



EARTHWORKS



Volume 19, Issue 11

November, 2025

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December Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the December Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than November 22nd!

Articles to look for in this month's newsletter:

- *Stilesboro Rd. Closure!!!* - pg [5](#) & [6](#)
- *November 8th Work Day* - pg [13](#)
May be cancelled
- *Marietta Wine Market Wine Tasting* - Pg [9](#)



MARIETTA WINE MARKET
WINE TASTING
- 11/5/25 - 5 - 7 PM
SEE FLYER - PAGE [9](#)



Calendar of Events - Friends/KMTC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
November, 2025			
11/5	5 pm - 7 pm	Wine tasting - Marietta Wine Market	Friends Fundraiser
11/8	8 am - noon	Visitor Center Parking Field	November, 2025 Work Day
December, 2025			
12/13	8:30 am - Noon	Visitor Center Parking Field	December, 2025 Work Day
January, 2025			
1/10	8:30 am - Noon	TBD	January, 2026 Work Day

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP>

Current Status Of Park

All NPS outdoor events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are currently cancelled.
All trails are open, except as noted, below. The Mountain Road is open to pedestrian traffic only.

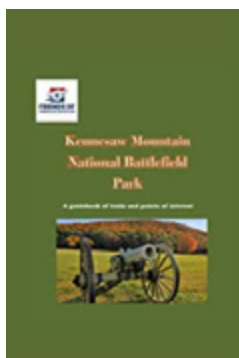
Visitor Center and all restrooms are currently closed, as are the Visitor Center Parking lot and the Illinois Monument Parking Lot (on Cheatham Hill Dr.)
The Mountain Rd. is also closed to motorized vehicles.

The shuttle bus is not currently running on weekends.

Trail closures

The horse trail crossing on John Ward Creek on the Kolb Farm East Trail is closed until further notice because of the treacherous creek crossing there.

Currently, no park activities are planned for November.



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook

The Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook sponsored by the Friends of KMNB is now available on Amazon.

List of Abbreviations

FOKM - Friends of Kennesaw Mountain
KMNB - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
KMTC - Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club
NPS/KEMO - National Park Service/Kennesaw Mountain
VHP - Veterans History Project
VC - Visitor Center

Newsletter Sign-up

Would you like to receive our newsletter? To sign up, click on the following link: <http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n> Complete and submit this form. You'll be added to our subscription list.

Wish to unsubscribe? Simply follow the instructions at the bottom of the email forwarding the newsletter link, and you'll be permanently removed from our mailing list. To re-subscribe, you will need to use a different email address - removal is permanent for the original email address!

"Earthworks" is published monthly jointly by the Friends of KMNB & the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

Editor: Fred Feltmann
678-315-5888

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive
Kennesaw, GA 30152

(770) 427-4686 phone
www.nps.gov/kemo

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30152, (770) 427-4686 phone,
www.nps.gov/kemo

Kennesaw Mountain News Release

Release Date: Immediately

Contact: Marjorie Thomas, Marjorie_thomas@nps.gov, 770-427-4686 x 231

John Ward Creek Crossing Closed to Horseback Riders

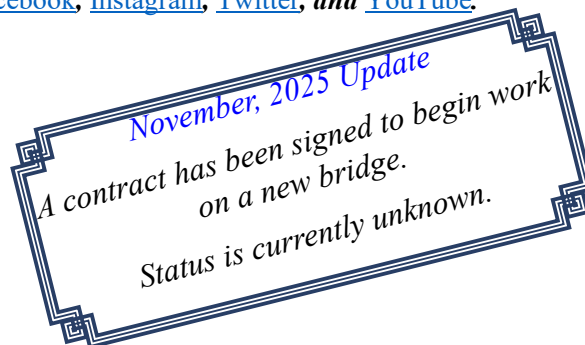
Kennesaw, GA – Effective immediately, the John Ward Creek crossing just south of the Illinois Monument is closed to horseback riders until further notice. This closure stems from a safety concern due to hazardous conditions relating to an unstable streambed. The closure affects the creek crossing between Milepost 3.5 and Milepost 4 of the Kolb's Farm East Trail.

Superintendent Patrick Gamman states, "We are concerned for the safety of all park users. Crossing John Ward Creek at this section of the trail poses a risk that we want to alert our horse community to, as it could potentially cause harm to both horse and rider. We will be working as quickly as possible to mitigate this problem."

Please contact the park at 770-427-4686 or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/kemo for further information.

[The National Park Service](http://www.nps.gov)

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at the [NPS website](http://www.nps.gov), and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nps), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/nps), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/nps), and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/nps).



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Newsletter 3

<https://friendsofkmnbp.org>

Stilesboro Road Closures - Update September, 2, 2025

Kennesaw Mountain NBP, Cobb County DOT, and Cobb County Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) have been working together regarding a large upcoming project regarding Stilesboro Road. Please plan accordingly when coming to the park to volunteer. The park will be providing additional information through the various media outlets; however, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the park. If any changes to the schedule takes place, you will be notified.

Below is the information provided by the project manager:

Please be advised that beginning Tuesday, September 2, 2025, the Cobb County Department of Transportation (Cobb County DOT) and the Cobb County Marietta Water Authority (CCMWA) will be closing Stilesboro Road, from Gilbert Road to the Visitor Center's Entrance, to replace and upgrade an underground water main. See the link below for anticipated road closure dates. Access to the visitor center lot will remain open during all phases of construction.

This closure will affect travel routes to the park's Visitor Center. The entrance to the Visitor Center parking lot will only be accessible via Old Highway 41.

Officials from Cobb County DOT have assured that there will be multiple detours around the road closure. This closure is scheduled to occur in three phases and will also tie into the pre-construction work affiliated with the proposed new roundabouts on Old Highway 41.

For more information regarding the project, please visit the link below where you can view CCMWA's project flyer, maps, and contact information:

<https://www.ccmwa.org/our-system/construction-projects>

Image Description: Trees with green foliage flank a road entrance to a busy parking lot.

Image Credit: NPS Photo

There will be multiple detours to utilize while traveling during this necessary closure. Please reference the approved detour map.

For more information regarding lane and road closures in Cobb County, please visit www.cobbcommute.org

Respectfully,

Amanda Corman

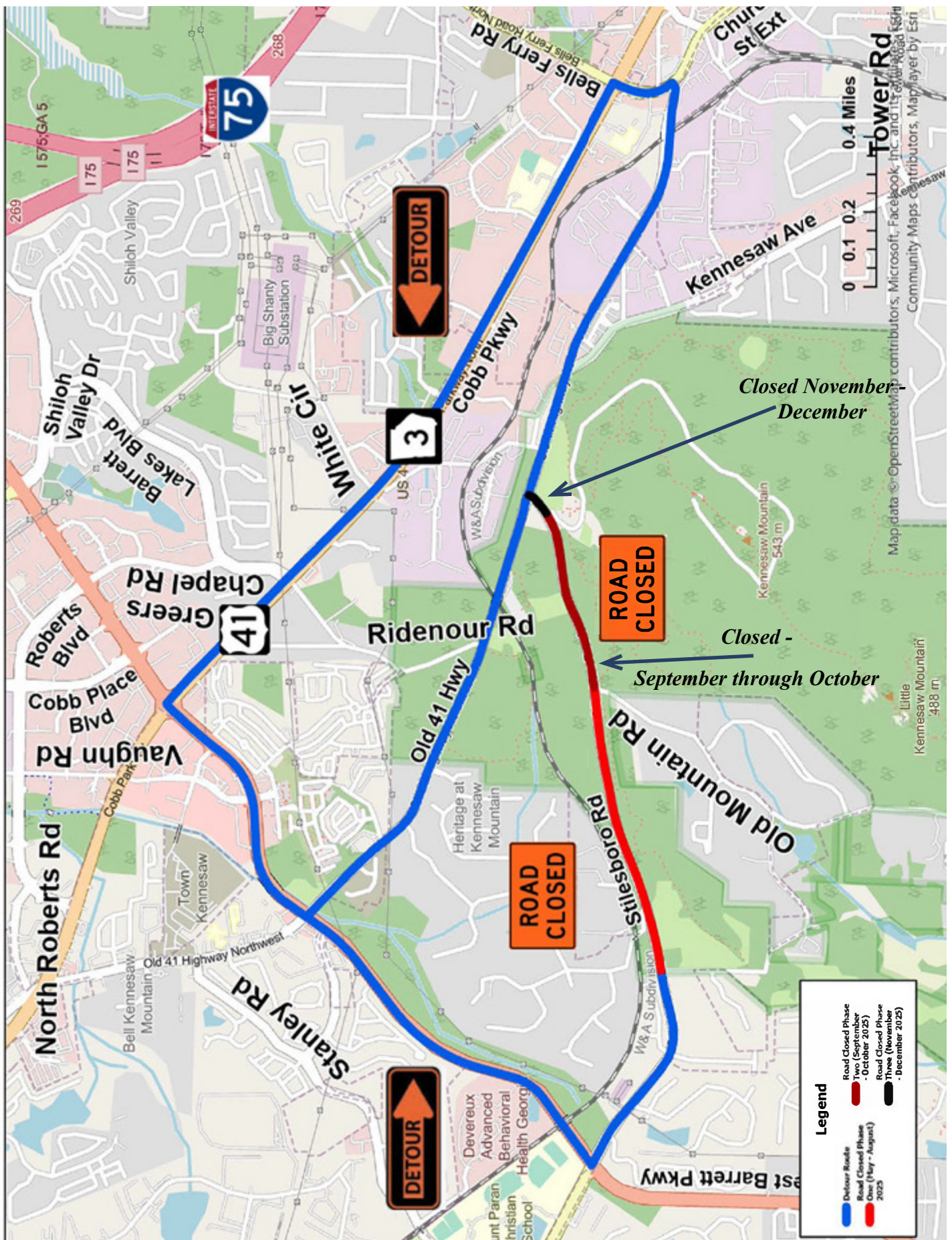
Park Ranger/Volunteer Coordinator

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Editor's Note: Please see also the following website for more specific details:

<https://www.ccmwa.org/our-system/construction-projects>







Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for **November**

No events are currently planned for the month of November. Should there be a change in status, an announcement will be e-mailed to all subscribers.



MARIETTA WINE MARKET WINE TASTING
- 11/5/25 - 5 - 7 PM
SEE FLYER - PAGE 9



The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Your Membership helps to fund this mission.

Please join us.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is to work in partnership with the National Park Service and the local community to provide volunteers and raise funding to support activities such as:

- Visitor & Away Events
- Transportation, Housing, and Feeding of volunteer groups (example: Living History, Student Conservation Association, Invasive Plants Team)
- Museum Upgrades and Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit Additions (& the Wallis House)
- Restrooms, Parking, and Picnic Area Facilities
- Trails, Fire Roads, and Bridges Maintenance
- Educational Day Trips and Vacation Camps
- Volunteer-In-Park Training Programs

The ultimate goal is to create endowments for the most significant expense items and move them toward a sustainable and perpetual self-funded status that reduces the need for these items to rely on federal budget support.

Wednesday, November 5, 2025
5-7 PM
Marietta Wine Market
18 Powder Springs St.
Marietta, GA



Kennesaw Mountain Wine Tasting Benefit

Hosted by the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain

Wine Tasting: \$10

Door Prize Tickets: 5 for \$20

Join us for door prizes, light
snacks, and meet fellow friends!

<https://friendsofkmnbp.org/>



Statement on the Government Shutdown

Link: <https://friendsofkmnbp.org/shutdown-2025/> - for up-to-date Information.

Dear Friends,

During the government shutdown, the Department of Interior has directed national parks, including the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, to remain mostly open, while operating with significantly reduced staff and visitor services.

The duration of the shutdown remains uncertain, but impacts on Kennesaw Mountain NBP, its staff, gateway communities, and visitors are being felt quickly. The timing of the shutdown is particularly difficult, as fall foliage season is among the park's busiest periods.

What to Know:

The following is based on our current understanding as of Oct. 10, 2025, and is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please check this page on our website.

Visitor Services:

- Open/accessible to visitors:
- Remote parking lots and trails
- Closed/not accessible to visitors:
- The KMNBP main visitor center and parking lot, including the visitor center restrooms.
- The Cheatham Hill Drive (Illinois Monument) parking lot, including the restroom facility.
- Ranger programs, family programming, school field trips, are suspended at this time.



Staff:

The majority of the Kennesaw Mountain NBP service staff has been furloughed, with exceptions made for a small number of staff deemed "necessary to protect life and property." This includes basic sanitation services, law enforcement, and fire safety.

Most staff, including those who continue to work in the park, will not be paid until the shutdown ends.

Volunteer Programs

- Closed/not accessible to visitors:
- All volunteer programs in the park, including those of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain, the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club, and Living History activities, are paused during the shutdown.

Fee collection and revenue:

During the shutdown, the park is unable to collect entrance fees. This disruption puts significant park-generated revenue—critical for next year's operations—at risk.

How You Can Help:

- Engage with policymakers: Contact your Congressional representatives and urge them to end the shutdown and to fully fund and fully staff our national parks.
- Recreate responsibly: Read tips on how to stay safe and reduce your impact on the park's incredible natural and historic resources here. Small acts of care—like carrying out your trash and remaining on established park trails make a huge difference.
- Express appreciation: Thank essential National Park Service personnel for continuing to serve during this period.
- Support local businesses and organizations: Help keep our community vibrant by supporting local businesses and organizations through this challenging time.
- Share information about community resources: Several local organizations and food pantries are available to help furloughed federal workers.
- Consider a donation: Help the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain support the park by donating. Your gift will fund future programs at Kennesaw Mountain, including trail maintenance, living history, youth education, and conservation efforts to protect our cherished park.
- We know many visitors want to support the park by purchasing a park pass – but simply have no way of doing so right now. In lieu of a park entrance pass, visitors can support Kennesaw Mountain by donating the value of a daily park fee at www.friendsofkmnbp.org

Thank you to everyone for helping support our park and our community during this time!



Volunteering Opportunities!

There are many ways to volunteer at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Through the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park these are a few of the options:

Members of the The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain

Contact Donald Olds for the many opportunities.

President, Friends of KMNBP - donald.olds962@gmail.com

Crew Leader

Lead volunteers doing trail maintenance on the second Saturday of every month and on special projects

Requires attendance at a training course and hands-on-training

Contact Mike Collett for details

Trails Director, Mike Collett trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Trail Ambassador

Staffs registration table and parking on Trail Work Days

Does trail patrols on your own schedule

Supports various field trips led by NPS staff

Supports various NPS activities

Requires attendance at a training course and hands-on-training

Contact Kathy Van Valkenburg or Lauri Poppel

Trail Ambassador Co-Director, Kathy Van Valkenburg ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Trail Ambassador Co-Directo, **Lauri Poppel** ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Volunteer - general

Signs up monthly to work on our Trail Work Days

<https://friendsofkmnbp.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities/>

Contact Amanda Corman at
the Visitor Center for other
volunteer opportunities through
the National Park Service
(NPS)



The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Webstore

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is excited to announce our new webstore! Our first product is a unisex T-shirt, which is 100% cotton. The design on the back of the shirt shows Kennesaw Mountain and the Visitor Center. It is inspired by the New Deal travel posters from the 1930's. The shirt can be purchased online for \$20 at <https://friendsofkmnbp.org/shop/>. Visit our website! ***New items have been added!***

Andrew Bramlett



Some of the items for sale.



Front



Back

Welcome Aboard, Barbara and Kirsten; Congratulations, Kathy!!

On behalf of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain NBP board of directors, we are proud to announce the election of two new board members and a commitment to a contract employee approved at the quarterly meeting held on Tuesday, October 21st.

Please welcome Barbara Orsolits and Kirsten Berlin to the board.

Barbara has an extensive background in history and has been volunteering with us for some time as a Trail Ambassador. She will join the board as our secretary.

Kirsten has been volunteering on the trail club side for approximately two years, the last year as a crew leader. She will join as a member-at-large.

Both bring great experience and new ideas to the board and we are excited to have them join us!

Please congratulate current board member Kathy Bearden, who will now be our first contract employee responsible for Community Outreach and Events. Kathy has an extensive background in organizing community fundraising activities and we look forward to her helping us establish new supporters through these organized events.

As always, a heartfelt thank you to each of you for serving the park through volunteering.

It is an exciting time for our friends group, as we continue to grow and find new opportunities to support the park through philanthropy, supporting park activities, and diggin' in the dirt!

Donald V. Olds

President, Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Treasurer, Georgia Battlefields Association

Friends of KMNBP Calendar of Events

Fellow board members,

Thank you for your continued service to the park and the club in the past year and in fiscal 2026.

Below are the FOKMNBP tentative dates for the remainder of 2025 and fiscal 2026 - (More detailed info will follow, as the date approaches.):

11/1 Ambassador training at the VC 9 am - Postponed indefinitely

11/1 volunteer recognition dinner 6 pm visitor center - Postponed indefinitely

11/8 November workday - Postponed indefinitely

12/13 December workday

2026 Board working sessions

1/14, 4/8, 7/8

2026 Quarterly board meetings

1/22, 4/21, 7/21

Happy Thanksgiving!

On behalf of the Friends and Trail Club staffs, we wish you all a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Fred Feltmann

Newsletter Editor

Communications Director

Friends of KMNBP





Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club

Workdays 10-11-25 & 11-8-25

The October 11 workday was cancelled because of the Government Shutdown.

Our next workday is Saturday, November 8, 2025. If the Government Shutdown has ended. We will be cleaning the remaining 20 earthworks on the 24 Gun Trail and finishing the cyclic maintenance that did not get done on the June 7 REI workday. We will meet at Gilbert Road parking lot.

Mike Collett
Trails Director

“Other” Volunteers Needed!

Interested in being more active with the Trail Club (or the Friends), but don't want to do Crew Leader or Trail Ambassador work? See page 10 for a list of activities/functions needed to maintain the organizations and contact the various department heads to volunteer!



Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Mike Collett (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

A training class for prospective Trail Ambassadors will be announced shortly.

Mike Collett - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner - ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

A Special Thanks!

Each year we have various groups who come out and help us. Henceforth, we will make every attempt to list your group here for the current/past fiscal year. If you are participating as a group, be sure to let us know when you are registering!

Following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the groups who participated during Fiscal 2024 (October 2023- September 2024 and Fiscal 2025 (October 2024- Present):

FY 2024

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
ETOWAH HIGH SCHOOL EAGLE SERVICE CONNECTION CLUB
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KSU

FY 2025

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
BSA SCOUT - UNIT UNKNOWN
BSA TROOP 802
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
REI



This Past Month's Volunteers

No work day was held in October because of the government shutdown. Hope to see you all at our next work day, tentatively scheduled for November 8, 2025. Watch for further emails regarding the scheduling for this work day, which is currently scheduled to be done on the Kennesaw Mountain Trails. Parking will be in the field adjacent to the Visitor Center Parking Lot.

Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.



November 8, 2025 Work Day -

Parking and registration is in the Gilbert Rd. parking lot) - <https://friendsofkmnbp.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities/>

Note: The November Work Day will be cancelled if the government shut down is not resolved shortly.

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

We are back in the business of trail maintenance! See the sign-up links, above. We are still limiting our numbers, but anyone one is now welcome to sign-up.

The Trail Club will provide supervision and tools. Volunteers should wear work clothes (**long pants are required**) and closed toed shoes. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, work gloves and masks. The NPS Volunteer Service Agreement and COVID forms are required, signed by a parent or guardian, if the student is under 18 years old. The forms are available on the trail club web site: <http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/volunteer.php>

For November's work day, parking and registration will be in the Gilbert Rd. parking lot. Vehicle Entrance Passes will issued at registration.

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at [trails@](mailto:trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org)

kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Trail work can be performed any day of the week.

We work closely with the Park Service and assist the park staff by providing critically needed volunteer effort to install signs, build bridges, and maintain the 20+ miles of trails. Since our beginning in 2002, the Trail Club has donated over 281,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day as soon as we return to our normal work days.

Cancellation policy

If rain is forecast for the work day, we will issue a cancellation notice on our website at least 24 hours before hand. In addition, during the winter months, if the temperature is forecast to be below 40 degrees, we will also issue a cancellation at least 24 hours prior to the work day.

KMTC Contact List - Updated 9/16/24

POSITION

Trails Director
Community Volunteer Director
Newsletter Editor
Information/Technology Director
Trail Ambassador Co-Director
Trail Ambassador Co-Director
Plants Director

NAME

Mike Collett
Vacant*
Fred Feltmann
Jerry Givan
Kathy Van Valkenburg
Lauri Poppel*
Danny Leigh

E-MAIL

trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

KMTC Website

<http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/>

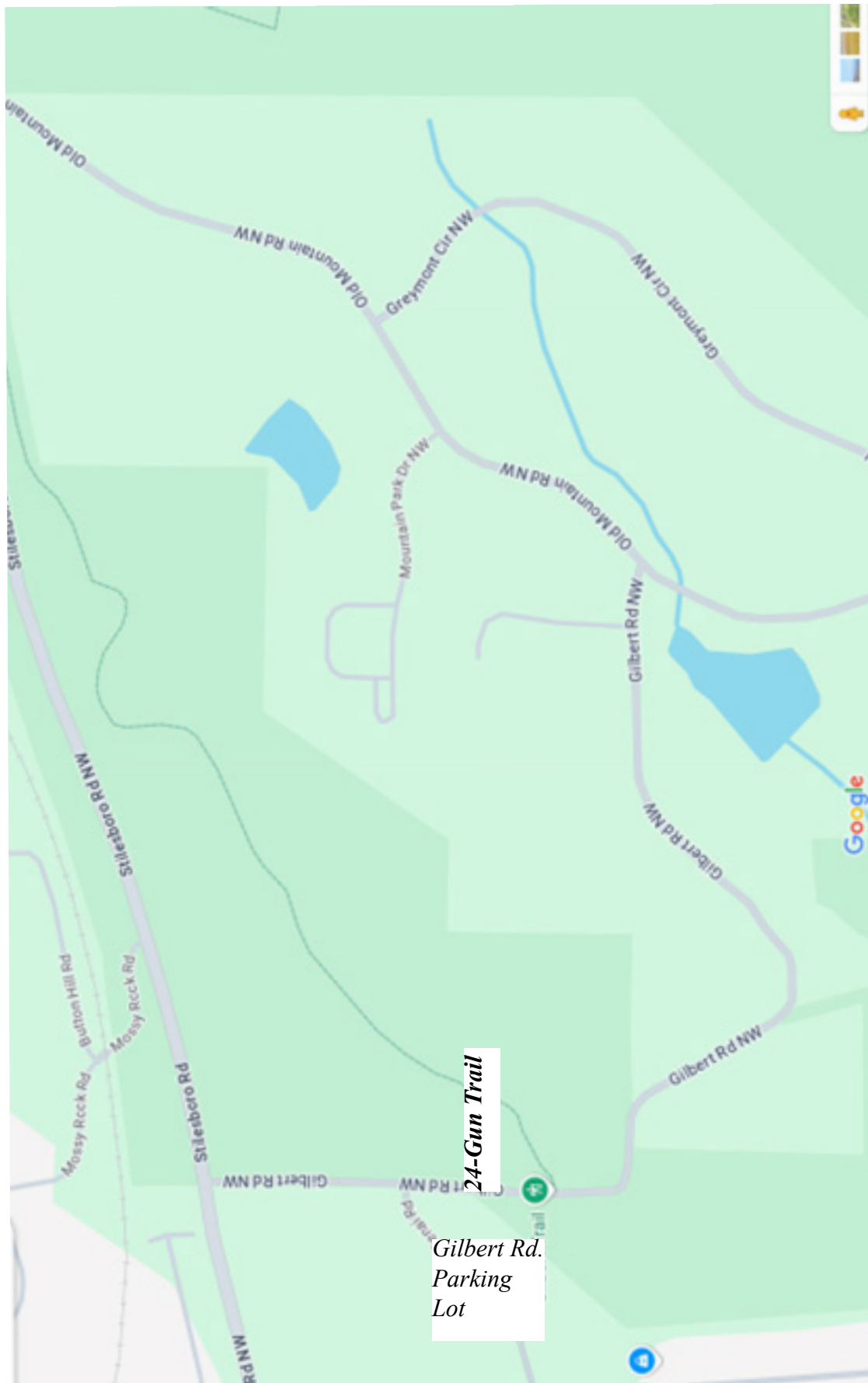
NPS Website

<https://www.nps.gov/KEMO>

Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial>

* updated



Trails & Parking Lot Status

Good morning!

The Park is (sadly) closed and those of us who love the school groups and teaching kids are missing that activity. However, many of us are still meeting and also hiking on the trails. We just can't hike in our official Trail Ambassador status. We want to stay connected and also to remember all that we have been trained to do. Additionally, it is wonderful autumn weather and the trees are starting to show off their colors!

Kathy Van Valkenburg
Trail Ambassador Co-Director



*Photos by Kathy Van Valkenburg.
Top - New Salem Church Trail
Left - 24-Gun Trail*

Just as a reminder:

All of the Park trails remain open.

The Visitor Center, Visitor Center parking lot and restrooms are closed,

The Mountain Road and Parking Lot near the top of Kennesaw Mountain are closed to Vehicular traffic.

The Illinois Monument Parking Lot, restrooms and Cheatham Hill Drive are closed to vehicular traffic.

If you hike the trails, please practice "Leave No Trace" principals.

Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!

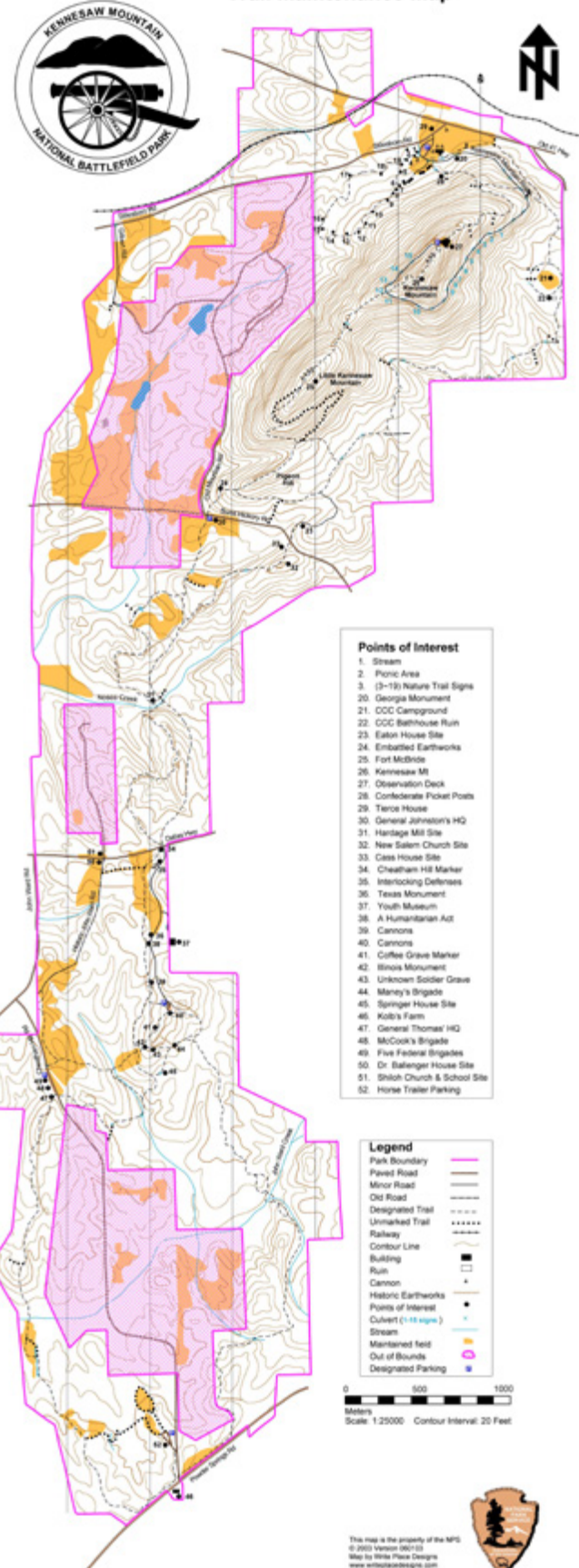


<http://americanhiking.org>



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map





FRIENDS OF KENNESAW MOUNTAIN

ANNUAL MEETING – September 20, 2025

ATTENDANCE (19 + 1 guest): Donald Olds, Lewis Bramlett, Mike Collett, Andrew Bramlett, Tom Okerberg, Kathy Bearden, Bart Henderson, Laurie Poppell, Kathy Van Valkenburg, Geoff Gossuth, Scott McKay, Debbie Stamper, Noah Mayeux, Susan Haddock, Kirsten Berlin, Barb Orsolits, David Lance, Cameron Sanders, Alexis Strokoff

GUEST: Park Superintendent Patrick Gammon

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting called to order by President Donald Olds at 9:00 am

INTRODUCTION: Olds welcome everyone to the meeting and provided a brief introduction to what will be covered

STATE OF THE PARK: Park Superintendent Patrick Gammon shared the following

- **MOUNTAIN ROAD** - Closing of the mountain road to public vehicles target is October 2025
 - Lines to be repainted and markers added
 - No road closure during redesign
 - Outside lane will be for pedestrians and inside for bikes and the bus
 - Bikes allowed opening until 10 am and 4:30 pm until closing
 - The bus will run seven days a week from 10 am – 4:30 pm
 - No cars allowed except for rare health related exceptions
 - ADA compliant issues will be at the entrance
 - Redesign should be completed by January 2026
- **JOHN WARD CREEK BRIDGE** – Contractor is in place
- Numerous planning meetings will be held
- Construction should begin early April 2026 and finish end of July 2026
- People and horses will be allowed
- **STILESBORO WATER PIPE REPLACEMENT**
 - Project is getting close to the park entrance
 - The last section will be between the park entrance and Old 41
 - Pay attention of Detour signage
 - Start of Old 41 redesign project is being determined
 - Intersection of Old 41 and Stilesboro will be a roundabout
 - Old Louise's intersection will be a roundabout
 - Tunnel will be constructed under the road so Overflow parking pedestrians will not have to cross a road
 - Old 41 between the roundabouts will be moved into the woods and Old 41 will be replaced with trees
 - September 29 – 4-7 pm is a public information session with NPS and Cobb DOT

- **PARK SUPERINTENDENT ROLE**
 - Chattahoochee River NRA superintendent retired September 19
 - Patrick G. will serve as the superintendent starting September 22
 - Beth Wheeler from Chatt will serve as acting superintendent at KEMO until December
 - After January 1 if a new superintendent has not been found for Chatt then Patrick will stay there and a new acting superintendent will be named for KEMO
- **USA 250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**
 - A \$50,000 grant had been secured for the park but lost due to changes ○ Chattahoochee River NRA also lacking funds ○ Friends of Kemo is asked to work with the friends group at Chatt on this
- **ANTHONY WINEGAR**
 - Will be retiring in late October after 27 years at the park
- **ARCHEOLOGIST**
 - Susie's 2 year assignment is complete ○ Mapped all trails (22 miles official – 26 miles social trails)
 - One social trail on west side of park produced hundreds of artifacts
 - NPS & Friends to work together to make this a permanent trail

FRIENDS OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS – Olds explained that the following officers, board members, and directors were elected to a two year term last year and all have agreed to continue so no election is necessary but the secretary position needs to be filled.

Chairman Emeritus – Scott McKay

Chairman – Kim Sherk

President – Donald Olds

Vice President – Lewis Bramlett

Secretary – OPEN (Lewis Bramlett acting Secretary)

Treasurer – Tom Okerberg

Board Members – Bart Henderson, Andrew Bramlett, Fred Feltmann, Jerry Given, Mike Collett, Kathy Bearden

Trail Director – Mike Collett

Communications – Fred Feltmann

Trail Ambassadors – Kathy Van Valkenburg, Laurie Poppell

Invasive Plants – Danny Leigh

Donor Relations – Bart Henderson

Community Outreach & Events – Kathy Bearden

Fundraising – Scott McKay

Technology – Andrew Bramlett, Jerry Given

Youth Projects – Tom Carden

FINANCIALS UPDATE – Tom Okerberg

- Trails Club account balance is \$17,222.67
- Friends account balance is \$30,197.95
- Some funds are from grants with committed amounts
- Liability insurance has been paid

TRAIL DIRECTOR UPDATE – Mike Collett

- “Out There” movie event set attendance record and was a success
- Looking for more crew leaders
- Past year accomplishments
 - 122 crew leaders, 374 volunteers (Total for the year).
 - 2 days were cancelled due to the weather.
 - 3 corporate workdays
 - 1 crew leader workday
 - 1 day of training was conducted.
 - 10 workdays were completed of the 12 workdays scheduled.
 - Note Crew Leader attendance was up 40%
 - (this almost makes up most of the 44% we lost last year.)
 - Volunteer attendance was up 79% over 2024.
 - This is 18% over the 61% loss last year
- National Friends Alliance & National Park Foundation meetings – several Friends of KMNBP attended annual meetings to get ideas for our group
 - Chattahoochee rep would like to bring Friends Alliance to Atlanta
 - Would need support from Kennesaw Mtn and MLK friends groups
- Capacity Building Grant – We submitted for grant but were not awarded funds **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & FUNDRAISING UPDATE – Kathy Bearden & Bart Henderson**
- Glover Park Brewery Event – April 20, 2025
 - Great event, had a band, promoted the “Out There” film
- “Out There” film – lots of promotion done in person and through social media
 - Very successful and well received with 487 attendees
- Upcoming event – Wine Tasting – November 5 at Marietta Wine Market
 - Hiking Challenge (Jan/Feb) – not the same as current park challenge
 - Information booths set up at parking lots of weekends
 - Others in the works

SCHEDULE –

- Monday, September 29th, Cobb DOT meeting 4-7 pm VC
- Wednesday, October 8th FoKMNBP working session
- Saturday, October 11th Trail workday
- Tuesday, October 21st FoKMNBP Quarterly meeting
- Saturday, November 1st Trail Ambassador Training
- Saturday, November 1st KEMO Recognition Dinner Saturday
- Saturday, November 8th Trail workday
- Saturday, December 13th Trail workday
- Crew Leader Training *****
- Board working sessions 1/14/26, 4/8/26, 7/8/26
- FoKMNBP Quarterly meeting 1/22/26, 4/21/26, 7/21/26
- 2026 FoKMNBP Annual meeting 9/19/26

OTHER ITEMS –

- Donald Olds is working on Philanthropic agreement with the park

MEETING ADJOURNMENT – 10:30 am