



THE CATOCTIN FOREST ALLIANCE BULLETIN

Newsletter of the CFA

Vol. 3 No. 1 March 2013

Our mission is to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations

Catoctin Forest Alliance Plans Day of Service at Catoctin Mountain Park on May 11, 2013



The Catoctin Forest Alliance has announced a “Day of Service” to be held at Catoctin Mountain Park on May 11th. The event will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on the 11th of May with early registration at Camp Greentop from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on the 10th and regular registration on the 11th at Camp Greentop from 8:00 to 9:00 am. There will be a variety of projects selected by the Park Rangers ranging from carpentry and painting to eradication of invasive plant species. Individual projects will be completed by groups that will provide their own leadership for the project. Certification of service hours rendered will be provided to those who request it. Youth from age 12 and up, as well as adults interested in the preservation and maintenance of Catoctin Mountain Park are invited. All youth must be supervised by adults.

This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to come to the park, enjoy the beautiful outdoor setting, do a service project in the park and enjoy a pizza party and a campfire program afterwards. The available projects can be viewed using the link below. The link will be updated periodically to show which projects have been claimed <http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org/document/day-of-service-assignment-log/123830>.

Work will start at 9:00 am and continue until 4:00pm. Volunteers will be asked to bring their own lunches. All participants will be invited to a free pizza party beginning at 4:30pm and a campfire at 6:00pm for all who wish to stay. To sign up or if you have questions, contact Jim Sundergill at 301-898-7549 or jimsundergill@comcast.net.

Trout in the Classroom by Chuck Dinkle

The 2013 Trout in the Classroom program is well underway with 17 schools in Frederick County participating, several in the Thurmont area (Catoctin HS, Thurmont MS, Lewistown ES, and Mother Seton School). CFA volunteers played a key role by delivering eggs to these schools in January. Right now I am beginning to schedule release dates for schools starting in May. There is always a need for volunteers to assist during these releases. If you have the time and are interested in participating in one or more please contact me. Most releases will require only 2-3 hours of your time. Some schools also elect to take a tour of the Albert Powell Hatchery in Hagerstown as part of their release activities; if you have not had an opportunity to get the tour now is your chance. Please contact Chuck Dinkel at 301-401-5066 or klassicklocks@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

March

- 17 Orienteering at CATO (Catoctin Mountain Park) See page 3 for details
- 23 Museums at the Mall 10-4pm, contact lindasundergill@comcast.net
- 23 Orienteering at CATO
- 24 Orienteering at CATO
- 27 CFA Board meeting
- 30 Orienteering at CATO

April

- 1 CFA General meeting at Catoctin Mt. Park Visitor Center 6-8pm
- 6 Outdoor School Reunion / Bell and History Day at Greentop See page 3 for details
- 24 CFA Board meeting
- 26 Misty Mount Cabin rentals through October 28
- 27 Spring Wildflower Walk See page 3 for details

May

- 3 Owens Creek Campground Opens
- 6 CFA General meeting at Catoctin Mt. Park Visitor Center 6-8pm
- 11 Day of Service at Catoctin Mountain Park, contact jimsundergill@comcast.net
- 12 Spring Wildflower Walk
- 29 CFA Board meeting

June

- 3 CFA General meeting at Catoctin Mt. Park Visitor Center 6-8pm
- 26 CFA Board meeting

July

- 2 CFA General meeting at Catoctin Mt. Park Visitor Center 6-8pm
- 31 CFA Board meeting

August

- 5 CFA General meeting at Catoctin Mt. Park Visitor Center 6-8pm
- 28 CFA Board meeting

Girl Scout Medal Day

On Saturday January 19th Avadna Coghill, as well as Jim and Linda Sundergill attended the Girl Scout Medal Day where about 80 Girl Scouts participated in round robin session with various businesses and organizations to learn about opportunities for earning badges and doing community service. The trio talked to the girls and their leaders about Catoctin Mountain Park and their programs and opportunities for camping and outdoor learning. They also spoke with the leaders about CFA and gave out brochures.



The Scouts were given packets of Black Eyed Susan seeds and pencils with the Catoctin Mountain Park logo. It was a great opportunity to interact with the Scouts and leaders and help spread the word about Catoctin Mountain Park and the Catoctin Forest Alliance. **Pictured:** Avadna Coghill and Jim Sundergill



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Catoctin Mountain Park

6602 Foxville Road
Thurmont, MD 21788

(301) 663-9388 phone
(301) 271-2764 fax

Catoctin Mountain Park News Release

March 15, 2013
For Immediate Release
Debra Mills

Catoctin Mountain Park Announces Road Openings and Spring Activities Schedule

Park Central and Manahan Roads Reopen After Seasonal Closures

The closed portions of Park Central in Catoctin Mountain Park will reopen on Wednesday, March 19. The closed portion of Manahan Road will reopen on Friday, March 21. These roads were closed to vehicle traffic in December making them available for winter recreation.

Park Central Road and Manahan Road will remain open after these dates until mid-December as weather conditions permit. Please direct questions regarding the status of park roads to the Visitor Center at (301) 663-9388, or visit our website at www.nps.gov/cato.

Orienteering (Map and Compass Reading) - Sundays, March 17 and 24, and Saturdays, March 23 and 30 at 1:00 p.m. at the Visitor Center

Orienteering classes consist of an indoor slide program that introduces maps and their components as well as the orienteering compass that allows the user to determine the direction of travel. After learning how to use the compass in conjunction with the map, participants are given the opportunity to complete a short outdoor course. The outdoor course requires going off-trail in varied terrain so wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Maps and compasses are provided for the day. The program is free but is recommended for ages 10 and older. Class size is limited so reservations are required. Please make your reservation by calling the Visitor Center at (301) 663-9388.

Bell and History Day – Saturday, April 6 from 9 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Recreation Hall in Camp Greentop

Catoctin Mountain Park joins the Frederick Historic Sites Consortium in celebrating Bell and History Day by conducting an Outdoor School Reunion at the Recreation Hall in Camp Greentop on Saturday, April 6. The public is invited to walk down memory lane to the Frederick County Outdoor School Program that invited all 6th graders in Frederick County from 1957 through 1996 to spend several days and nights learning the importance of the natural environment. Current Catoctin High School students will be on site to collect oral history memories from former students and to scan photographs and documents for an Outdoor School archive as part of a Park Stewards program sponsored by the National Park Foundation. Former Outdoor School teachers are returning to lead hikes and tell campfire stories. We will ring the Greentop bell for one minute at 10 am as part of the Bell and History celebration. Stamp your Passport to History and earn credit towards your bell.

Spring Wildflower walks – Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 a.m., and, Sunday, May 12 at 1:00 p.m. at the Owens Creek Picnic Area

Join a ranger at the Brown's Farm Trail in Owens Creek Picnic Area at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday,

April 27 or Sunday, May 12 at 1:00 p.m. for an interpretive wildflower walk. Together, you will explore an easy ½ mile trail that meanders through several types of habitat. The ranger will acquaint you with the flowers that are blooming, and will tell you why they are so particular about where they grow and when they flower.

Owens Creek Campground – Opens for family camping beginning May 3

Owens Creek Campground will open on a first-come, first-served basis at 12 noon on May 3. Each site is limited to one camping unit (tent or trailer) and a maximum of 5 people. Maximum tent size is 9'x12'. Trailers up to 22' in length are accepted but there are no hookups. The fee is \$20.00 per night.

Camp Misty Mount – Cabin rentals available April 26 through October 28

Cabins may be rented in historic Camp Misty Mount from April 26 through October 28. Rustic chestnut cabins constructed by the Works Progress Administration are available to individuals, families and groups. Reservations are now accepted on-line at recreation .gov or by calling 877-444-6777. The camp office can be reached by phone at 301-271-3140.

Catoctin Mountain Park is one of over 395 units administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The park Visitor Center, located on State Route 77 three miles west of Thurmont, Maryland, is open daily from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Correspondence should be addressed to: Superintendent, Catoctin Mountain Park, 6602 Foxville Road, Thurmont, MD 21788. Our website address is www.nps.gov/cato. General information can be obtained by calling the Visitor Center at (301) 663-9388.

-NPS-

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Member Social



On Saturday November 17, 2012 the Catoctin Forest Alliance held their second annual Member Event at Auburn Manor near Thurmont. Nearly fifty people attended and enjoyed good fellowship and learned more about CFA. Pictured at left, Elizabeth Prongas acted as the emcee and provided an overview of CFA activities past and future. She then introduced each committee chairman. CFA gained eight new members at the event. A raffle for a live spruce tree, a photographic print by Don Frame and a 3L bottle of wine donated by Ye Old Spirit Shop was started that evening and continued through December. The winners

of the raffle were as follows: spruce tree, Gary Ritchie; the photographic print, Janet Springer; and the wine, Alex Gardiner. The proceeds of the raffle went to the CFA Scholarship Fund to help a Frederick County Environmental Science student with their education.

Thanks to everyone who donated to the raffle and bought tickets. Congratulations to the winners.

MOUNTAINSIDE

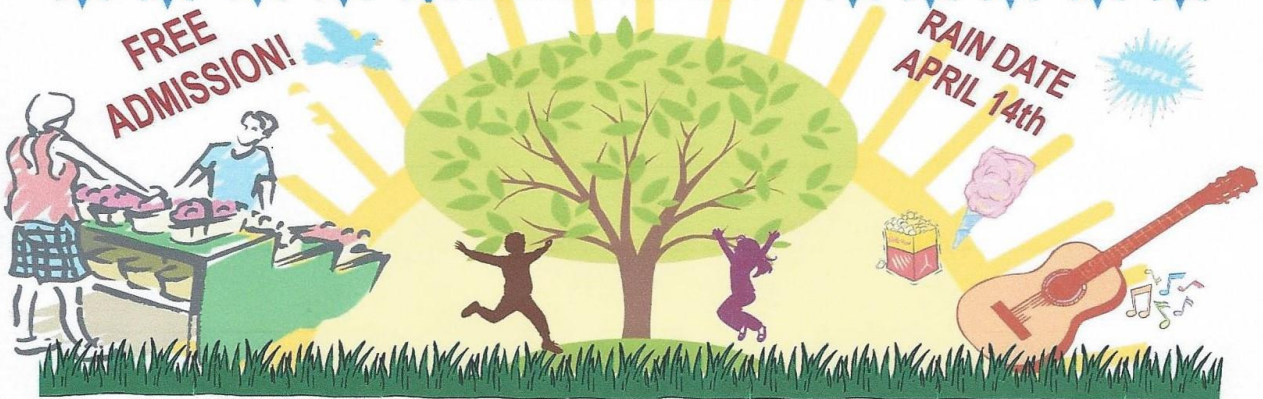
SPRING FEST

APRIL 13th 10-3

2914 Roderick Rd. Urbana

An Earth Day celebration that's fun for the whole family

FEATURING



LIVE MUSIC Local Musicians
School Choirs

SILENT AUCTION Raffle
Prizes

FARMER'S MARKET

CRAFTERS Giant Slides
Ropes Course **FOOD**

ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOS

MOUNTAINSIDE ENVIRO QUEST Fun For The
Whole Family

If you can help CFA man a booth at the Mountainside Spring Fest, please contact
lindasundergill@comcast.net



A Note from the CFA Vice President by Jim Robbins

I would like to invite everyone to the Annual Membership meeting that will be held on April 1, 2013 at the Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor's Center (6:00pm). This is the meeting where we will elect new officers for the coming year. Please also come prepared to give suggestions for a long range plan for our organization (a Strategic Plan for the next five (5) years), goals to accomplish for the next year and how we work toward achieving them. If you cannot make the meeting on the 1st of April but would like to have input, please forward an email to jimrobbins@comcast.net). I know that some of you indicated that you would like to work in the area of education and conservation. We will need your input to put together a program to work with youth groups that would like to do service and have a learning experience in the park, too. We are working with organizations to bring more youth and adults into the park to help restore the Park to its luster of days gone by. This is not an easy task but with your help and the parks we will accomplish our mission ("to preserve and promote the health of the Catoctin Mountain forest for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations").

I attended a great meeting on February 28, 2013 at Wolf Trap Foundation Education Center entitled "2013 Greater Washington National Parks – Partners Summit". What a great meeting and well done by the National Park Service. There were 150 non-profit organizations in attendance and about 50 from the NPS. Topics included the current budget issues, NPS Partnerships – overview of NPS partnerships, trends, and outlook, NPS Centennial – outlook on 2016/call to action and role of park partners, NPR National Marketing Campaign – news on the campaign for NPS with Grey Worldwide, NPS youth and workforce developments, partners round-robin, and nonprofit best practices – current philanthropic landscape and thriving in a tough economy.

One of the handouts was a small pamphlet by Brian O'Neill. For more than twenty-five years, Brian O'Neill as Superintendent of Golden Gate National Parks and his staff set the template for the National Park Service in regards to partnerships and civic engagement. Brian was a mentor and role model to many superintendents and leaders not only in the National Park Service, but the Forest Service. The pamphlet, mentioned 21 partnership success factors: 1) Focus on important needs, 2) Make the partnerships a win-win, 3) Adopt a shared vision, 4) Negotiate a formal agreement, 5) Ensure good communication, 6) ensure the partnership is owned by your whole organization, 7) Maintain an environment of trust, 8) Leave your ego and control at the door, 9) Understand each partner's mission or organizational culture, 10) Utilize strengths of each partner, 11) Find ways through the red tape, 12) Build step by step, 13) Strive for excellence, 14) Diversify your funding sources, 15) Constantly seek out and adopt best practices, 16) Always be courteous and diplomatic, 17) Honor your commitments, 18) Celebrate success, 19) respect the right to disagree: Act on a consensus basis, 20) Network and build relationships, and 21) Put mechanisms in place to re-enforce the partnership. I will go into greater detail on each of the 21 success factors and have it available at the Membership meeting April 1, 2013.



Earth Day Celebration and Festival of Art 2013

On Saturday April 27th 11am until 4pm, the Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies is sponsoring an Earth Day Celebration and Festival of Art at Renfrew Park in Waynesboro, PA. To download a copy of the flyer for the event, go to

<http://www.renfrewinstitute.org/pdf/EarthDay-2012-Front.pdf>

Trout in the Classroom comes to Catoctin Mountain Park for Tree Planting

by John Smucker



On Saturday April 6th, five local middle school science classes will visit Catoctin Mountain Park for a tree planting next to Little Hunting Creek; a cold water trout stream. The students participating in the event are part of Trout in the Classroom, a program that provides kids with the experience of raising Rainbow Trout from eggs to fingerlings (minnow size) before they are released into designated streams.

It's a bit of a challenge to raise trout from eggs because they are very sensitive to environmental conditions. The kids carefully monitor water temperature, pH and nitrogen because, if anything is out of balance, the fish can easily die.

The equipment that is used to raise the fish is unique because of the chillers and specialized aerators. Trout need cold water to survive-- 52-55 degrees. At these temps, the water holds on to more oxygen. Since trout require more oxygen than other fresh water fish, they can only be found in really healthy streams that are cold and well oxygenated, like Little Hunting creek.



The tree planting on April 6th is being organized by Kevin Anderson from Trout Unlimited and John Smucker from the CFA. 270 trees will be planted in the spring, and then another four hundred will be planted in the fall.

While the students are out at the site, they will get a chance to search through a leaf pack. Leaf packs are long tubular mesh bags that get stuffed with leaves and are submerged in the stream. Macro invertebrates migrate to these clusters to feed. Before the planting, the packs will be pulled from the water and searched through to identify what stream bugs live in the stream. In cold, well oxygenated water, there are lots of macro invertebrates for trout to feed on.



Having Trout in the Classroom kids out to this event is unique because the students have a strong knowledge base to work with. It is a great opportunity to show them a cold water stream, something that's unique. It's also great because they will be able to plant trees, something that is needed to keep the stream cold and is also that's going to be really fun.





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Catoctin Mountain Park News Release

March 10, 2013
For Immediate Release
Debra Mills

Amish Volunteers Assist with Cabin Preservation at Catoctin Mountain Park

Twelve members of the Indiana Amish Anabaptist Service Program from Nappanee, Indiana, have volunteered to help with preservation and restoration of historic cabins at Camp Misty Mount in Catoctin Mountain Park. Eight young men and an experienced work leader will spend one month restoring rustic cabins constructed originally as part of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal program in 1937. The Amish group, working under the direction of Catoctin historic preservation carpenters Mark Hauver and Roger Pickett, will strip designated cabins to original components then restore, replace or re-create structural elements using historically accurate techniques and materials.

The group journeyed from Indiana by train and is staying in park housing. The work crew is accompanied by house parents who manage activities outside the work day. Approximately 20 Nappanee Community members will travel from Indiana to Thurmont to check on the group's progress and tour the area for at least one weekend during the project. The additional community members will stay in local motels and tour local attractions. The Catoctin Project is part of a larger program that provides Amish men ages 19-25, an opportunity to serve their country without joining the military. This service does not come without sacrifice as the participants must leave gainful employment and pay their personal expenses for the month long project.

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Tree Planting

+ Environmental Education

Day

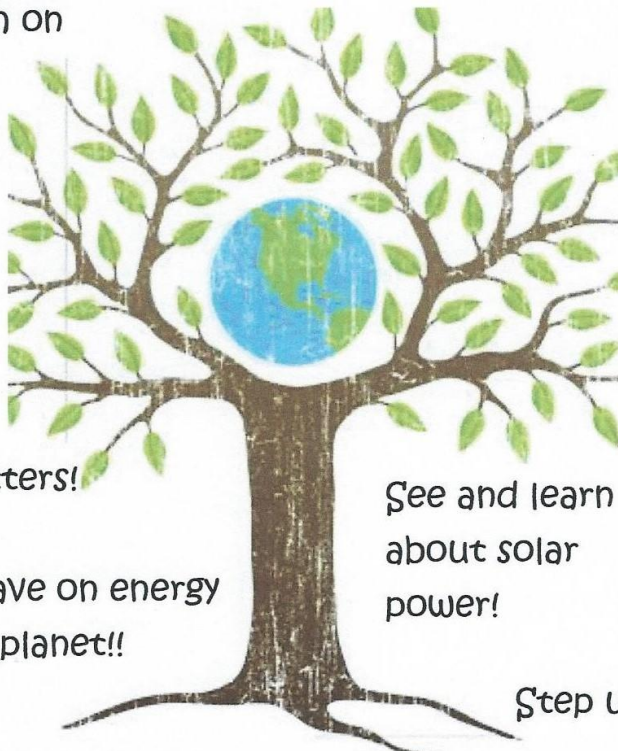
Plant trees & give back to Mother Earth on Earth Day!

See an electric car up close!

Catch a trout or tie a fly!

Live native critters!

Learn tips to save on energy bills & save the planet!!



Learn about your Carbon footprint & how it affects future generations!

Get that warm fuzzy feeling from volunteering & being part of the solution!

See and learn about solar power!

See electro-fishing!

Step up & TAKE ACTION!

What: A tree planting with lots of cool environmental learning opportunities, from electrofishing to electric cars!!!

When: April 20, 2013, 9a.m. until 3:30 pm, Education activities begin after lunch

Where: Warfield Complex, Main St & Rt 32 in Sykesville (watch for signs)

Who: Hosted by Venturing Crew 202- all ages invited!!!

For more info or to RSVP (requested, not required):

crew202tree@gmail.com

Bring a drink, lunch & a few friends...& If you have them, shovel & gloves--
DON'T MISS THE BIGGEST ENVIRONMENTAL EVENT IN COUNTY HISTORY!!!

ULTRA LONG-DISTANCE BACKPACKER AND AUTHOR ANDREW SKURKA

Andrew Skurka has backpacked more than 30,000 miles, including a 4,700-mile 6-month Alaska-Yukon Expedition, a 6,875-mile 7-month Great Western Loop, and a 7,775-mile 11-month Sea-to-Sea Route across North America.



- ✓ *Men's Journal* Adventurer Hall of Fame, 2005
- ✓ *Backpacker* "Person of the Year," 2005
- ✓ National Geographic Society "Adventurer of the Year," 2007
- ✓ *Outside* "Adventurer of the Year," 2011



the TRAIL HOUSE

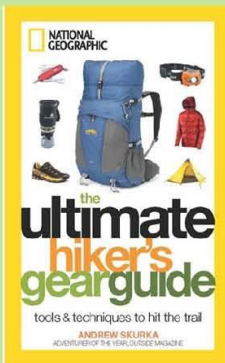
17 South Market Street
Downtown Frederick, MD 21701
301.694.8448



8848 Indian Springs Road
Frederick, MD 21702
301-695-1814
Toll free - 866.455.8672



BACKPACKING SKILLS & GEAR CLINIC



Mr. Skurka will be happy to autograph your copy of his book. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

DATE: March 20, 2013

TIME: 7—9 pm Doors open at 6 pm.

WHERE: Evangelical Reformed Church
15 W. Church St., Frederick, MD.
USNG: 18S TJ 92409 65674 (NAD 83)
DMS: 39° 24' 56.226" N 77° 24' 40.960" W

COST: \$10 per person in advance.
\$15 at the door.

Youth in scout uniform will receive two free raffle tickets at the door.

Seating is limited. Tickets can be purchased at the Trail House or contact the Crew at venturecrew394@gmail.com.

Parking is available at the city parking garages on Church street & on Court street.

Proceeds will benefit Venturing Crew 394's high-adventure fund. Venturing is a program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women between the ages of 13 and 21. Venturing strives to provide positive experiences to help youth mature and to prepare them to become responsible adults.

Andrew Skurka will host an instructional clinic, "**Ultimate Hiking Gear and Skills**," in which he will explain and demonstrate how to make the hiking component of a backpacking trip more fun, instead of it being an arduous activity between campsites. He focuses not just on lightweight equipment, but on skills that keep a backpacker safe and comfortable with a minimum of possessions.

LEARN THE SECRETS OF ONE OF THE BEST!

CFA Website

Visit our website at www.catoctinforall.org



These children designed the garden and planted native flowers in front of the Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor's Center as part of the First Bloom Project, sponsored by Catoctin Mountain Park and CFA. Your membership dues and your energy can help to promote more programs like First Bloom.

2013 Membership Drive

Our membership drive for 2013 is still underway. All dues are renewed in December. See sliding scale for dues below, based on the month that you join. To join CFA or renew your membership, please send a check made out to CFA and the membership application form to the address below

**CFA, C/O Linda Sundergill
Membership Chairman
7015 Sunday's Lane
Frederick, MD 21702**

Dues Schedule:

Joining Month	Per Person	Per Couple
Dec- Feb.	\$20	\$30
Mar-May	\$15	\$25
June-Aug	\$10	\$20
Sept-Nov.	\$5	\$15

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Committee Interest

Strategic Planning _____

Membership _____

Conservation/Education _____

Fundraising _____

Artist in Residence _____

Marketing/Publicity _____

Information Technology _____

Finance _____