

Hike & Help the Hemlocks at Long Creek Falls

Project Details



Date: **Saturday, November 16, 2019**

Event: Education and service event to treat or retreat the hemlocks along the Benton MacKaye and Appalachian Trails around Long Creek Falls near Three Forks southeast of Blue Ridge.

Where to Meet: Fellowship Primitive Baptist Church, 5850 Doublehead Gap Rd, Blue Ridge. See maps on next 2 pages. Directional signs will be posted. Four-wheel drive is not necessary.

Schedule: **9:00 a.m. – SGH team leaders report.**

9:30 a.m. – All other hemlock helpers, please be on time. First, you'll receive a briefing on the condition of the hemlocks, treatment process to be used, and safety reminders. You'll be organized into small teams including at least one experienced SGH Facilitator per team and receive your equipment and supplies. Then you'll caravan in as few vehicles as possible to the trail head, hike to your treatment site, and begin treating trees.

12:30 p.m. – Everyone will come together at the falls for a catered group picnic and a few lunch-and-learn presentations. After lunch, we'll resume work.

3:00 p.m. (or sooner if finished) – We'll stop work, clean the equipment, caravan back to the church, and head for home.

Access: Access to the treatment sites is via the Appalachian Trail. The first site is about ½ mile from the trail head, and the other two sites around the falls are another ½ mile farther. The hike is easy to moderate.

Terrain: The terrain at the work sites is flat in some places and hilly in others but not dangerously steep anywhere. We'll make sure everyone is assigned to a site where they can be safe and comfortable.

What to Wear: Dress for the weather and the activity, including long pants and long sleeves, sturdy footgear with socks, gloves, and rain gear in case of light rain. Nitrile gloves will be provided for those who will be handling chemicals.

What to Bring: Pack a personal water bottle, hiking stick, and camera if you like. **Bring a backpack to carry supplies in, and if you have waders or high-top waterproof boots, bring those too.** If you have any serious allergies (like bee stings), bring whatever you need to manage.

Don't 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.

Registration: **Participants must sign up in advance.**
BMTA: contact Ken Cissna, kcissna@usf.edu, 813-310-6084.
GATC: contact Denny Rhodes, dennysrhodes@gmail.com, 770-435-2445.
SGH & everyone else: contact Donna Shearer, donna@savegeorgiashemlocks.org, 706-429-8010.

Be sure to provide both your phone number AND email address.

If you have questions, please call or email *before* you get to the area as phone service is sketchy there.



Save Georgia's Hemlocks • 37 Woody Bend • Dahlonega, GA 30533
Hemlock Help LineSM 706-429-8010
www.SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org

Driving Directions

From Blue Ridge go south on Aska Rd. Turn right on Newport Rd. Turn left on Doublehead Gap Rd and travel 0.6 mile to the church.

From Morganton go south on Hwy 60. Turn right on Doublehead Gap Rd and travel 5.8 miles to the church.

From Dahlonega go northwest on Hwy 60 through Suches. Turn left on Doublehead Gap Rd and travel 5.8 miles to the church.

From Ellijay go east on Hwy 52, then left on Roy Rd. When Roy Rd becomes Doublehead Gap Rd, keep going north for 4.75 miles to the church.



See close-up map on next page.



