



OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, INC.

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April 2022 Bulletin

Note from the President

Spring is upon us and soon, too, is the election of candidates to fill the three Board of Director positions coming open at the end of June. If you would like to increase your contribution to the functioning of the OHTA, running for one of those three positions could be the opportunity you're looking for. If you're unsure about whether to throw your hat into the ring due to uncertainty about what running for and being on the board would entail, please feel free to send your questions via email to Phil Brown at OHTA@OzarkHighlandsTrail.com. I will do my best to provide you with the information you desire. But if you believe you are ready to submit your nomination, just send a photo and brief bio of yourself to Phil at the email address noted previously. Remember, the deadline for nominations is Saturday, April 23, 2022, and the election will take place from May 16 through the 22nd of this year.

Till next time, HIKE ONWARD!
Phil Brown

Help Needed

On Saturday, April 9th, Mike LeMaster will lead a trash and litter cleanup on OHTA's adopted mile starting from the Cherry Bend parking lot to one mile south on Hwy 23 to end at the long overlook with roadside parking. For Fayetteville area volunteers a carpool meetup is planned at Harp's Grocery in Elkins on Hwy 16 (near the gas pumps) at 8:00 am where we'll depart promptly at 8:10 am for Cherry Bend Parking Lot. The Cleanup volunteers will convene at CB park lot at 9:00 am & begin our cleanup hike along Hwy 23 for one mile picking up cans, bottles, trash & filling trash bags. Safety vests, bags, & grabbers will be provided. The cleanup should be completed by no later than 12:00 noon at which point we'll pick up all volunteers & drive back to their cars at Cherry Bend. If interested in volunteering for this service, please contact leader, Mike LeMaster at: miker.lemaster@gmail.com or text 479-466-5214. In the event of inclement weather that Saturday, this event will default to the next day, Sunday, April 10, with same format and starting time.

Upcoming Trail Repair

Saturday, May 7, 2022 and Saturday, May 14, 2022

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day...please be prompt

Meeting place: Brush Creek Trailhead in the Sylamore section of the Ozark Highlands Trail (OHT).

Location of Brush Creek Trailhead: You can find it approximately 10.2 miles north of the intersection of Hwy. 341 (aka Push Mountain Road) and Hwy. 14 in Baxter County, Arkansas,

or

approximately 14.6 miles south of the intersection of Hwy. 201 and Hwy. 341 (aka Push Mountain Road) in Baxter County, Arkansas (please refer to the attached map).

Food: The Eastern Chapter (EC) of the Ozark Highlands Trail Association (OHTA) will provide a picnic for all participants each Saturday following completion of the day's restoration work. The picnic will be held at Brush Creek Trailhead.

Important items for you to bring or wear:

- day pack so you can stash your personal supplies for the day
- water and snacks
- toilet paper (it is best to put it in a plastic ziplock along with a second ziplock you can use for carrying out the used TP)
- first aid supplies
- sunscreen
- bug spray
- cap or hat to protect your head from the sun
- hiking boots/shoes are recommended
- clothing you're not concerned about getting dirty
- gloves

NOTE: OHTA will supply the tools we will use for each day's restoration work. The sections we'll be restoring range in length from about 5 yards to roughly 100 yards. There will be trail restoration/building experts on hand to provide everyone with instructions on the best techniques in trail construction.

Contacts: If you want to participate in this event, please contact either **Phil**

Brown at OHTA@ozarkhighlandstrail.com or Gordon King at gordonkking@gmail.com so we'll have an idea of how much food to bring and so we can notify you if either day's event has to be postponed due to weather. Please contact Phil or Gordon by May 1, 2022.

Maintenance Notes

We have sections of trail awaiting adopters. There are some rarely available sections on the west end of the trail now open. Go to our website, click on the Maintenance tab and find the link to the map showing available sections if interested. Email the Maintenance Coordinator at ohmaintenance@gmail.com if interested. Spring maintenance is starting to get underway. If you see a maintainer out on the trail, give them your thanks. They are volunteering their time to make the trail worthy of hiking.

Our Maintenance Coordinator just returned from a week at the Ninemile Wildlands Training Center in Western Montana learning to sharpen and tune crosscut saws.

National Trails Day

National Trails Day is June 4th, 2022. Make plans to celebrate trails and TAKE A KID HIKING!!!! As always, OHTA celebrates April as TAKE A KID HIKING MONTH. Introducing children to the joys of hiking at an early age is one of the best ways to ensure that we spread the joy of the outdoor life to those that may otherwise miss out on this adventure.