



EARTHWORKS

Volume 2, Issue 1

March, 2008

Be Kind to People and to Animals!

"...My 2 year old son and I spend time about everyday on Big Kennesaw. A couple of days a week he hikes to the top with me and it is frustrating to have to deal with unleashed dogs around our very small little boy."

*"I have, in the past 2 weeks, encountered 2 people with loose dogs on the trail that, when I tell them to put their dog on the leash, have told me, quite unceremoniously, to f*** myself. Today I was told that, since my horse is 50 times bigger than their dog, it provides no threat to me, and that 'EVERYONE' lets their dogs run."*

"...between dealing with extremely rude dog owners and drivers that would rather run me and my horse over than take the few seconds out of their busy schedule to stop and allow me to cross, ... I am very near ending my trail riding career at Kennesaw Mountain."



Unfortunately comments like the foregoing are all too frequent at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park these days. It seems as if the legendary hospitality and courtesy that Georgians have always been known for have gone by the wayside in these *"Me First"*

Continued on Page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Be Kind to People and to Animals!
- 1 Welcome Brad Bennett, Congratulations Dan Brown
- 4 Invasive Plant Pull - Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park
- 5 Volunteer T-Shirts Available!
- 5 Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Signs on With the Atlanta Community Toolbank
- 7 Calendar of Events
- 8 Contact List - updated 11/07



Welcome Brad Bennett, Congratulations Dan Brown

We want to welcome Brad Bennett as interim Superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain NBP. Brad will be with us at least for the next several months. He has an extensive background with the National Park Service and comes to us most recently from the NPS Region in Alaska. We're looking forward to working with Brad at one of our upcoming workdays.

We also want to Congratulate Dan Brown on his promotion to Superintendent at Chattahoochee National Recreation area and to express our appreciation for the enthusiastic support he has provided to the Kennesaw Mountain Trail club and to the park during his short 3 year tenure as Superintendent. Best wishes to Dan in his future endeavors.



Continued From Page 1

times.

The park was created to commemorate and preserve the history of the almost 5,000 Americans who died right here in Marietta Georgia in two weeks in the summer of 1864. The intent is to provide a place for ALL visitors to recall the history, and to enjoy the natural setting. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (KEMO) is the 2nd most visited historic battlefield next to Gettysburg National Battlefield. With more than 1.3 million visitors per year, we all need to be conscious of minimizing the impact of our visit on the historic and environmental features of the park, and also on each other.

The issue of keeping pets, primarily dogs, on a leash is a particularly sensitive and aggravating issue for many visitors. There are a host of reasons why keeping your animal leashed is an excellent idea.

COMMON COURTESY

The first and to our mind all the reason that's needed to keep our pet on a leash is simple consideration for the enjoyment of other visitors. Many people are genuinely afraid of dogs, especially strange dogs whose behavior we're not familiar with. Just because we love our dog doesn't mean everyone loves our dog.

We want to enjoy our outing in the park without being disturbed by other people and animals so we should provide the same consideration for other visitors.

If exercising your pet off leash is the primary objective of your outing then perhaps you would be better served by visiting a park that provides facilities for that purpose such as Sweet Mountain Park at 4346 Steinhauer Rd. Marietta, GA 30066.

CONSERVATION & PRESERVATION

The goal of the park is to conserve the natural resources and preserve the historic features.

- There is a possibility of exchange of diseases between domestic animals and wildlife.
- Dogs, the most common traveling companion, are natural predators that may harass or even kill native wildlife that is protected within the park's boundaries.
- The "scent of a predator" that dogs leave behind can disrupt or alter the behavior of native animals.
- Pets may be hard to control, even on a leash, within confines of often narrow park trails and may trample or dig up fragile vegetation.

Safety

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

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Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

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

Restrictions on pets in parks are as much to protect your pet as to protect park resources. Following are some of the reasons parks give for regulating the presence of pets:

- A startled runner may miss their stride and be injured when suddenly coming upon an unleashed dog.
- A Startled Horse suddenly coming upon an unleashed dog may injure the dog, the rider, or itself.
- When a loose pet chases a squirrel or raccoon, the wild animal's ability to survive is threatened, and when it is threatened, it may react aggressively.
- There is a strong possibility in parks such as Kennesaw Mountain that your pet could become prey for coyote, owl, or other predators.
- Dog and cat feces add excessive nutrients and bacterial pollution to water, which decreases water quality and can also cause human health problems.
- Finally, lost domestic animals sometimes turn to preying on park wildlife and must be destroyed.

REGULATION

If courtesy, conservation, preservation and safety aren't enough reasons to keep your pet leashed while you are in the park then you should also be aware that the National Park Service, and Cobb County have regulations regarding pets being on a leash and pet waste management that will be enforced and can result in impounding your pet, and you receiving a citation to appear in court.

Enjoying a walk in the woods with our pets doesn't have to be a law enforcement issue if we all just behave with consideration for the park and for the other visitors.

KENNESAW

MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

You and your pet want to visit...
Bring them along so they can enjoy the Battlefield too.

A FEW HELPFUL

THINGS TO KEEP IN

MIND:

ALL PETS must be on a leash no longer than 6-ft in length and



Continued on Page 3

Continued from Page 3

under the accompanying human's physical control at all times. No one likes to step in something soft and smelly and take it back to the car, so for everyone's convenience; there are mutt mitts available in the parking areas for the disposal of your pet's waste.

Be aware, unfortunately, just because your animal has never displayed aggressive behavior does not mean it can not happen. We are here for everyone's enjoyment so please be considerate of ALL Battlefield users including other animals, wildlife and Battlefield staff.

THERE ARE JUST A FEW PLACES THAT PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED:

- In the Visitor Center
- In restroom facilities
- The shuttle bus
- Water fountains made for HUMAN consumption

Should you encounter problems with either wildlife or animals off leash, you may call the visitor center at the time of occurrence at 770-427-4686 Ex.0.

Note: Outside of Visitor Center Hours (8:30 AM to 5:30 PM Daily) you may call Cobb County 911.

To provide assistance to the law enforcement rangers or Cobb County police, call promptly provide time and place of incident direction of travel on the trail, be specific note distinguishing characteristics of the visitor and the animal, your name and a phone number where you can be reached for additional information.

COBB COUNTY GA LEASH LAW

LEASH LAW

Animals are required to be on a leash when outside unless contained by a fence. Pet owners are responsible for collecting animal waste and disposing of it properly. Contact Cobb County Animal Control at (770) 499-4136 to report violations.



THE RAINS HAVE COME BACK TO KENNESAW - AND WITH IT, COMES EROSION TO THE TRAILS. THIS AREA OF LITTLE KENNESAW WILL BE THE TARGET OF ONE OF OUR UPCOMING WORKDAYS.

Whether you think you can or whether you think you can't, you're right!

Author: Henry Ford

Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes your hopes shine to the stars. Enthusiasm is the sparkle in your eyes, the swing in your gait. The grip of your hand, the irresistible surge of will and energy to execute your ideas. **Author:** Henry Ford

Life is a series of experiences, each one of which makes us bigger, even though sometimes it is hard to realize this. For the world was built to develop character, and we must learn that the setbacks and grieves which we endure help us in our marching onward. **Author:** Henry Ford

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young. **Author:** Henry Ford

Time and money spent in helping men to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving. **Author:** Henry Ford



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY, 2007, INFORMATION BOOTH AT BURNT HICKORY AND OLD MOUNTAIN RD.



PART OF A WORK CREW, NATIONAL TRAILS DAY, JUNE, 2007

Invasive Plant Pull - Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park

APRIL 12, 2008, 9 AM

Watch our website for more information for this important Community Service activity. A lot of help will be needed to help eradicate this weed. So far, the only known location for this plant in Georgia is Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park. More information regarding this invasive plant can be found at:

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/ALIEN/fact/alpe1.htm>
<http://www.se-eppc.org/manual/garlicmustard.html>

Be sure to bring/wear the following:

Gloves
Water
Long pants - poison ivy will be nearby!
Long sleeve shirt - same as above!
Snacks

You may also call the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park for more information on this as well for specific times and meeting location - **770-427-4686**.



GARLIC MUSTARD - DESCRIPTION

Garlic mustard is a cool season biennial herb with stalked, triangular to heart-shaped, coarsely toothed leaves that give off an odor of garlic when crushed. First-year plants appear as a rosette of green leaves close to the ground. Rosettes remain green through the winter and develop into mature flowering plants the following spring. Flowering plants of garlic mustard reach from 2 to 3 1/2 feet in height and produce button-like clusters of small white flowers, each with four petals in the shape of a cross.

Recognition of garlic mustard is critical. Several white-flowered native plants, including toothworts (*Dentaria* spp.), sweet cicely (*Osmorhiza claytonii*), and early saxifrage (*Saxifraga virginica*), occur alongside garlic mustard and may be mistaken for it.

Beginning in May (in the mid-Atlantic Coast Plain region), seeds are produced in erect, slender pods and become shiny black when mature. By late June, when most garlic mustard plants have died, they can be recognized only by the erect stalks of dry, pale brown seedpods that remain, and may hold viable seed, through the summer.

ECOLOGICAL THREAT

Garlic mustard poses a severe threat to native plants and animals in forest communities in much of the eastern and midwestern U.S. Many native wildflowers that complete their life cycles in the springtime (e.g., spring beauty, wild ginger, bloodroot, Dutchman's breeches, hepatica, toothworts, and trilliums) occur in the same habitat as garlic mustard. Once introduced to an area, garlic mustard outcompetes native plants by aggressively monopolizing light, moisture, nutrients, soil and space. Wildlife species that depend on these early plants for their foliage, pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds and roots, are deprived of these essential food sources when garlic mustard replaces them. Humans are also deprived of the vibrant display of beautiful spring wildflowers.

Garlic mustard also poses a threat to one of our rare native insects, the West Virginia white butterfly (*Pieris virginiensis*). Several species of spring wildflowers known as "toothworts" (*Dentaria* spp.), also in the mustard family, are the primary food source for the caterpillar stage of this butterfly. Invasions of garlic mustard are causing local extirpations of the toothworts, and chemicals in garlic mustard appear to be toxic to the eggs of the butterfly, as evidenced by their failure to hatch when laid on garlic mustard plants.

BACKGROUND

Garlic mustard was first recorded in the United States about 1868, from Long Island, New York. It was likely introduced by settlers for food or medicinal purposes.

BIOLOGY & SPREAD

After spending the first half of its two-year life cycle as a rosette of leaves, garlic mustard plants develop rapidly the following spring into mature plants that flower, produce seed and die by late June. In the mid-Atlantic Coastal Plain region, seeds are produced in erect, slender, four-sided pods, called siliques, beginning in May. Siliques become tan and papery as they mature and contain shiny black seeds in a row. By late June, most of the leaves have faded away and garlic mustard plants can be recognized only by the dead and dying stalks of dry, pale brown seedpods that may remain and hold viable seed throughout the summer. A single plant can produce thousands of seeds, which scatter as much as several meters from the parent plant. Depending upon conditions, garlic mustard flowers either self-fertilize or are cross-pollinated by a variety of insects. Self-fertilized seed is genetically identical to the parent plant, enhancing its ability to colonize an area. Although water may transport seeds of garlic mustard, they do not float well and are probably not carried far by wind. Long distance dispersal is most likely aided by human activities and wildlife. Additionally, because white-tailed deer prefer native plants to garlic mustard, large deer populations may help to expand it by removing competing native plants and exposing the soil and seedbed through trampling.

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Because the seeds of garlic can remain viable in the soil for five years or more, effective management requires a long term commitment. The goal is to prevent seed production until the stored seed is exhausted. Hand removal of plants is possible for light infestations and when desirable native species co-occur.

Care must be taken to remove the plant with its entire root system because new plants can sprout from root fragments. This is best achieved when the soil is moist, by grasping low and firmly on the plant and tugging gently until the main root loosens from the soil and the entire plant pulls out. Pulled plants should be removed from site if at all possible, especially if flowers are present.

MECHANICAL

For larger infestations of garlic mustard, or when hand-pulling is not practical, flowering stems can be cut at ground level or within several inches of the ground, to prevent seed production. If stems are cut too high, the plant may produce additional flowers at leaf axils. Once seedpods are present, but before the seeds have matured or scattered, the stalks can be clipped, bagged and removed from the site to help prevent continued buildup of seed stores. This can be done through much of the summer.

CHEMICAL

For very heavy infestations, where the risk to desirable plant species is minimal, application of the systemic herbicide glyphosate (e.g., Roundup®) is also effective. Herbicide may be applied at any time of year, including winter (to kill overwintering rosettes), as long as the temperature is above 50 degrees F and rain is not expected for about 8 hours.

Extreme care must be taken not to get glyphosate on desirable plants as the product is non-selective and will kill almost any plant it contacts. Spray shields may be used to better direct herbicide and limit non-intentional drift.

FIRE

Fire has been used to control garlic mustard in some large natural settings but, because burning opens the understory, it can encourage germination of stored seeds and promote growth of emerging garlic mustard seedlings. For this reason, burns must be conducted for three to five consecutive years. Regardless of the control method employed, annual monitoring is necessary for a period of at least five years to ensure that seed stores of garlic mustard have been exhausted.

BIOLOGICAL

Researchers are investigating potential biological control agents for garlic mustard which may greatly improve the control of this insidious weed.

Volunteer T-Shirts Available!

We have received a new supply of the yellow trail crew tee shirts in sizes L and XL. They will be available at the workday on November 10 for \$10.00 each.

They can also be ordered at our on-line store, <http://cafepress.com/kennesawtrails> retail cost is \$14.99 plus shipping.



You may reserve a shirt for pick up at the workday by sending an e-mail to Richard Angeli - e-mail address, below.

Wearing the tee shirt is strictly your option. However, it does greatly enhance the trail club's visibility to park visitors and encourages them to volunteer to help.

Richard C. Angeli

President

Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club

kmtcpresident@kemotrailcorps.org

(770) 356-4265

Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Signs on With the Atlanta Community Toolbank

We recently joined the Atlanta Community Tool Bank. As Hands On Atlanta provides Volunteers for our workdays, special events and projects, The tool bank provides the temporary loan of tools at a greatly reduced cost to equip the volunteers.





**CAUGHT THE THERMAL -
HEADING NORTH! (3/1/08)**



**COLONEL FRENCH'S OBSERVATION POST DURING THE
BATTLE OF KENNESAW**



**GEESE FLYING THROUGH THE GAP BELOW LITTLE KENNESAW IN
SEARCH OF A THERMAL TO TAKE THEM TO A HIGHER ALTITUDE!**

3/1/08



NEW KENNESAW MOUNTAIN TRAIL



WORKDAY ON THE NEW TRAIL SECTION - 1/12/08

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN GUIDED WILDFLOWER WALKS FOR SPRING 2008 (APRIL 5, 2008)

PLEASE MEET AT THE GATE AT BURNT HICKORY ROAD.

TIME: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

These walks will start from the hiking trail at Burnt Hickory Road and proceed toward the Dallas Highway. This trail is considered moderate. Parking is limited, so please carpool if possible. The program is free and open to the public.

Dr. Mary Meyer will lead these walks and share her 40 years of accumulated discoveries regarding wildflowers, mushrooms, and wood-lore. She is also a nature writer and photographer, having created the photographic CD "Wildflowers of Kennesaw Mountain and North Georgia." Her walks are always interesting as she shares her knowledge of plants, fungi, animals and other living things with the group and learns from the group as well. If you like to laugh, enjoy nature trivia, want to mingle with other nature lovers, and have a few hours...then join us for a memorable morning. For more information, please call 770-427-4686 x0 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY APRIL 12, 2008

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Continue construction of the new mountain trail and other projects depending on the number of volunteers available.

Watch for information on the Garlic Mustard Pull, which will be run in conjunction with the normal work day!!!!

See page 4 for more details.

PROGRAMS COMMEMORATE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

VISITOR CENTER

DATE: APRIL 12, 2008

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park will present programs commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps. The Civilian Conservation Corps, better known as the "CCC," was one of President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs designed to provide relief for unemployed Americans during the Great Depression of the 1930s. Kennesaw Mountain and Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park were two of many national park sites with CCC camps. Ranger Retha Stephens will speak on the camp at Kennesaw Mountain and Ranger Rebecca Karcher of Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park will speak on the African American CCC camp there. There will be a photographic display as well as original artifacts from both camps.

Lectures will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at Kennesaw Mountain NBP in the Visitor Center education room. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 770-427-4686 x0 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

VETERANS' UNIFORM AND MEMORABILIA DISPLAY MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2008

VISITOR CENTER EDUCATION ROOM

DATES: MAY 22, 2008 - MAY 26, 2008

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park will present a Memorial Day weekend display of veterans' uniforms and memorabilia. The display is free and open to public from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Ken Myers, who has provided patriotic and educational U.S. military displays in the Atlanta area for the past eight years, presents the display. The display will consist of eighty-five uniforms and other memorabilia from World War I through Operation Iraqi Freedom. All of the uniforms and the majority of the other items will be identified with the veteran's name, branch of service, and when the veteran served. Many of the uniforms and memorabilia will have pictures of the Veteran.

Please come and enjoy this tribute to men and women of America's armed forces who have so gallantly served their country. For more information, please call 770-427-4686 x 0 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

For a list of other events, please visit the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield National Park website:

<http://www.nps.gov/kemo/planyourvisit/events.htm>

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY JUNE 7, 2008

Watch for details in the April Newsletter. This year's event will be sponsored in part by REI. REI will have a new store in Kennesaw! It will open May 2nd and will be located in the old Media Play Store location next to Target on Barrett Parkway.

If you would like to staff one of this year's 4 information booths, please contact **Fred Feltmann** at 770-516-9120 or at faf1948@bellsouth.net for details. Hours of operation for the information booths will be 9 AM - 3 PM. We would like to have 2 volunteers per booth.

YOUTH PROJECTS AT KENNESAW MOUNTAIN BATTLEFIELD NATIONAL PARK



INITIAL VIEW OF SITE.



**TROOP 772 EAGLE PROJECT -
BELOW PIGEON HILL**



**ANOTHER SET OF PROJECTS
TO CLOSE AN OLD TRAIL.**



FINISHED PROJECT.

Contact List - updated 11/07

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL
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Website		http://kennesawmountrailclub.org/

SPONSORS/PARTNERS CORNER

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!

<http://americanhiking.org>



APRIL 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 April 12th!



KEMOTrail Corps, Inc.
905 Kennesaw Mountain Dr.
Kennesaw, GA 30152

Bulk Rate
US Postage
Paid
Permit No.
00000

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321