



The Catoctin Forest Alliance Bulletin

www.catoctinforestalliance.org

Newsletter of the CFA

Vol. 6 No. 3 July 2016

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

Camp CATOCTIN Brings Children off the Couch and Into the Woods

By Debbie Mills

The responses are in. The decision is unanimous. Camp CATOCTIN is a pilot program worthy of repetition.

Thirty eight 4th grade students from Westminster Elementary School in Westminster, MD chose to enhance their first week of summer vacation, June 27 through July 1, with a week of fun and adventure in Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park.

The 4th graders met at the Meadow Branch Church in Westminster each day for bus transportation to various locations and a day of adventure in the parks. Westminster Elementary School Teacher, Amanda Frushour, and Frederick County Outdoor School Teacher, Brenda Newhouse, guided the children, teaching them outdoor skills and science and social studies lessons in the outdoors. Students may forget some of the academic material, but the realization that getting wet in a sudden downpour or from inadvertently stepping into a stream does not spell disaster will last a lifetime. Universal revelations were the discovery that getting dirty doesn't end the fun and getting misdirected on the trail doesn't mean you and everything are lost.

Tenth graders Noah Worsley, and Emily Horrigan who were introduced to the National Parks as 4th graders participating in the First Bloom program in 2010, assisted the teachers as Junior Counselors. CFA Artist in Residence Linda Johnston was official camp photographer and journaling instructor. Retired Park Ranger Susan Burke managed food delivery and Eddie Main, Retired Frederick County Outdoor School Principal, led the students on a memorable geology hike.

The story of Camp CATOCTIN is told best by students and parents:

“... had a blast. It was her first time going to camp and hiking, She wants to go back.”

“... Thank you for providing this wonderful experience for my daughter and her friends. The park pass is an awesome bonus. We will try to use it as much as we can this summer.”

“...I learned that it can be fun to get dirty and wet. I would love to go back again.”

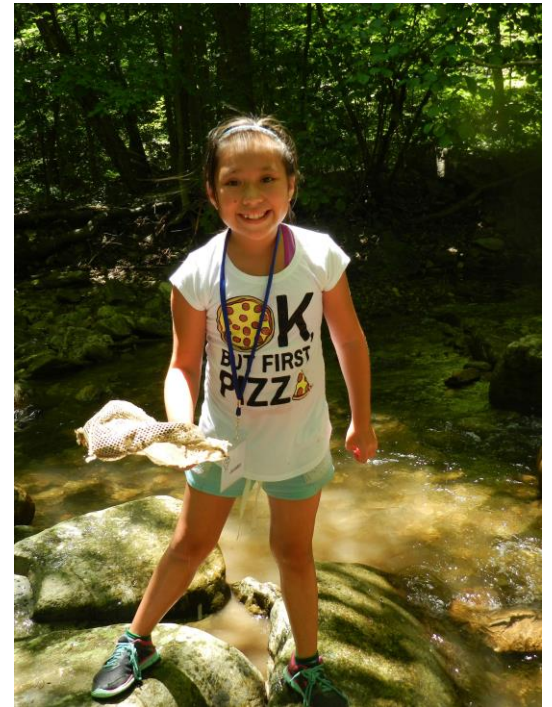
“Thank you and the staff for a great job and the park staff for hosting this summer event.”

The Catoctin Forest Alliance, working in partnership with Catoctin Mountain Park developed Camp CATOCTIN (Children Attaining Objective Critical Thinking Inspired by Nature) as a means to introduce urban children to the concept of environmental stewardship and of the importance of national and state parks. The National Park Foundation provided primary funding through the Every Kid in a Park grant program. Dr. Jun Bae of Family Dentistry of Maryland outfitted the children and staff with camp t-shirts. Cindy McKane-Wagester sponsored crafts and a special make your own sundae afternoon snack.

Please contact CFA Director of Programs, Debra Mills at debbiemills11770@gmail.com for further information on this year's program or to provide support or input for future camps.



Summer Fun at Camp Catoctin



Note from Our President—Jim Robbins

Summer is in full swing and CFA just finished Camp CATOCTIN for 38 fourth graders in the mountains. What a wonderful week full of activities for the youth and some outstanding leadership lead by Debbie Mills. The youth learned about the history of the NPS and the Catoctin Mountain Park, made tote bags, worked on a journal for the week (with artist Linda Johnston), trail hikes, learned about invasive plants, Owens Creek water quality trip, scales and Tails Program from CFSP, geology hike with Eddie Main and ended with a picnic at Cunningham Falls State Park on Friday. To learn more please visit *The Frederick News Post* July 2, 2016 article in the *Local & State Section page A6*. We thank the National Park Foundation for the Every Kid in The Park Grant that made all this possible.

The next project is the Centennial Extravaganza on August 27, 2016 from 10:00am – 3:00pm. This will mark the 100th birthday party for the National Park Service. Mark your calendars now to be part of the festivities. In addition to the activities listed in Debbie's article below, there will be an Artist in Residence display, Sassafras display of paintings by John Wyson in a book that CFA will be publishing based on *Sassafras* by Avadna Coghill, CFSP exhibit, Scales & Tails, Boy Scout units with demonstrations, music, history of NPS and CMP, ranger led hikes, Erin Aylor at the Totem Pole talking about the design, Avadna Coghill stories of *Sassafras* and *Ken the War Dog*, and that is not all. We are looking for volunteers to help and if you are interested please contact Debbie Mills (debbiehills11770@gmail.com) or Jim Robbins (jimrobbins@comcast.net).

We are always looking for membership to help us grow and help us with projects. We understand that everyone's time is valuable and we promise that any time that you can give us will be rewarding. Think about spending some time with us and remember to visit your mountains.

Centennial Extravaganza to Celebrate the National Park 100th Anniversary

By Debbie Mills

The Catoctin Forest Alliance is partnering with Catoctin Mountain Park to present a Centennial Extravaganza at Camp Greentop in celebration of the National Park Service 100th Anniversary on Saturday, August 27.

The multi-faceted event, to be held in an open house format from 10a.m. until 3p.m. will showcase significant events in the history of Catoctin Mountain Park. Day-long activities and displays will include demonstrations of traditional mountain crafts, interactive Boy Scout activities, the 4th annual Frederick County Outdoor School Reunion, live music, a children's tent and exhibits by the League for People with Disabilities, local fire and rescue groups, Cunningham Falls State Park, the Catoctin Artist in Residence program and the Catoctin Forest Alliance.

Special programs to be held on the hour and half hour include interpretive programs on the history of the National Park System and Catoctin Mountain Park, a discussion of Resource Management issues, ranger led discovery hikes, and the story of the OSS at Catoctin.

The first 200 visitors will receive a unique commemorative coin prepared for this event. Further details will be provided as the date approaches. Please check the Catoctin Forest Alliance and Catoctin Mountain Park websites and Facebook pages for updates.

Please contact CFA Director of Programs, Debra Mills at debbiemills11770@gmail.com, if you or your group would like to participate in the event or for further information.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Catoctin Mountain Park

6602 Foxville Road
Thurmont, MD 21788

(301) 663-9330 phone
(301) 271-2764 fax
CATO_Superintendent@nps.gov

June 22, 2016
For Immediate Release
Peggie Gaul, 301-663-9388, peggie_gaul@nps.gov

CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN PARK ANNOUNCES SUMMER PROGRAMS

THURMONT, MD – Catoctin Mountain Park is planning special summer programs. Visitors should check the website: www.nps.cato or our Facebook page or call the visitor center 301-663-9388 for updates.

Saturday, July 16, 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. Hands-on Trail Workshop - Learn how to improve the grade and tread of a trail with this hands-on workshop while helping to preserve and restore a section of park trail. No experience necessary. Space is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 301-663-9388 or email Ron_Harvey@nps.gov. FREE

Saturday, July 16, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. K-9 Search and Rescue: Hug-a-Tree. The Western Maryland K-9 Search and Rescue group will educate children on basic and vital survival principles that can help save their lives and help them be found if they are ever lost or separated from their parents/guardians. A live K-9 demonstration will reinforce the lessons learned. Program courtesy of our 2016 partnership with Frederick County Public Libraries. This program is designed for children (ages 3-5 and elementary) with an adult. Chestnut Picnic Area, GPS Address:15009 Park Central Road (Look for signs). Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE

Saturday, July 16, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Ranger Program. Meet at the Owens Creek Campground Amphitheater for a program about nature or the history of Catoctin Mountain Park. GPS Address: 15882 Foxville Deerfield Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE
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Saturday, July 23, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Ranger Program. Meet at the Owens Creek Campground Amphitheater for a program about nature or the history of Catoctin Mountain Park. GPS Address: 15882 Foxville Deerfield Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE

Friday, July 29, 6:00-8:30 p.m. Outdoor Skills for Teens. Discover essential camping skills from experienced instructors. Learn "Leave No Trace" principles, set up a tent, food prep, weather and other fun activities included while gaining an appreciation for the wildlife and environment in the Park. This program is in conjunction with the Frederick County Public Libraries. Grades 6-12. Register online at www.fcpl.org. Location: Camp Round Meadow, GPS address: 14840 Manahan Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Events signup starts on June 1, 2016 10:00 am. (Part Two is scheduled for Friday, August 5th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.) FREE

Saturday, July 30, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Blacksmith Demonstration. Join us at the historic WPA Blacksmith Shop at Camp Round Meadow and discover the history of blacksmithing on Catoctin Mountain. Demonstration will highlight the art and skill of forging and shaping metal. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE

Saturday, July 30, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Ranger Program. Meet at the Owens Creek Campground Amphitheater for a program about nature or the history of Catoctin Mountain Park. GPS Address: 15882 Foxville Deerfield Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE

Sunday, July 31, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Charcoal Trail Walk and Rubbing. Join us for an easy 1/2 mile walk on the Charcoal Trail and enjoy the outdoor museum. Learn about trees in the park and do a charcoal leaf rubbing. The trail is about a mile past the Visitor Center on Park Central Rd. For all ages. This program is in conjunction with the Frederick County Public Libraries. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. FREE

Friday, August 5, 2016, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Outdoor Skills for Teens, Part II. Use "Leave No Trace" principles to learn how to safely prepare a campfire for simple outdoor meals and basic first aid. Outdoor cooking will include hotdogs and roasting marshmallows over the campfire. Attendance of Part 1 of this program is not mandatory. Grades 6-12. Register online at www.fcpl.org. Location: Camp Round Meadow, GPS address: 14840 Manahan Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Events signup starts on June 1, 2016 10:00 am. **FREE** **Saturday, August 6, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Hands-on Trail Workshop** - Learn how to improve the grade and tread of a trail with this hands-on workshop while helping to preserve and restore a section of park trail. No experience necessary. Space is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 301-663-9388 or email Ron_Harvey@nps.gov. **FREE**

Saturday, August 13, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Salamander Safari. Explore the woods looking for salamanders and find out what they can tell us about our environment. Lead by Frederick County Outdoor Teacher, Scott McIntosh. Meet at Owens Creek Campground Amphitheater, 15882 Foxville Deerfield Road, Sabillasville, MD 21780. Call the visitor center for details 301-663-9388. **FREE**

Saturday, August 20, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Hands-on Trail Workshop - Learn how to improve the grade and tread of a trail with this hands-on workshop while helping to preserve and restore a section of park trail. No experience necessary. Space is limited. Reservations can be made by calling 301-663-9388 or email Ron_Harvey@nps.gov. **FREE**

Thursday, August 25, Happy Anniversary National Park Service!

Saturday, August 27, 10:00- 3:00 p.m. Centennial Extravaganza at Camp Greentop

Catoctin Mountain Park is one of 411 national parks cared for by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. 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.

Centennial Volunteer Challenge

The National Park Service's centennial year is here, and we want to encourage everyone take part in the celebration! We invite people of all ages to find their park and discover the national parks in their community through volunteerism. Registered volunteers who contribute **201.6** hours of service between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016 can earn a Centennial Volunteer Challenge Coin (CVCC)!

How it Works:

Criteria

- Recipient(s) must be registered national park volunteers (youth, adults, groups).
- CVCCs are issued for service hours served between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016.
- Awards are issued for volunteer service only.
- Court-ordered community service does not qualify.
- Volunteers must track their own hours and provide dates, hours served, and a brief description of the service provided. A tracking form is included on the next page.
- Service must be approved and verified by the park or program volunteer manager/coordinator.
- Awards are issued by regional and national volunteer managers.

Eligibility

- Only hours served during the 12-month period of the centennial year will count towards the award.

The Award

- A custom-made, antique bronze coin, featuring a raised image of the NPS volunteer logo on one side and the 2016 NPS centennial logo on the opposite side.
- In addition to the coin, recipients will receive a congratulatory letter from the Director of the National Park.



to

Questions can be directed to Ernestine White, at erenstine_white@nps.gov or 202-513-7157.

Centennial Volunteer Challenge Timesheet



Volunteer Name _____ Volunteer Title _____

Month / Time Period _____

Supervisor Name _____ Phone# _____

Date	Description of work	Total Hours Worked

Total Hours Contributed _____

Volunteer Manager/Coordinator's Signature

Date

Volunteer Manager/Coordinator's Email Address

Name of National Park Unit

FREDERICK COUNTY'S MOST SCENIC 5K

The 2nd Annual

FRIENDS 5K

FUN RUN/WALK and TOT TROT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2016



5K – Challenging, paved course near Hunting Creek Lake in Cunningham Falls Park's Houck Area. 9 am.

Fun Run / Walk – A paved 1.4-mile stroller-friendly event near Hunting Creek Lake and Cunningham Falls. 9:05 am.

Tot Trot – A sprint for the youngsters! 8:50 am.

A family-friendly event!

FOOD

PRIZES

For more information/online registration:

<https://www.runningahead.com/events/Friends5K/2016-10-30>

Proceeds benefit the Friends of Cunningham Falls State Park and Gambrill State Park www.cunninghamgambrill.org a 501(C)3 charitable organization. The Friends provide volunteer time and donations to support park programming, infrastructure and special events.





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Catoctin Mountain Park

6602 Foxville Road
Thurmont, MD 21788

(301) 663-9330 phone
(301) 271-2764 fax
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Catoctin Mountain Park News Release

June 21, 2016

For Immediate Release

Jeff Filosa, 301-663-9552, jeffrey_filosa@nps.gov

CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN PARK ALLOWS BOULDERING

THURMONT, MD –After being closed to bouldering for several years, Catoctin Mountain Park will open bouldering access in all areas of the park. As the National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary, the park is pleased to allow the local climbing community a chance to discover one of the national parks in their own backyard.

Located approximately an hour from both the Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD metro areas, Catoctin Mountain Park is the perfect place for the diverse community of urban climbers to escape from the city and enjoy their public lands. Catoctin Mountain Park is home to high quality bouldering opportunities—located within corridors of the Gateway Trail east of the Catoctin Mountain Park Headquarters and along the Hog Rock Trail west of the Visitor Center—at a variety of difficulty levels. Bouldering is defined as a form of rock climbing that is performed without the use of ropes or harnesses. The park also contains opportunities for technical roped climbing at Wolf Rock. Permits must be obtained from Recreation.gov prior to engaging in technical roped climbing.

Park managers worked with two non-profit climbing groups, Access Fund and Mid Atlantic Climbers, to evaluate the possibility of allowing expanded climbing and bouldering opportunities. The ongoing partnership will not only result in increased climbing access but will engage a wider range of visitors in the preservation and protection of park resources.

”It’s gratifying to be able to make additional recreational opportunities available to visitors, thanks to the diligent work of park staff and the dedicated professionals at the Access Fund,” says Rick Slade, superintendent at Catoctin Mountain Park. “We would like to welcome the climbing and bouldering community to experience everything the park has to offer during the Centennial celebration of the National Park Service. In that spirit, we encourage everyone to look for ways to get outdoors and “Find Your Park.”

"Last year, I asked Mid Atlantic Climbers which regional access issue was most important to resolve," says Access Fund policy director Erik Murdock. "They said they wanted bouldering access at Catoctin Mountain Park, and we set to work developing common sense solutions that would work for the park. To say that I am excited about this outcome would be an understatement."

“Catoctin Mountain Park contains some of the most sought after bouldering and climbing opportunities in northern Maryland, and our members are excited to take advantage of this restored climbing access,” says Chris Irwin, President of Mid Atlantic Climbers. “They are also eager to participate in Adopt-a-Crag events this fall and in the future to help minimize climber impacts and otherwise assist the Park.”

In 2016 the National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary, which kicks off a second century of stewardship of America's national parks by engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs. For additional information, go to <https://www.nps.gov/centennial>.

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Catoctin Mountain Park is one of 411 national parks cared for by the National Park Service. For more information on the park and its programs, please check the website at www.nps.gov/cato or call the Visitor Center at (301) 663-9388. The visitor center is open daily 10-5 with extended seasonal hours and closed Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1.



Tuesday, October 18, 2016

9AM to 11PM

Join us in supporting our
Community Agencies and Organizations!

**YOUR \$5 SHOPPING PASS
BUYS A FULL DAY OF:**

- 25% Off Discount Shopping Pass
- Refreshments • Entertainment
- Fabulous Register to Win Prizes

All Shopping Pass proceeds benefit participating
local non-profit agencies and organizations.

For Shopping Passes or Information, Contact:

Catoctin Forest Alliance 301-271-7270

www.catoctinforestalliance.org

Calendar of Events 2016

July	No Meetings
August 6	General Membership Meeting with speaker
August 25	100 th Birthday of the National Park Service
August 27	Centennial Extravaganza
September 17	LDS Service Day in parks
September 28	Board Meeting
October 26	Board Meeting
November 5	General Membership Meeting with speaker
November 14	Catoctin Mountain Park 80 th birthday

We Welcome You to Join CFA

We'd love to have you join us in our mission to protect the Catoctin Mountain forest. As you have seen in this newsletter, we have many programs planned for 2016. Your support would be a great benefit to us and the forest.

To join CFA or renew your membership, please send the membership application form and a check made out to **Catoctin Forest Alliance** to the address below. The cost is \$20 per person or \$30 per couple.

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

New members will receive a CFA patch



Anyone joining a committee will receive a CFA vest



Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Committee Interest

Strategic Planning ____	Membership ____	Conservation/Education ____
Fundraising ____	Artist in Residence ____	Marketing/Publicity ____
Information Technology ____	Finance ____	

Visit our new website at www.catoctinforestalliance.org