TRAIL MAINTENANCE

All members are encouraged to participate in trail maintenance activities. Non-members are invited to try it a few times before deciding if they want to join the Club and be a regular part of a crew. We train and provide tools.

Below is a general schedule of work days. Exact plans often are not made until the last minute, so contact crew leaders for details. Crews marked with an * are currently seeking new members. MST and AT section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew
John Whitehouse, johnwhitehouse@ccvn.com

Waynesville West Crew *
Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net

Thursday Crew *
Hugh Hensleigh, hhensleigh@gmail.com
Sam Clarke, edistoxc@yahoo.com

Asheville Friday crew *
Skip Sheldon, shellhall@bellsouth.net

Pisgah Friday Crew *
Ed Paukovits, epauko610@gmail.com

Quarterly Saturday Crew *
Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

AT Maintainers
Paul Curtin,
ATsupervisor@carolinamountainclub.org

MST Maintainers
Heintooga Road to Old Bald
Larry Sobil, lsobil@bellsouth.net
Old Bald to Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot
Pete Petersen, roap@aol.com
Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot to Folk Art Center
Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com
Folk Art Center to Black Mtn. Campground
John Whitehouse, johnwhitehouse@ccvn.com

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000’.
Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@gmail.com

P400 For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District.
Contact Kathy McAuley, kathymcauley4031@gmail.com

900M For hiking every trail in GSMNP.
Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com

LTC For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC.
Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@gmail.com

WC100 For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the mountains of WNC, SC and the Smokies.
Contact Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, sujjackfitz@bellsouth.net

A.T.-MST For hiking the combined 228 miles of the A.T. and the MST on sections maintained by the Club. Contact Chris Koebelin, chriskoebelin@yahoo.com

YPG For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000’.
Contact Peter Barr, pjbar@gmail.com

YOUTH PARTNER CHALLENGE HIKES

The Youth Partnership Challenge is designed to introduce youth to fun and educational hiking experiences. Hikes are open to CMC members as well as newcomers. Call the leader before the hike. YPC hikes submitted by Jan Onan, 828-606-5188, janonan59@gmail.com and Kay Shurtleff, 828-749-9230, kshurtleff@msn.com. Driving distance is round trip from Asheville.

Sunday No. Y1802-872 May 6, 2018
Cradle of Forestry 10:00 AM
Hike 2.5, Drive 26, 200 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Kay Shurtleff, 828-749-9230, cell: 828-280-3226, kshurtleff@msn.com

Only Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo.
We will tour the forestry exhibits in the Forest Discovery Center. Then we’ll hike the one-mile Biltmore Campus Trail through the rustic campus of the first American forestry school and the 1.3-mile Forest Festival Trail. We’ll cover many topics, including forestry issues and past transportation methods. Join us for a fun, leisurely, educational hike. $5 per adult entry fee; free for ages 16 and under. Free for Seniors with the Golden Age Pass and their guests. Contact Leader if attending. | Topo(s): Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

Saturday No. Y1802-453 June 2, 2018
Max Patch Loop 9:00 AM
Hike 3.2, Drive 90, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, AT-MST
Jan Onan, 828-698-3237, cell: 828-606-5188, janonan59@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
CMC trail crews will demonstrate rebuilding part of the A.T. on Max Patch for National Trails Day. Learn a bit about the A.T. as you hike through one of its most beautiful places. Hike through open meadows and shaded forest, and enjoy the 360-degree of the mountains from the summit of Max Patch. NOTE: Please contact leader to inform her about the number of youth in your group. Wear sturdy shoes and bring plenty of water, snacks and a bag lunch. | Topo(s): Lemon Gap

HIKE SCHEDULE

Second Quarter 2018

Hike Ratings
First Letter Second Letter Distance Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9.1-12 miles A: 1,501-2,000 ft.
B: 6.1-9 miles B: 1,001-1,500 ft.
C: Up to 6 miles C: 1,000 ft. or less

SUNDAY WORKDAY
Quarterly Sunday Trail Maintenance Workdays in 2018 will be June 2 (National Trails Day), August 18 and October 13. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love for details and where to meet.

LETS’S GO!
Quarterly News Bulletin and Hike Schedule

P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • www.carolinamountainclub.org • e-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamountainclub.org

SECOND QUARTER 2018

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

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Old Bald to Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot
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Mt. Pisgah Parking Lot to Folk Art Center
Les Love, leslove55@gmail.com
Folk Art Center to Black Mtn. Campground
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WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, bjdworley@gmail.com. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the schedule; start times vary. Times listed are departure times – arrive early.
Wednesday No. W1802-89 April 4, 2018  
**Lemon Gap to Max Patch**  8:00 AM  
Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, AT-MST  
Debby Jones, 404-731-3119, Djones715@aol.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.  
We’ll see the A.T. shelter built by the CMC along a beautiful section of the A.T. We will begin at Lemon Gap, have lunch on top of Max Patch with its beautiful views and return to our cars at Lemon Gap. | Topo(s): Hot Springs  
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Wednesday No. W1802-355 April 11, 2018  
**Devil Fork Gap to Carmen**  8:30 AM  
Hike 10.3, Drive 95, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA, AT-MST  
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452, desraylet@aol.com  
**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.  
**Second Meeting Place:** US 25/NC 208 intersection at 9:15 AM.  
Hike along one of the most scenic miles on the A.T., featuring two shelters, a historic grave site and beautiful views from atop Big Butt. After the Jerry’s Cabin shelter, we’ll go down the Fork Ridge Trail to the parking lot in the Carmen area. Car shuttle. Bring enough cars for both trailheads so that hikers can be belted in safely. | Topo(s): Greystone; also ATC TN-NC map #3  
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Wednesday No. W1802-590 April 18, 2018  
**Linville Gorge,**  
**Conley Cove to Babel Tower**  8:00 AM  
Hike 6, Drive 150, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated C-AA  
Jeff Wilcox, 828-505-2815, cell: 828-989-8755, jwilcox@uncsa.edu  
**First Meeting Place:** River Ridge Shopping Center. Meet leader behind CVS Pharmacy.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain) at 8:15 AM - but contact leader first.  
Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation.  
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Wednesday No. W1802-854 April 25, 2018  
**Celo Knob and Gibbs Mountain**  via Crest Trail  8:00 AM  
Hike 10.5, Drive 80, 3100 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+, SB6K  
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490, quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura, 828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com  
**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.  
**Second Meeting Place:** McDonald’s in Burnsville at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.  
Starting from the north end of the Crest Trail, the first mile along Bowlens Creek will be adorned with spring wildflowers. As we ascend, there are distant views and eventually fir and spruce. The reward for the climb is a chance to bag two peaks over 6000 ft. by a bushwhack up and down Gibbs Mountain and an in-and-out manway to the summit of Celo Knob. Then it is all downhill from there. | Topo(s): Celo, Mt. Mitchell, Burnsville  
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Wednesday No. W1802-445 May 2, 2018  
**Pilot Mountain, Farlow Gap and Daniel Creek Trails**  8:00 AM  
Hike 11, Drive 70, 2550 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA, P400, WC100  
Steve Pierce, 828-724-4999, cell: 828-442-8482, stevepierce55@gmail.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Ingles on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM.  
There is a good chance we will enjoy rare pink-shelled azaleas on Pilot Mtn. This diversified hike features good views from Pilot Mtn. (after the steep climb!) and the Pigeon River, then right onto Bridges Camp Road to the Big East Fork of the Pigeon River, then right onto Bridges Camp Trail to MST and Bridges Camp Gap. Note that there is a 3000 ft. descent. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Shining Rock, Rosman, Sam Knob  
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Wednesday No. W1802-899 May 9, 2018  
**Pantherpond Waterfalls Outer Loop**  8:00 AM  
Hike 9.6, Drive 111, 1725 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, WC100  
Chuck Mills, 828-595-2355, cell: 240-385-4879, chickmills@icloud.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Ingles on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM.  
Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.  
This hike begins at Cold Mountain Gap and takes several different trails to view five waterfalls, which include Schoolhouse, Granny Burrell, Frolictown, and Wilderness. We will hike up to Saltrock Overlook and Blackrock Mountain and then take the Powerline Road Trail to the manway to Warden’s Falls. We will return to our cars at Cold Mountain Gap via the Devil’s Elbow Trail and finally the Panthertown Valley Trail. | Topo(s): Big Ridge  
---  
Wednesday No. W1802-888 May 16, 2018  
**Asheville Camino Walk**  8:00 AM  
Hike 16, 500 ft. ascent, Rated AA-C  
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747, danny@hikertohiker.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** Asheville Visitor Center.  
Hike through several Asheville neighborhoods and greenways, on bridges and past waterways. See how various parts of Asheville are connected.  
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Wednesday No. W1802-740 May 23, 2018  
**Waterfall Ramble**  8:00 AM  
Hike 5.5, Drive 85, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, P400, WC100  
Jack Fitzgerald, 828-685-2897, suejjackfitz@bellsouth.net  
**First Meeting Place:** Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 8:30 AM. A chance to visit 10 of the 100 waterfalls on the CMC Waterfall Challenge: Looking Glass, Moore Cove, Skinny Dip, Dill & Upper Dill, Courthouse, Cody, Bird Rock, Catheys Creek, Eastatoe, NC. All in-and-out hikes. | Topo(s): Shining Rock, Rosman, Sam Knob  
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Wednesday No. W1802-367 May 30, 2018  
**FS 816 to Bridges Camp Gap via Grassy Cove**  8:30 AM  
Hike 8.3, Drive 65, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, P400, SB6K  
Laura Frisbie, 828-337-5845, laurafrisbie@gmail.com  
**First Meeting Place:** Ingles on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets.  
**Second Meeting Place:** Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 of BRP at 9:15 AM. Leader prefers e-mail contact for reservation.  
Wilderness hike, limited to two hikers, contact leader for reservation.  
A favorite hike of many that includes a gorgeous variety of environments. Follow the Art Loeb route, see www.ashevillecamino.org/about.html. | Topo(s): Asheville  
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Wednesday No. W1802-868 June 6, 2018  
**Soco Gap to Woodfin Cascades**  8:00 AM  
Hike 9.8, Drive 65, 2264 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA, AT-MST, SB6K  
Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, cell: 828-606-7297, bjdworley@gmail.com  
**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Starting at the Soco Gap Overlook on the BRP, hike the MST all the way to the Woodfin Cascades.
ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, bbente@bellsouth.net. Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. All hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary.

Sunday No. A1802-898 April 1, 2018
Haywood Gap - FS 816 8:00 AM
Hike 10.8, Drive 80, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, SB6K, P400
Michael C orn, 828-458-1282, mcorn@aol.com and Kathy Corn, 828-458-1282, katherinenkyle@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets. Form carpools and meet leaders at second meeting place.
Second Meeting Place: Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 of BRP at 8:30 AM. Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation. Follow MST north (east) from Haywood Gap to FS 816. About midway, make stop to allow SB6K peakbaggers to summit Chestnut Bald. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Sam Knob, also NatGeo. map #780 and MST Profiles, pp. 30-35

Sunday No. A1802-897 April 8, 2018
Hyatt Ridge 8:00 AM
Hike 6.6, Drive 100, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated B-A, 900M
Mike K ries, 828-628-6712, kries06@att.net
First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley post office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. This new CMC hike is a short but interesting jaunt up to the summit of Cold Mountain. It starts at the Summey Cove trailhead on NC 215 above Balsam Grove and follows this trail 2.2 miles to its end at FS 140, with a side trip down to Courthouse Falls. We may also extend the hike a little upriver from the falls. We’ll head downhill on FS 140 for 3.1 miles to its termination at NC 215. Short car shuttle. | Topo(s): Sam Knob, Lake Toxaway; also NatGeo. map #780

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 10:30 AM. This joint hike with Riverlink goes to the source of the North Fork of the French Broad River. After the hike there may be an opportunity to stop for a beer at one of the breweries along the drive. Hike starts at the Summer Cove trailhead on NC 215 above Balsam Grove and follows this trail 2.2 miles to its end at FS 140, with a side trip down and back to Courthouse Falls. We may also extend the hike a little upriver from the falls. We’ll head downhill on FS 140 for 3.1 miles to its termination at NC 215. Short car shuttle. | Topo(s): Sam Knob, Lake Toxaway; also NatGeo. map #780

Sunday No. A1802-888 April 15, 2018
Asheville Camino Walk 8:00 AM
Hike 16, 500 ft. ascent, Rated AA-C
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747, danny@hikertoiker.com
Only Meeting Place: Asheville Visitor Center. Hike through several Asheville neighborhoods and greenways, on bridges and past waterways. See how various parts of Asheville are connected. You’re welcome to leave at any time, but you’ll be surprised at how comfortable this walk will be. This hike simulates a day on the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. Bring water and food. We’ll stop for morning coffee (no time for a full breakfast), lunch and afternoon snacks, but feel free to bring all your own food. Joint hike with the Asheville Chapter of the American Pilgrims on the Camino. For more information about the route, see www.ashevillecamino.org/about.html. | Topo(s): Asheville
Saturday and Sunday. Dinner will be shared Saturday night for a minimal charge. Bring a side dish, dessert or appetizer. The cost for a campsite is $10 per person for two nights. To reserve a space, send $10 for each person in your group to Kathleen Hannigan at 307 River Ridge Drive, Asheville, NC 28803. Include your name and email address.

Sunday No. A1802-901 May 6, 2018
Gloucester Gap to FS 816 8:30 AM
Hike 7.3, Drive 80, 3250 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA, AT-MST, P400
Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-676-0255, cell: 828-699-8857, lsbernhardt50@gmail.com and Daisy Teng Karasek, 828-505-2036, cell: 408-887-3666, daisyt@yahoo.com
First Meeting Place: Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets.
Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Bi-Lo at 9:00 AM.
This is the second segment of CMC’s sequential hike of the Art Loeb Trail. This segment will be done as a key-switch between Gloucester Gap and the intersection with FS 816. From Gloucester Gap, we will first ascend Pilot Mountain, on a date when pinkshell azaleas should be in bloom. Then on to Deep Gap and Farlow Gap, then up and over the BRP, joining the MST at Silvermine Bald and continuing to where the trail crosses FS 816. NOTE: Ascent above is for westbound direction. Eastbound direction has an 800-ft. ascent and is rated B-C. NOTE: This hike will be limited to 18 hikers. Please contact Lorraine Bernhardt for a reservation before May 1, to enable planning for key swap. | Topo(s): Shining Rock, Sam Knob; also NatGeo. map #780 and old MST Trail Profiles, pp. 48-49 and 72-73

Saturday No. A1802-33 May 12, 2018
Ramsey Cascades 8:30 AM
Hike 8, Drive 165, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA, 900M, WC100
Barbara Morgan, 828-460-7066, barbc129@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first. This popular hike goes through diverse forests rich in wildflowers. We’ll see huge old-growth tulip trees at the mid-point of the trail. Sixty-foot-high Ramsey Cascades is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Smokies. | Topo(s): Mt. Guyot; also NatGeo. map #317

Sunday No. A1802-488 May 13, 2018
Gables Mountain Trail 8:00 AM
Hike 8.3, Drive 140, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated B-A, 900M, WC100
Mike Knes, 828-628-6712, knes06@att.net
First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM. This hike will follow a mostly gentle trail from Cosby Campground to Madron Bald Trailhead through open old-growth forest. Added attractions are a short, steep side trip to the bottom of Hen Wallow Falls, lunch at a shady, stream-side campsite and a visit to the restored Baxter cabin. Four-mile car shuttle. | Topo(s): Hartford, Luftee Knob, Mt. Guyot, Jones Cove; also NatGeo. map #317

Sunday No. A1802-165 May 20, 2018
Mount Leconte via Boulevard & Alum Cave Trails 8:00 AM
Hike 13, Drive 145, 2600 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA, 900M, SB6K
Lesanna Lanning, 828-684-7083, cell: 828-606-7956, dblanning@bellsouth.net
First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. This classic and exciting hike features great views from the A.T., Boulevard Trail, our lunch spot at Cliff Tops on 6593 ft. Mt. LeConte, and the spectacular Alum Cave Trail. In addition, you can check out the LeConte Lodge cabins and see many interesting old photos in the common room of the lodge. Plan on a long day and an optional stop for supper on the way home. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Clingmans Dome; also NatGeo. map #317

Sunday No. A1802-870 May 27, 2018
Sampson Mountain Wilderness 8:00 AM
Hike 11.2, Drive 130, 3100 ft. ascent, Rated A-AA+
Les & Catherine Love, 828-658-1489, cell: 828-230-1861, leslove55@gmail.com
Only Parking Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for registration. We’ll start from the Horse Creek Recreation Area in East Tennessee, hike through the Sampson Mountain Recreation Area on the Middle Springs Trail, and continue on the undesigned Middle Springs Ridge Trail to the heath bald and Ball Ground to Big Butt and the A.T. We’ll follow the A.T. south across Cold Springs Mountain and then down the Sarvis Cove Trail. Note: Five rock-hop stream crossings - poles are recommended. Optional dinner at Farmer’s Daughter of I-40. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Shining Rock; also NatGeo. map #780

Sunday No. A1802-98 June 6, 2018
Reinhart Knob & Richland Balsam 8:00 AM
Hike 5.3, Drive 90, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-A, SB6K
Jim Magura, 828-606-3989, jqr290@gmail.com and Judy Magura, 828-606-1490, quilter29@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
Second Meeting Place: Rest area beyond Waynesville on US 23/74 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. Features two over-6000-ft. peaks. We’ll go up Reinhart Knob the ‘easier’ way. A steep, brufty bushwhack decent will take us down to the MST which we’ll follow to Judaculla Ridge. From there we’ll bushwhack up to and across the BRP, and then a steep rocky chute to the trail to Richland Balsam. The hike is strenuous because of the bushwhacking. The bushwacking portion will have uneven surfaces and hidden holes. Be sure to wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, gloves, eye protection (safety glasses or other), and sturdy boots. | Topo(s): Sams Knob, Tuckasegee

Sunday No. A1802-566 June 17, 2018
Roans in Bloom 8:30 AM
Hike 6.6, Drive 130, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, SB6K
Elaine Tennen, 828-239-9340, cell: 805-660-0019, et10n@sbcglobal.net and Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879, heylk127@hotmail.com
First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.
**Second Meeting Place:** McDonald’s in Burnsville at 9:00 AM. A beautiful A.T. hike with some of WNC’s finest views. Expect to see flame azaleas, rhododendrons and possibly Gray’s Lilies in bloom. From Carvers Gap we’ll go north past Grassy Ridge Bald (6160 ft.) to a scenic overlook for lunch, then return to Carvers Gap by the same route. From here, we’ll drive up to the gardens area (small fee to enter) and walk 1/2 mile to see the vista from Roan High Bluff (6287 ft.). | Topo(s): Carvers Gap, Bakersville

Saturday No. A1802-667 June 23, 2018
**Pink Beds to Pisgah Inn** 8:30 AM
Hike 8.2, Drive 85, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated B-A, P400
Donna Lanning, 828-684-7083, cell: 828-606-7956, dblanning@bellsouth.net
**First Meeting Place:** Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets.
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Inn parking lot near convenience store at 9:00 AM.
From one branch of the Pink Beds Loop, we will go over the Barnett Branch boardwalk, built by the CMC Friday Pinkig crew. We will proceed on the Barnett Branch Trail, cross Yellow Gap Road, and after a short, steep climb, pause at a waterfall. We’ll connect with the Buck Spring/MST up to the Pisgah Inn. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Shining Rock, Cruso; also NatGeo. map #780

Sunday No. A1802-95 June 24, 2018
**Hemphill Bald from Pops’ Gap** 8:00 AM
Hike 9.5, Drive 95, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, 900M
Debbie Jones, 404-731-3119, D Jones715@aol.com
**First Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.
**Second Meeting Place:** Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. We will hike from Pops’ Gap to our scenic lunch spot at Hemphill Bald in the GSMNP, with outstanding views. The return route will be via the same trail. On the drive back, we’ll stop at the Masonic Marker. | Topo(s): Dellwood, Bunches Bald; also NatGeo. map #317

**HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES**
Newcomers are welcome, but non-members MUST call the leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes submitted by Gail Lamb, 828-338-0443, glmamb46@gmail.com and Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, leehsilver@aol.com.

Driving distance is round-trip from Asheville. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary. **Time listed are departure times – arrive early.**

Sunday No. H1802-686 April 1, 2018
**Shope Creek** 12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 25, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Gail Lamb, 828-338-0443, cell: 828-275-4500, glmamb46@gmail.com and Rebecca Banner, 828-713-4600, beccabanner@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Ingles on US 70 at Riceville Road (Oteen).
During this hike the fast group will be led by Rebecca, and Gail will lead the slower group. This is a short ride for a walk in the woods, partly along Shope Creek in the Riceville Road area. The hike will include unmarked trails, some of which are near the Parkway but do not connect. Possible wet stream crossing. | Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Sunday No. H1802-347 April 8, 2018
**Twin Falls** 12:30 PM
Hike 6, Drive 80, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, P400. WC100
Chris Allen, 828-707-6500, chrispallen@icloud.com
**First Meeting Place:** Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets. Form carpools and meet hike leader at second meeting place.
**Second Meeting Place:** Pisgah Ranger Station on US 276 at 1:00 PM.
This is a moderate hike in the Pisgah National Forest, starting on the Buckhorn Gap Trail, taking the Twin Falls Bypass to view two nice waterfalls and completing a loop on a Forest Service Road and the Clawhammer Cove Trail with its large but abandoned beaver dam. Bring your camera! | Topo(s): Pisgah Forest; also NatGeo. map #780

Sunday No. H1802-731 April 15, 2018
**Baxter Creek - Big Creek** 10:30 AM
Hike 5.3, Drive 98, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, 900M
Richard Zimmerer, 828-989-0480, djlz@yahoo.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. This variation of hike #731 will take us up Big Creek Trail to Mouse Creek Falls, 3.8 miles with a gentle slope. Lunch at Mouse Creek Falls at about 12:45 PM. We should see a lot of wildflowers. In order to see more varieties of wildflowers, we will add going up along Baxter Creek and back for a total of 1.5 miles. You can opt to do only the Big Creek part, if you wish. | Topo(s): Cove Creek Gap; also NatGeo. map #317

Sunday No. H1802-855 April 22, 2018
**Bluff Mountain Loop (Betty Place)** 12:00 PM
Hike 6, Drive 85, 850 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Jack Dalton, 828-622-3704, jckdalton9@gmail.com
**First Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. This loop in the Big Ivy Creek headwaters area of the Pisgah National Forest begins 4.4 miles up FS 74 at the Perkins Road Trail. We will hike up to the Laurel Gap Trail, turn right and walk to the Bear Pen Trail, which will take us back down to FS 74. We will walk just under a mile to return to our cars. Expect to see spring wildflowers along the way. | Topo(s): Mt Mitchell, Montreat

Sunday No. H1802-512 May 13, 2018
**Pisgah Inn to Big Ridge Overlook** 12:00 PM
Hike 5.7, Drive 34, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, AT-MST. P400
Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792, cell: 828-367-8619, dbass3607@gmail.com

**Only Meeting Place:** Toys-R-Us on NC 191 across from Asheville Outlets. Hike on the MST from the Pisgah Inn, with a brief stop to view the Buck Spring Lodge site, continuing over Little Pisgah Mountain down to the Big Ridge Overlook on the BRP. 1500-ft. descent, occasionally very steep. Poles recommended. Car shuttle. | Topo(s): Cruso, Dausmore Mtn.; also MST Trail Profiles book, pp. 42-43.

Sunday No. H1802-297 May 20, 2018
**Sams Gap South** 12:30 PM
Hike 5, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, AT-MST
Linda Blue, 828-296-7537, cell: 828-273-6966, lgbblue@bellsouth.net

**Only Meeting Place:** 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS park-
ing lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.
A moderate in-and-out hike from Sams Gap to the Hogback Ridge Shelter and return along the Appalachian Trail. Expect lots of spring wildflowers. | Topo(s): Sams Gap

Sunday No. H1802-511 May 27, 2018 Florence Nature Preserve 12:30 PM Hike 5, Drive 40, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C Karin Eckert, 516-721-6156, karingarden@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles on US 74-A 1-1/2 miles south of I-40 Exit 53A.
This hike is a loop in the Florence Nature Preserve, a 600+ acre tract in Hickory Nut Gorge. We’ll be hiking part of the hike as described in #511 to keep it to about 5 miles. We’ll take the Yellow Diamond Trail, Blue Trail and Red Trail to a nice overlook and return via the Blue and Yellow Trails. | Topo(s): Bat Cave; also Conserving Carolina Nature Preserve Trail Map

NEXTE CMC COUNCIL MEETING
When: Tuesday, May 8
Where: Community room in Earthfare on Hendersonville Road
Time: 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Info: Call Randy at 828-253-1626 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

HIKING INFORMATION: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests. Non-members need to call or email the hike leader to introduce themselves and find out more about the hike. All hikers are encouraged to call or email the leader if they have questions about the hike or the location of the meeting place. Hikes may be canceled by the leader due to adverse weather or dangerous roads. Minors are welcome on CMC hikes, if accompanied by a responsible adult. Pets are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to the trailhead and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver’s operating expenses. Most CMC hikes do not require reservations. However, check the hiking schedule to determine whether a reservation is required, and if so, call or email the leader to reserve your space.

Hike leaders have the right to reject participants who are not properly equipped for the hike or who are unlikely to be able to complete the hike. All hikers are expected to follow the leader’s instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers are expected to follow the leader's instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers should obtain the leader’s permission if they wish to leave the hike before its completion.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT: CMC's website (www.carolinamountainclub.org, click on Hiking) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit. Carry at least two quarts of liquid (water, Gatorade, juice) for a full day hike, no matter what time of year. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. They should be broken in before the hike. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Even if there is no sign of rain in the morning, you need to be prepared for an afternoon shower. Your first aid kit should include any personal medication, including allergy medication, if needed. Wear layered clothing – you’ll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds, then put them back on in cooler conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY: Each CMC member and guest agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her own safety and for the safety of accompanying minors. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless each CMC member and guest, and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in Club hikes and other activities.

CONSERVATION: CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Councilor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by joining and paying dues. To join online or by paper application, go to www.carolinamountainclub.org and click on the green Join button just below the Member Login. Choose either Join CMC online or CMC application form (pdf). Don’t have internet access? Mail a note to the CMC address requesting an application form be mailed to you. Annual dues are $20 for individuals and $30 for families. Hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS
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Further information about regulations is available at www.carolinamountainclub.org