, or maybe 5000???? Have you spent time outside of our 2nd Saturday Workdays helping the Park - e.g. spent time picking up trash, fixing drainage, helping with events, or club administration?

If you signed the roster at an event, your time is recorded. Otherwise you need to report it through the form on the website.

Youth Service Project candidates need to report total hours for their project to the Trail Club and to the Park before their project is considered complete.

Help us out this coming year - Please enter your hours on the website - it's currently near the top of the first page - or go directly to <http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/formmail.html>.

Contact List - Updated 1/6/11

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
President	Jerry Givan	kmtcpresident@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Vice President	Randy Whiten	kmtcvp@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Secretary	Anne Strand	kmtcsecretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Development Director/Historian	Jay Haney	kmtcfinance@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trails Supervisor	Scott Mackay	kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Membership Director	Anne Strand	kmtcmembership@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Outreach Director	Jay Dement	kmtcoutreach@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Youth Service Projects	Donald Olds	kmtcyouth@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Communications Director	Fred Feltmann	kmtccomm@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Editor	Fred Feltmann	kmtccomm@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Information Tech Dir.	Jim Moylan	
Webmaster	Sue Crane	suecrane@mac.com
Website		http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/
T-Shirt Ordering	Jay Dement	kmtctees@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trail Ambassadors	Jay Dement	kmtctees@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

April Photo Gallery



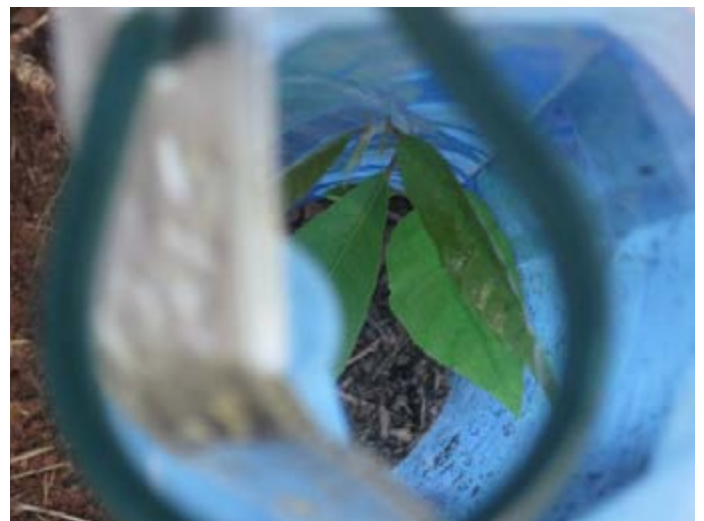
Garlic Mustard! (Victor Williams - photographer)



Bamboo Eradication Efforts (Scott Mackay - photographer)



Trail Ambassadors at work (Scott Mackay - photographer)



American Chestnut sapling (Scott Mackay - photographer)

April Photo Gallery



Earth Day photos by Scott Mackay



*Photo Gallery,
2011*

*Top left - Jay Haney
Remainder - Fred
Feltmann*



Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club



in conjunction with

**Kennesaw Mountain
National Battlefield Park**

and the

American Hiking Society

present



National Trails Day

18th annual celebration of America's 200,000 miles of trails!

Saturday June 11, 2011

**** 8:30AM Registration ****

Visitor Center

900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive

Kennesaw, GA 30152

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

has 2900 acres with 20+ miles of trails.

The Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club
volunteers to maintain the park trails.



Pre-Registration required for groups over 10

For more information please email:

kmtmembership@KennesawMountainTrailClub.org

<http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>



SOUTHEASTERN FOOT TRAILS COALITION

Presents

Leave No Trace ~ Trainer Course

June 25 - 26, 2011



The Trainer Course is a vital component of the nationwide Leave No Trace program, to help recreationists minimize their impacts while enjoying the outdoors. The Trainer Course assists the participants in learning more about the seven principles of Leave No Trace and techniques for disseminating these low impact skills.

The Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition (SEFTC) will be conducting a Leave No Trace Trainer Course for those seeking to learn the seven principles of outdoor ethics for personal enrichment or to teach others. The course features a short easy backpack and overnight campout into the Bald River Gorge Wilderness. The course fee includes food and educational materials.



- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Date: June 25-26, 2011 (Saturday & Sunday)
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Cost: \$75.00 including food and materials
Place: Bald River Trail, Tellico Ranger District
Cherokee National Forest

Presented by: Jay M Dement, Master Educator
770-499-7333 jay@jayDphotos.com

Registration will open March 1 on the SEFTC website www.southeastfoottrails.org

or

through your local SEFTC member hiking or trail maintenance club.



Guided Dog Hikes - May 20 & 22

Feel great and moving this spring as you and your friend learn how to safely exercise together this summer. A certified professional dog trainer will also be on hand to teach you basic commands to keep your pal safe.

The hike is free but please bring water for you and your pet. You will meet your guide at the porch of the Visitor Center (near glass windows) at 9:45 am.



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™



- Project Poppy -

Kennesaw Mountain proudly announces “Project Poppy;” an effort to return Memorial Day to what it was meant to be: a time to honor brave American veterans who gave the last full measure.



It's more than the start of summer;
More than the launch of barbecue season.
It's about thanks and remembrance.



The kindergarteners of Powder Springs Elementary have graciously hand made “poppies” to help place wreaths on the headstones of veterans at the Marietta National Cemetery through the “Wreaths Across America” program. Their poppies are available for sale through the Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association for one dollar from May 2 through May 23.

You may dedicate your poppy in honor of a veteran; each poppy bought will be displayed along with the name of the honored vet during the Memorial Day weekend, May 27 - 30.

Forms will be available beginning May 2nd on our website:

<http://www.nps.gov/kemo>.



Veterans' Uniform Display

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is presenting a Memorial Day weekend display of veterans' uniforms and memorabilia to be shown in the Visitor Center education room Thursday, May 27 - Monday, May 30, 2011. The display is free and open to the public from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Mr. Ken Myers, who has provided patriotic and educational U.S. military displays in the Atlanta area for the past twelve years, is the owner/presenter of the display. Numerous uniforms and other memorabilia from World War I through Operation Iraqi Freedom will be included. All of the uniforms and other items are identified with the veteran's name, branch of service, and when the veteran served; photographs of the veteran will be included with most uniforms. Mr. Myers will be on hand to answer visitors' questions.

No reservations are required to attend. For more information, please call 770-427-4686 x 0 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.



Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!

<http://americanhiking.org>



BARRETT PARKWAY AND TOWN CENTER AT COBB



Daily Grind



June Newsletter Deadline

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

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map

