

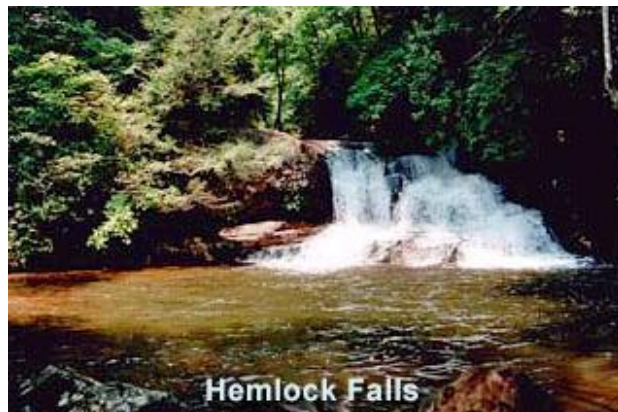


Hemlock Treatment at Hemlock Falls Project Details



DATE: Saturday, November 21, 2015

EVENT: Volunteer hemlock treatment project with the U. S. Forest Service in the Hemlock Falls hemlock conservation area. It's off Highway 197 near Moccasin Creek State Park in Rabun County.



WHERE TO MEET: We'll gather at the Hemlock Falls Trailhead located at the end of Andersonville Lane (aka FS 127) where there is space to park cars. See maps and driving directions on page 2.

SCHEDULE: **9:30 a.m.** – Hemlock helpers, please be on time. First, you'll receive a short orientation about the area, condition of the hemlocks, treatment process, and safety reminders. Then you'll be organized into small teams including at least one experienced SGH Facilitator per team, receive your equipment and supplies, hike a short distance to your treatment sites, and begin treating hemlocks. The hike from the parking area to the Falls is approximately 20 minutes at a casual walking pace.

We'll be re-treating about 125 pre-tagged hemlocks, applying Imidacloprid by soil injection. If there's enough time and chemical left over, teams may scout for additional hemlocks that are still viable for first-time application of Imidacloprid and treat them too.

12:30 p.m. – Depending on the proximity of the individual work sites, the treatment teams may have their lunch at their work sites or may come together for a group picnic at the waterfall.

TBD – stay tuned. After lunch we'll resume work and should be finished treating trees by 2:30.

2:30 p.m. – We'll walk back to the cars, do a quick clean-up, and then be on our way home.

TERRAIN: The trail to the falls is moderate but has many rocks and roots partially hidden as well as some very wet areas which can easily be avoided. The terrain on either side of the trail varies significantly from being flat to steep (both up and down) in places, and the underbrush is generally thick with rhododendron.

WHAT TO WEAR: Dress for the weather and the activity, including long pants and long sleeves, sturdy footwear with socks work gloves, and rain gear in case of light rain. Hard hats and nitrile gloves will be provided. There is only one stream to cross and there is a walking bridge, but **waterproof footwear might be a good idea.**

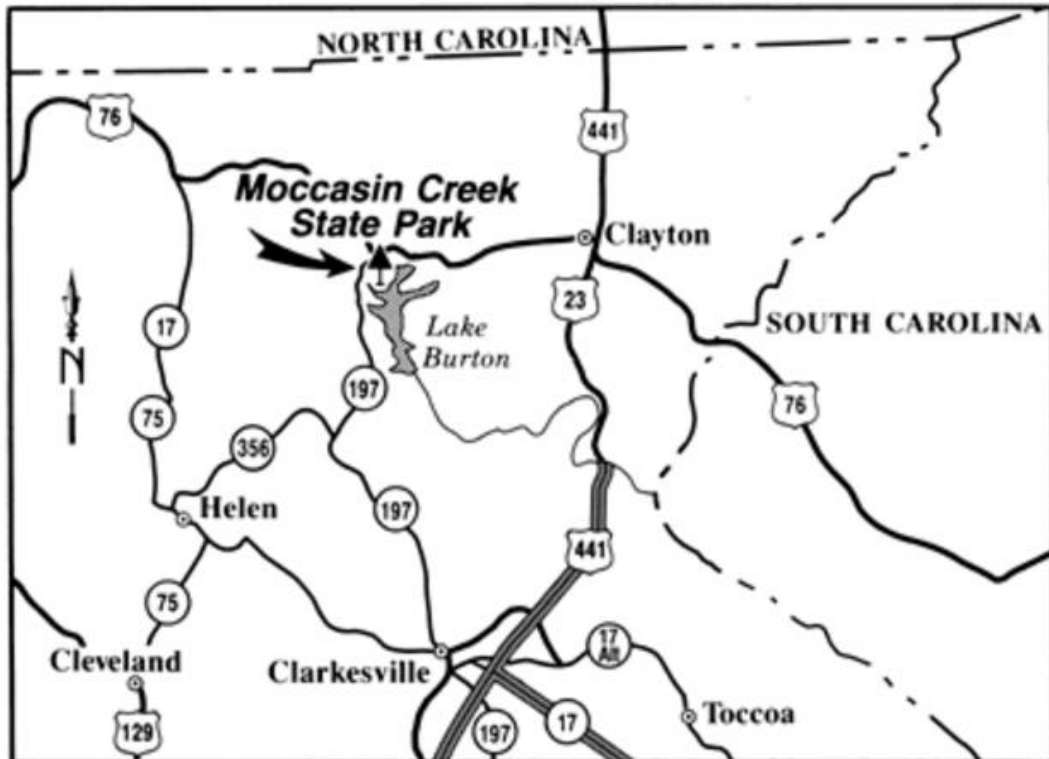
WHAT TO BRING: Pack a sack lunch and personal water bottle, a camera if you like, and a small day pack to carry things. We'll provide some snacks and extra bottled water. If you're allergic to bee stings, bring whatever you need to manage.

WHAT NOT TO BRING: This is an environmentally-friendly, pack-it-in pack-it-out event, so please don't bring any glass or styrofoam items. Also, as much as we love dogs, please don't bring them this time.

QUESTIONS: If you have questions, contact Bob Pledger at bobpledger@windstream.net or 706-212-2833 or 706-982-9357 *before* you get to the area as cell phone service is sketchy there.

Maps and Driving Directions for Hemlock Falls

General area map showing location of Moccasin Creek State Park (<http://gastateparks.org/MoccasinCreek>)



Area map showing location of Hemlock Falls (<http://www.n-georgia.com/hemlock-falls.htm>)



DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE: Hemlock Falls is located in Rabun County at the end of Andersonville Lane (aka FS 127) which is a dirt/gravel road. Use the Lake Burton Fish Hatchery address which is 3695 Highway 197 N, Clarkesville, GA 30523 for GPS directions to the intersection of Hwy 197 with Andersonville Lane. You will see a street name sign as well as a Hemlock Falls Trailhead sign and a Camp Winfield sign. Turn onto Andersonville Lane going west for approximately 0.5 mi. Continue along Andersonville Lane going past the Camp Winfield turnoff until you reach the dead end where parking is available and the trailhead starts.