



## Hemlock Treatment at Anna Ruby Falls Project Details



**DATE:** Saturday, April 23, 2016

**EVENT:** Volunteer hemlock treatment project with the U. S. Forest Service at **Anna Ruby Falls** recreation area hemlock conservation area off Highway 356 near Helen in White County.

**WHERE TO MEET:** We'll gather at the Anna Ruby Falls Visitor Center parking lot located 3.3 miles north of the intersection of Hwy 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Road. There's space to park cars in the southwest corner of the parking lot where we will meet. See map and driving directions on next page.



**SCHEDULE:** **9:10 a.m.** – Team Leaders meeting for project orientation.

**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 or ride a short distance to your treatment sites, and begin treating hemlocks.

We'll primarily be re-treating pre-tagged hemlocks as well as new viable hemlocks with no tags, by applying Imidacloprid via soil injection.

**12:30 p.m.** – Return to the Visitor Center and clean soil injectors. Join the group in the large picnic area just across the bridge for lunch together. After lunch we'll resume work and should be finished treating trees by approximately 3:45 p.m.

**3:45 to 4:00 p.m.** – Return to the Visitor Center, do a quick clean-up, and then be on our way home.

**TERRAIN:** The terrain is steep in many places and would be considered mountain goat territory.

**WHAT TO WEAR:** Dress for the weather and the activity, including long pants and long sleeves, sturdy footgear with socks, work gloves, and rain gear in case of light rain. **Waterproof footgear might be a good idea** if you have it. Hard hats and nitrile gloves will be provided.

**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](mailto:bobpledger@windstream.net) or 706-212-2833 *before* you get to the area as cell phone service is there is almost non-existent.

# Map & Driving Directions to Anna Ruby Falls

## Driving Directions

The Anna Ruby Falls recreation area Visitor Center is located off Highway 356 up Anna Ruby Falls Road 3.3 miles from the intersection of Highway 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Road. The Visitor Center address is 3455 Anna Ruby Falls Road, Helen, GA 30545.

**From Helen, GA** take Highway 75 north to the intersection with Highway 356. Turn east and drive to the intersection of 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Road just before the Unicoi State Park picnic area and the bridge. Turn left (north) on Anna Ruby Falls Road to the Visitor Center.

**From east** take Highway 356 west to the intersection with Anna Ruby Falls Road which is over the lake bridge and just past the picnic area. Turn right (north) on Anna Ruby Falls Road to the Visitor Center.

**From Blairsville** take Highway 129/19 south to intersection with Highway 180 and turn left (east) on 180. At intersection of 180 and Highway 348 turn right (south) on 348. At intersection with Highway 75 alt turn left (northwest) and drive to intersection with Highway 75. Turn right on Highway 75 for a short distance and turn left (north east) on Highway 356. Drive to the intersection of 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Road just before the Unicoi State Park picnic area and the bridge. Turn left (north) on Anna Ruby Falls Road to the Visitor Center.

**From Dahlonega** take Highway 75 alt to Highway 75 and turn right (south) on 75 for a short distance. Turn left (north east) on Highway 356. Drive to the intersection of 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Road just before the Unicoi State Park picnic area and the bridge. Turn left (north) on Anna Ruby Falls Road to the Visitor Center.

**From the intersection of Highway 356 and Anna Ruby Falls Rd.**, drive 1.3 miles north on Anna Ruby Falls Rd. where there's a left turn with signage pointing to Anna Ruby Falls recreation area.

- Approximately 0.5 miles from the turn there will be a USFS sign and an electronic gate.
- Further up Anna Ruby Falls Road you will arrive at the USFS Fee Station. Tell the individual on duty that you are **volunteering with Save Georgia's Hemlocks and a member of the team treating hemlocks**. You will then be allowed to pass without paying for parking.
- From the Fee Station, go 1.1 miles, and you'll arrive at the Visitor Center parking lot. Meet in the southwest corner of the lot.

