

OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

– Overseeing the Trail –

Board of Director's Meeting Announcement

The next OHTA Board of Director's meeting has not, as yet, been scheduled. The Board wants all members to know, though, that if you want to attend future meetings, your presence will be welcome, and there will be merchandise from the OHTA store available for you to purchase at a reduced price. There is no need for you to respond to this notice at this time. However, when the day, date, time, and location of the meeting are posted, we ask you to please let us know you plan to attend so the location can be properly set up and so we can assure there will be plenty of merchandise on hand.

OHTA Board for 2022 – 2023

Phil Brown (President/Eastern Chapter Rep)	Wade Colwell (Interim Boston Mountain Chapter Rep)
Adam Higinbotham (Vice-president)	Elizabeth Granderson (OHTA brochure manager)
Brent Umphlett (Secretary)	Kerry Coe (OHTA membership building)
Todd Wells (Treasurer)	Miles Jandrsevici (Maintenance Director-West Section)
Chris Adams (Maintenance Coordinator)	

– Maintaining the Trail –

The Ozark Highlands Trail could use some sprucing up, particularly in certain areas. So, our Maintenance Coordinator, Chris Adams, decided the best way to address this issue is to get groups of volunteers together to take on the challenge during three weekends in October.

Each maintenance event will start on a Friday and run through Saturday and Sunday, but all participants can set up their own campsite as early as the preceding Thursday evening. Of course, you can take part in the event on any one or more of the scheduled days, and you do not have to be an OHTA maintainer or member to participate—we'll sign you up with a day membership, and you will be covered!

All of the necessary trail maintenance gear will be supplied by the OHTA except for your boots—they are on you. Also, there are still plenty of bugs out there, so having some insect repellent on hand will make it easier for you to smile while you work.

Each group of participants will meet at the campground designated as Base Camp for the weekend's trail maintenance event. If you are interested in taking part in any of the Base Camps listed below, just click on the designated link. If for some reason you cannot access the registration forms on your computer or phone, simply email Chris Adams at Ohtmaintenance@gmail.com, and he will sign you up manually. The OHTA will provide meals for each day of each event as follows:

- Friday and Saturday: breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Sunday: breakfast and lunch

Here's the information for each of the Base Camps along with the link for signing up:

OHTA Work Weekend- Richland Creek Campground

Event Date: October 7th, 8th, and 9th, 2022

Event Address: Richland Creek Campground – can be located on the Ozark Highlands Trail—East map available in OHTA's online store: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/store-2/>

Contact us if you have questions at: (417) 540-4957

Here's the link for signing up:

[Oct. 7-8-9 RICHLAND CREEK](#)

OHTA Work Weekend- Blanchard Springs Campground

Event Date: October 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2022

Event Address: Blanchard Springs Campground, Group Camp Site 1 – can be located on the Ozark Highlands Trail—North map available in OHTA's online store: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/store-2/>

Contact us if you have questions at: (417) 540-4957

Here's the link for signing up:

[Oct. 14-15-16 BLANCHARD SPRINGS](#)

OHTA Work Weekend- Redding Campground

Event Date: October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, 2022

Event Address: Redding Campground, Highway 123 Cass, Arkansas – can be located on the Ozark Highlands Trail—West map available in OHTA's online store: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/store-2/>

Contact us if you have questions at: (417) 540-4957

Here's the link for signing up:

[Oct. 21-22-23 REDDING CAMPGROUND](#)

– Enjoying the Trail –

OHTA Annual Hare Mountain Hike In

Saturday, November 5, 2022, is the start of this year's two-day Hare Mountain Hike In. If you want to be a part of this event, there are multiple locations from which to start your hike. However, the spot closest to where everyone will camp on Hare Mountain is the Hare Mountain/Morgan Field Trailhead (can be located on the Ozark Highlands Trail—West map available in OHTA's online store: <https://ozarkhighlandstrail.com/store-2/>). From there it is a mere 1.7 mile hike to the top.

This year's Hike In will include a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a short meeting around the campfire. With that said, please remember to bring something tasty to contribute to the feast. There is plenty of room to camp, but be sure to pack in all the water you will need. Come one, come all as this is a perfect opportunity to introduce someone new to hiking to the spectacular beauty of the Ozark mountains and the unparalleled experience of primitive camping.

– Volunteering to Promote the Trail –

The Ozark Outdoor Expo to be held this year from October 21st through the 23rd is rapidly approaching, and we're still looking for a few more good souls to helping with the event. Again, this year's Expo will be at the Rogers Convention Center (Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas, 3303 S. Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, Arkansas). Pack Rat Outdoor Center is the "official retail partner" of the event and is graciously offering to share space in its booth with the OHTA. Participation in this event will help expand awareness of the OHTA and the Ozark Highlands Trail in northwest Arkansas.

If this sounds like something you'd enjoy doing for a day or even a few hours, just email OHTA's vice-president, Adam Higinbothom, at adam@packratoc.com. He'll be glad to answer whatever questions you may have and will work to find a time that works best for fulfilling your volunteering desires.

– Making Your Life and Trail Time Safer –

The OHTA is excited to announce that on Saturday and Sunday, December 10th and 11th, we will be sponsoring Wilderness First Aid (WFA), EpiPen certification, and CPR/AED workshops. And if this news in itself isn't super enough, the icing on the cake is that Tom Burroughs will be the instructor!! If you have never attended a workshop led by Mr. Burroughs, you've missed out—**INSTRUCTORS DO NOT GET ANY BETTER THAN HE!**

The Wilderness First Aid workshop will run from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day with the latter part of day two devoted to EpiPen certification training. The fee for these two classes is a flat \$175.

The adult, child, and infant CPR/AED class will run from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday the 10th. The fee for this class is \$50.

Once you complete the class(es) in which you enrolled, certificates will be handed out. The WFA and EpiPen certifications will be valid for 3 years, and the CPR/AED certification will be good for two years.

All classes will be held at Ozark Mountain Smokehouse located at 1725 Smoke House Trail, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Space is limited to 20 participants, so if you want to be a part of this invaluable training, now is the time to contact us at OHTA@OzarkHighlandsTrail.com to reserve your spot. You do not want to miss out on this opportunity! What you will learn could mean the difference between life and death for you and/or someone else.

– Representing the Trail –

The OHTA is looking for someone to represent the organization at the once-quarterly Arkansas Trails Council (ATC) meetings. Having regular representation at the meetings would lead to the OHTA having a vote on issues pertinent to the development and promotion of trails in Arkansas and, perhaps, in our area of the state. The meetings are typically held on a weekday and are usually down in the Little Rock area.

If doing something like this appeals to you, or if you simply want to learn more about these meetings, please let us know at mailto:ohata@ozarkhighlandstrail.com

Here's the latest ATC meeting announcement:

Hello Trails Council Members,

I hope you all are doing well and getting to get out on the trail. We will be having the 2022 Fall Quarterly Arkansas Trails Council Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 6 at the Big Maumelle Pavilion at Pinnacle Mountain State Park.

Apologies for the late notice, however it should be a good meeting and the first in-person meeting since winter of 2020.

The meeting will be at the pavilion by Big Maumelle River, which is near the visitor center. We decided to have it outside in case we had a CoViD surge again. The pavilion is nice and big, and the weather should be good. I think it will be a good place.

I will send out the summer meeting minutes in a subsequent email soon.

I hope to see you there!

Thanks,

Mike Sprague

Arkansas State Trails Coordinator/Project Officer

Division of Arkansas State Parks

Outdoor Recreation Grants Program

One Capitol Mall

Little Rock, AR 72201

mike.sprague@arkansas.gov

p: 501.682.6947 | f: 501.682.0081

– Preparing for the Trail Ahead –

NOTE: If you have an event, a book title, a poem, any important trail information, or whatever and you'd like to share it with everyone who receives the Newsletter, please let us know by sending it to ohta@ozarkhighlandstrail.com, and it will likely appear in the next edition of the OHTA Newsletter.

Here's wishing each of you a super big bunch of good health and an extremely wonderful month of October!

Until we meet again, HIKE ONWARD!

**THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING A PART OF
THE OZARK HIGHLANDS TRAIL ASSOCIATION!!!**