



EARTHWORKS

Volume 14, Issue 10

October, 2020



Superintendent Patrick Gamman Article - Rome News-Tribune

For some insight about our new Superintendent, read the following article from the Rome News-Tribune -

[https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/region/new-kennesaw-mountain-park-leader-talks-changes-long-term-plans/article](https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/region/new-kennesaw-mountain-park-leader-talks-changes-long-term-plans/article-daf769c2-de3f-52aa-8851-149fa82a9876.html)

[daf769c2-de3f-52aa-8851-149fa82a9876.html](https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/region/new-kennesaw-mountain-park-leader-talks-changes-long-term-plans/article-daf769c2-de3f-52aa-8851-149fa82a9876.html)

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List of Officers/Directors Approved/Installed

The following list of officers/directors were elected and installed for the 2021 Fiscal Year (October 2020 - September 2021) at the September 19, 2020 Annual Business Meeting.

Officers

President - Donald Olds
Vice-President – (Vacant)
Secretary - Bob Brier
Treasurer - Tom Okerberg

Directors

Trails - Bill Gurry
Communications - Fred Feltmann
Community Volunteers - Rena Bailey
Trail Ambassadors - Janie Brier
Invasive Plants - Danny Leigh

Many Thanks To Our Recent Corporate Donors!

During this past quarter, we received support in the form of donations from REI, Publix and IBM. Thanks! Please be sure to patronize these companies and thank them for their support!

November Newsletter Deadline

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

PS Even if you're just a "volunteer," you can also present an article for publication - and you won't be the first!

Trail Ambassador 2020 Year End Report

FY 2020 is notable for a significant decrease in the numbers of interpretive events offered and volunteer support requested and which is directly related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Currently there are 57 active Trail Ambassadors (TA). This number may change pending a review of TAs who do not have a current, signed volunteer agreement 30 September. Please note all volunteers in the park must now sign a volunteer agreement form yearly. January 01 – end of February is designated as the period to sign the forms.

There are 14 Trail Ambassador Candidates (TAC). 9 have completed 1 or more requirements.

- Conducted 2 Trail Ambassador orientations
- From Oct 01, 2019– Sep 30, 2020, TAs supported the following events:
 - Artillery Demonstrations – 1
 - Field Trips – 7
 - Ranger Led Hikes - 11
 - Pickett Mill Presentation
 - Marietta Mentoring for Leadership
 - Memorial Day of Service
 - Trail Work Days – 4
- **Kennesaw Mountain High School Key Club Service Project FY 2020:** Led by Cam Graham
- **Project Activities:** Assist with cataloging wayside Union and Confederate signs previously placed in the Park by Eagle Scout candidates. Collect: • GPS Coordinates • Confirm Description • Evaluate Condition over 2 work Days in February
- **Student Participation:** 35 hours. 100+ signs photographed and GPS coordinates documented
- **KMTC volunteers: eight volunteers, 50 hours.**
 - Karen Petrella
 - Rich Robinson
 - Jay Haney
 - Janie Brier
 - Cam Graham
 - Gavin Gaffney
 - Stuart Haase
 - Kate Burton
- **Additional work done by Jay Haney and Cam Graham 100+ hours:** cataloging signs, building out worksheets, and creating narratives for each

Unit / Event. (This project is incomplete and needs reevaluation in light of current environment)

Janie Brier
Trail Ambassador Director

Plant Residents In The Park

Anne Page found another Park resident - this time Green Dragon. Check this article out regarding the Green Dragon and Jack-In-The-Pulpit.

<https://anps.org/2015/05/15/know-your-natives-jack-in-the-pulpit-green-dragon/>



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

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770-516-9120

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN TRAILS ACCOMPLISHMENTS FY 2020

9/18/20

Bill Gurry

Work in FY 2020 was significantly reduced due to restrictions necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic. However, some significant work was accomplished as follows:

10/12/19 NOSES CREEK WORKDAY

Led by 12 crew leaders, volunteers continued work on the Noses Creek Trail. Work consisted of sloping the trail into the drainage ditches, cleaning up several areas north of the creek, repairing ruts south of the creek by building 4 dips, and removing invasive plants.

The 11/19 workday was cancelled due to rain.

12/14/19 WORKDAY 12/14/19

The work was mostly to do light maintenance work on the trails in the north section of the

Park. 13 crew leaders led about 40 or so volunteers to do maintenance on the north section of the Park. Work included cleaning muddy ditches and building a "knick" on the Brumby Trail to deal with a large new spring that would have iced the trail this winter, cleaning out ditches and drainage features on the Lower Mountain Trail; repairing the drainage at the Picket Line Trail and the Lower Mountain Trail, reorganizing fencing materials.

JANUARY 2020 TRAIL EVENTS

On January 11, a Crew Leader Workshop was held for 18 new and experienced crew leaders. On January 9, 3 crew leaders built a new dip, cleaned out a ditch, and tuned up an old water bar. A January 21 workday was cancelled due to rain and cold.

2/8/20 WORKDAY

The 2/8/20 workday was cancelled due to snow and cold. However, 8 Crew Leaders cleaned and reorganized the tool shed.

MARCH WORKDAY CANCELLED

The March workday was cancelled due to forecasted rain and due to concerns about the coronavirus pandemic. All workdays were cancelled until further notice.

May

6 crew leaders spread mulch around the Administration and Superintendent/Law Enforcement buildings.

7/11/20 24 GUN BATTERY

A small group of Crew leaders performed some trail maintenance on the 24 gun battery trail while practiced performing trail work under the social distancing rules and other procedures having to do with coronavirus.

8/8/20 EQUIPMENT TRAINING

Mike Christman of the staff held a training/safety session on operation of the Gators and ditch wipers for 12 crew leaders.

8/26/20 & 8/28/20 24 GUN BATTERY BRIDGE REPAIRS

Four of the five bridges on the 24 Gun Battery Trail were generally built at the lowest elevation as they crossed the creeks and ditches. As a result, mud, water and muck flowed down the trails and collected on the bridges, making them messy to cross and contributing to rotting in some cases. Previous attempts to divert the water proved unsuccessful. Also, the original side rails served to keep the water and mud on the bridge. Further, artificial berms had been constructed at the bridge approaches that contributed to the problem. On 8/26 and 8/28 half-a-dozen crew leaders each day repaired and corrected the bridges.

One crew lifted four of the bridges off their foundations and inserted concrete half-blocks underneath to raise the bridges 3.6" so that water and mud could not get up on the bridges. Then, a carpentry crew cut the side rails to allow water to flow off the bridges and built a new, continuous rail on top of the existing rail. The carpentry crew also replaced some rotting deck boards. Finally, the dirt crew moved gravel and dirt to build small "ramps" to aid equipment when it drives over the bridges, and to make a smoother trail for hikers. The dirt crew also started removing the berms at the approaches. There is still some final grooming to be done that can be done when we next work on that trail.

As Tropical Storm Sally passed through (6" rain) I went out to inspect the bridges. Except for one small corner of the Gilbert Road Bridge, there was no standing water or mud on any bridge.

Please see the before and after photos in the newsletter.

Each December, we will send out a couple of people to rake the leaves off the bridges -easypeasy.

OTHER

Other miscellaneous work was accomplished from time to time by individuals. A small number of Crew Leaders performed invasive plant removal. Danny and Eric filled in the puddle and cleaned out the ditch at Old Mountain Road and it looked good after Tropical Storm Sally passed through. Several crew leaders participated in trail assessments for each trail in the Park. Half a dozen work plans have been drafted and will be submitted when volunteer workdays resume.

Woodrow Wilson on TV(Sorta)

We're all still at least semi quarantined due to the pandemic, thus watching TV or browsing the WEB. Actually if you're like me (and hopefully not even close) then you don't actually pay a lot of attention to the TV and just skim over sites. Every so often I break out of my slumber and a couple of things recently caught my attention.

One of those was a TV program that mentioned quotes by famous people. The one that stuck with me was President Woodrow Wilson's, "When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on". The other was a picture taken at one of the fires out west of a lone firefighter holding a McLeod (Tool)

Now, if you are like me then you'll quickly know how these two things relate to the Trail Club, or not because I'm stretching a bit here. As it so happens I acquired a heavy rope over 50 years ago when discharged from the service. It was being surveyed (discarded) and for some unknown reason I got it and still have it. Over the years I've used it for any number of things. For example it has been used to pull down trees, tow cars, wrap up tarps, shuffle around rocks and most notably help trail workers climb down steep banks on Big Kennesaw to pull invasive plants (garlic mustard). Of course all those things were done in a safe manner (even pulling a truck stuck on the fire road).

The other item is the picture (with this article). It was just a random shot with no credit, but the fireman is holding a tool which is very frequently used working on the trails at Kennesaw Mountain. We're fortunate that a McLeod isn't hardly used here for firefighting; but that 'was' its main design function.

Unfortunately we're all aware of the devastating fires out west. And, I've been talking to a number of old "Trail Clubbers" about the destruction and we all agree that if you haven't actually been out West and seen the topography and landscape then you really can't imagine how the fires are so huge. There's no humor in this situation. It is just tragic and hopefully the fires will get under control or end.

The way I see how the two items intersect, a quote and the photo is that there is hope to make it through. In the instance of the rope; yes there were times that a knot was made in the end to hang onto. Look at the picture of the firefighter with that lone tool and think of the many times you've worked with one or seen it in use. Sometimes it's the simple things that make the difference; give us the ability to hang on and get the job done.

Hoping that you'll be well, stay strong and be safe.

Thanks,

Doug Jasse



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 2019 (October 2018- September 2019) and Fiscal 2020 (October 2019- 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
CUMBERLAND 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
PACESETTER STEEL
SCA



SPRAYBERRY HS HOPE
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
POPE HS - NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
RIVER RIDGE HS
RIVER RIDGE HS ARMY JROTC
TRUST (KSU)
WALKER HS

Our scheduled September Work Day was cancelled because of the coronavirus.

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 Leader & Trail Ambassador

Positions Available!

Contact Bill Gurry (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Janie Brier (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

Bill Gurry - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Janie Brier - ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Unwelcome Park Visitor

In September, the Park had an unwelcome visitor - former Hurricane Sally. The picture on the right is of the bridge after Sally's visit. Interim repairs have been done to make the bridge usable. Below, 2 years earlier (9/14/18), Flightworks volunteers worked on the same bridge to stabilize it. Bridge is on the Kolb Farm Loop Trail. Richard Kozicki headed up this project and took the photo on the right after Sally's visit.

Photo below was taken by me during the stabilization project in 2018.

Fred Feltmann



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

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

Date Time Location Event

All Work Days and events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are cancelled indefinitely at this point.

All trails are now open. All parking lots, and the Mountain Rd, are now open. Visitor Center is now open.

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page - https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP/posts/?ref=page_internal

We will send out an email when events warrant a restart of work days and events and when the Visitor Center reopens.

The Mountain Top Concession Stand is now open daily from 10 AM till 5 PM.

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:

All planned work days for the upcoming months have been cancelled until further notice.

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity once we resume our work day schedules, 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 as soon as we return to our normal work days.

Cobb County 2016 SPLOST Projects - Project Number: X2404

Project Name: *KENNESAW MOUNTAIN - PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS*

Current Status: *Right OF Way*

Contact: James Hudgins, 770-420-6658, james.hudgins@cobbcounty.org

Description, Purpose and Benefits

The Kennesaw Mountain Pedestrian Improvement Project PI0015279 is a proposal by Cobb County, the City of Marietta, the National Park Services, Georgia DOT, & the Federal Highway Administration to construct pedestrian improvements along Whitlock Ave, Cheatham Hill Rd, & Burnt Hickory Rd. Proposed improvements would consist of 3 multi-use trails, 1 on each of the before-mentioned roads, that would vary between 8' & 10' wide & would be separate from the roadway by a grassed strip & curb & gutter. The Total project length would be approximately 3.85 miles, of which approximately 1.69 miles would be located within Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Public Notices

Property Owner meeting was on held August 6, 2019

Financials as of 1st Wednesday of the current month

Current Budget \$9,537,677.37

Expenditures to Date \$1,047,855.25

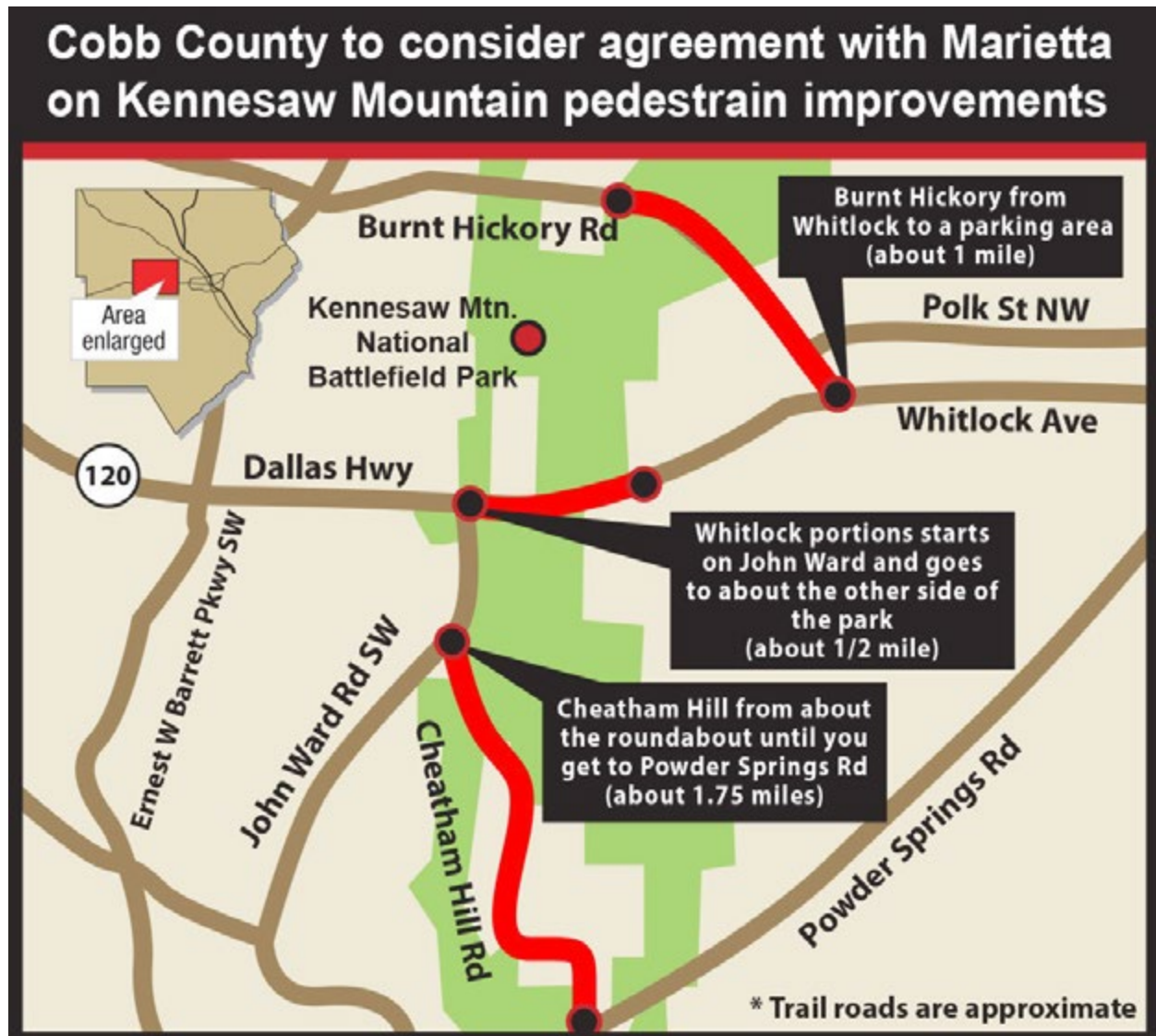
Schedule

Engineering Start 7/21/2017

Right-of-way Start 4/8/2019

Construction Start 12/10/2020

Construction Complete 12/16/2022



Autumnal Evening

10/25/07

Fred Feltmann, Jr.

A full moon watching over a resting world.

The winds marshalling the clouds across a crisp black sky,
Interspersed with far-off stars shepherding their own
Worlds through the universe.

The clouds, going crisply to far off lands themselves.

Some alone.

Some in patchwork fashion.

Some as a phalanx, attacking distant lands.

Going quickly, pushed on by the winds of
Autumn.

The night, still, except for the rustling of the leaves in their
Brilliant oranges, reds and yellows of Halloween.

The pines, whispering that Fall is here, but Winter's
A-coming!

The earth, preparing for another Autumnal evening.

Her critters hustling for shelter from the cool crisp winds

Of the night.

Some gathering that last fallen acorn - preparing for

The rapidly oncoming Winter.

And the clouds, continuing their relentless march across the Autumnal sky.

Rushing to another place, those cirrus clouds.

A wisp in the Autumnal winds.

August Bridge Work - 24-Gun Trail

As tropical storm Sally passed through (6" of rain) last Wednesday I walked the 24 gun trail to see how our bridge work held up. The only issue is on the Gilbert Road bridge, there was a small puddle on the north west corner to fix. There was no water from the trail getting on any of the bridges, the rain falling on the bridges was running off through the redesigned rails, and there was no mud anywhere on any bridge.

I put a couple "before" photos in for comparison.

We still need to do a little grooming to take care of a few puddles at the bridge approaches and along the trail - not bad considering we had just had 6" of rain.

One strange thing I can't explain - there were two 2" saplings on the edge of the trail that had been knocked down about a foot above the ground. I don't now how that could have happened - must have been the storm.

On to the next project.

Bill Gury
Trail Director

Before

After



Before

After



Below: Bridge 4 - "after" photos only



Contact List - Updated 9/24/20

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

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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

Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!



<http://americanhiking.org>



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map

