



## The Keystone Hiker - June 2022

### Member's Corner

## 100 Hikers Turned Out for Spring Weekend

A hundred Keystone Trails Association members from around the Commonwealth participated in our recent Spring Hiking Weekend at the Bongiorno Conference Center in Carlisle. The three-day event featured plenty of hikes, activities, presentations and camaraderie. Participants had the opportunity to sign up for a number of hikes every day. On Friday, hike leaders took several groups of members on hikes around the area. Quite popular was the evening "Owl Prowl" led by KTA Executive Director Brook Lenker and Ed Chubb. Preceding the Owl Prowl, Paul Shaw delivered an enthralling presentation about the international adventures he's previously led for KTA. and finished with a preview of the organization's fall 2022 triip to Andorra and Barcelona.



On Saturday, KTA members had several hikes to choose from, offering distances of two to 11 miles and a range of difficulty from flat and easy to steep, rocky, and challenging. Hike leaders for these treks included Peter Fleszar, Carl Davis, Dennis Hurley, Karen Balaban, Katie Barker, Karen Lutz, and Brook Lenker.

Throughout the weekend, the hike leaders did an incredible job not only guiding their respective groups, but also offering information about each area and ensuring everyone got back safe and sound. "The hikes are a highlight of the weekend and we can't pull them off without the expertise and enthusiasm of volunteer hike leaders," said Brook Lenker. "We are grateful for their assistance."

On Saturday afternoon, the KTA Board and



Council meetings were held. Leading-off the Council meeting were two important state agency speakers, Bryan Burhans, executive director of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and Dr. Nathan Reigner, Director of Outdoor Recreation with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Their remarks generated a productive follow-up dialogue with the audience.

Saturday evening brought a number of entertaining presentations after a festive reception and networking event for trail and hiking clubs, organized by Master Naturalist candidate Kristin Joivell, generated great

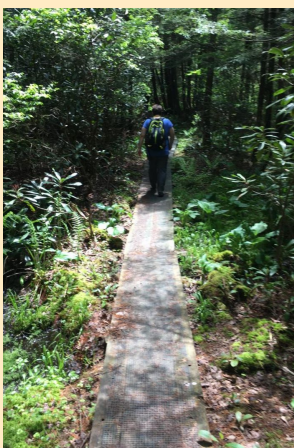
conversations around the various trail and club displays positioned around the room. KTA President Katie Barker greeted those in attendance and spoke about the work being done by the KTA and invited members to get involved in upcoming events. Kristin wowed the crowd with her video about a dozen of the greatest hiking trails in Pennsylvania and Dr. Scott Boback closed the evening with a fascinating presentation about rattlesnakes, based on his ongoing research.

The KTA Spring Hiking Weekend ended on Sunday with more hikes on area trails, before members, new and old, departed for home with a cache of vivid outdoor memories.

Thanks to everyone - volunteers, staff, special guests, board and council members, a musician, and, of course, the participants - for making the 2022 Spring Hiking Weekend a resounding success.

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## Slackpacks are Back



Over the Memorial Day Weekend, a group of five intrepid hikers explored the 41.75-mile Allegheny Front Trail in Moshannon State Forest, led by Ben Cramer, author of the Guide to the Allegheny Front Trail ([available at the KTA bookstore](#)).

From lady slippers to wild azaleas, the forest strutted its floral bounty as did a raft of turkeys enamored by the flock of humans. A rattlesnake, while not amused, offered enrichment wilderness-style to the sturdy crew. Nearby Tomahawk Pines Lodge provided cozy accommodations and Chef Casey Schneck satiated hungry expeditioners with the most comforting cuisine. An evening excursion to Penn State's Berkey Creamery delivered supplemental indulgence . . . the cherry to top off a wonderful event.

Thanks to DCNR, Ben Cramer, and other KTA volunteers for creating and maintaining this beautiful trail - a route conceived by Ralph Seeley, a former

KTA board leader.

Slackpacks forge memories and more are on tap. Next up, the [Black Forest Trail](#).



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## Trail Gap Data Needed by DCNR

DCNR is partnering with the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) and will utilize the online [Trail Implementation and Management \(TIM\)](#) tool for the collection of all trail gap data.

To assist with the submission of trail gaps, PEC is offering two webinars:

- [June 14th, 12:30-1:30](#) will cover the trail gap collection process and how to complete the intake form.
- [June 28th, 12:30-1:30](#) will cover more in-depth function of the TIM tool.

Both webinars will be recorded and made available for later viewing.

For those who would like to start immediately submitting data for your trail gaps, we are asking trail managers to:

1. [Visit the TIM tool](#).
2. Follow the instructions then complete the “intake form” for each of your trail gaps along the section(s) of trail your organization manages.
3. Once the basic information is provided through the intake form, the information will be processed within 7 to 10 days and trail managers will be emailed with instructions on how to access the TIM.
4. Complete Trail Gap Profile within the TIM.

Generally, we are seeking gap data for trails (non-motorized or motorized) that meet the following criteria:

- Trails that are a majority off-road or are planned to have a majority off-road alignment
- Trails that are planned to be at least 5 miles long
- Trails that connect multiple municipalities and/or counties
- Trails that are formally recognized in an official planning document

Currently, the data collection effort is expected to continue through September 30, 2022. If you have questions about the process, please contact Chris Corbran, PEC Program Coordinator at [TIMTool@pecpa.org](mailto:TIMTool@pecpa.org).

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## KTA Will Exhibit at Susquehanna Greenway Outdoor Expo on National Trails Day

KTA is excited to be a part of the [Susquehanna Greenway Outdoor Expo!](#) Explore over 50 booths with outdoor gear and information, learn from the experts, and test your skills with clinics & workshops. Plus, enter for a chance to win a kayak!



Saturday, June 4, 2022 at Shikellamy State Park Marina, 10 AM - 4 PM.



## Volunteer's Corner

### The Briar Patch

#### Scourge of the Month: Multiflora Rose



The now infamous Multiflora Rose was introduced into North America from its native home in Eastern Asia in 1886. Originally imported to be used as a hearty rootstock for less robust cultivated roses, it is now the most prolific rose growing on the continent. Unlike native roses, the Multiflora produces large clusters of white flowers and thus an abundance of fruit (hips) that are eaten and dispersed widely by birds. The viney stalks can grow 6 feet tall and harden into fibrous canes with vicious thorns. These thorns are particularly problematic because they curve towards the base of the plant which means that once they grab your clothes or impale your flesh they are particularly difficult to shake off and escape from. Wrestling with Multiflora Rose is a blood sport. Unhampered, these roses grow aggressively and form dense, impenetrable thickets. Eradicating this tenacious beauty requires mowing 3 to 6 times per season over the course of 2 to 4 years. It is worth noting that in the 1930s the Soil Conservation Service encouraged farmers to plant Multiflora Rose as a check against soil erosion and to create a “living fence” for livestock. Today it has turned into a living “offence”.

### What to Expect

#### June 2-5 Trail Care: Mid State Trail, Everett Region

Join us for trail care on some of the most rugged sections of the Mid State Trail!

Work sites: While we are still hammering out the exact locations for specific work, we will be mostly in and around the borough of Everett and up to 30 mins north and south of there. Carpooling is to be expected so please let me know if you are not comfortable with that as we can accommodate other

arrangements.

Work types: (with estimated level of difficulty - easy, moderate, strenuous - and reasons in parentheses): Our primary goal is to blaze the finalized trail route into and out of Everett, PA (easy distance) so that future hikers know exactly where to go on their journey through town. In the Buchanan State Forest, we will be mowing and brushcutting larger swaths of mountain laurel growing on the trail (easy to moderate) with heavier brushcutting on the ridgelines north and south of town in the ongoing, pyrrhic battle against the ever-growing briars (moderate to strenuous). Up to a gallon of water carrying capacity should be expected for the ridgeline work.

Camping: We will be camping (tent, hammock, or car) at Tenley Park in the borough of Everett (look for the KTA signs and please drive slowly, quietly through the residential area). There will be access to a privy at the park with nearby showers at the Everett Church of the Brethren. There is some electrical access at the park pavilion but no access to running water at the park (Sheetz is nearby). Attendees should plan to bring all of the water they need. A hot cooked meal is planned for Saturday night in celebration of National Trail Days with free non-alcoholic beer to be provided by the Athletic Brewing Company.

All abilities and experience are welcome - we offer "on the trail" training! Please consider joining us for a day or the weekend. If you have any questions, or would like to participate, please contact me, Chad North, at [chadnorth@gmail.com](mailto:chadnorth@gmail.com) / 570-238-3591. It is VERY helpful to know ahead of time who is coming, along with their experience level, when planning task divvying and for less stressful mornings. General information about KTA Trail Care, and what to bring, on our trail care web page.

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## What to Expect

### June 23-26 Trail Care: Mid State Trail, Tioga Region

Dear Potential Trail Care volunteers: Please consider giving back to the northern reaches of Pennsylvania's longest and wildest footpath, Mid State Trail, in Tioga County. The northern end is unusual in that it passes through private land tracts through and beside farms between the scattered public land areas. If you country walk in England and wish there were similar experiences stateside – there are!

Work sites: Exact work locations are being planned. From our campsite, work sites may be from 5 to 45 minute drive away, anywhere from Blackwell to Lawrenceville. We carpool; please let me know if you are not comfortable riding with others or driving on twisty back roads including gravel forestry roads.

Work types: (with estimated level of difficulty - easy, moderate, strenuous - and reasons in parentheses): The path in central and northern Tioga County typically follows beside active, or through abandoned, agricultural land and will need a DR mower, which is basically a heavy-duty rotary mower (easy to moderate- distance, maneuvering tight spots; VERY helpful if volunteers have a pickup truck or trailer to move the mower from point to point, we have several mowers that will need to stay active). A couple of us may be reblazing the trail

(easy to moderate- distance). We are planning to plant a kiosk sign board at a roadside trailhead (easy to moderate- strength, distance carrying equipment). A side trail will need to be reclaimed from a stream bed, so there may be sidehill benching (moderate – strength). Possibly, with enough motivated folks, we may be renovating backcountry campsites (moderate to difficult – distance, strength) There will likely be chainsaw work for experienced sawyers only, plus swamper/tosser help (moderate- distance, strength).

Camping: We're tent/hammock/car camping at the Hills Creek State Park near Wellsboro and Mansfield. Organized Group Tenting Area, coordinates of gate 41.813682, -77.197642 ; Park address is 111 Spillway Rd, Wellsboro PA 16901, Charleston Township; on coming in over the dam, pass park office on right, then turn left on Kellys Swamp Lane, pass the beach on the left, the gate further back on the left beside vending machines/recycling/second car parking for the main camping area; if you go into the regular camping area you went a little too far. No pets in the group campsite; please reserve a regular site on your own if you bring Fido. The short road to the tenting area is normally gated but will be open for our weekend (starting Thursday afternoon. I plan to get there by 4 pm). There is a running water bathroom on site, and a picnic pavilion known for active raccoons (don't leave ANYTHING out). Showers are in the main camping area, or at the beach. Please note: cell service can be quite spotty; I may not receive any emails/texts in a timely fashion. If weather allows, we'll have a campfire in the evenings. Bring a chair, gather 'round, and regale us with tales of your day, favorite hiking trails, etc.

All abilities and experience are welcome - we offer "on the trail" training! Please consider joining us for a day or the weekend. If you have any questions, or would like to participate, please contact Peter Fleszar, at [tioga@hike-mst.org](mailto:tioga@hike-mst.org) / 717 576-3112 cell or text or WhatsApp. It is helpful to know ahead of time who is coming, along with their experience level, when planning task divvying and for less stressful mornings. General information about KTA Trail Care, and what to bring, is on our trail care web page.

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## Trail Care Report

### May 5-8 Black Forest Trail



The third KTA Trail Care event of 2022 on the Black Forest and side trails was hindered by lower than usual turnout most likely from unfavorable weather forecasts. Indeed, Friday was pretty miserable with a steady rain all day. Once you're out there and working, you kind of forget about it for a while. Kind of. Saturday, however, was not as bad as portended, with just a couple light showers and the sun peeking out once in a while. Sunday turned out to be gorgeous for work outside then celebrating moms.

In terms of trail work, Tiadaghton State Forester Ben Sands had thoroughly scouted the ~43-mile trail, marking sections which needed the most work on a trail map, and had prioritized tasks for us. Friday, Tom, Woody, and Forest Technician Jake re-



dug trail and filled in root balls on a section of trail near Callahan Run that had encountered damage from uprooted trees. Meanwhile, Ben, Bob, Scott, Tony, and Jenn began transporting materials and tools to the [bog bridge/puncheon](#) site just east of Old Grade Trail. White oak trees were cut into segments for installation of [corduroy](#) in some of the less wet but mushy sections, while preliminary waterbars were dug to attempt to drain some water off the trail where bog bridges were needed. Then we began sorting through the lumber and planning out the bog bridge sections. After some trial and error, a couple sections were satisfactorily in place by the end of the day. We retreated to the fire tower cabin at our camping area and the woodstove was very handy in drying clothes and shoes overnight.

Saturday, most of the crew (Ben, Tom, Tony, Scott, Donna) returned to continue building the bog bridges. Meanwhile, Matt ran a brushcutter and Jenn the DR mower on the BFT and Gas Line Trail near Bob Webber's cabin site, then on to the BFT south of Old Mountain Road and Old Mountain and Old BFT sections. Sunday, remaining volunteers continued work on the bog bridges, completing quite a few sections. Backpackers passing through were appreciative. [Pictures from the weekend can be viewed here.](#)

Huge thank yous to the 9 hearty volunteers who contributed 116 hours of trail work: Tom Bastian, Matt Gutberlet, Woody Loudenslager, Bob Merrill, Scott Newcomer, Tony Robbins, Ben Sands, Donna Thompson, Jenn Ulmer.

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## KTA Trail Care Schedule 2022

### June 2-5: Trail Care

Mid State Trail, Everett Region  
Buchanan State Forest  
Leader: Chad North  
chadnorth@gmail.com  
570-238-3591  
Camp: Tenley Park, Everett

### June 23-26: Trail Care

Mid State Trail, Tioga Region  
Tioga State Forest  
Leader: Pete Fleszar  
tioga@hike-mst.org  
717-576-3112  
Camp: Hills Creek State Park  
Organized Group Tenting Area

### July 14-17: Trail Care

Allegheny Front Trail  
Moshannon State Forest  
Leader: Ben Auer  
auer.ben@gmail.com  
608-772-1715  
Camp: Black Moshannon State Park  
Regular Camp Ground  
Sites # 76, 77, 78 and 80

### September 15-18: Trail Care

Bucktail Path  
Elk State Forest  
Leaders: Shira Blady / Brian MacNamara  
bladysh@gmail.com  
267-970-1280  
Camp: Sizerville State Park  
Regular Camp Ground  
Sites # 3, 19, 20, and 21

### October 1: Code Orange 1 day

Saturday Only event  
Gifford Pinchot State Park  
W/ Friends of Pinchot S.P.  
Leader: Steve Stroman  
stevestroman@hotmail.com  
717-350-0437  
Meet at 8:30 am at the campground office, off of East Camping Area Road.  
Friends of Pinchot will provide a trail lunch for participants.  
Free camping and showers available Friday & Saturday for participants in Group Camping Areas D, E, and F.

**August 18-21: Trail Care**

Thunder Swamp Trail System  
Delaware State Forest  
Leader: Ed Lawrence  
cemclaw216@gmail.com  
570-925-5285  
Camp: Resica Falls BSA Camp  
off Route 402  
Bear Paw site

**October 27-30: Trail Care**

Pinchot Trail System  
Pinchot State Forest  
Leader: Jeff Mitchell  
jmitchmitch@hotmail.com  
570-441-2952  
Camp: Pocono Mountain Bible  
Conference Camp  
191 Clifton Beach Rd.  
Clifton, Pa. 18424  
Meet: Manny Gordon Picnic Area off  
Bear Lake Road at 8:00 a.m. each  
morning

Visit <https://www.kta-hike.org/trail-care-and-trail-crew> for more info on  
volunteering with KTA

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## Other Volunteer Opportunities

### KTA Trail Challenge

Our annual 25k and 50k trail run on September 10th in the lower Susquehanna Gorge takes over 100 volunteers to pull off. [Please consider signing up to support this event.](#)

Volunteers receive an official KTA Trail Challenge Volunteer t-shirt, access to the delicious Finish Line Picnic, and the awesome feeling that comes with doing good. Thank you so much for supporting Keystone Trails Association!

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### KTA Lehigh Gap AT Reroute Opening

The new A.T. in the vicinity of Little Gap is ready to be opened up. Many thanks to Peter Jensen's crew and the PA Outdoor Corps. We could use a few volunteers to help with de-blazing the old trail, blazing the new trail, etc. The group will meet at the PA Gameland parking lot just south of the A.T. at Little Gap. The parking lot is on Blue Mountain Drive north of Danielsville and south of the entrance to the Blue Mountain Ski resort. See the attached map.

You will meet Bob Sickley of ATC at 9 am on June 4. Bring work gloves and safety glasses if you have them, plus drinks & snacks. Please email Bob at [bsickley@appalachiantrail.org](mailto:bsickley@appalachiantrail.org) if you are planning to come or have any questions.

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## Hiker's Corner

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# Rothrock State Forest

## Detweiler Run Loop



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## Growing Greener III Needs Your Voice

Let your state lawmaker know your thoughts on conservation investments in the form of **Growing Greener III**. This legislation channels American Rescue Plan funds to capital projects like the rehabilitation of parks and trails, protection of wildlife habitat, and nature-based solutions to flooding and stream (e.g., riparian forest buffers, passive AMD treatment, and wetland restoration). Growing Greener III benefits all Pennsylvanians and supports the state's tourism and outdoor recreation economies. Visit <https://pagrowinggreener.org/growing-greener-iii/> to learn more.

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## Speak to Your Lawmakers about HB 1694

HB 1694 limits liability for volunteers and volunteer organizations and, if it becomes law, should make life a little easier for local trail clubs. The bill passed the House unanimously in December and it is now in the Senate Community, Economic and Recreational Development Committee.

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## Trail News

Lancaster Conservancy announces \$21 mil. campaign to "Protect & Restore" natural lands in Lancaster County and the Susquehanna Riverlands

Springtime Alert: Leave Young Wildlife Alone

How to Remove a Tick Head the Right Way

Republican Senators Propose Gas Drilling On 22,000 More Acres Of State Forest, Mining 920 Acres Under State Park To Pay For DCNR Infrastructure

[Fixing the Appalachian Trail's Overcrowding Crisis](#)

[The Outdoor Recreation Economy in Pennsylvania](#)

[DCNR Joins Chester Officials For Trail Opening Celebration On Earth Day](#)

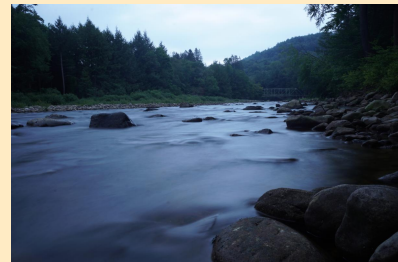
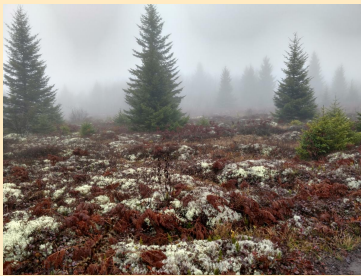
[DCNR and DOH Expand Free Sunscreen at State Park Beaches](#)

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## 2022 Winter/Spring KTA Photo Contest

Submit your photos at <https://www.kta-hike.org/photo-contest.html>

The winner will be announced in July and will receive a free 1 year membership and KTA hat.



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## [Community Calendar](#)

### [KTA Events](#)

#### [Susquehanna River Adventure](#)

**Thursday, July 21st**

Join KTA to explore a six-mile stretch of the Susquehanna River Water Trail from Fort Hunter to Wormleysburg via kayak and canoe.

#### [Allegheny National Forest Weekend](#)

**August 26 - 28th**

Take a trip to Pennsylvania's only National Forest and stay in the beautiful Olmstead Manor in Ludlow for a weekend of amazing and wild hikes.

#### [KTA Trail Challenge](#)

**September 10th**

Take the challenge to conquer our 25k or 50k trail run, based out of Pequea Creek Campground and Susquehannock SP in Lancaster County.

#### [Quehanna Elf Quest](#)

**September 23 - 25th**

Explore the Moshannon and Elk State Forests, view the elk herd in the Benezette area, and complete your weekend adventure at Gunners - a quaint hotel/restaurant in historic St. Marys, PA.

### Barcelona and Andorra

**September 25 - October 5th**

Barcelona, on the Mediterranean Sea, is one of Europe's most vibrant cities, a world center of art, culture and sport and a wonderful city for walking. Andorra, nestled in the nearby Pyrenees Mountains between Spain and France, is one of the world's smallest countries but packed with excellent hiking opportunities.

*Space for 1 male with assigned roommate, or join the waitlist.*

### Black Forest Trail Slackpack

**September 30 - October 3rd**

Take advantage of this incredible opportunity, to complete in ONE WEEKEND the trail that everyone talks about: The Black Forest Trail. Shuttle between the trail and a cozy cabin with a home-cooked meal every night.

### Fall Hiking Weekend

**October 14 - 16th**

KTA heads to central Pennsylvania for a weekend getaway filled with great hikes and fellowship. From rail trails to river trails and backcountry hikes, we are looking forward to a weekend of awesome excursions .

### Friday Rambles

Join the Executive Director, Brook Lenker, for short (< three mile) hikes and get to know KTA's new leader and the trail of the day. Meet special guests from our partnering organizations and agencies. Afterwards, if you wish, enjoy a meal (on your own) and conversation at a nearby diner. Reservations are not required and there is no cost to participate (although donations are welcomed). Consider bringing a friend or co-worker.

### **June 10 - Capital Area Greenbelt, Paxtang Parkway Section**

In partnership with Capital Area Greenbelt Association

Meet: Greenbelt lot of off Derry Street @Parkway Boulevard in Paxtang

Breakfast at the City Line Diner, 3302 Derry Street, Harrisburg

### **July 14 - Evening Hike at Gibraltar Hill, William Penn State Forest**

In partnership with Blue Mountain Eagle Climbing Club

Meet at the West Parking Lot at 473 Ridgeway Rd, Birdsboro, PA 19508

Optional ice cream meetup at Scoop DeVille after the hike

### **August 4 - "Dog Days" of Summer Evening Canine Hike at Boyd Big Tree Preserve**

For dog owners and their well-behaved, well-socialized dogs

In partnership with Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club

Meet at the pavilion by the parking lot at 401 Fishing Creek Valley Rd, Harrisburg, PA 17112

Dogs must be kept on a six-foot (or shorter) leash as per DCNR regulations

### **August 10 - Morning Hike at Mt. Gretna**

In partnership with Day Hikers of Central PA

Meet at the Education Center at Clarence Schock Memorial Park, 3283 Pinch Rd, Manheim, PA 17545

Optional lunch meetup after the hike

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# Community Events

## Allegheny 100 Challenge

**June 10 - 12**

The 2022 Allegheny 100 Challenge (A-100) is scheduled for June 10th – 12th along the 100 miles of the Allegheny National Forest section of the North Country Trail. This year it will be run from north to south. The event will be run in the traditional manner with the return of the optional shuttle bus to take you to the start. The registration fee is \$80 and does not include any membership to the North Country Trail Association.

The lottery to win a spot to register for the A-100 opens on March 7, 2022. Go to the A-100 event page at <https://northcountrytrail.org/events/a-100/> for an explanation of the lottery and additional information about the event.

The inaugural Allegheny 100 Hiking Challenge was held in June 2010 with 19 participants. The event was conceived by one of the founding members of the Allegheny National Forest Chapter, Bert Nemcik. Bert knew from thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail that the NCT needed greater exposure to the hiking community in order to help improve the trail. The ANF Chapter is saddened to report that Bert passed away in December 2021. The 2022 A-100 is being dedicated to Bert.

Best of luck in the lottery! Hope to see you in June.  
Questions? Email us at [anf@northcountrytrail.org](mailto:anf@northcountrytrail.org)

## **Mason-Dixon Appalachian Trail Outdoor Festival**

**June 11**

Saturday, June 11 at Red Run Park, 12143 Buchanan Trail East, Waynesboro, the Greater Waynesboro PA Area Appalachian Trail Community is sponsoring its 6th "Mason-Dixon Appalachian Trail Outdoor Festival," from 10-4. Food, music, children's activities, vendors and exhibits as well as hiker hospitality fill the day, including the PA Department of Ag's WoodMobile! If you have an environmental group or display or handcrafted items and would like to participate, check out our website; please email [atfestival17268@gmail.com](mailto:atfestival17268@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Hike to Happy Hour

**June 11**

Forbes State Forest and Laurel Hill State Park are hosting a special Hike to Happy Hour event on June 11, 2022! This will be a challenging, 8-10 mile trek through the Blue Hole Division of Forbes, ending at a local winery to enjoy snacks and beverages if you please. This event cost \$12 per person, which includes snacks and wine tasting. Please see the attached flyer for more information. To register or for additional questions about this event, please contact Kim Peck at [kipeck@pa.gov](mailto:kipeck@pa.gov) or 814-352-8649. \*I will not be taking registration, please only contact Kim if you are interested.

## **Iron Run and Charcoal Challenge Races**

**June 11**

The half-marathon and 5k will return for 2022 on Saturday, June 11. Our race maps are available [here](#). To register [here](#) for the half-marathon and [here](#) for the 5k run/walk. This year's fundraiser races will support both the Friends of

### [A.T. VISTA Registration Open](#)

**August 5 - 8**

The four-day extended weekend program offers over 60 hikes along trails in New York and New Jersey, more than 45 educational and fun workshops, and various local excursions to explore the area. Register to attend A.T. VISTA, held at the State University of New York (SUNY) in New Paltz, by clicking the link below.

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## **WANT YOUR EVENT FEATURED ON THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR?**

KTA will promote your club/organization's major events through The Keystone Hiker, Facebook, and our website. It's a perk of membership! Just submit a list with date, time, location, and link to web page for only those events that the public should see, to [ktaadmin@kta-hike.org](mailto:ktaadmin@kta-hike.org).

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### **Club Spotlight**

## **Cumberland Valley Appalachian Trail Club**



Cumberland Valley Appalachian Trail Club (CVATC) was founded in 1991. We are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation. The club's mission is to maintain the Appalachian Trail within its designated boundary.

CVATC members maintain the seventeen miles of the Appalachian Trail in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. The trail was once a road walk that was transformed into the trail we know today. This trail section begins at Center Point Knob (originally the half-way point on the Appalachian Trail) on South Mountain and extends through the Cumberland Valley between Carlisle and Mechanicsburg to the top of Blue Mountain.

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### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

This newsletter is published monthly by Keystone Trails Association. Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis. Opinions expressed are those of the listed authors. The Editor encourages submissions reflecting all viewpoints, but reserves the right to edit material. You are encouraged to submit material (even just a trail closing or care alert!) to the Program Administrator, Casey Schneck, at [ktaadmin@kta-hike.org](mailto:ktaadmin@kta-hike.org). The deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the prior month. Submissions received after that time will be considered for the next month.

Please reference our [Editorial-Style Guide](#) while you compose your piece.



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