



WEEK ONE
May 22 – 26, 2017

A/B Crosscut and Axe Certification

Facilitator: Carl Deitz, U.S. Forest Service

Level: Beginner/Intermediate

The A/B Crosscut Certification Course provides students with both classroom-based instruction and field experience in the use of the crosscut saws and axes. Students will learn how to safely utilize these tools in a trail maintenance capacity. The course will cover tool history, best practices in the field, one-on-one instruction in tool use in the field, tool care, safety, and transportation of the tools. Successful completion of this course is required to legally use these tools on national forest lands while participating in stewardship efforts. Certification is a product of completion of this course and the ability to demonstrate safe and competent use of both the crosscut saw and axe.

CPR & Wilderness First Aid Certification

Lead Instructor: Landmark Learning

Level: Beginner/Intermediate

The Wilderness First Aid (WFA) course will help you prepare for the unexpected. This fast paced, hands-on training is designed to meet the needs of trip leaders, camp staff, outdoor enthusiasts, and individuals working in remote locations. It will introduce you to caring for people who become ill or injured far from definitive medical care. Classroom lectures and demonstrations are combined with realistic scenarios where mock patients will challenge you to integrate your learning. At the end of the course, you'll have the knowledge, skills and ability to make sound decisions in emergency situations. Learning takes place both in the classroom and in outdoor settings regardless of weather conditions. Come prepared for wet, muddy, cold or hot environments.

Wilderness Stewardship

Lead Facilitator: David Cohen, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards

Level: Beginner/Intermediate

This course will explore the importance of wilderness character, values and ethics, and how to communicate them to the public. The course will include a Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainer class, where participants will take their LNT knowledge to the next level. We will also teach Authority of the Resource techniques for speaking with the public in the field, and put those techniques to use in practice scenarios. A wildlife biologist will provide participants with some background and understanding of human/wildlife interactions, and the topic of Wilderness Character will also be addressed to ensure that participants have and solid understanding of the full spectrum of what makes wilderness important.



Leave No Trace Master Educator*

Lead Facilitators: Jeff Marion, Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics, USGS & Kathryn Herndon-Powell, Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

This five-day Master Educator Course, hosted by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, will be held as part of Wilderness Skills Institute, situated in America's Cradle of Forestry. The course is designed to provide recreation users and educators an in-depth look at the practices and ways of teaching Leave No Trace skills and ethics. Through classroom discussions, lectures, demonstrations and a four-day backpacking trip in Shining Rock Wilderness, this course will cover the seven principles of Leave No Trace, discuss wildland ethics, and provide participants the tools and techniques necessary for disseminating these low-impact skills to others. Upon completion of the course, participants will be qualified to teach Leave No Trace Trainer courses.

* Course Cost: \$400 (most general enrollment master educator courses are generally \$700-800). Some scholarship funds may be available to participants on this course. However, upon course acceptance a deposit will be required for this space-limited course

Introduction to Stonework

Lead Instructors: Jolly Rovers

Skill Level: Introductory, but trail maintenance experience preferred

When available, stone can be utilized as an excellent building material providing solutions for numerous trail problems. Stabilizing muddy areas, crossing seasonal streams, ascending steep slopes and reducing grade to prevent erosion can all be achieved by the strategic installation of stone in and around a tread way. During the first half of day 1, students will be introduced to the various uses of stone in trail work covering the reasoning and construction concepts behind basic stone steps, check dams, turnpikes, stepping stones, paving and crib walls. During the second half of day 1 and all of days 2 and 3, students will participate in the actual construction of 1-2 of these structures from start to finish on trail. At the beginning of each of these days, the basic skill sets of leverage using rock bars and picks as well as basic stone shaping using hammers and chisels will also be covered.



WEEK TWO
May 30 –June 2, 2017

Trail Maintenance

Lead Facilitators: Katie Currier, Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards & Sean Ogle, Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Skill Level: Introductory

This course is an opportunity for beginners to familiarize themselves with the basics of trail maintenance and an excellent refresher for those with more experience. The course will be field-based and hands-on, so be prepared for dirt and sweat as we tackle common maintenance issues on real trails in the Pisgah National Forest. Topics covered will include safe and effective use of hand tools, trail assessment techniques, and mitigation/remediation of common erosion issues.

Wilderness 501: Stewardship Performance

Lead Facilitator: USFS
Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

This session will address elements of Wilderness Stewardship performance in greater detail. Wilderness Stewardship Performance is a framework to track how well the U.S. Forest Service is meeting its primary responsibility under the Wilderness Act—which is to preserve wilderness character. Students will discuss the elements, learn and develop practices and plans that may be utilized to meet wilderness stewardship goals. Additionally, students will also get hands on experience in the field utilizing inventory and assessment techniques such as solitude monitoring, trail assessments and recreation site inventory.

Trail Design & Realignment

Lead Facilitators: Morgan Sommerville & Josh Kloehn, Appalachian Trail Conservancy
Skill Level: Experience with trail maintenance and construction preferred

The objectives of this course are to understand rationale and practical application of skills for trail realignment. Course includes an exploration of the qualities of good trail design, trail rehab vs. realignment, along with indoor exercises in topographic layout planning, and field exercises to ground truth theoretical designs. Participants will come away with confidence in the use of clinometers, flagging potential routes, and in conveying intent to trail crews or contractors.

Tool Care: Hand Tool Restoration

Lead Instructors: Josh Burt, American Conservation Experience
Skill Level: Intermediate. Intended for active trail maintainers and trail workers

This class will cover tools and techniques for hand tool restoration. The students will take rusty, broken, and dull tools and in the course of three days, return them to work. Topics of discussion will include tool evaluation, rust removal, handle shaping and rehanging, and sharpening. Students should come prepared with old tools to repair, replacement handles, and any tools that they have on hand to work with.