

Carolina Mountain Club



- 100% Volunteer Organization
- Maintains >400 Miles of Hiking Trails in Western North Carolina (WNC)
- Considered One of the Best Hiking Clubs in WNC
- **Nearly 100 years old!**

Hike, Save Trails, Make Friends



CMC Stakeholders



Govt Partners

- US Forest Service
- Blue Ridge Parkway
- Appalachian Trail
- NC State Parks

Federal & State Govt do not have sufficient resources to maintain their extensive miles of hiking trails.



Hikers

- A.T. Thru & Section Hikers
- MST Hikers
- CMC Voted one of the Best Hiking Clubs

Hikers presume safe and maintained trails. Trail eco-sustainability.



Community

- Tourism in WNC
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Youth Engagement
- New Hikers
- Friends of MST

Tourism is a cornerstone of the WNC economy. Hiking is a popular tourist activity.

Trail Maintenance

- Tread Work, Water Diversions, Bridges, Turnpikes, Trimming
- Shelters, Privies; Steps (Rock & Log)
- Certified Sawyers
- 7 Week Day Crews
- >250 Volunteers
- New Volunteers trained by experienced CMC members

Maintain >400 Miles of Trails

- 94 Miles of A.T.
- 154 Miles of MST
- 105 Miles in PRD
- 48 Miles in ARD
- 7 Miles on BRP



A 100% Volunteer Organization

Trails

Hikes

History

- Founded 1923 Focus on AT
- 1930s Effort on AT
- 1950-60s Expansion with other trails
- 1970's Work on MST
- >1200 members today

- Lead Group Hikes Every Week
- Trails across WNC
- Experienced Trail Hike Leaders
- Mountain Express Award-Best Hiking Club in WNC

Hike, Save Trails, Make Friends

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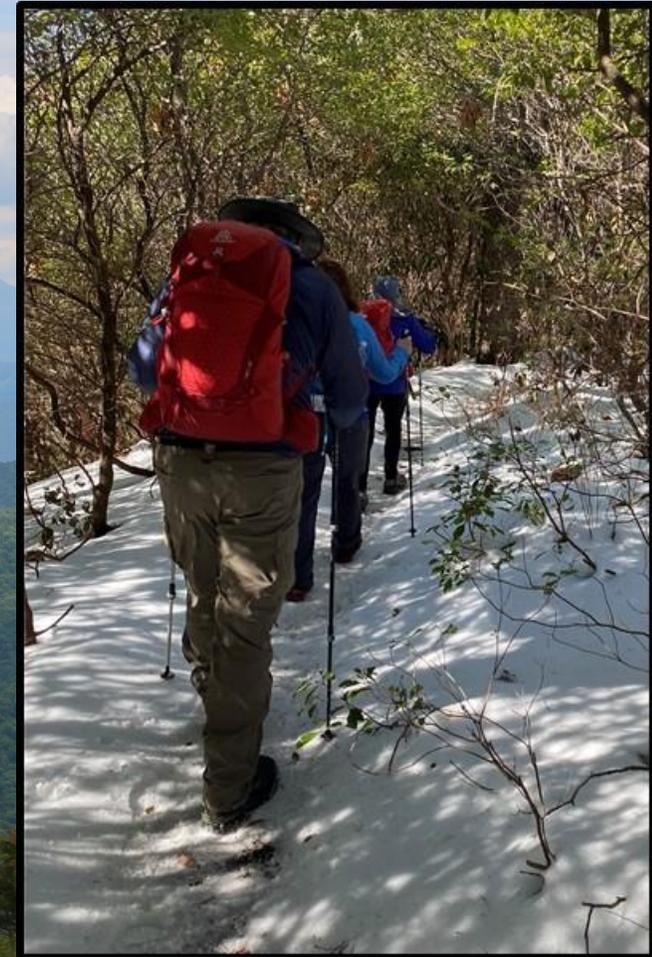
Typical CMC hike in the late 1940s
This one to Ogle Meadows



CMC Trail Work on the AT in 1958
Near Sam's Gap

Hikes

- Lead Group Hikes Every Week Across WNC
- Experienced Hiker Leaders-They Know the Trails!
- **Zero** Hike Incidents in 2021
- From Easy to Moderate Skill Level
- Mountain Express Award-Best Hiking Club in WNC



Hike, Save Trails, Make Friends

Carolina Mountain Club

>400 Miles of Trails Maintained

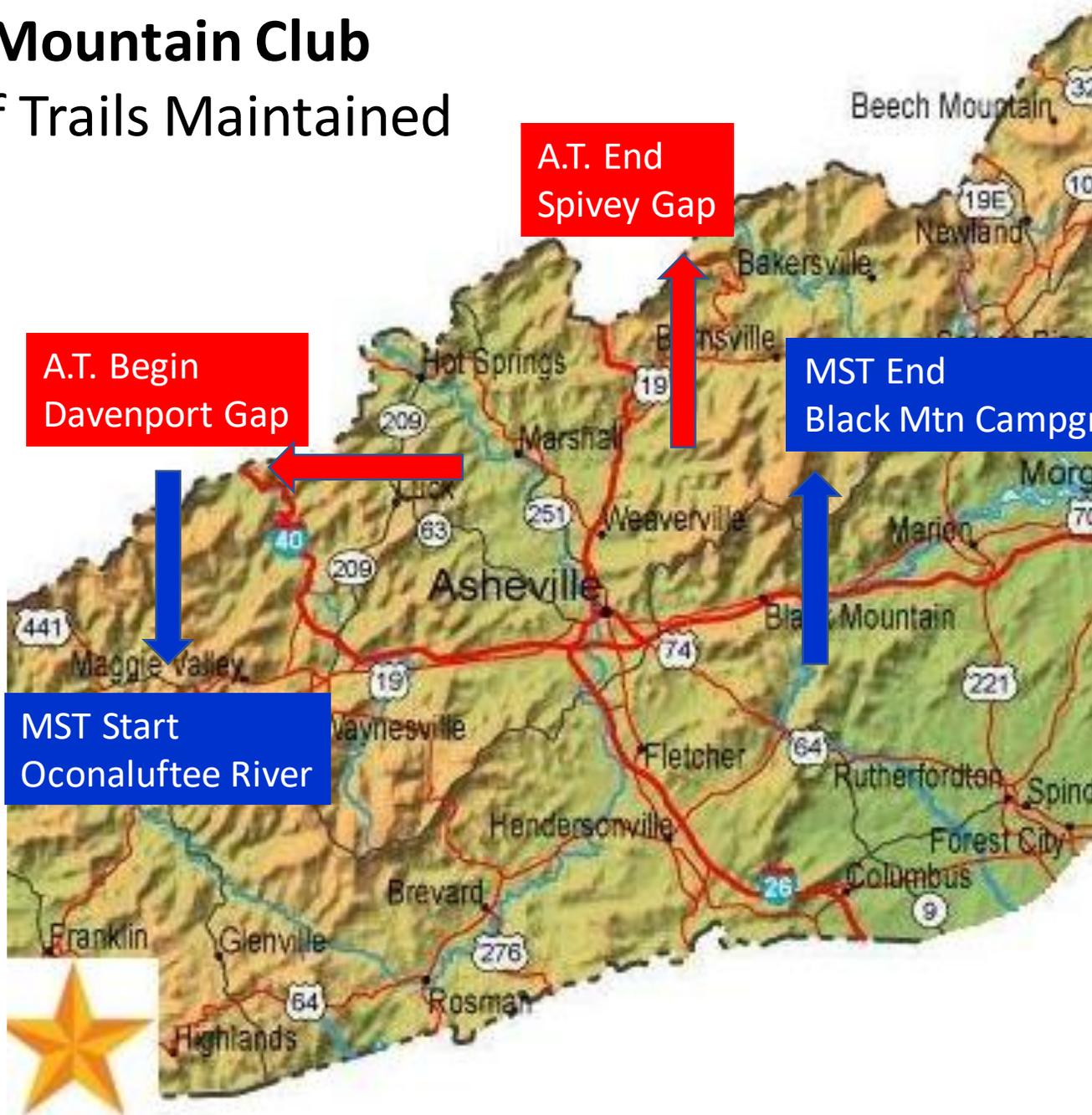


Appalachian Trail

- 94 Miles
- 10 shelters, privies, picnic tables, bear cables

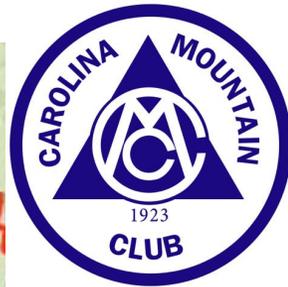
MST

- 154 Miles
- Oconaluftee River to Black Mountain Campground

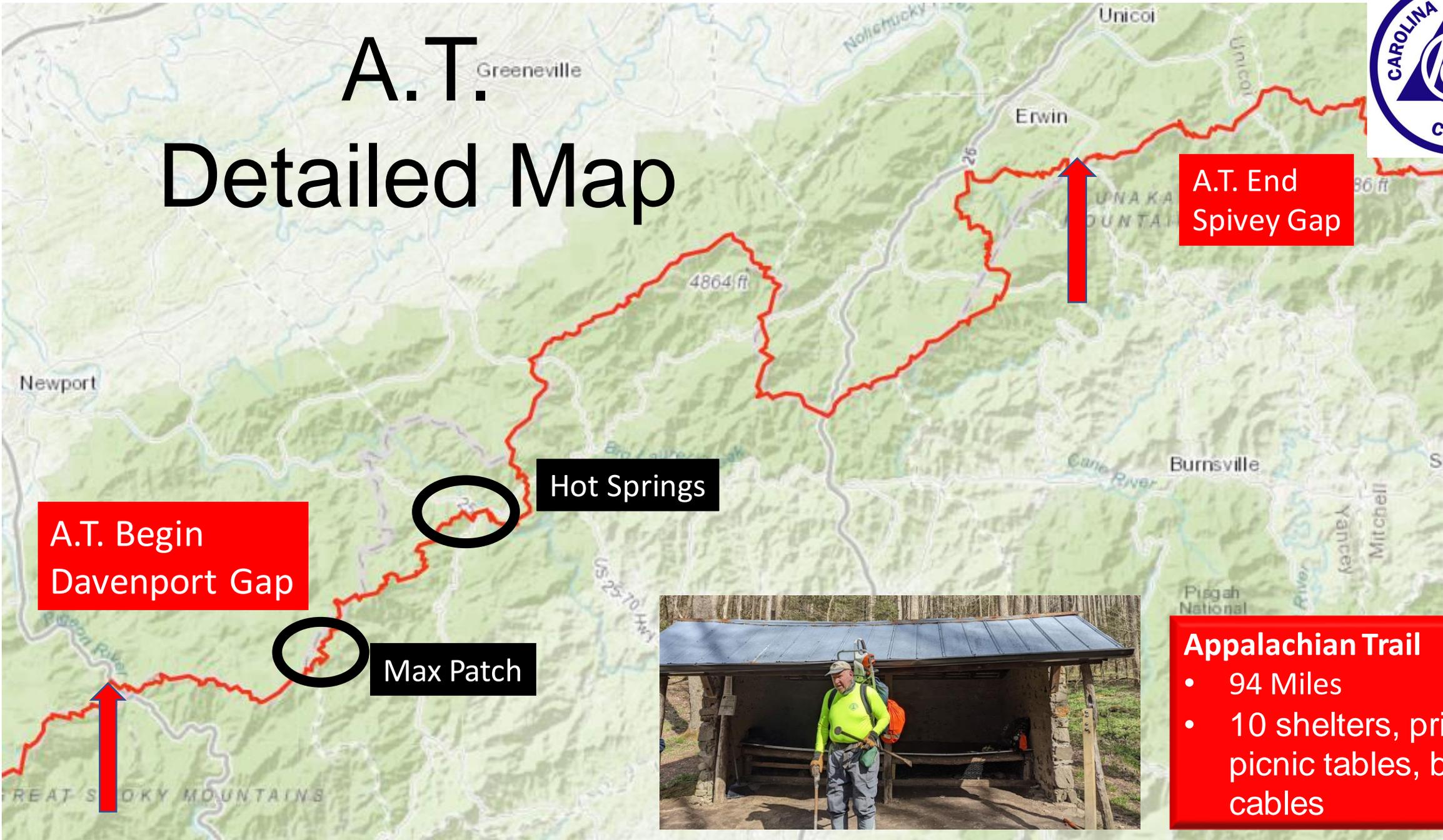


Other Trails

- 105 Miles in PRD
- 48 Miles in ARD
- 7 Miles on BRP



A.T. Detailed Map



- Appalachian Trail**
- 94 Miles
- 10 shelters, privies, picnic tables, bear cables

MST Detailed Map



MST Start
Oconaluftee River

Asheville

MST End
Black Mtn
Campground

MST

- 154 Miles
- Oconaluftee River to Black Mountain Campground



Typical Trail Maintenance Work



Rock Steps



Log Steps

Tread Work



Water Diversions



Lopping

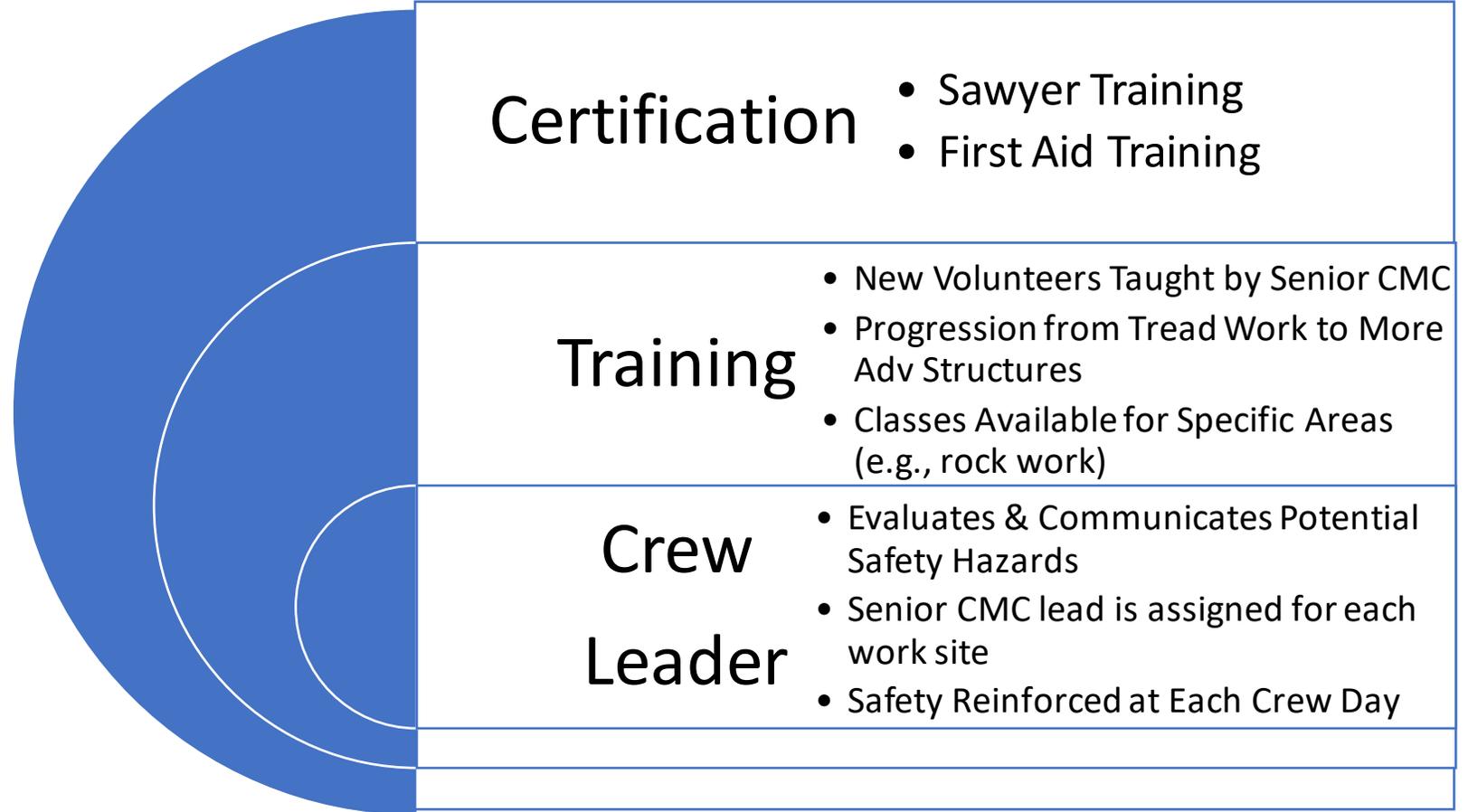
Sawyer Work





Zero

Zero Safety Incidents in 2021



Safety is at the Core of CMC



CMC Search & Rescue (SAR)

- ~20 CMC crew members
- Attached formally to Haywood County SAR; assist other groups as needed
- Primary operation area: Pisgah National Forest, Middle Prong and Shining Rock Wilderness, Blue Ridge Parkway / MST corridors
- Operate as independent team or as part of another command





CMC Search & Rescue (SAR)-Training

- Training in basic skills sufficient to be deployed in non-technical search and rescue operations.
- 20+ hours of initial training required/person, followed by monthly focused skill training and quarterly mock search events.
- Everyone must pass standard pack test; skills assessed by team leaders.
- All members must pass FEMA ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 emergency procedure and command structure training.



Section Rovers

- Crew Leaders: Rich Evans, Jan & Kevin Onan
- Training for new Section Maintainers, Tuesdays & Saturdays
- Work with individuals on their respective trails with emphasis on secondary trails (non MST and non AT trails)
- Training is tailored to the individual and their respective trail



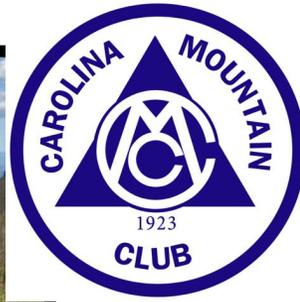
Youth Partner Challenge

- Youth Partner Patch
 - Open to Youths up to Age 17
 - 8 different hikes with an adult partner to earn a patch and certificate
- CMC has 12 different hikes to choose From
- Kids learn about different land management of USA public lands (State forest/parks National forest/parks, wilderness, ATC, conservancy etc.)
- Kids learn about Leave No Trace



CMC Diversity & Inclusion

- Proactively working as an organization to reflect the community in which we live; to be open and inclusive of anyone who wants to experience the outdoors
- Quarterly Zoom presentations followed by a beginner level hike
- Connecting with other peer organizations to learn best practices in diversity & inclusion





2021 CMC Quarterly Crew: Big Bald

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- A photograph showing five people sitting on a grassy ridge, looking out over a vast mountain range under a clear blue sky. The people are dressed in outdoor gear, including jackets and hats. The terrain is hilly and covered in dry grass and some small trees.
- 4 Saturdays/year, Volunteer Opportunity for individuals that work full time
 - Over 1850 trail maintenance hours
 - Estimated 200 volunteers in 2021
 - Huntersville Boy Scout Troop #97 Participated
 - Improved tread, added steps, water diversions, reduced trail erosion, trail hardening

Max Patch

- Stunning 360° Views from Bald
- Native Grasses & Wild Flowers-Critical Habitat for Birds & Butterflies
- Exceptionally Popular for Tourists, Hikers & Campers
- Due to Human Overuse, Camping Banned July 2021 for 2 years
- Forest Service & CMC Worked Together in Restoration
- CMC Organized Max Patch Trail Ambassadors



Overuse-Damaging Ecosystem



Bald Restoration



CMC Trail Ambassadors



- Volunteers trained by the Carolina Mountain Club and Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- Help educate visitors on proper stewardship
- Trail Ambassadors play a critical role by informing Max Patch visitors about closures, monitoring conditions and removing trash from the area

CMC Partnerships

- US Forest Service
- Blue Ridge Parkway
- Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- Pisgah Conservancy
- Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail
- State of North Carolina





CMC & Cherokee Tribal Land Collaboration

- Ongoing Collaboration on Trail Maintenance
- Interest in Developing trails that Connect MST to Cherokee Tribal Land Trails
- Medicine Trail: Interest In Renovating Trail



Dylan Rose-Cherokee Tribal Land Watershed & Restoration Leader and Tom Weaver-CMC President



CMC Challenges



1. **South Beyond 6000 (SB6K)** - hiking 40 selected southeastern 6,000 foot peaks
2. **Lookout Tower Challenge (LTC)** - hiking to 24 fire towers in WNC
3. **Pisgah 400 (P400)** - hiking all 400 miles of trails in the Pisgah Ranger District
4. **Waterfall & Cascade 100 (WC100)** - hiking to 100 of WNC's most spectacular waterfalls
5. **A.T.-MST Challenge** - hiking the 92 miles of the AT and the 135 miles of the MST the CMC maintains
6. **100 Smokies Challenge** - Hiking the top 100 hikes in the Smokies
6. **Youth Partner Challenge** - established to introduce young people under 18 to hiking and the outdoors.

CMC & Friends of the MST Collaboration

- Annual Meeting in WNC
- CMC Hosted 3 Trail Maintenance Training Sessions
 - Tread Work
 - Steps Building
 - Bridge Building
- Over 100 participants





Mt. Mitchell Quarterly Crew 2022

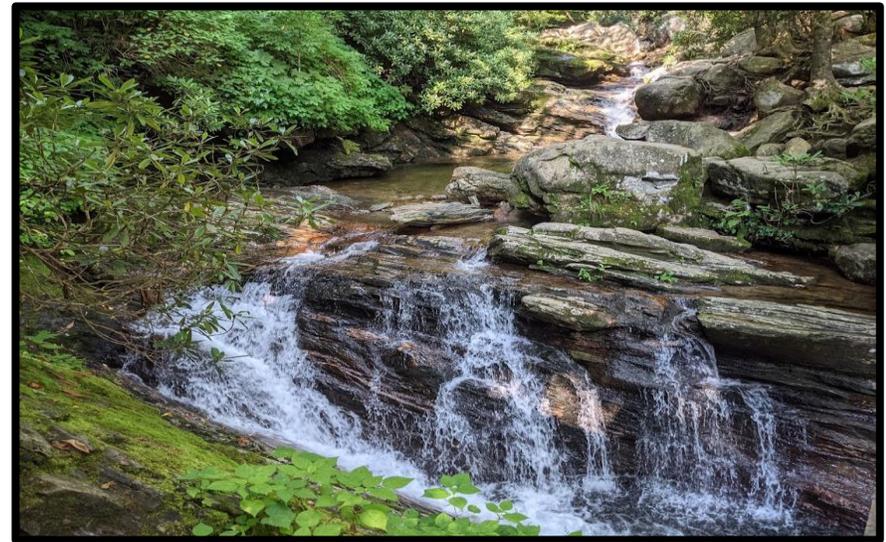
- MST Trail in Mt. Mitchell
- Need of Rock Steps
- Sensitive Eco-System
- Engagement for Mt. Mitchell State Park





Pisgah Project Day: CMC Partnership w/PRD; April 25 to 30

- Plan is to develop a safe passage across the Pigeon River at Skinny Dip Falls and work on the MST section from the Falls to the Parking Lot
- Installing ladder steps for both sides of the river
- CMC will also will be doing extensive rock and tread work on this popular section of the MST





2022 Pisgah Project Day: CMC Participation

- Joint Project with Pisgah Conservancy & CMC
- Hurricane Fred Aftermath destroyed Skinny Dip Falls Bridge and Trail
- April 25 to 30th
- CMC built ladder steps and new water crossing
- Trail Work



CMC 100 Year Anniversary Plans

- Book
- 50/50 Patch
 - 50 hours of Trail Maintenance & 50 miles of CMC hikes over 18 months



Come Volunteer or
Hike With CMC!

Hike, Save Trails, Make Friends

