

BUCKEYE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

# Trailblazer



FOUNDED 1959  
SUMMER 2022 VOLUME 55 NO. 2



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## Editor's Note

Hello readers! We've continued to hear from hikers through social media, and via article submission (as you'll see on the next page) about fallen trees. This year so far has been a year of strong winds and storms. Our volunteer sawyers have been hard at work, but they have a lot of ground to cover. If you are interested in receiving training in sawyer safety and maintenance, there will be an introduction to chainsaw safety at Pike Lake State Park on July 15-17, 2022.

**Details of the training are located to the right.**  
*Disclaimer: This class teaches safety and maintenance. It does not provide certification to chainsawyer. It does not certify people to sawyer on Federal land.*

If you spot any fallen trees on the Buckeye Trail, please report them to the appropriate **Section Supervisor**. Their contact information can be found at [buckeyetrail.org/contact.php](http://buckeyetrail.org/contact.php) under "BT Section Supervisors"

Trees that have fallen on State or Federal property can be reported to the appropriate government staff (ex: Cuyahoga Valley National Park or Hocking Hills State Park).

### Chainsaw Safety Intro

July 15-17 | Pike Lake SP / Pike SF

Instructor: **Byron Guy**

USFS Cetrified Sawyer  
TCIA Certified Grounds Specialist  
TCIA Certified Chainsaw Specialist  
Contact: [oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org)

#### July 16:

- 7:30am Leave camp for trail/PPE
- 8:30am Site Safety
- 9:00am Site Communication
- 9:30am Complex Cutting Assistance
- 10:00am Proper Team Lifting/Removal
- 10:30am Mechanical Advantage
- 11:30am Secondary Usage/Construction
- 12:00pm LUNCH
- 1:00pm Saw Safety
- 1:30pm Bucking & Limbing
- 2:00pm Complex Cuts/Release Techniques
- 3:00pm Common Rigging Practices
- 3:30pm Infield Saw Maintenance

#### July 17:

- 8:00am Infield Practicum/Testing/Observation
- 2:00pm Go home!



## Trailblazer

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**Jean Vandervaart**  
Production & Editing

**DEADLINES**  
Deadlines for submission are:  
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May 1 for the Summer issue  
August 1 for the Fall issue  
November 1 for the Winter issue

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*Disclaimer: The articles and all information in this publication have been prepared with utmost care.*

*However, neither the Buckeye Trail Association nor the Editor can guarantee accuracy or completeness of information. Opinions expressed in the articles, columns and paid advertising are not necessarily those of the BTA.*



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on recycled paper.

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Creeks Bend Trailhead - Edge of  
Appalachia  
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Nature Conservancy

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Want to share your photographs and stories of the Buckeye Trail?  
Send them to [trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org)!  
They might just show up on our social media or feature in the Trailblazer.

# Buckeye Trail Association

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**Trail Preservation**  
Position Open



## Hiker Amnesia.

The ice storm in last February that hit the Buckeye Trail around Clendening Lake left a lot of trees lying across the trail. Crawling over, under, and through the crown of a downed tree can be exhausting and the hiker starts to wonder if the pain is worth the gain. For the two intrepid hikers in the picture, Jeri Getts and Cindy Sommers, the hardship was quickly forgotten and their persistence to finish the BT continues. Jeri is on track to finish her second complete BT hike this year.





# President's Message

Steve Walker

It's the middle of May as I write this and the leaves have just recently appeared. Nature has its own schedule as this usually happens in April around here. They were just starting to bud up for the Blue Blaze Academy in April. The only ones left without leaves in our yard are the locusts and they are always the last ones to shed them in the Fall.

With so many good things happening around the Buckeye Trail and the Buckeye trail Association (BTA), it's hard to focus on any one thing, but I do want to point out that there has been an extra effort over the past year or so to look inward at our organization. I thought that 2021 was going to be the year of the BTA Chapter but it turns out that one year wasn't long enough. Since the advent of the first Chapter Leadership Summit in January of last year, there has been a constant conversation among the Chapters about best practices and how they can collaborate with each other to accomplish the Mission of the Buckeye Trail Association.

This collaboration started with small things and has evolved from there. On May 14<sup>th</sup>, the Central Ohio Chapter worked on blazing and controlling invasive vegetation with the Little Cities of the Forest Chapter to prepare a segment of the Buckeye Trail in Burr Oak State Park for the 2022 Buckeye Trails's Biggest Day Hike. The Central Ohio Chapter, with no part of Buckeye Trail going through their Chapter footprint, has been very helpful with trail maintenance in Southern and Southeastern Ohio, particularly in the Scioto Trail Section which is not currently covered by a BTA Chapter (more on that later).

The question of a BTA Chapter Leadership Chain of Command was raised prior at the January 2022 Chapter Leadership Summit, which prompted the formation of a temporary committee to come up with a solution. This committee met prior to the April Summit and recommended that Section Supervisors be a co-equal part of the BTA Chapter Leadership Structure. One action that came out of the April Summit was that the report of this committee be recommended to the Trail Management Team. This was done recently and the Trail Management Team has incorporated those recommendations into a proposed new job description for the Section Supervisor position.

Late last year, the Chapter Leadership Council put in a budgetary request to the BTA Finance Committee for a chapter promotional kit for each of the eight BTA Chapters that then existed. The toolkit would include a canopy, portable table and other promotional items that could be used to promote the BTA at a local event. Although it was not included in the 2022 BTA Budget, some fortunate funding has come in that will allow those chapter promotional kits to be provided to our nine BTA Chapters (since April with the chartering of the New Ohio River Chapter).

As mentioned above, there are four Buckeye Trail Sections that do not have a BTA Chapter covering them. The Scioto Trail,



*Little Cities of the Forest Chapter Meeting at Tecumseh Lake (Shawnee, Ohio) on May 7, 2022. The next meeting will be at Brewery 33 in Hocking hills on June 9th at 6pm.*

Sinking Spring, Shawnee and West Union Section are not currently covered by a BTA Chapter but that might change this year. There is a group that has expressed interest in forming a Chapter in the "Appalachian Foothills" region\* that may be meeting before long. We'll keep you posted.

With the Covid-10 Pandemic seeming like it's finally winding down, there is talk of reviving a BTA All Chapters Weekend this summer. There were All Chapters weekend hikes in 2016 and 2017 and the All Chapters Meetings at the BTA Board and Staff Retreats in 2018 and 2019. It may be time to finally have another gathering of all the BTA Chapters. We'll keep you posted on that, too. Have a great summer.

\* If you live in Adams, Scioto, Highland, Pike or Ross counties and would like to be involved with the formation of the Chapter, email us at [info@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:info@buckeyetrail.org)

We are also still looking for Section Supervisors and Trail Adopters for the Shawnee and Sinking Spring Sections. If you are interested, please email [volunteer@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:volunteer@buckeyetrail.org)

Thank you!



# On the Trail

Photo by Morgan Thomas

You all know me as the Executive Director of the Buckeye Trail Association, but I am also a Buckeye Trail volunteer. I have volunteered and worked with volunteers since I can remember. I wanted to share a few thoughts on how important volunteerism is to the BTA. The first volunteer hours given to the Buckeye Trail were arguably from Merrill Gilfillan, when he wrote the 1958 article for the Columbus Dispatch to propose a Buckeye Trail. From then on, that idea has been carried through thousands of volunteers around the state to all of us today. One of the greatest gifts someone can give is their time.

The Independent Sector provides an annual estimate of the value of an hour of volunteer time based on the average national earnings of private sector workers, plus a 15.7 percent increase for the value of fringe benefits. The 2022 value of a volunteer hour is \$29.95. This estimate is what it could cost the BTA to pay someone to do what volunteers give to the BTA. Approximately 10,000 BTA volunteer hours are recorded each year; anecdotally it is easy to assume that is only half of the true amount. This would equal \$300,000 - \$600,000 of value donated to the mission of the BTA, and that doesn't even count the many partners around the BT who are helping build and maintain their portion of the BT. That's huge, and impressive, to partners and funders looking at the level of community support for this "Buckeye Trail idea".

With each volunteer, we offer training, tools, materials, and support to help them succeed. These investments in hundreds of volunteers on dozens of projects can and does cost the BTA real money. Volunteers are not actually free. However, a skilled, outfitted, and satisfied BTA volunteer is one of our greatest returns on investment. We, BTA volunteer leaders and staff, have a lot of work to do at the BTA to grow and improve on each of these. But volunteers aren't dollars. Volunteers are the people who have chosen to spend their time with us toward a shared goal: building, maintaining, protecting, and promoting Ohio's State Trail. There are a great variety of volunteers. Some are periodic, or one-time volunteers, who show up for a day long event. And there are long-term BTA volunteers who continually volunteer - many end up in leadership positions with titles such as Section Supervisor, Chapter Leader, BTA Trustee, Trail Town Coordinator, and many more.

When people think of volunteer hours with the Buckeye Trail, they generally think of our trail maintenance and construction volunteers first. The person with a Pulaski in their hand working hard in the dirt comes to mind. These are our Trail Adopters, Section Supervisors, and Trail Crew volunteers. But there are just as many hours recorded by other kinds of volunteer work. There are BTA Volunteers who are coordinating the Buckeye Trail Town program, developing and managing the website, planning and hosting local BTA Chapter activities, organizing large special events, producing hiking maps, writing grants, fixing up buildings, advocating in the halls of the Ohio Statehouse, and providing leadership for the whole BTA at the Board of Trustees and committee level. Volunteers continue to be the backbone of the BTA; they are not just important, they are essential. A trail crew is a great example of how we all work together - there are several volunteer roles that go into building a single mile of new Buckeye Trail. It takes an idea, mapping, negotiating with landowners, processing approvals and permits, flagging, sawyering, grubbing saplings, leaf blow-

ing, raking, benching, finishing with McLeods, constructing steps and bridges, painting blazes, GPSing, creating hiking maps, and continually maintaining the trail. Each role requires a different tool and training. Each job has its particular time in the process. Each job requires communication and cooperation with the others.

## So, Why do Volunteers Volunteer?

Volunteering is an act of selflessness. Perhaps it is a way to give back to others and the community or "pay it forward." Either way, when a BTA Trail Adopter paints a blue blaze on a tree for hikers they may never meet - a blaze that will help hikers find their way through a great life experience on the BT - they're doing it to make other people happy. But, Volunteering is not just for others, it is also for ourselves. Volunteering on the trail can be a form of healthy mental or physical exercise. It's a way to meet new friends in a community that cares about similar things. It's an organized way to explore, marvel, and learn about the rich natural and cultural diversity we have around the Buckeye State. It's a way to learn new skills and gain confidence. Volunteering is a great way to gain affirmation in a job well done outside of our normal work and family life. Volunteering can make US feel good. I hope everyone finds the most rewarding experience possible volunteering with the BTA.

## All BTA Volunteers are Ambassadors of the BTA

Millions of hikers enjoy the Buckeye Trail. Of those, 1,300 or so who support the BTA with their membership. Of those, there are a couple hundred volunteers who give of their time to achieve that 1958 idea passed down through generations of Buckeye Trail volunteers. The only other thing that I would ask of everyone with the BTA is to always remember that all BTA volunteers are ambassadors and students. Local landowners, partners, youth groups, and fellow volunteers see volunteers as representatives of the BTA. I believe that there is always more to learn and improve upon, so I hope that we all remain lifelong students and teachers of Buckeye Trail volunteer skills. That is why we organized our pilot Blue Blaze Academy this Spring at the Beall Farmstead, to begin our team learning in earnest.

Let us know if you want to be a force multiplier, to share your training, skills, and time with the next generation of BTA volunteers who will carry our idea into the future and provide the best Buckeye Trail Experience for everyone to enjoy when we need it most.

Thank you, for all of your time, and all of your work for the Buckeye Trail. Be Safe, and Enjoy the BT!



Andrew Bashaw  
Executive Director  
Buckeye Trail Association





# 13th Annual E.G.G.S. Hike

## June 23-26, 2022

Burr Oak State Park & Wildcat Hollow  
Camping at Burr Oak Group Camp by Dock 3



Join us at Burr Oak State Park to hike during the summer solstice week in honor of Emma “Grandma” Gatewood, who was one of the founding members of the BTA as well as the first woman to solo thru-hike the Appalachian Trail. There will be five hiking challenges consisting of 20 (day & night), 40, 60, and 80 miles that will to be completed in 12, 24, 36, and 48 hours respectively.

There will also be camping, conversations around a campfire and delicious food made by BTA’s chuckwagon.

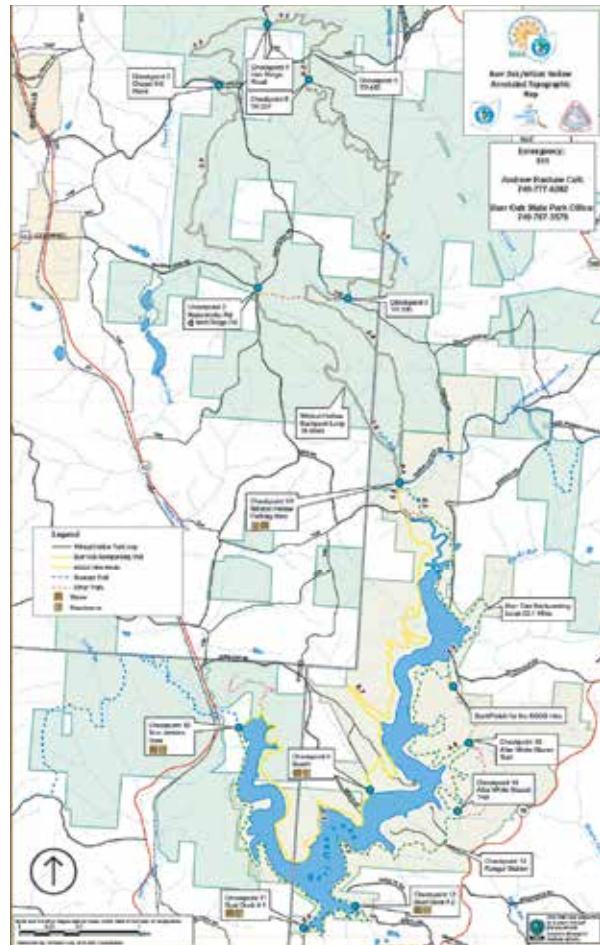
The E.G.G.S. Hike is hosted by the Buckeye Trail Association in cooperation with ODNr, the North Country Trail Association, American Discovery Trail Society, Wayne National Forest, Little Cities of the Forest Collaborative, Sunday Creek Watershed Group, and Burr Oak State Park.

**COST:** \$30 for current Buckeye Trail members. This includes an event shirt, camping for all three nights, a Friday night cookout, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday and dinner on Saturday night.

Registration is online only and will close Sunday, June 12. There is no walk-in registration during the event. All persons attending the event must be registered whether they are hiking or not. Link below:  
[buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php](http://buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php)

**VOLUNTEERS:** Please contact the Volunteer coordinator for the BTA at [volunteer@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:volunteer@buckeyetrail.org) for more information on how to volunteer for the event.

For more information, visit: [www.buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php](http://www.buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php), or email us at [oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org)  
Also follow us on Facebook for any updates at:  
[www.facebook.com/eggshike](http://www.facebook.com/eggshike)



# 9th Annual BUCKEYE TRAILFEST

*in Cuyahoga Valley National Park*



**SEPTEMBER 15–18, 2022**  
**Camp Manatoc • Peninsula, Ohio**

***The Buckeye TrailFest offers a long weekend  
packed full of hikes, workshops, presentations,  
speakers and social opportunities***

The Crooked River Chapter is excited to play host to the 2022 Buckeye Trailfest. We are going to show off the beauty and richness of the Cuyahoga Valley in a spectacular way. Whether you are local or from a more distant part of the state, you are sure to have a fantastic time! You will wish it was longer.

***Come for the whole weekend or come for the day!  
There is something for everyone!***

## **GET HIKING**

Join us for led and self led hikes on the Buckeye Trail and other trails. All skill levels—easy, moderate, difficult.

## **GET DIRTY**

Join a trail crew and help build a section of trail. Learn from the best.



## **GET CONNECTED**

Meet hikers and trail maintainers from around the state. Never hike alone again!

## **GET INVOLVED**

Attend the Buckeye Trail Association business meeting. Learn how you can help.

**Registration Opening Soon**  
**[BuckeyeTrailFest.org](http://BuckeyeTrailFest.org)**

The Buckeye TrailFest is sponsored by The Buckeye Trail Association, [www.BuckeyeTrail.org](http://www.BuckeyeTrail.org)



# BTA Funds Report

Your contribution to any BTA fund is tax deductible. All contributions of \$20 or more are acknowledged. Thank you to all of our donors who have gone above and beyond to support the mission of the BTA during these challenging times! We appreciate you.

## FEBRUARY 2, 2022 TO MAY 1, 2022

### GENERAL FUND

Andrew & Claudia Bashaw  
Dennis Betts  
Mr. Keith Boesel  
Kevin & Mary Jo Bowman  
Joseph Brown (In Memory of James H. Brown)  
Don Byrnett  
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Christine Coblenz  
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Erik Faro & The EQT Foundation  
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Michaels, Ted Bair, and Christopher Spencer)  
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Jeffery & Sarah Yoest (In honor of completing  
the Buckeye Trail)

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Patrick Hayes

### BTA MORELFEST

Laura Peters & Deersville General Store

### CROOKED RIVER CHAPTER

Edward & Cheryl Sliva

### 129 PROJECT - BTA OFFICE

Richard Lutz

Out there on the Buckeye Trail there is a chorus of returning song birds, the laughter of children running through a campground, and thunder rolling across the landscape. Mushrooms are emerging from the ground and delicate wildflowers are carpeting the forest floor. Hiking maps are read by crackling campfires under starry skies. This is the best of what the Buckeye Trail Association provides – a growing and inspiring Buckeye Trail experience, and a lifetime of cherished memories. With your support over the past year the BTA has been able to work above and beyond just keeping the trail open.

#### **Below are just some accomplishments:**

- We have received Ohio's Cardinal Award, State Trail designation, and trail project approvals that will result in 5% more off-road BT through our partnership with ODNR.
- We have acquired 16 acres near Lockington Locks, and partnered on several thousand acres more growing the preserved corridor for the BT.
- We have grown our local presence to nine BTA Chapters that organize hikes and volunteer experiences all around the state.
- We have initiated an annual Blue Blaze Academy, training BTA volunteers, investing in our greatest asset – our people.
- We lead Ohio's trails community in submitting projects for Ohio Capital Budget consideration, and a bill has been introduced in US Congress on the feasibility of the Buckeye Trail being designated as a National Scenic Trail.
- Our special events, such as MorelFest, EGGS Hike, Biggest Day Hike, Little Loop Challenge, Buckeye TrailFest, and Run for Blue Blazes, are all back on the calendar after years of adapting to Covid-19.

These achievements and many more, don't happen by chance. They happen because of volunteers, partners and funders. The Buckeye Trail is unique among great causes in that we can put our boots on the trail that we are making together. We continue to improve Ohio's 1,400+ mile BT, extend the hiking experience, connect Trail Town communities, invest in our volunteers, and get people outdoors on the BT all around Ohio. So while you're hiking the trail, we hope that you'll consider joining us in our dream to bring more people outdoors, whether it's by coming to events, volunteering with us, or becoming a member or a funder. You are an important part of one of Ohio's greatest ideas. Please take this moment to support the work of your Buckeye Trail Association today.

**You can donate to the Buckeye Trail Association by going to:**  
[buckeyetrail.org/donate.php](https://buckeyetrail.org/donate.php)

**If you'd like to become a member of the BTA, go to:**  
[buckeyetrail.org/membership.php](https://buckeyetrail.org/membership.php)

For more information, go to [buckeyetrail.org](https://buckeyetrail.org) or email us at [info@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:info@buckeyetrail.org)

**Thank you and *Follow the Blue Blazes!***



# WE NEED YOU!



## SPONSORSHIPS

TrailFest is the largest annual gathering of Buckeye Trail hikers, volunteers and outdoor enthusiasts. In addition to serving the Buckeye Trail Association's mission to the building, maintaining, protecting and promoting Ohio's longest scenic hiking trail, TrailFest is a weekend of education, resource sharing and fellowship. Each year TrailFest is moved around the state to highlight local portions of the trail and nearby communities. Your sponsorship of TrailFest helps promote your involvement and love of the outdoors and helps the Buckeye Trail share our mission with the outdoor community. Buckeye TrailFest would not be possible without the kindness of our friends, members and local business partners. Sponsors and donors allow us to provide a reasonably priced event to all participants.

**Contact: Andrew Bashaw, Executive Director, BTA**  
[director@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:director@buckeyetrail.org) or 740-394-2008



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**OCT. 1 & 2**

**Dayton, Ohio: The Outdoor Adventure Capital of the Midwest!**

- The Midwest's Premier Outdoor Adventure Festival
- Free Event with Free Camping
- Eastwood MetroPark on the Buckeye Trail

[METROPARKS.ORG/OUTDOORX](http://METROPARKS.ORG/OUTDOORX)

## *Want to see your business or event advertised in the next Trailblazer?*

Ad space is available in each issue of the Trailblazer magazine and is sent to people throughout the state of Ohio!

Ad size	For one issue	For FOUR issues
1/8 page (3.75" x 2.5")	\$30.00	\$90.00
1/4 page (3.75" x 5")	\$60.00	\$180.00
1/2 page (7.5" x 5")	\$120.00	\$360.00
Full page (7.5" x 10")	\$240.00	\$720.00

Submitted advertisements must be at a resolution of 300 dpi or greater. The BTA can provide some minimal graphic assistance for an additional moderate fee (email [trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:trailblazer@buckeyetrail.org) for more details). The BTA reserves the right to decline ads that may conflict with our mission.



# Welcome Number Nine: Ohio River!

Matthew Patterson

In January 2022, the Miami Rivers Chapter met and discussed the proposal, at length to split the Chapter in two at. The topic was difficult as the Miami Rivers Chapter was the very first BTA Chapter created, founded in 2012 by Darryl Smith. The primary reason for splitting the Chapter was the fact that it included two major population centers - Dayton and Cincinnati - which are generally perceived as being culturally divided, two separate communities. A Miami Rivers Chapter event in Cincinnati typically would not have Dayton members attending, and an event in Dayton would typically not have Cincinnati members attending. The point where the Caesar Creek and Loveland Sections meet is equidistant between Dayton and Cincinnati, deeming it the best place to make the split. Thus, the Troy and Caesar Creek Sections would remain with the Miami Rivers Chapter, and the Loveland and Williamsburg Sections would become part of the new Ohio River Chapter.

The proposed solution was to split the two population centers and hope that the then two separate Chapters would then gain more interest and volunteerism with their respective local area members. The proposal went to a vote in that meeting and the result was unanimous to create the split. Then after the January meeting, The Miami Rivers Chapter conducted an online survey for its members. The majority of Miami Rivers Chapter members voted in favor of the split. The proposal then went to the Chapter Leadership Committee, where it also received majority approval. On April 23rd, the BTA Board approved the measure, finally making the Ohio River Chapter official. Mark Heise has taken over as lead organizer for the Miami Rivers Chapter, while Matt Patterson is now the lead organizer

for the Ohio River Chapter. In the weeks and months to come, Mark and Matt will make updates to Chapter social media venues as well as make contact with their Chapter area members. Both Chapters are seeking volunteers for various positions. If you are interested in learning how you could benefit the BTA at your local level, please contact them; Mark can be reached at [miamirivers@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:miamirivers@buckeyetrail.org) and Matt can be reached at [ohioriver@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:ohioriver@buckeyetrail.org). Additionally, the Loveland Section is currently looking for a new Section Supervisor, as Darryl Smith, the longtime BTA advocate and first lead organizer of the MRC, and previous Loveland Section Supervisor retired from the position in December 2021.



Eden Park view of Ohio River - Matthew Patterson



One of the highlights of the Ohio River Chapter's region is the view of the Ohio River at the southern terminus, but there are so many other locations to visit: Caesar Creek State Park, Fort Ancient Earthworks, Milford, Batavia, East Fork State Park and more. From the southern terminus, also continue across the Ohio River into Kentucky and then back again to reach Ohio's western border via the American Discovery trail. Traveling north away from the Ohio River, the Buckeye Trail runs concurrent with the Little Miami State & National Scenic River.

*Chapter BT map: The Loveland Section has a total of 46 miles, all off-road. The majority of the trail is bike path (Little Miami Scenic State Park), but the trail also goes along sidewalks when crossing into Trail Towns, Loveland and Milford. After Milford, the Williamsburg Section begins. The Williamsburg Section is a total of 51.8 miles, with 24.6 miles currently off-road - the majority of which resides in East Fork State Park (23.5 miles).*





# Walking Through Wakeman

*Darlene Krieger*



Wakeman volunteers, village officials, and Buckeye Trail Association members worked together to collaborate to make Wakeman the 17th Buckeye Trail Town, located in the Norwalk Section of the Buckeye Trail. The Buckeye Trail Towns are destination places to see, filled with history and offer a place to stop and rest along the famous 1450 mile Buckeye Trail. Founded in 1824, Wakeman is an old railroad town about half way from Cleveland to Toledo and located just a few miles south of Lake Erie on the Vermilion River. Back when the rail was still running, it would stop at Wakeman to fire up the coal engine and refill the coal car while taking passengers on its way to and from the two major cities. Another big part of the town's history is the Wakeman Elevator Craft Beer and Wine Barn (Wakeman Elevator for short), located directly on the Buckeye Trail (watch for the blue blaze!) and the Inland Bike Trail.

Originally built in the late 1800's as a bending works, the Wakeman Elevator supplied barrel staves for the local barrel maker - also called a cooper. The barrels were used to transport goods and loaded into the railroad cars. The Elevator was later sold and converted to a flour mill around 1900. Along with the flour, the local farmers brought their crops of corn, wheat and soybeans to be transported via rail. Thanks to the efforts of Darlene and Jeff Krieger, who spent 11 years renovating the building and bringing the history back to life, you can still visit the Wakeman Elevator while enjoying craft beer and wine at their award winning restaurant. People of all ages are amazed when they enter the building, often stopping to take pictures and marveling at the building's rustic charm with its massive oak beams, wood floors, a cozy fireplace and framed articles from days gone by along the walls. The restaurant, which hosts many bicyclists, motorcycle enthusiasts and hikers alike, is a great meeting spot. Open four days a week, Thursday to Sunday, you can enjoy entertainment and a quiet glass of wine or craft beer. And, if you'd like a historical tour, Darlene is always happy to share the story of this historic building!

A visit to Wakeman Village wouldn't be complete unless you walked the downtown area. As you cross the old railroad trestle walking bridge that overlooks the scenic Vermilion River, you will enter the recently upgraded Community Park with lit paths that follow winding sidewalks from the gazebo to the downtown area. A visit to the local businesses is a must. The downtown hosts many businesses: an upscale florist and gift shop, smoothy shop, homemade ice cream, pizza parlor, coffee shop, beauty salon, a pub, bank, and two automotive shops. Wakeman also has a state of the art fire station, public library, three town parks and a progressive village government. The Vermilion River, which crosses under East Main Street in Wakeman, is known as a great fishing spot and was featured in *Field and Stream* as a great place to trout fish, kayak and cross country ski. Wakeman is proud to be a part of the Buckeye Trail. There is lots of history here and we welcome you to stop and visit!

On Saturday June 25, 2022 the Village of Wakeman is having their Trail Town Ceremony at the Wakeman Community Park Gazebo (9 E. Main St) at 11am-12pm. After the ceremony everyone will be invited to Wakeman Elevator Craft Beer and Wine Barn from 12-4pm for a membership drive with Firelands Rails-To-Trails. This is going to be Lake Plain Chapter's first Trail Town Dedication. Wakeman Elevator is a new 3-year Business Member with the BTA and has big plans for future events. Wakeman Elevator is located at 16 Hyde St., Wakeman, Ohio nearby Historic Route 20.



Top left: downtown Wakeman. Top center: Vermilion River. Top right: Wakeman Community Park. Bottom right: Interior of Elevator. Photos provided by Darlene Krieger.



# Destinations to See on The Buckeye Trail

Jean Vandervaart

This article first appeared in the Adams County, OH 2022 Visitors & Community Guide. For more information about Adams County Travel & Visitors Bureau, go to: [Adamscountytravel.org](http://Adamscountytravel.org). You can request the guide at [info@adamscountytravel.org](mailto:info@adamscountytravel.org)

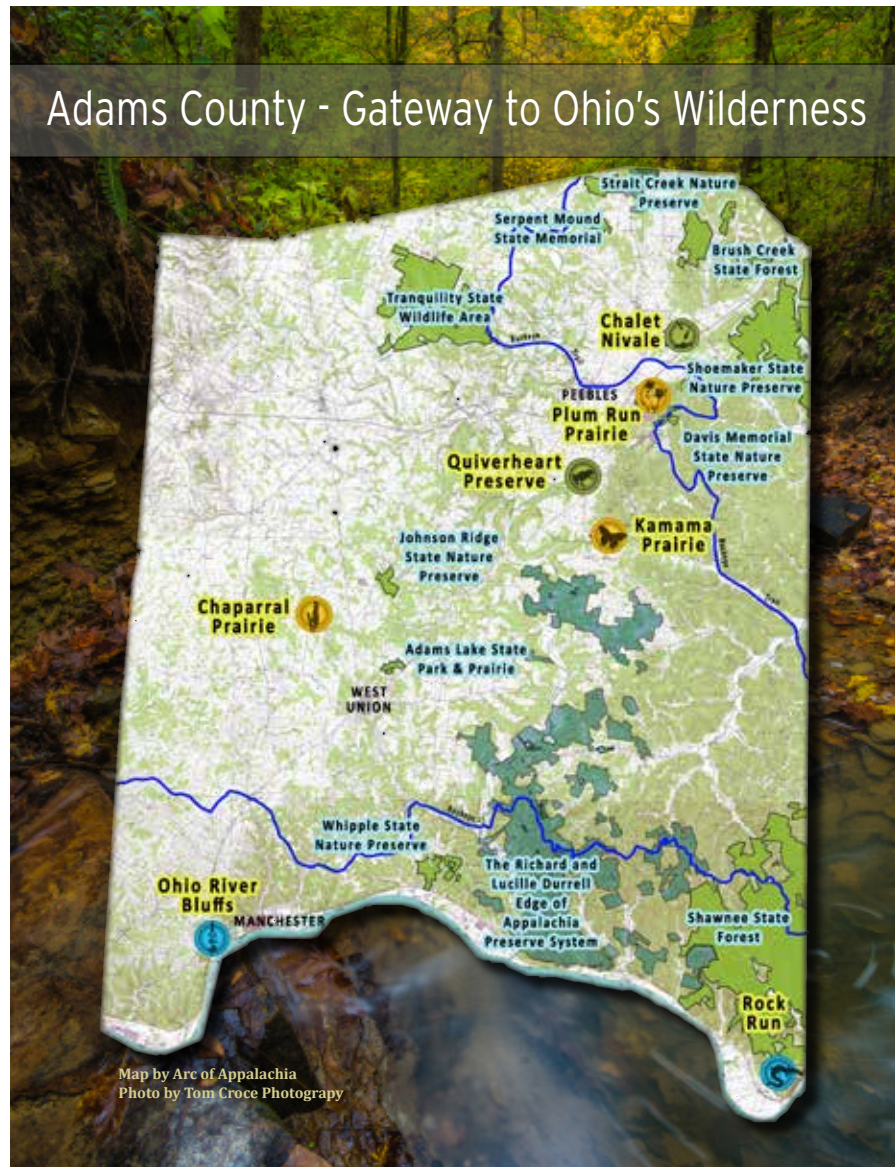
On February 12th, 2021, the Buckeye Trail was designated as Ohio's third State Recreational Trail by Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The Buckeye Trail is a 1400+ mile trail that wraps around the state of Ohio, in an endless loop. It passes through Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Hocking Hills, along Miami & Erie Canal and so many historical and natural locations that are the highlights of our state of Ohio. Among these historical and natural features are Serpent Mound, Shawnee State Forest, Davis Memorial, aerial views of the Ohio River and more - all right here in Adams County. Follow along with us as we highlight different must-see locations!

Following the Buckeye Trail counter-clockwise, we first come to the Edge of Appalachia, a 20,000-acre preserve system at the edge of the Allegheny Plateau. The Preserve is also called "The Edge" and is where the Buckeye Trail Barn at Moon Hollow Road pictured on the front cover is located. Because of the Preserve's location on the Plateau, it has a dramatic contrast of terrain from Appalachian cliffs to prairies, rugged woodland, many waterfalls and streams. This diversity of habitats within the preserve makes it an excellent place to go birding or wildlife-watching, hiking, fishing, and kayaking or canoeing. Camping is allowed on the Buckeye Trail in the Preserve with permits from the Nature Conservancy. While not on the Buckeye Trail, nearby Buzzardroost gives visitors an amazing 360° view of The Edge! History enthusiasts will also want to stop by the grave of William Flood, a Revolutionary War Hero, located at William Flood Burial Site before leaving the Edge.

Continuing along the Buckeye Trail, you'll step into the Shawnee State Forest (which will bring you into Scioto County before it rounds back into Adams County). The Shawnee State Forest is the largest state forest in Ohio with 63,747 acres of land, 8,000 acres of which are dedicated to the Shawnee Wilderness Area, where the Buckeye Trail passes through. The State Forest is also known as the "Little Smokies of Ohio" because of the incredible views of wooded valleys and ridges stretching as far as the eye can see.

When you round back via the Buckeye Trail to Adams County, you'll eventually cross the Davis Memorial State Preserve, an 88-acre preserve with unique geology and rare plant species, such as the ancient, preglacial rock plant, *Sullivantia*. The preserve contains 400 million year old Silurian dolomite cliffs with Greenfield dolomite and Peebles dolomite and Ohio Black Shale and caves. The preserve is located nearby Mineral Springs Lake, where you can boat and swim.

The last location - but certainly not least! - that hikers will cross before leaving Adams County is the National Historic Landmark, Serpent Mound. Serpent Mound is one of several earthworks and mounds built by Indigenous Peoples who lived in what is now known as Ohio. While schol-



The map above was created by Arc of Appalachia. It appeared in a separate article from the same 2022 guide. Arc of Appalachia preserved over 7,000 acres of land in Southern Ohio. You can read more about them at: [arcofappalachian.org](http://arcofappalachian.org)

ars do not agree on whether the Adena, Hopewell or Fort Ancient culture built the mound, they agree that ancient Indigenous Peoples built the large effigy mound. Some oral traditions passed down to modern Indigenous Peoples descended from the mound builders, such as the Shawnee Nation, speak of a Great Serpent or King of Serpents. The head and the oval of the serpent effigy line up with the setting sun during the Summer Solstice, serving as a sacred location then and still for the descendants of the Indigenous Communities who once lived in what is now Southern Ohio before European colonization.

There's only so much space and time to talk about the beautiful sights along the Buckeye Trail in Adams County. As we say in the hiking community, "choose your own hike" - whether it's day hiking, section hiking, or thru-hiking. Nature provides so many opportunities to explore: hiking, bird watching, swimming, kayaking, bicycling, running or meditating in your favorite spot. So get out there and Follow the Blue Blazes!

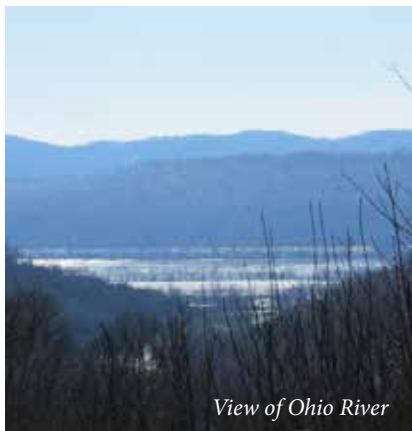


# Hiker's Stories in Adams County

## Joan Young, North Country Trail Hiker

Joan Young, author of *North Country Cache: Adventures on a National Scenic Trail*, began her second journey to complete the entire 4,800 mile North Country Trail on December 1, 2021 in Manistee National Forest in Michigan. She crossed into Ohio on December 27, 2021 and continued making her way along the Buckeye Trail concurrent with the North Country Trail. Joan hiked through Adams County in late January (21st-27th), beginning at Serpent Mound and Peebles, Ohio. The next day, she visited the historic 1840's house, Counterfeit House, in Manchester, Ohio. She wrote in her blog that "In the 1840's Thomas Oliver and his sister ran a counterfeiting operation from this specially built house. They made 50 cent pieces and \$500 bills. The doorknob could only be opened by those who knew the secret way it worked. There were fake chimneys where things could be hidden. If an upper window was lit it was a signal to boats on the Ohio that there was fresh "cash." The House can only be viewed from the outside due to structural safety issues.

Other locations she visited included Edge of Appalachia Nature Preserve, William Flood Burial Site, Shawnee State Forest, and Davis Memorial State Preserve. In her blog, she talks about each of the hikes and the fun things she and her hiking partners encountered, or where they camped out at, such as Ben's Happy Trails: Riding Stable & Campground in Scioto County. You can follow her hiking adventure at: [myqualityday.blogspot.com/2022](https://myqualityday.blogspot.com/2022)



View of Ohio River



Edge of Appalachia

## Matt Cho, Buckeye Trail Section Hiker

In the late Fall of 2021, I packed my gear and headed over to Shawnee State Forest in Southern Ohio, home of what many consider to be Ohio's most challenging backpacking trail. The goal was to complete a 40-mile joined circuit of both the North and South Backpacking Loops. The route shares nearly 8 miles of trail with the much larger Buckeye Trail, which meanders around the state for over 1,400 miles.

The hike had a classic Eastern Woodland flavor to it, with dense trees, frolicking squirrels and chipmunks and a thick ground cover of decaying leaves crunching underfoot. Shawnee's backpacking trail is known for its particularly steep inclines and declines as it crosses over the park's many foothills. Switchbacks are rare as the trail tends to take a more...direct approach...to scaling the hills. Fortunately, they are relatively short in duration and the extra challenge gives the trail a certain adventurous appeal. Mid-way through the Buckeye Trail segment, the path opens up at the park's backpacking trailhead, primary parking lot and nearby Turkey Creek Lake, which would make for a very inviting cool dip in the summer months.

The trail itself was in excellent shape and appeared to have been recently mowed and perhaps widened by heavy tracked vehicles. In many places it would be possible to walk 3 or 4 abreast. Periodic breaks in the tree cover offered a few nice vistas of the surrounding hills, but in general the view was: trees, more trees and... yes, yet another hill to climb! There is significant logging activity in the area that affects segments of the trails, so be aware and prepared for potential rerouting along gravel forest roads.

Water is available to filter from underground cisterns at the campsites and the occasional stream. There is one designated campsite along the shared Buckeye-Shawnee route (Camp 7) which is located on the Western-most tip of the route, equipped with a water cistern and privy. Camp 6, a few miles south, is a beautiful location nestled within a pine plantation. It has a good number of flat spots alongside a clear, bubbling brook packed with creek chub grown fat and friendly from the leavings of backpackers cleaning their pots.



Shawnee State Forest





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The West Branch Backpack Destination Project has been in progress for 10 years, resulting in 28 miles of Buckeye Trail encircling the Michael J. Kirwan Reservoir. The project is nearing its end and could be completed as early as Fall 2022. We'd like to thank all of the volunteers who have put in hard work to bring this project to completion and our sponsors (Spax, REI, Athletic Brewing Company) for providing funding. West Branch State Park (located East of Ravenna, Ohio) offers many recreational activities. Connecting all regions of the reservoir with the backpacking loop trail will provide easier access to additional outdoor opportunities for people of all ages. The Buckeye Trail Association also hopes that the loop trail will boost the local outdoor recreation economy.

### Five-day West Branch Work Party Dates:

June 25-29 | July 23-27 | August 27-31  
More details in the 2022 List of Events.

For any questions about the project, email us at:  
[info@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:info@buckeyetrail.org)

## Thank you to our Sponsors!



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**Find out more at [athleticbrewing.com](http://athleticbrewing.com)**





# Towpath Trail Peace Park

Joe Rinehart

Photo by Joe Rinehart  
(and Airbud, the dog)

The Towpath Trail Peace Park is a small, privately owned campsite right on the historic Ohio-Erie Canal Towpath, designed for bikers, hikers, dog walkers and anyone else traveling through. This trail also runs concurrently or across the Buckeye Trail, Scenic Byway, Tuscarawas River Water Trail, and the Great American Rail-Trail. We have four tent camp spots and one RV camp spot. While we started out developing the Towpath Trail Peace Park to primarily serve bike-packers and thru-hikers by offering primitive campsites we quickly saw other opportunities to serve the trail community. We decided to reserve the campsite located closest to the boardwalk that comes into Bolivar from Stark County for public picnic use during the day.

The park is dog-friendly and has the following amenities: a wheelchair accessible Porta-Jon with hand sanitizer, shared electricity for charging phones, picnic tables, fire-pits, and fireside benches. At Peace Park you'll find birds, butterflies, lightning bugs, wild turkey, deer, and other wildlife.

Towpath Trail Peace Park is located on the historic Ohio-Erie Canal Towpath Trail between the villages of Bolivar and McDonnell. It is on the towpath trail ten miles south of Canton, Ohio and 1.5 miles west of I-77 exit 93 on Scenic Byway Rt 212 in beautiful Tuscarawas County, Ohio. And it's only four miles west of historic Zoar and Zoar Lake, too!

Our goal is to encourage trail usage and also make that site available during nights for tent camping exclusively for thru-bicyclists and thru-hikers. Our other camp spots at the park may be reserved and booked on Hipcamp. Hipcampers, once booked may go to an available campsite and set up camp.

[hipcamp.com/en-US/ohio/towpath-trail-peace-park](https://hipcamp.com/en-US/ohio/towpath-trail-peace-park)

Follow us on Facebook at:

[facebook.com/TowpathTrailPeacePark](https://facebook.com/TowpathTrailPeacePark)

## Some Reviews:

*"This camp is a very nice place to stay when in Bolivar. Whether you are hiking, biking, traveling or kayaking, I would highly recommend this spot to camp. The owner Joe is very caring of his campground. Also, he has a vast amount of knowledge of the history of the area."* - Scott Freese

*"You can tell [Joe has] put a lot of thought into the campground with the little details like solar lights under the umbrellas, along the pathways, in the port-a-potty - which is super clean. There's potable water and firepits along with trash and recycling(!!) at each site. Access to the Towpath allows for an easy ride into town for food/drink."* - Karen Richters



Campfire at the park!



Right off of the trail.



# One Step at a Time

By Ryan Bowles, Northwestern Ohio  
Rails-to-Trails Association (NORTA)

*This article first appeared in the North Star Magazine: Volume 41, Issue 2: Spring 2022. You can find the original article in the following link at: [northcountrytrail.org/north\\_star/](http://northcountrytrail.org/north_star/)*

Lorie Shaw was unhealthy. She couldn't breathe without oxygen support. She was in and out of the hospital, sometimes twice in a single week. She couldn't walk to her mailbox. She knew something had to change.

Lorie's friendship with Deb Mattes has lasted over 20 years, beginning with their shared work in 4-H. Deb loves Lorie dearly. It was a struggle for her to watch Lorie try to make changes, as Lorie was unsure what was right for her. She didn't know how to sustain her choices. Deb once dragged Lorie on a 5K fundraiser for 4-H, but Lorie only made it about 150 feet before she had to rely on her power wheelchair.

Deb is passionate about the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCNST). She is an active volunteer with both the NCTA Chief Baw Beese Chapter and the Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association (NORTA). She was determined to get Lorie active and healthy, and the NCNST offered a great opportunity to achieve that goal. Deb is a force; if she decided Lorie was going to start hiking the Trail to get healthy, then Lorie was not going to refuse.

They started on March 17, 2020, on a paved section of the NCNST in northwestern Ohio, along the Wabash Cannonball Trail in Oak Openings Metropark. Lorie would walk a little, sit a while, walk a little, sit a while. They wandered more than five miles together. Lorie logged about a quarter of a mile. It was a start.

Lorie and Deb revisited this section about once a week. Sometimes the hardest part for Lorie was just staying motivated. But with Deb's encouragement, slowly but steadily, Lorie was able to walk more and get pushed less. When she was able to walk two half-mile stretches consecutively in one trip, Lorie realized she could do this.



Deb Mattes

*Above: Lorie and Tigger early in Lorie's NCNST Journey.*

*Below: Lorie and Tigger after completing the 2021 Hike 100 Challenge.*

It was hard. Lorie couldn't speak much while she focused on walking, so Deb did all the talking, teaching Lorie about the NCNST and the nature around them. Lorie listened and walked, and fell in love with the Trail. Hearing spring peepers was a highlight. She even loved when she got rained on (even though Deb promised it wasn't supposed to rain). "Every time you hike, you experience something new," said Lorie. "Purple lupine blooming in Oak Openings. Gathering buckeyes. Fall colors. Stepping on a snake."

By October 15, seven months from when they started, Lorie had hiked 108.5 miles on the NCNST and earned her Hike 100 Challenge patch and certificate. She can now hike more than two miles on primitive (unpaved) trail without sitting. She's lost over 100 pounds and she attributes at least 50 of that purely to hiking on the NCNST. She was able to eliminate some medications and cut back others. She was able to get back into one of her favorite activities: Training dogs for dog shows. And walking to the mailbox? Easy.

Lorie celebrated all of this by giving back to the Trail. She and Deb spent a day blazing a section of new NCNST in Maumee State Forest, which she now calls "our section" of the Trail. "The Trail has given me so much over the last year," said Lorie, "and I was so thrilled to give back something."

What healing have you found on the NCNST or through the Hike 100 Challenge? Share your story with [the North Country Trail], when you submit your completion form at [northcountrytrail.org/hike-100-challenge](http://northcountrytrail.org/hike-100-challenge), or on social media with @northcountrytrail and #hike100nct.



Deb Mattes



# 2022 Schedule of Hikes & Events

Always check [buckeyetrail.org/events.php](http://buckeyetrail.org/events.php) for more information and last-minute updates, and to register for the work parties and the chuckwagon meals

## JUNE

**June 11, 2022**

### **BTA Board Meeting**

This Board meeting will be held in person. Location and time TBD.

**Contact:** Steve Walker at [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

**June 11, 2022**

### **Nature Hike: Scioto Trail Section: Prairie Flowers**

June is the time when prairie flowers begin to bloom. We will be hiking from the parking area (meeting location) to a relay tower that gives wonderful views across the Scioto Valley, then through the woods and back. This is a 5 mile round trip.

**Meeting location:** parking area between Higby Road (Co Hwy 206) and Three Locks Rd. / Old US-35 (Co Hwy 205). By point 14 on the Scioto Trail Map.

**When:** Meet at the parking lot at 9am

**Contact:** [CentralOhio@BuckeyeTrail.org](mailto:CentralOhio@BuckeyeTrail.org) for questions

**June 11-15, 2022**

### **Trail Crew Work Party - Appalachian Hills Annual Work Party**

The BTA is hosting a work party in the Belle Valley and Stockport section! Come volunteer for this 4.5 day work party. We will be working on re-benching the trail tread, heavy trail maintenance, and vegetation management. June is the perfect time to cut back new vegetation growth from the spring to open the trail corridor for the rest of the year. Help us maintain our beautiful trail system in the new Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area (formerly AEP ReCreation Lands) to keep hiking enjoyable in this section. All volunteers are welcome with no prior experience needed! Volunteering is great for making new friends, enhancing resumes, and giving back to local organizations working to enhance the quality of life here in Ohio. We will work from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

**Meals:** Chuckwagon event. Sign up when you register

**Camping:** Bicentennial Campground K at Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area. 10766 Lincoln Hwy, Caldwell, OH 43724

**Registration:**

<https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btrailwork2022.html>

**Contact:** [bellevalley@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:bellevalley@buckeyetrail.org)

**June 18-22, 2022**

### **EGGS Hike Prep Work Party - Little Cities of the Forest Chapter**

Spend the week (or a day) doing vegetation control and preparing the Buckeye Trail at Burr Oak State Park for the EGGS hike. Meet at the group camp, safety meeting at 8am, work 8:30am to 3:30pm. Bring trail tools (if you have them), water, long sleeved shirt and pants, gaiters.

**Meals:** Chuckwagon event. Sign up when you register

**Camping:** Burr Oak Group Camp by Boat Dock 3

**Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btrailwork2022.html>

**Contact:** Ann Furste at [newstraitsville@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:newstraitsville@buckeyetrail.org)

**June 23-26, 2022**

### **E.G.G.S. Hike**

Our 13th annual EGGS Hike is scheduled and ready for your registration. More information is available on the EGGS Hike Page ([buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php/](http://buckeyetrail.org/eggs.php/)) and on the ad on page 6 of this issue.

**Registration:**

<https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/eggshike2022.html>

Registration is only available on line. There will be no walk-in registrations allowed. Registration closes June 12th at 11:59 pm ET.

**Contact:** Byron Guy at [oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org)

**June 25, 2022**

### **Wakeman Trail Town Celebration**

On Saturday June 25, 2022 at **11am-12pm** the Village of Wakeman is having their Trail Town Ceremony at the Wakeman Community Park Gazebo. After the ceremony everyone will be invited to Wakeman Elevator Craft Beer and Wine Barn from 12pm - 4pm for a membership drive with Firelands Rails-To-Trails. This is going to be the Lake Plains Chapters's first Trail Town Dedication. Wakeman Elevator is a new 3-year Business Member with the BTA and has big plans for future events. Wakeman Elevator is located at 16 Hyde St., Wakeman, Ohio nearby Historic Route 20.

**Contact:** [lakeplains@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:lakeplains@buckeyetrail.org)

**June 25-29, 2022**

### **West Branch Buckeye Trail Destination Project**

This big project provides a variety of opportunities for you to come out and work on the trail. Come help build new trail at West Branch State Park. Tools and guidance will be provided. Come join us for an hour, or the day. We will work from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Building new trail, installing reroutes, constructing wooden bridges, laying boardwalk, building Kiosks, installing or rehabbing signage, heavy maintenance, installing stepping stones, hardening and/or armoring trail.

**What to bring:** Wear sturdy boots and work gloves. Bring water and lunch in a small pack. Dress for the weather. The project is rain or shine. Training and equipment are provided. Meet no later than 9:00 AM at West Branch State Park - Picnic Area A'

**Meals:** Chuckwagon, register when signing up

**Camping:** TBD

**Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btrailwork2022.html>



Bill Jindra



# To Register to Trail Crew Work Parties, go to the new registration form link below!

<https://app.etapestry.com/cart/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/default/>

## JULY

**July 9, 2022**

### **Buckeye Trail 50k**

The Buckeye Trail 50k is part of the Ohio Endurance Series. It is hosted by Western Reserve Racing each year at Brecksville Reservation in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Early Registration goes until June 8th (\$85), Regular Registration goes from June 9 - 28 (\$90), while Late Registration goes from June 29 - July 9 (\$95). As one of the first ultras in Ohio and now in its 27th year, the Buckeye Trail 50k is recognized as the premier trail 50k in the state of Ohio. Donations to Buckeye Trail 50k benefit the Crooked River Chapter of the BTA.

**Packet Pickup Time:** 6:00am at Oak Grove

**Race Location:** Oak Grove Picnic Area at Brecksville Reservation

**Start Time:** 7:00am (cutoff is 10 hours)

For more info, go to [westernreserveracing.com](http://westernreserveracing.com)

**July 9-10, 2022**

### **BTA Circuit Hike - Pemberville Section**

**Saturday:** Saturday's hike is from Pemberville Section Point 2+, Lusher Park, 202 S. Findlay St., Haskins, GPS Coordinates N41.46353 W083.70468 to Point 8, intersection of Nelson Rd. and Chamberlain Rd, GPS Coordinates N41.41413 W083.56161. This is a distance of 10.8 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Nelson Rd. and Chamberlain Rd. to carpool to Lusher Park in Haskins.

**Sunday:** Sunday's hike is from Pemberville Section Point 8, intersection of Nelson Rd. and Chamberlain Rd, GPS Coordinates N41.41413 W083.56161 to Point 14, parking along Elmore Rd about 0.2 mile west of US 23, GPS Coordinates N41.41942 W083.41904. This is a distance of 12.4 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Elmore Rd. to carpool to Nelson Rd. and Chamberlain Rd.

**NOTE:** Suggest bringing a day pack with your lunch and water. Please also watch the forecast and prepare.

**Sign Up:** Go to the BT Friends Meetup site to indicate you are attending: <https://www.meetup.com/BuckeyeTrailFriends/>

**Contact:** Jay Shutt at [shuttjay@gmail.com](mailto:shuttjay@gmail.com)

**July 9-13, 2022**

### **Wilderness Chapter - Road Fork and Whipple Work Party**

We will be focusing on trail maintenance and vegetation management.

**Camping:** Little Muskingum Watershed Association, 22241 SR 26, Matamoras, OH 45767, N39.54102, W81.22474 (SR 26 at Thomas Ridge Road)

**Meals:** Chuckwagon, sign up when you register and check out. **Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btatrailwork2022.html>

**Contact:** Matthew Edmonds at [thewilderness@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:thewilderness@buckeyetrail.org)

**July 15-17**

### **Chainsaw Safety Intro**

If you are interested in receiving training in sawyer safety and maintenance, there will be an introduction to chainsaw safety at Pike Lake State Park on July 15-17, 2022. **Details of the training on page 2.** *Disclaimer: This class teaches safety and maintenance. It does not provide certification to chainsawyer. It does not certify*

*people to sawyer on Federal land.*

**Location & Camping:** Pike State State Park

**Contact:** Byron Guy, [oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:oldmanscave@buckeyetrail.org)

**July 23-24, 2022**

### **BTA Board Retreat**

BTA Board and Staff Retreat - 9:00 A.M. both days.

**Contact:** Steve Walker at [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

**July 23-27, 2022**

### **West Branch Buckeye Trail Destination Project**

This big project provides a variety of opportunities for you to come out and work on the trail. Come help build new trail at West Branch State Park. Tools and guidance will be provided. Come join us for an hour, or the day. We will work from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Building new trail, installing reroutes, constructing wooden bridges, laying boardwalk, building Kiosks, installing or rehabbing signage, heavy maintenance, installing stepping stones, hardening and/or armoring trail.

**What to bring:** Wear sturdy boots and work gloves. Bring water and lunch in a small pack. Dress for the weather. The project is rain or shine. Training and equipment are provided. Meet no later than 9:00 AM at West Branch State Park - Picnic Area 'A'

**Meals:** Chuckwagon, register when signing up

**Camping:** TBD

**Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btatrailwork2022.html>

## AUGUST

**August 20-21, 2022**

### **BTA Circuit Hike - Akron Section**

**Saturday:** Saturday's hike is from Akron Section Point 1, Brecksville Reservation, Valley Parkway northeast of Meadows Drive, GPS Coordinates N41.30522 W081.60894 to Point 5, Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Boston Mills Trailhead, GPS Coordinates N41.26303 W081.55700. This is a distance of 10.4 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Boston Mills Trailhead to carpool to Point 1.

**Sunday:** Sunday's hike is from Akron Section Point 5, Ohio and Erie Canal Towpath Boston Mills Trailhead, GPS Coordinates N41.26303 W081.55700 to Point 11, Deer Run Trailhead in O'Neil Woods Metro Park off of Martin Rd., GPS Coordinates N41.17049 W081.59076. This is a distance of 12.0 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Deer Run Trailhead to carpool to Boston Mills Trailhead.

**NOTE:** Suggest bringing a day pack with your lunch and water. Please also watch the forecast and prepare.

**Sign Up:** Go to the BT Friends Meetup site to indicate you are attending: <https://www.meetup.com/BuckeyeTrailFriends/>

**Contact:** Jay Shutt at [shuttjay@gmail.com](mailto:shuttjay@gmail.com)

**August 27-31, 2022**

### **West Branch Buckeye Trail Destination Project**

This big project provides a variety of opportunities for you to come out and work on the trail. Come help build new trail at West Branch State Park. Tools and guidance will be provided. Come join us for an



hour, or the day. We will work from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Building new trail, installing reroutes, constructing wooden bridges, laying boardwalk, building Kiosks, installing or rehabbing signage, heavy maintenance, installing stepping stones, hardening and/or armoring trail.

**What to bring:** Wear sturdy boots and work gloves. Bring water and lunch in a small pack. Dress for the weather. The project is rain or shine. Training and equipment are provided. Meet no later than 9:00 AM at West Branch State Park - Picnic Area A'

**Meals:** Chuckwagon, sign up when you register and check out

**Camping:** TBD

**Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btatrailwork2022.html>

## S E P T E M B E R

### September 15-18, 2022

#### Buckeye TrailFest

Save these dates for Trailfest to be held at Camp Manatoc in Peninsula, OH. More Details on pages 7 and 9 of this issue.

### September 18, 2022

#### BTA Annual Membership Meeting

The 2022 Annual BTA Membership Meeting will be held at BTA TrailFest at 9:00am. Highlights of the Annual Meeting include a status of the BTA, election of members to the Board of Trustees, and various reports.

**Contact:** Steve Walker at [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

### September 18, 2022

#### BTA Board Meeting

This Board meeting will be held in person after the BTA Membership Meeting at BTA TrailFest 2022.

**Contact:** Steve Walker at [president@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:president@buckeyetrail.org)

### September 24, 2022

#### Little Loop Challenge

The Little Loop Challenge will take place on National Public Lands Day. Details to follow.

**Contact:** Randal Roberts at [littleloop@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:littleloop@buckeyetrail.org)

### September 24-25, 2022

#### BTA Circuit Hike - Akron Section

**Saturday:** Saturday's hike is part of the Little Loop Challenge and is from Akron Section Point 11, Deer Run Trailhead in O'Neil Woods Metro Park off of Martin Rd., GPS Coordinates N41.17049 W081.59076 to Point 20, Summit Lake Park Trailhead parking lot at 380 Lake Shore Blvd, GPS Coordinates (41.05968 W081.54142. This is a distance of 12.4 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Summit Lakes Community Center parking lot to carpool to Point 11, the Deer Run Trailhead in O'Neil Metro Park.

**Sunday:** Sunday's hike is from Akron Section Point 20, Summit Lake Park Trailhead parking lot at 380 Lake Shore Blvd, GPS Coordinates N41.05968 W081.54142 to Point 25, Congressman Ralph Regula

Towpath Vanderhoof Road Trailhead, GPS Coordinates N40.97816 W081.60564. This is a distance of 10.0 miles. Meet no later than 8:30 a.m. at Vanderhoof Road Trailhead to carpool to Summit Lake Park Trailhead.

**NOTE:** Suggest bringing a day pack with your lunch and water. Please also watch the forecast and prepare.

**Sign Up:** Go to the BT Friends Meetup site to indicate you are attending: <https://www.meetup.com/BuckeyeTrailFriends/>

**Contact:** Jay Shutt at [shuttjay@gmail.com](mailto:shuttjay@gmail.com)

## O C T O B E R

### October 1, 2022

#### Blue Blaze Run & Hike

Details will be updated online. Stay tuned.

**Location:** Shawnee, OH

**Contact:** [run4blue@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:run4blue@buckeyetrail.org)



### October 15-19, 2022

#### Ohio River Chapter - Williamsburg Section

Opportunities to come join a Buckeye Trail Work Party are running out for the year. Come on out to help us end the year strong for a 5 day work party on the Williamsburg section of the BT! Work will focus on bridge replacement using materials provided by East Fork State Park. We are looking forward to seeing you there! We will work from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

**Camping:** East Fork State Park Campground, 2837 Old State Rte 32, Batavia, OH 45103

**Meals:** Chuckwagon, sign up when you register and check out.

**Registration:** <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BuckeyeTrailAssociationInc/btatrailwork2022.html>

**Contact:** [williamsburg@buckeyetrail.org](mailto:williamsburg@buckeyetrail.org)

Always check [buckeyetrail.org/events.php](https://www.buckeyetrail.org/events.php) for more information and last-minute updates, and to register for the work parties and the chuckwagon meals



**Buckeye Trail Association**

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