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ForestWatch Outing

Outing Alert

January 31st, 2018

**Winter Hike with BMTA
Wagon Train Trail & Brasstown Bald
Saturday, February 17th, 2018**

Join Now

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

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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



Ice - Photo by Dietrich Hoecht

Hike Leaders: Sue Harmon from Georgia ForestWatch and Ken Cissna from Benton MacKaye Trail Association

Hike Location: Wagon Train Trail - Brasstown Bald, GA

Hike Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Outing Description: Georgia ForestWatch and the Benton MacKaye Trail Association are teaming up to co-sponsor this hike in the Brasstown Wilderness on Brasstown Bald. Come join us and learn about our organizations.

After a short climb from Brasstown Bald Visitors Center, it is 2 miles of gentle downhill on the Wagon Train Trail to the overlook, and then we will return to the parking area. Hearty hikers in the crowd have the option to add another mile (0.5 mi up and 0.5 mi

back) to the Observation Deck/Tower and the spectacular 360-degree views. Besides the views, we'll enjoy the often dazzling ice formations along the roadside (if the temperature cooperates) and, of course, the golden sheen of the high elevation yellow birch trees.

Meeting Time, Place and Directions: Meet at 10:00 am in the center of the parking lot on top of Brasstown Bald. Park near the individual restroom facilities that are in the parking lot (not the large ones up near the store/office, as they will be locked). See Google map [here](#). Brasstown Bald requires a parking pass. There is a drop box to pay a day user fee of \$3 via an envelope, or you can display your Interagency/Golden Senior or Access Pass on the dash of your vehicle.

Distance and Difficulty: Hike is 4 to 5 miles, depending on whether you add the climb to the Tower. Typical rocks and roots on the Wagon Train Trail. Asphalt on the Tower trail. Moderate pace.

Duration: 3 to 5 hours depending upon your pace and hike choices

Participant Limit: 24

What to Bring and Wear: Lunch, plenty of water, rain gear, and sturdy footwear. If allergic to bees/wasps, remember to bring your meds/epi-pen.

Cancellation: Hikers will be notified via email by 6 pm the evening before the hike, if outing is canceled due to forecast of severe weather, etc.

Pet Policy: Well-behaved trail dogs are welcome.

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

Sign Up Now! **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**, members are given priority on our hikes. ****If you are NOT a ForestWatch member OR a Benton MacKaye Trail Association Member, please register AFTER Friday, February 2nd.**** To learn how you can become a ForestWatch member, [click here](#). To join Benton MacKaye Trail Association, [click here](#).

To Reserve Your Spot: Please register online [here](#), or call or email us (706-867-0051, info@gafw.org) 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 outing, OR if you need directions on the day of the hike, please contact Sue Harmon by email [here](#), Ken Cissna by email [here](#), or call the phone number provided in your confirmation email. Please note that the ForestWatch office is not open on weekends, so you will need to contact Sue or Ken directly.

Upcoming Outings & Events - Mark Your Calendars!

March 3rd - April 13th - Appalachian Mountain Treasures Photography Exhibit at The Bowen Center for the Arts, Dawsonville, GA

Saturday, March 24th - Keown Falls and Johns Mountain Trails - *with Robin Hitner*

Saturday, April 7th - Geology, Ecology and History along NE GA's Davidson Creek, Habersham County - *with Dr. Bill Witherspoon and Ben Cash*

Saturday, April 28th - Ramp Cove Wildflowers and Big Trees - *with Jess Riddle*

Saturday, May 5th - Slow Hike--Wildflowers and Conasauga History - *with John Moeller*

