Using the Schedule

Hikes in the schedule are graded according to difficulty using the table below. Consult the hike leader for a more specific appraisal.

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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Easy hike, 2-5 miles. Expect good trails, often old roads</td>
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<tr>
<td>EM</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate, 3-6 miles. Expect steeper trails and more hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Moderate, 5-8 miles. Trails may be difficult walking in places</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>Moderate to Strenuous. Expect longer hikes with more climbing, perhaps bushwacking</td>
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<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Strenuous. Expect long hikes and hill climbing with large elevation gains, bushwacking</td>
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Other standard acronym’s used in the hike descriptions are:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HD</td>
<td>Hiking Distance</td>
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<tr>
<td>DD</td>
<td>Driving Distance</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRT</td>
<td>Miles Round Trip</td>
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You may drive your own car if you wish. However, carpooling is suggested to save gasoline and because parking at trailheads is often limited. The hike leader is responsible for arranging transportation. The amount to help defray car expenses is noted on the schedule and should be given to your driver. If you are unable to contact the hike leader and the weather is suitable for hiking, it is suggested you go to the meeting place as planned.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY

There are certain risks that are inherent in any hike or other club activity. These include, but are not limited to, weather conditions, trail conditions, ticks, wildlife, plant and insect allergens, etc. Each NBATC member, guest, or non-member agrees to accept responsibility for his or her own safety. Adults who are accompanied by minors agree to accept responsibility for those minors. Hike leaders are responsible for hike organization, reasonable instruction and guidance, and proper documentation. Hike participants are responsible for following this reasonable guidance and instruction. By signing the hike sign-up form, each hike participant is affirming that he/she has read and understands these responsibilities.

Before You Go

If you are planning to go on a hike, please call the hike leader at least the evening before the hike. That’s not only a courtesy to the hike leader, but also an aid to planning transportation to the trail head. Hiking in each season can require very different types and amounts of equipment, but food, water, and layered clothing are a minimum. If you have any doubt contact the hike leader for more information.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hike #</th>
<th>Hike Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 05</td>
<td>6194(M)</td>
<td>Blackhorse Gap to Bobletts Gap on the A.T.</td>
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<td>HD: 5 Leader: Coby Pieterman, 540-586-8464</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Meet hike leader @ Peaks of Otter Visitor Center about 8:30 (DD:60 MRT, $4)</td>
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<td>This hike is on the southernmost part of our section of the A.T. The trail parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway and has lovely views. We will be leaving cars at both trailheads and be hiking from Blackhorse Gap (MP 97.7) to Bobletts Gap (MP 93.1). Hikers will form a carpool at Forest Square and meet the hike leader at the Peaks of Otter Visitor Center. Please call Coby in advance to join her hike; receive directions; and to let her know where you will join the group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 06</td>
<td>6195(M)</td>
<td>Harkening Hill, Johnson Farm and Abbott Lake</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leader: Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:30 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Arrive at Peaks of Otter Visitor Center about 9 AM (DD:45 MRT, $3)</td>
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<td>From the Peaks of Otter Visitor Center, we will climb Harkening Hill (3,373’ EL) through woodland trails. At the top, we will take a short detour to Balance Rock, a huge boulder balanced on a small rock. After 3.3 miles, we will take the Johnson Farm loop trail. On the return, we will take a leisurely walk around Abbott Lake on a one-mile loop trail. The close-up views of Flat Top and Sharp Top mountain peaks are fantastic. Please contact the hike leader to let him know you want to join the hike and where you will meet the group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>6196(M)</td>
<td>Bearwallow Gap to Cove Mountain Shelter on the A.T.</td>
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<td>Leader: Mahendra Punatar, 434-221-0792</td>
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<td>8:30 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - form carpool, meet other hikers at the Peaks Visitor Center 9:00 AM (DD:50 MRT, $3)</td>
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<td>The trail offers a very nice out and back hike that will take us to the Cove Mountain Shelter for lunch/snack. This A.T. hike has beautiful mountain and valley views during this time of year. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and to let him know where you will join the group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>6197(S)</td>
<td>Flat Top...from the picnic area to the BRP</td>
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<td>Leader: Roger Park, 434-228-5036</td>
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<td>1:30 PM @ Forest Square Shopping Center (DD:45 MRT, $3)</td>
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<td>We’ll begin at the trailhead near the picnic area just east of Abbott Lake. From there, the trail climbs steadily for about 1.4 miles. The final 0.6 miles becomes a bit steeper and rockier, and leads to a short spur trail and Flat Top’s 4000’ peak. The rock outcroppings offer great views toward Bedford and the Bedford Reservoir. We will descend the mountain by taking the trail to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and let him know where you will meet the group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>6199(S)</td>
<td>Floyd Field to Jennings Creek on the A.T.</td>
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<td>Leader: Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826</td>
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<td>8:30 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Meet other hikers at the Peaks Ranger Station about 9 AM (DD:75 MRT, $4)</td>
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<td>This up and down hike will rise 1200’ and descend 2500’ on a beautiful portion of the A.T. We will see two shelters which our club maintains. After enjoying lunch near a creek at the impressive 2-story, Bryant Ridge Shelter, we’ll continue our hike to the Jennings Creek trailhead. This hike is not offered very often because of a fairly long runaround. Therefore, it is an important hike for club members working on their 88-miler patch. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.</td>
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Sat Oct 26 Hike #6200(MS)
Combo Hike...7 or 14-miles: Andy Lane Trail; Tinker Cliffs; Scorched Earth Gap; Chimney Rock HD:7 / 14
Leader: Wilma Vargas, 908-268-5036
7:30 AM @ Waterlick Plaza - Meet Hike
Parking Lot on US 220 (DD:130 MRT, $5)
We will start our hike going up Andy Lane Trail heading to Tinker Cliffs; then we will hike north on the A.T. past Scorched Earth Gap...7-mile hikers will take Andy Lane Trail to their cars. 14-mile hikers will continue on to Chimney Rock, while enjoying the views of Carvins Cove Reservoir. Our hike will end at the trailhead in Daleville on US 220. Key Exchange if enough hikers join this hiking adventure. Please call the hike leader to reserve your place on the 7 or 14-mile hike, allowing her to plan for the cars needed.

Sun Oct 27 Hike #6201(M)
Spy Rock Improvements: Hike and Explanation HD:3
Leaders: John Phillips, johnm.phillips1949@gmail.com; Trudy Phillips, trudyephillips@gmail.com
1:00 PM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Arrive at the Spy Rock Road parking lot about 2 PM (DD:90 MRT, $4)
We will start our hike by climbing Spy Rock Road to the A.T., head north on the A.T. and taking the side trail to Spy Rock. John and Trudy will review the recent improvements performed by Konnarock and NRATC volunteers before taking the new access trail to climb on top of Spy Rock for a 360-degree view of the surrounding mountains. After enjoying the view and a snack we will return by the same route to our cars at the Spy Rock Road parking area. Please email John or call Trudy at 434-384-4870 to join their hike.

Sat Nov 02 Hike #6202(M)
Terrapin Mountain – Lower Trail HD:7
Leader: Marilyn Hartman, 434-384-7075
8:30 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center (DD:40 MRT, $3)
This hike is on an old woods road that generally follows a contour line near the base of Terrapin Mountain. There are several nice views along the way. We’ll turn around at Reed’s Creek, a beautiful trout stream, and return by the same route. Please call the hike leader to join her hike and to let her know where you will meet the group.

Sun Nov 03 Hike #6203(M)
Mt. Pleasant and Henry Lanum Loop HD:7
Leader: Angelo Mercado, 434-941-9843
8:30 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Could meet hikers at the Rt 60, Long Mountain Wayside about 9:20 AM (DD:70 MRT, $4)
This loop hike will use the Henry Lanum Trail to climb Mount Pleasant and reach the two observation points on this 4000’ mountain. We will enjoy a snack on the rock outcroppings while enjoying the fantastic views, including Cold Mountain in the distance. After lunch we will head back to the trailhead and our cars using an optional second trail. Please call Angelo to join his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sat Nov 09 Hike #6204(M)
Carvin Cove to Hay Rock on the A.T. HD:8
Leader: Laura Jones, lauraejones428@gmail.com
8:00 AM @ Waterlick Plaza (DD:90 MRT, $4)
We’ll start at US-220 in Daleville and climb on a section of the Roanoke Club’s maintained A.T., to the ridge line overlooking Daleville and the Carvin Cove Reservoir. We’ll stop for a snack at the Hay Rock Overlook and then return by the same route. Either email: lauraejones428@gmail.com or call: 434-221-1797 the hike leader to sign up for her hike.

Sun Nov 10 Hike #6205(S)
Gunter Ridge and Devils Marbleyard Loop HD:9
8:30 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - Carpool will drive to meet leader about 9:15 AM at Petites Gap...BRP, MP 71 (DD:65 MRT, $4)
We will start our hike at the Belfast trailhead and take the Glenwood Horse Trail to the beginning of the Gunter Ridge Trail. We will then hike up Gunter Ridge, down the Belfast Trail and spend some time at Devils Marbleyard on our way out. We plan to have lunch somewhere near the top of Gunter Ridge. Please contact the hike leader to join the hike and let him know where you will meet the group, so he can plan for the carpool from Petites Gap to the trailhead.
Sat Nov 16 Hike #6206(M)
Smith Mountain Lake - Combo Hike HD:7 / 10
Leader: Wilma Vargas, 908-268-5036
8:00 AM @ Waterlick Plaza - meet hike leader about 8:45 at the Westlake Kroger (DD:100 MRT, $5)
You are invited to explore in the Smith Mountain Lake “East” area. You will have a choice of hiking a (Moderate) 7-mile or 10-miles, as we climb an APC gravel road with soft ups and downs. Our hike will include some very picturesque views of Smith Mountain Lake. Can meet Roanoke carpoolers about 8:20 AM near the Wendy’s parking area.

Sun Nov 17 Hike #6207(E)
Claytor Nature Center Trails HD:4
Leaders: Bob Flint, 434-841-7633; Polly Flint 1:30 PM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - or 2:00 PM at entrance at 1844 Woods Road (DD:30 MRT, $3)
The 470-acre Claytor Nature Study Center encompasses freshwater streams, woodlands, wetlands, grasslands, rare plants, wildlife, and a portion of the Big Otter River. The 18th century farm and plantation house were given to Lynchburg College by A. Boyd Claytor III as an education and research center for environmental study and to preserve the land for future generations. We’ll hike the nature trails that wind their way through the preserve. Please Note: No dogs allowed on this hike.

Sat Nov 23 Hike #6208(MS)
Blue Hole & Saddle Gap Trails Loop HD:8
Leader: T. Upshur, 434-610-8808 9:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Could meet other hikers at the Foot Bridge about 9:30 AM (DD:50 MRT, $3)
We’ll hike up Saddle Gap and take the A.T. to Salt Log Gap. Then will follow the trail as it passes by the old slate quarry and down to the trailhead at the end of Hercules Road. This hike offers many great views along the way. Please call the hike leader to sign up for the hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Nov 24 Hike #6209(S)
Hoop Hole Trail HD:10
Leaders: David Agnor, 614-323-5310; Peggy Agnor 8:00 AM @ Forest Square Shopping Center - Meet other hikers at Ranger Station...8:30, meet hike leader in Buchanan...9 AM (DD:150 MRT, $5)
This hike includes a 3.8 mile upper loop and 6 mile lower loop. The lower loop has a number of stream crossings as it follows a beautiful stream. Recommend hiking sticks and Croc’s or water shoes if the streams are running high. Roaring Run Falls is close to the trailhead...if there is time we can drive to view the falls. Special Note to hikers from the Lexington & Rockbridge County area: Contact the hike leader for carpool info.

Dec 2019

Sun Dec 01 Hike #6210(E)
Meet Up Hike: Percival’s Island HD:6
Leader: Jordan Welborn, 434-209-4935 1:30 PM @ Percival’s Island Parking Lot (Local)
The Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club invites members and non-members to come out and hike some of the trails in the Blackwater Creek Trail System. We’ll walk from the Percival’s Island parking lot to the end of the trail on the Amherst side and back. It is all blacktop, level, with various wonderful winter views of the James River. If you don’t want to walk the full 6 miles you can turn around at any time. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Please call the hike leader to join her hike.

Sat Dec 07 Hike #6211(S)
Sawtooth Ridge HD:9
Leader: Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826 8:00 AM @ Waterlick Plaza - Could meet other hikers at the Bedford Wendy’s about 8:20 AM (DD:150 MRT, $5)
We will begin at the McAfee parking area on Rt. 311 and hike south on a Roanoke section of A.T. This is a fun up and down hike which will include an old mill site, varied terrain, wonderful rock formations, beautiful fields and fantastic views. We will leave the A.T. at Spectacles Gap, taking the blue-blazed trail to the Dragon’s Tooth parking lot and our cars. Please call the hike leader to join his hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.
Hiking Schedule: Oct - Dec, 2019

Sun Dec 08 Hike #6212(EM)
Meet Up Hike: Peaks View Park Trails HD:3 / 5
Leader: Larry Scott, 434-525-7126
1:30 PM @ Peaks View Park, Ardmore Drive
- Meet the hike leader in the parking area near the Ardmore Drive park entrance
(Local)
NBATC invites members and non-members to meet up and hike some of the many trails in Peaks View Park. We'll meet in the Ardmore Drive parking area and collectively decide which trails to hike. Hikers can opt out at three miles or continue hiking. Minors must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult. Dogs must be kept on leash and owners must come prepared to clean up after their pets. Please call the hike leader if you need information or want to join his hike.

Sat Dec 14 Hike #6213(EM)
Combo Hike: Foot Bridge to Matts Creek Shelter -or- More HD:4 / 5
Leader: Roger Park, 434-228-5036
8:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - form carpool and meet other hikers at the Foot Bridge at 8:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, $3)
Come out and enjoy this easy and beautiful hike along the James River and Matts Creek -or- cross Matts Creek and hike further south on the A.T. for about 1/2 mile, when the trail crosses the creek again...then turn around and hike north on the A.T., back to the shelter. We will take time at the shelter to have a snack while enjoying the view and sounds of Matts Creek before returning to the Foot Bridge. Please call the hike leader to join the hike and to let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Dec 15 Hike #6214(MS)
Hike Leader’s Choice HD:7 / 9
Leader: Mike McCormack, 434-384-1944
8:00 AM Contact hike leader (DD:60 MRT, $3)
Hike Leader, Mike McCormack, will send out a description of the hike two weeks before via Blast email.

Sat Dec 21 Hike #6215(E)
Adopt-A-Highway HD:3
Leader: Larry Spangler, 540-460-6903
9:00 AM @ Boonsboro Shopping Center - Meet hike leader at pull-off near dam on US 501 / VA 130 about 9:30 AM (DD:40 MRT, $3)
NBATC cleans up litter along a section of US 501 and VA 130 near the A.T. crossing at the Foot Bridge. Please come out and help keep our area free of litter and earn some maintenance hours, too! Get on Santa’s nice list! Please call the hike leader to join his work hike and let him know where you will meet the group.

Sun Dec 22 Hike #6216(MS)
Hike Leaders Choice HD:7 / 9
Leader: Herb Vreeland, 434-385-1826
8:00 AM Contact hike leader (DD:80 MRT, $4)
The hike leader will choose a location based on weather conditions and blast email the hike description a few days before.

Sat Dec 28 Hike #6217(EM)
Blue Ridge Rail Trail HD:8
Leader: Kathy Fraley, 434-509-6949
9:00 AM @ Madison Heights Lowes - Carpool to the Rt. 151 trailhead to meet other hikers about 9:45 (DD:60 MRT, $3)
The Blue Ridge Rail Trail follows the route of a historic short-line railroad and will start at the Route 151 trailhead...(3124 Patrick Henry Highway, Piney River, VA) This fairly level in and out hike, closely parallels the Piney River through forest and open pastureland. Please call Kathy to join this great wintertime social hike and to let her know where you will meet the group.
Natural Bridge Appalachian Trail Club
P.O. Box 3012
Lynchburg, VA 24503

Address Service Requested

NBATC is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, an affiliate of member of the American Hiking Society, and a maintainer of the A.T. from the Tye River to Black Horse Gap.

Website: www.nbatc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/nbatc.hiker
E-mail: happifeet@msn.com