

Using the Schedule

Hikes in the schedule are graded according to difficulty using the table below. Consult the hike leader for a more specific appraisal.

E	Easy hike, 2-5 miles. Expect good trails, often old roads
EM	Easy to Moderate, 3-6 miles. Expect steeper trails and more hills
M	Moderate, 5-8 miles. Trails may be difficult walking in places
MS	Moderate to Strenuous. Expect longer hikes with more climbing, perhaps bushwacking
S	Strenuous. Expect long hikes and hill climbing with large elevation gains, bushwacking

Other standard acronym's used in the hike descriptions are:

HD	Hiking Distance
DD	Driving Distance
MRT	Miles Round Trip

You may drive your own car if you wish. However, carpooling is suggested to save gasoline and because parking at trailheads is often limited. The hike leader is responsible for arranging transportation. The amount to help defray car expenses is noted on the schedule and should be given to your driver. If you are unable to contact the hike leader and the weather is suitable for hiking, it is suggested you go to the meeting place as planned.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY

There are certain risks that are inherent in any hike or other club activity. These include, but are not limited to, weather conditions, trail conditions, ticks, wildlife, plant and insect allergens, etc. Each NBATC member, guest, or non-member agrees to accept responsibility for his or her own safety. Adults who are accompanied by minors agree to accept responsibility for those minors. Hike leaders are responsible for hike organization, reasonable instruction and guidance, and proper documentation. Hike participants are responsible for following this reasonable guidance and instruction. By signing the hike sign-up form, each hike participant is affirming that he/she has read and understands these responsibilities.

Before You Go

If you are planning to go on a hike, please call the hike leader at least the evening before the hike. That's not only a courtesy to the hike leader, but also an aid to planning transportation to the trail head. Hiking in each season can require very different types and amounts of equipment, but food, water, and layered clothing are a minimum. If you have any doubt contact the hike leader for more information.

NBATC Hike Meeting Places

Madison Height Lowe's – This is the River James Shopping Center on Business-29. Meet on the far left side of the parking lot, close to the access road.

Boonsboro Shopping Center – On Boonsboro Road. Meet on the Starbucks side of the shopping center.

Buena Vista Food Lion – On US 60 west of downtown Buena Vista. Meet on the side of the parking lot adjacent to US 60.

Fairview Square Shopping Center – Off Campbell Avenue just before the US 460 exit (turn at Burger King).

Forest Square Shopping Center – On Rt 221 in Forest. Meet near BB&T Bank.

Waterlick Plaza – On Timberlake Road (Rt 460 Business). Meet near Wells Fargo Bank.

Other Hiking opportunities

Wednesday Work Hikes – We have work hikes almost every Wednesday. If you are interested in a trail work during the week, please contact Eric Anderson in Moneta at 540-721-1994 (eric.anderson.sml@gmail.com) or Trudy Phillips in Lynchburg at 434-384-4870 (trudyephillips@gmail.com).

Thursday Hikes – For easy-to-moderate hikes, contact Dot Craig at 540-586-0519 (dcspirit1@aol.com). For moderate-to-strenuous hikes, contact Bev Henderson at 540-583-5289 (ranbhenderson114@gmail.com).

Friday Hikes – If Friday is a more convenient day to go hiking, call Mary Jane Davis at 434-841-7630, Herb Vreeland at 434-219-9849 or Laura Jones at 434-221-1797. Hike with the "Day Flowers."

Saturday Work Hikes – We have work hikes almost every Saturday. If you are interested, call Jason Hammer at 434-401-4204 for the meeting place and time.

Jan 2019

Sat Jan 05 Hike #6117(EM)
Hercules Road to Matts Creek Shelter HD:6
Leader:Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
Carpool will drive to the Foot Bridge then
the Hercules Road trailhead (DD:40 MRT,
\$3)

Come join us on this wonderful A.T. hike with only a few hundred feet elevation rise and beautiful water views of Rocky Row Run, the James River and Matts Creek. The winter season will offer wonderful unrestricted views of the creeks, valleys and distant mountains. We will take time to enjoy the sights and sounds at Matts Creek Shelter while having lunch, before heading back on the A.T. and to cars on Hercules Road. Please call the hike leader to sign up for his hike and let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jan 06 Hike #6118(S)
Bushwhack Sharp Top Mountain HD:5
Leader:Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
10:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center
- Arrive at the Sharp Top Parking Area
about 10:35 AM (DD:45 MRT, \$3)

This hike will leave the Sharp Top Trail near Buzzard's Roost and bushwhack some very steep and slippery grades. Our destination is the 1943 crash site of a B-25 bomber on the eastern slope of the mountain. There is much to see in the expansive debris field. Total elevation gain will be about 1750 ft. Please call the hike leader to reserve your place on the hike and tell him where you will meet the group. NOTE: Limited to 12 hikers...Hiking sticks and excellent gripping boots or hiking shoes are required.

Sat Jan 12 Hike #6119(EM)
Foot Bridge Lollipop to Sheppes Pond HD:5
Leader:Coby Pieterman, 540-586-8464
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
Meet the hike leader at the Foot Bridge
about 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

We'll take the A.T. along scenic Rocky Row Run, then cross Hercules Road and continue to Johns Hollow Shelter. From there, we follow a blue blaze trail to Sheppes Pond and back to Hercules Road where we will follow the A.T. back to the Foot Bridge. Call the hike leader to join the hike and to let her know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jan 13 Hike #6120(MS)
Sulphur Ridge, A.T., Sulphur Spring, A.T.,
Sulphur Ridge Lollipop HD:9
Leader:Nancy Anthony, 434-283-5431
8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center
(DD:70 MRT, \$4)

We will start our hike on the Sulphur Ridge Trail and hike north to the junction with the A.T. We'll proceed on the A.T. to Marble Spring and on to 5-Points and the junction with the Sulphur Spring Trail crossing. We will hike the A.T. north to the next Sulphur Spring crossing and take the Sulphur Spring Trail south roughly paralleling the A.T. back to 5-Points where we will complete the lollipop portion of the hike. Finally, we'll re-hike the "stick" of the lollipop back to the cars.

Sat Jan 19 Hike #6121(M)
High Bridge Rail Trail HD:8
Leader:T. C. Harvey, 434-352-8763
9:00 AM @ Fairview Square Shopping Center
- Meet Hike Leader at the Appomattox
Kroger Shopping Center (DD:80 MRT, \$4)

Come explore the historic High Bridge Trail near Farmville, VA. The converted railroad bridge is 1/2 mile long, stands 120 feet high and spans the beautiful and wide Appomattox River Valley. We will start at the parking area and hike across the bridge then down into the river valley to view the bridge's structure from below. After climbing back to the rail trail we will hike back to our starting point on the old railroad bed. Please call the hike leader to join the hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Jan 20 Hike #6122(EM)
Meet Up Hike: Peaks View Park Trails HD:3
/ 5
Leader:Larry Scott, 434-525-7126
1:30 PM @ Peaks View Park, Ardmore Drive
- Meet the hike leader in the parking area
near the Ardmore Drive park entrance
(Local)

NBATC invites members and non-members to meet up and hike some of the many trails in Peaks View Park. We'll meet in the Ardmore Drive parking area and collectively decide which trails to hike. Hikers can opt out at three miles or continue hiking. Minors must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult. Dogs must be kept on leash and owners must come prepared to clean up after their pets. Please call the hike leader if you need information or want to join his hike.

Sat Jan 26 Hike #6123(MS)

The Cardinal HD:8

Leader:Mike McCormack, 434-384-1944

8:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - form carpool & meet other hikers at Long Mountain Wayside about 8:50 AM (DD:70 MRT, \$4)

This is a great winter season hike. This distinctive "minor" bushwhack hike is challenging but rewarding with beautiful views along the way. Come along and see what is on top of one of the dominant peaks in the "Religious Range." Please call the hike leader to join the hike and tell him where you will join the group.

Sun Jan 27 Hike #6124(M)

Falling Creek Park, Bedford County HD:6

Leader:Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843

9:00 AM @ Waterlick Plaza (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

Join us on this enjoyable hike in Bedford County. This park has lots of trails, offering hikes alongside a pond, through woods and along a creek. Falling Creek Park address...1257 County Farm Road, Bedford. Please contact the hike leader to let him know you are joining the hike and where you will meet the group.

Feb 2019

Sat Feb 02 Hike #6125(EM)

Blue Ridge Rail Trail HD:6 / 14

Leader:T. Upshur, 434-610-8808

9:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Meet other hikers at trail head about 9:35 AM (Rt 151, Piney River, VA) (DD:50 MRT, \$3)

This is a relatively easy (flat) in-and-out hike that follows the Piney River for 7-miles, starting at the old railroad depot on Rt. 151. Hikers can choose to walk more or less mileage at their own discretion. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Feb 03 Hike #6126(M)

Blackwater Creek Loop Hike HD:6

Leader:Roger Park, 434-228-5036

10:00 AM @ Percival's Island Parking Lot (Local)

Starting at the Percival's Island parking lot, we will follow the River Walk toward Blackwater Creek. Then we will enter the Hollins Tunnel and continue hiking until intersecting with Brunswick Trail. We will reverse course until intersecting Point of Honor Trail, which will take us to the dam and waterfall, before heading back to our cars. Hiking sticks are recommended because there may be some ice in the tunnel. Please call the hike leader to let him know you want to join his hike.

Sat Feb 09 Hike #6127(MS)

Jennings Creek x 2 HD:8

Leader:Mike McCormack, 434-384-1944

8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center (DD:60 MRT, \$4)

Our hike will begin where the A.T. crosses Jennings Creek. We will head south on the A.T., past the recently renovated Cove Mountain Shelter and new (2015) privy, to the junction with Little Cove Mountain Trail. Along the way, We will see wonderful views of the Purgatory Mountain summit and the Shenandoah Valley. We'll continue on the Little Cove Mountain Trail until it crosses Jennings Creek and then back to our cars. Please call the hike leader to join his hike.

Sun Feb 10 Hike #6128(E)

Meet Up Hike: Percival's Island HD:6

Leader:Jordan Welborn, 434-209-4935

1:30 PM @ Percival's Island Parking Lot (Local)

The Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club invites members and non-members to come out and hike some of the trails in the Blackwater Creek Trail System. We'll walk from the Percival's Island parking lot to the end of the trail on the Amherst side and back. It is all blacktop, level, with various wonderful winter views of the James River. If you don't want to walk the full 6 miles you can turn around at any time. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Please call the hike leader to join her hike.

Sat Feb 16 Hike #6129(MS)
Reservoir Hollow Trail HD:8
Leader:Coby Pieterman, 540-586-8464
8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
form carpool and meet leader at James River
Foot Bridge at 8:30 (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

The hike will begin in Buena Vista. We will encounter 6 creek crossings and be climbing a long hill up to the Blue Ridge Parkway. There are lots of trees to enjoy and some great open (winter) views. A picnic table awaits us for lunch when we arrive at Indian Gap, on the Parkway. After lunch we will travel back down the trail to our cars. Recommend you bring hiking sticks for the creek crossings. Please call the hike leader to join the hike and let her know where you will meet the group.

Sun Feb 17 Hike #6130(S)
Long Mountain Wayside to Punchbowl
Crossing on the A.T. HD:11
Leader:John Vosburgh, 540-348-6380
8:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Meet
the hike leader at the Rt. 60 Long Mountain
Wayside about 8:45 AM (DD:85 MRT, \$4)

This hike is on a historic section of NBATC maintained A.T. starting at the U.S. 60 Wayside. We'll hike south on the A.T. along Brown Mountain Creek and enjoy the winter views of the mountains before hiking alongside the beautiful Pedlar Reservoir and dam. After crossing over the Pedlar River, we will start our climb up Rice Mountain, heading to our destination on the Blue Ridge Parkway at Punchbowl Crossing. Please call the hike leader to reserve your place on the hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sat Feb 23 Hike #6131(M)
Peavine Lake to the Foot Bridge HD:6
Leaders:Laurel Foot, 434-384-0013; Gary
Nero, 434-384-0013
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - or
meet the hike leaders at the Foot Bridge
parking area about 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT,
\$3)

Starting at the camping area along Hercules Road, we'll hike trails and an old forest road to Peavine Lake wildlife area. The return route will be by way of Forest Service road 36E, a short section of the old A.T., and a section of the current A.T. along beautiful Rocky Row Run. Please call the hike leaders to join their hike and let them know where you will meet the group.

Sun Feb 24 Hike #6132(M)
Otter Creek Trail and Canal Locks HD:7
Leader:Mahendra Punatar, 434-221-0792
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - or
meet the group at the James River Visitor
Center at 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)

We will start with the tree covered Otter Creek Trail which follows Otter Creek past large rock formations, an old homestead, under the Blue Ridge Parkway and a CCC constructed rock dam which forms a fishing lake. After returning from Otter Creek Campground, the hike continues by crossing the James River on a foot bridge to view a beautiful and historic canal lock from the days of the pre-railroad Kanawa Canal. Hiking sticks are recommended to help maintain your balance on creek crossing stepping stones.

Mar 2019

Sat Mar 02 Hike #6133(M)
Little Rocky Row and Fullers Rocks HD:6
Leader:Kathy Fraley, 434-509-6949
8:30 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
Meet other hikers at the Foot Bridge parking
area to form a carpool to the trail (DD:50
MRT, \$3)

We will hike up the Little Rocky Row Trail starting at the Highway 501 trailhead, head north on the A.T. to Fuller Rocks and enjoy the view while having lunch. Then we will head down the mountain by using the same trail to the Highway 501 trailhead. Please call the hike leader to sign up for the hike and let her know if you will meet the group at the Boonsboro Shopping Center or the Foot Bridge.

Sun Mar 03 Hike #6134(M)
Bearwallow Gap to Cove Mountain Shelter
and return HD:7
Leaders:Patty Goggin, 434-665-6077; Elaine
Wallace
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
form carpool and meet hike leaders at Peaks
of Otter Visitor Center at 8:30 (DD:65 MRT,
\$3)

Our hike begins at Bearwallow Gap and will head north on the A.T. to the Cove Mountain Shelter, where we will have a snack before returning by the same route. This hike offers wonderful mountain and valley views. Please call Patty to join the hike and to let her know where you will meet the group. Home Phone: 540-587-6601...Cell Phone: 434-665-6077.

Sat Mar 09 Hike #6135(MS)
Hike Leader's Choice HD:8 / 10
Leader:Mike McCormack, 434-384-1944
8:30 AM Contact hike leader (DD:65 MRT, \$4)

Hike Leader, Mike McCormack, will announce the location of his hike one week before via Blast email.

Sun Mar 10 Hike #6136(E)
Claytor Nature Center Trails HD:4
Leaders:Bob Flint, 434-841-7633; Polly Flint
1:30 PM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
or 2:00 PM at entrance at 1844 Woods Road
(DD:30 MRT, \$3)

The 470-acre Claytor Nature Study Center encompasses freshwater streams, woodlands, wetlands, grasslands, rare plants, wildlife, and a portion of the Big Otter River. The 18th century farm and plantation house were given to Lynchburg College by A. Boyd Claytor III as an education and research center for environmental study and to preserve the land for future generations. We'll hike the nature trails that wind their way through the preserve. Please Note: No dogs allowed on this hike.

Tue Mar 12 Hike #6137(VS)
Xtreme Adventure Hike: McAfee Knob and Tinker Cliffs HD:13
Leaders:David Agnor, 614-323-5310; Peggy Agnor
8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center -
form carpool and meet leader at the Daleville Kroger about 8:50 (DD:140 MRT, \$5)

Special Tuesday Edition Weekend Hike to avoid parking issues at the trailhead. We start at the US 311 A.T. crossing and hike past McAfee Knob, The Kitchen, Tinker Cliffs and Scorched Earth Gap where we take the Andy Lane Trail down to Virginia 779. A second carpool will form at the Lexington Food Lion at 8:00 AM and drive to the Daleville Kroger, arriving about 8:50. This is a run-around hike. Contact the hike leaders (614-323-5310 or dsagnor@gmail.com) to reserve your place on the hike and tell where you will meet the group.

Sat Mar 16 Hike #6138(E)
Adopt-a-Highway HD:3
Leader:Ken Hawkins, 540-817-9640
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center -
meet hike leader near junction of Rts. 501
and 130 about 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, \$3)
NBATC cleans up litter along a section of US 501 and VA 130 near the A.T. crossing at the Foot Bridge. Please come out and help keep our area free of litter and earn some maintenance hours, too! Please call Ken (540-817-9640) or email (roberthawkins5403@comcast.net) to join his hike and let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Mar 17 Hike #6139(MS)
Pot O' Gold 4 or 9 Mile Combo Hike HD:4 / 9
Leader:Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
9:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes (DD:60 MRT, \$3)

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by hiking Fortune's Cove. You may find leprechauns' gold while hiking this Nature Conservancy loop trail near Lovingsston. Two hikes will be offered: a wonderful four mile (easy/moderate) hike which includes seven ravines or a (strenuous) nine mile hike which will add five miles of steep inclines. Make Sure You Wear: "a bit of the green." Please call the hike leader to let him know which hike you are choosing and where you will meet the group.

Sat Mar 23 Hike #6140(MS)
Pinnacle Ridge HD:9
Leaders:Norman Sykora, 434-946-7084; Jinx Sykora, 434-946-7084
8:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Meet Hike Leaders at Crabtree Falls about 9 AM (DD:75 MRT, \$4)

We will hike up Crabtree Falls Trail to Crabtree Meadows, then hike on an old logging road to reach Pinnacle Ridge. The views from the ridge looking east and south are fantastic. There will be no views before Pinnacle Ridge and very little hiking along the ridge. We will return using the same trail to Crabtree Falls and our cars. NOTE: There is a \$3 per car parking fee or Free if using your National Park Senior Pass number. Please call the hike leaders to reserve your place on the hike & tell them where you will meet the group.

Sun Mar 24 Hike #6141(E)
James River State Park HD:3
Leader:Nora Cox, jimandnor3@gmail.com
1:00 PM @ Madison Heights Lowes (DD:50
MRT, \$3)

We will take an ecological exploration of the James River State Park hiking trails. Come out to our local state park and enjoy a wonderful early spring hike. Please phone (434-941-6684) or email the hike leader to join her hike and to let her know where you will meet the group.

Sat Mar 30 Hike #6142(M)
Explore Park HD:7
Leader:Laura Jones,
lauraejones428@gmail.com
8:00 AM @ Waterlick Plaza (DD:100 MRT,
\$4)

Explore Park is a designated site on the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail, just off Milepost 115 of the Blue Ridge Parkway. We will be hiking in rolling hills of pristine woods which include a variety of ecosystems from natural wetlands to forests in this 1100 acre park, bordered by the Roanoke River. After our hike we can take time at the visitor's center to learn about the many recreational opportunities from canoeing to exploring historic buildings in the park. Please contact the hike leader to join her hike.

Sun Mar 31 Hike #6143(M)
Candler's Mountain Trails HD:7
Leader:Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843
9:00 AM Contact hike leader - Note: It is
NOT the Snowflex Parking Lot (Local)

We will explore some of the extensive Candler's Mountain Trails with stops at Monogram Hill, which offers panoramic views of Lynchburg and the Blue Ridge Mountains. We will stop at Lake Hydaway to have lunch/snack. Expect some moderately steep hills. Contact the hike leader for specific details about our parking lot meeting location.

Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club
P.O. Box 3012
Lynchburg, VA 24503

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NBATC is a Class A member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, an affiliate of member of the American Hiking Society, and a maintainer of the A.T. from the Tye River to Black Horse Gap.

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Committee Chairs

Adopt-A-Highway /	Laurel Foot	434-384-0013
Member Comm.	happifeet@msn.com	
Archives	Sharon Ripley	434-237-4015
	samandsharon211@gmail.com	
Asst. Supervisor	Norm Sykora	434-946-7084
of Trails	njsykora80@gmail.com	
Awards(88 Miler)	Jessica Harber	434-363-5067
	jessicaharber@gmail.com	
Ecology	Nora Cox	434-845-0048
	jimandnor@verizon.net	
Grants Manager	Bob Flint	434-384-5251
	bflint@lgflint.com	
Guidebook	Nancy Anthony	434-283-5431
	nanthony@embarqmail.com	
Guidebook Sales	Bev Henderson	540-583-5289
	randbhenderson@gmail.com	
Hiking Spree	Alex Newmark	434-385-5616
	alexnetman35@yahoo.com	
Hiker Miles &	John Phillips	434-941-6046
Website	johnm.phillips1949@gmail.com	
Newsletter /	David Helms	434-237-2180
Mailing	davidhelms47@gmail.com	
Outings	Herb Vreeland	434-385-1826
	herb.vreeland@gmail.com	
Parks and	Viki Gossen	434-239-0403
Recreation	vikkigossen@gmail.com	
Public Relation /	Jordan Welborn	434-209-4935
Facebook	honkifyoulikecookies@hotmail.com	
Social	Carol Caswell	434-907-5629
	carolmne@gmail.com	
Work Hours	Emily Helms	434-237-2180
	helms5000@gmail.com	

Website: www.nbatc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/nbatc.hiker
E-mail: happifeet@msn.com