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ForestWatch Outing

Outing Alert

July 21, 2016

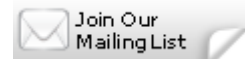
Benton MacKaye Trail to Hemp Top Hike with Jess Riddle Saturday, August 6th, 2016

*Photo by Jess Riddle***Hike Leader:** Forest Ecologist, Jess Riddle**Hike Location:** Benton MacKaye Trail to Hemp Top

Outing Description: We'll hike the Benton MacKaye Trail from Dally Gap through the Cohutta Wilderness Area to the top of Hemp Top. This section of trail has abundant late summer wildflowers including sunflowers, phlox, and yellow fringed orchid, and often quite a few butterflies. An unusual grove of shagbark hickories covers the top of Hemp Top.

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Is your membership current? Not a member yet? Join Georgia ForestWatch and help us watch your forests.

[CLICK HERE NOW](#)**Georgia ForestWatch**

81 Crown Mountain Pl
Building C, Suite 200
Dahlonega, GA
30533
706-867-0051 office

Check us out on the web at www.gafw.org

Hike Date: Saturday, August 6th, 2016

Meeting Time, Place and Directions: 10:00 am at Blue Ridge Walmart (97 Commerce Dr., Blue Ridge, GA 30513). From Blue Ridge, take Highway 5 north towards McCaysville. Walmart will be on the left after about a quarter mile.

Distance and Difficulty: About seven miles round trip and easy to moderate difficulty. The trail follows an old road bed, so most of it has good footing. The trail climbs steadily but slowly, gaining about 900 of feet elevation by the time it reaches Hemp Top.

Participant Limit: 12

What to Bring and Wear: Plenty of water, lunch, raincoat, and good hiking shoes (If allergic to bees/wasps, remember to bring your meds/epi-pen.)

Cancellation: Hikers will be notified if hike is cancelled due to forecast of severe weather, etc.

Pet Policy: No pets please.

Family Safe Policy: Georgia ForestWatch Outings are a smoke, alcohol and drug-free setting.

**Sign Up Now!
Limited Space
Reservations Required**

Our outings are free of charge and open to everyone on a first come, first served basis, up to the limit. **BUT DON'T FORGET**, Georgia ForestWatch members are given priority on our hikes. To learn how you can become a member, [click here](#).

To Reserve Your Spot: Please email our office at info@gafw.org or call 706-867-0051 with the following information.

1. Name of person(s)
2. Your email address
3. Your phone number (preferably cell if you will be carrying it on the outing day)

For more information on the hike, OR if you need directions on the day of the hike, contact Jess Riddle at jriddle@gafw.org or (315) 350-1179. Please note that the Georgia ForestWatch office is not open on the weekends, so you will need to contact Jess Riddle directly.

Upcoming Outings & Events - Mark Your Calendars!

August 6th - Benton MacKaye Trail to Hemp Top Hike - *with Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle*

August 13th- Conasauga Snorkeling - *with the US Forest Service*

September 23rd - Medicinal Plants Hike - *with Patricia Kyritsi Howell*

September 24th - Smithgall Woods Hike - *with Jess Riddle and Will Wagner*

October 8th - Georgia ForestWatch Fall Retreat, *Celebrating 30 Years of Watching Your Forests*

