

Presentation/Workshop Schedule

Thursday Evening

4:00 PM Registration Opens - Shawnee State Park Lodge

6:45 PM Chapter Round Table Discussion

What's going on in the Buckeye Trail Chapters?

Location: Arrowhead

Presented by: Chapter Leaders,

It's taken several years to get here, but we now have 10 chapters with complete coverage of the trail! The growth of new chapters will improve the building, protecting, promoting and maintaining of the Buckeye Trail. Join in on this round table discussion to find out how you can get involved and help your chapter grow!

8:00 PM Campfire Stories

Friday Morning

8:15 AM Wilderness First Aid Basics

This is a NON-CERTIFICATION session on backcountry emergencies

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Matt Taylor, Nile Township Fire Department

This NON-certification course will be an overview of basic medical emergencies that most often occur in the backcountry. Attendees will learn to recognize symptoms and be offered examples of emergency treatment to help while waiting on more skilled responders.

8:15 AM Trail Skills 101

An Introduction into Trail Construction and Maintenance

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Lauren Kennedy-Little, North Country Trail Association

Introduction to Trail Construction and Maintenance (30 minute presentation)

Followed by 60 minute workshop where participants:

- Enhance their "trail eyes" with an interactive hike (20 mins)
- Build on concepts from the presentation w/ Q&A (20 mins)
- Soils & slopes (20 mins)

8:45 AM Taste the Sunshine

Scotty Claypool of Sunshine Catering will show you how to be a campfire cooking master!

Location: Campfire

Presented by: Scotty Claypool, Sunshine Catering

Scotty will give tips on menu planning, packing, fire building, food prep, campfire cooking, and serving. The workshop will include a demonstration and hot off the fire treats.

9:30 AM Meet your BTA Board and Staff

Panel Discussion with the BTA Staff and Board Members

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Randall Roberts, Buckeye Trail Association

Curious about how the BTA is organized? With so much work being done remotely, let's take the chance to have an in person conversation and get to know your BTA Staff, Key Volunteers and Board members. Everyone plays a role. Get to know them in person. Bring your questions, concerns, and comments.

10:45 AM A History of the Richard and Lucile Durrell Edge of Appalachia Preserve

One person can truly make a difference. Learn how one woman launched a conservation effort that changed the world.

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Martin McAllister, The Nature Conservancy

When E. Lucy Braun and her sister Annette began journeying to Adams County by train a century ago to study plants and moths, they probably had no idea that they were about to set in motion a chain of events that would literally change the world. Their legacy lives on today in the 21,000-acre Edge of Appalachia Preserve, the largest and most diverse protected natural area in Ohio.

10:45 AM Trail Preservation and the BT-A Casual Discussion

Casual discussion on the status of the Trail Protection in the BT around the state

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Richard Lutz, Buckeye Trail Association

Come join us for a casual discussion on trail protection along the trail via the BT and our partners and find out about some of the opportunities that are still out there to develop trail as well.

Friday Afternoon

1:00 PM Ohio Division of Wildlife's Ongoing Involvement with the Buckeye Trail

The Division of Wildlife has been partnered with the Buckeye Trail for years; there are many Wildlife Areas in the state that have the trail trekking through, specifically in southeastern Ohio. Attend this presentation to learn more about where these Wildlife Areas are and what they have to offer.

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Stanleigh Archer, ODNR, Division of Wildlife

The Division of Wildlife has many unique opportunities for diverse user groups from hunting to birding to hiking on Wildlife Areas. To elaborate on hiking, one of the key trails on some Wildlife Areas have been the BT. We will dive into the trails and what unique attributes these Wildlife Areas have, specifically the southeastern Wildlife Areas that have the Buckeye Trail meandering throughout.

1:00 PM Eden Valley Enterprises

Trail Magic - The Emma Gatewood Story

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Randall Roberts,

DVD presentation of the documentary telling the story of Emma Gatewood's solo thru-hike on the Appalachian Trail in 1955 at the age of 67 (after raising 11 children and surviving domestic abuse) still resonates with hikers and people from all walks of life. The film captures Emma's challenging life that led to her historic journey on the A.T.

2:15 PM Building a 100 mile Backpacking Destination

See what it all goes into creating a 2.4 Million Dollar Buckeye Trail Project

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Jonathan Flinn, Buckeye Trail Association

Andrew Bashaw and Jon Flinn presenting the background and work that goes into creating a backpacking destination. From 2006 an idea of a backpacking destination in Southeast Ohio was formed. Come hear about the journey, from a thought to a fully developed regional asset. As a subrecipient of an ODNR- AMLER grant, the Buckeye Trail is thrilled to connect Stone Church Hollow to Burr Oak.

2:15 PM Peace Pilgrim

Who was Peace Pilgrim and what she meant to me.

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Randall Roberts, BTA

From 1953 until 1981, a silver haired woman calling herself "Peace Pilgrim" walked more than 25,000 miles on a personal pilgrimage for peace. She shared her simple but profound message "when enough of us find inner peace, our institutions will become peaceful and there will be no more occasion for war." Randall will share what he knows about this remarkable woman and how she touched his life.

3:30 PM Forest Management of the State Forests

Powerpoint presentation of State Forest management

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Dale Egbert and Nathan Jester, ODNR Division of Forestry

Presentation of the multi-use management of state forest property

3:30 PM My EGGSpérience

Randall Roberts presents his experiences on a 48 hour 80 mile challenge

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Randall Roberts, BTA

The Emma "Grandma" Gatewood Solstice (EGGS) hike challenge is an annual hiking challenge held at Burr Oak State Park around the Summer Solstice in June. The challenge hike is to hike 20, 40, 60 or 80 miles in which participants have a maximum of 12, 24, 36, or 48 hours to complete. Randall will explain how he finally completed all of the challenges even though the 80 took him four tries!

Friday Evening

6:30 PM Opening Remarks by Mindy Bankey, Assistant Director ODNR

6:45 PM The Arc of Appalachia - A Passion for Hiking Trails & Wildlands Preservation!!

Nancy Stranahan, Director of the Arc of Appalachia, will share the rapidly changing social environment in which the pace of wildlands preservation opportunities are rapidly increasing.

Location: Arrowhead Room

Presented by: Nancy J Stranahan, Arc of Appalachia Preserves

The Arc of Appalachia is changing the landscape of Ohio, one acre and one person at a time. Today, the Arc protects 10,000-plus acres in 28 preserves, has over 250 active volunteers, maintains over 60 miles of trails, and stewards some of the most beautiful protected landscapes in Appalachian Ohio. Tonight will be an overview of the Arc's past accomplishments and new and exciting trajectories.

8:00 PM Meandering Thru

Film: Showing of the documentary Meandering Thru

Location: Arrowhead Room

Meandering Thru is a feature length documentary about love, adventure, and the history of Ohio's state trail.

On the verge of starting a new family, newly wedded Everett Brandt took the summer off from teaching to do one last epic adventure. That adventure: setting a 1400 mile record on Ohio's Buckeye Trail, will have him face physical, mental and emotional challenges. To complete his solo trek he will need the support and the love of his wife, father and siblings.

Meandering Thru debuted at the Chagrin Documentary Film Festival in October 2022. The film has also been screened at The Trails Film Festival and The Cut Film series. It was created by Kevin Morrissey who over the time of 4 years filmed, edited and animated the project. The original score was created by Jonah Meister.

The film will be followed by a virtual Q&A session

8:00 PM Moonlight Paddle

(Limited capacity - Sign up early)

Location: Lake

8:00 PM Campfire

Saturday Morning

8:15 AM Landscape photography in southern Ohio

Best practices for shooting landscape photography, with an emphasis on Shawnee State Park and Forest

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Brian Prose, Southern Ohio Photography

Southern Ohio encompasses 12 state forests and parks, 36 nature preserves and a national forest, totaling nearly 300,000 acres dedicated to the outdoors. I will showcase some of my favorite locations. In addition, I will cover some camera settings for both a traditional camera and using the camera on the phone.

8:15 AM Trail Town Round Table

Come join Kim, Buckeye Trail Town Coordinator for an informal discussion on Buckeye Trail Towns. We will discuss the qualifications to becoming a Trail Town; the value of a community being designated a Trail Town; benefits to both the BTA and the Trail Town.

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Kim Love-Ottobre

An informal discussion about Buckeye Trail Town. Kim will give a short presentation on qualification on becoming a Trail Town. How you can look at your local community and evaluate whether it could be considered a Trail Town. How to get involved on the local level with a new or established Trail Town. Connecting the BT chapters with the Trail Town in their section.

9:30 AM Hiking Through It: A Mental Health Perspective for Leaders on the BT

Diane Wright, LISW-S will share a mental health clinician's perspective on hiking, its impact on mental health and PTSD, and the ways that leaders on the trail can support the many people who turn to the trail for healing.

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Diane Wright,

Diane Wright, LISW-S, is in her 29th year as a leader and trainer in a community behavioral health agency. She is also a section supervisor, and In this presentation, she will highlight the research on hiking and its impact on mental health and PTSD, and provide suggestions for leaders on the trail to help us recognize and support the many people who turn to hiking for its healing impact.

9:30 AM Wild Edibles

Join Naturalist Jenny for a presentation followed by a stroll around the grounds in search of wild edible plants.

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Jenny Richards, ODNR - Shawnee State Park

Join Naturalist Jenny for a presentation followed by a stroll around the grounds in search of wild edible plants. Jenny will share some of her favorite books and recipes and even bring some samples for tasting.

10:45 AM Marriott, Me, and the BT: Doing the BT without camping

Marriott, Me, and the BT

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Meg Sondey, Crooked River Chapter

Not into camping, but interested in hiking the entire BT? It can be done! Learn how to utilize hotels, Airbnbs and other options as "camping" spots. I'll share how to cut costs and tips on being a "Leave No Mud" guest. We'll also delve into planning a multi-day hiking trip while staying in one spot.

10:45 AM Forests in the eastern US - broad brush look

A quick overview of historic and current conditions of the forested systems of the Midwest/Eastern USA.

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Mike Hall, The Nature Conservancy - Ohio

There are many diverse and unique forested systems in the Midwest and Eastern United States. This talk will touch on similarities, where they exist!, in how these ecosystems persisted historically, and how they are being managed in the face of new pressures and threats.

Saturday Afternoon

1:00 PM Intro to Backpacking With Kids

Are you interested in getting your kids outdoors more? What about even trying out backpacking with them? Well, this session is for you!

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Ashley Ducheny, Cincinnati Hikes: Kid's Collaborative

Ashley Ducheny has been backpacking with her kids since they were 2 years old. Her and her kids (ages 6 and 9) will share their tips and tricks for successfully backpacking as a family! You'll learn lessons from mom and from kids on what works and what doesn't. They will have fully loaded backpacks to pack, unpack, try on, and ask questions as well.

1:00 PM Wildlife Audio Recording & Southern Ohio Bigfoot Vocalizations

Wildlife audio recording (description below)

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Kenny Brown,

Wildlife audio recording can be a time consuming yet rewarding process but much can be learned about Ohio's fauna, especially with nighttime recording. Come listen and learn about vocalizations of Ohio's common wildlife, including vocalizations that don't match up with any known animal in the Buckeye State that just might be coming from an unclassified primate in North America known as Sasquatch.

2:15 PM Ohio's Timber Rattlesnake

Short Presentation

Location: Campfire

Presented by: Doug Wynn,

We will talk about the Timber Rattlesnake and present a live individual.

2:15 PM Nature Journaling

Hands-on workshop outside, after a brief introduction inside. Participants should bring a journal or notebook and a pencil.

Location: Moccasin Room

Presented by: Julie Gee, Ohio State Parks

Nature journaling offers a simple, yet meaningful way to connect to the natural world. Focused use of the senses leads to inspiring moments. Journaling opens the door to sometimes untapped creativity. Nature journaling can lead to a lifetime habit of recording natural phenomena and seasonal changes. This habit allows people to discover their "sense of place." Participants should bring a journal or notebook and a pencil.

4:00 PM Theodore Roosevelt, Father of American Conservation

1922 Roosevelt Game Preserve is founded

Location: Cornstalk Room

Presented by: Josef Otmar (AKA Theodore Roosevelt),

Theodore Roosevelt will give a speech covering his life and times as well as his great pride in his accomplishments as the Father of Conservation in America. He will cover the facts surrounding the 1922 dedication of Shawnee State Forest as the Theodore Roosevelt Game Preserve.

Saturday Evening

6:30 PM Mindset

Sharing insights and stories from the world's toughest ultras.

Location: Arrowhead Room

Presented by: Harvey Lewis, Ultrarunner

Harvey Lewis is an accomplished Ultrarunner with wins at races such as Badwater 135, Big's Backyard World Championship, the 24 hour National Championship, Burning River, Buck Fifty, and a Fastest Known Time (FKT) attempt on the Appalachian Trail. He will share insights and stories from these races and others and what it takes to get in the mindset to achieve.

7:45 PM BTA Awards, Wrap up, Silent Auction

Sunday Morning

7:45 AM Sunday Service

Non-demonitonal

Location: TBD

Presented by: TBD

9:00 AM BTA Annual Meeting

BTA Board and Staff; Election of new BTA Board Members

Location: Cornstalk/Arrowhead

10:15 AM BTA Board Meeting

Election of Officers and other board buisness

Location: Cornstalk/Arrowhead