

# The Cumberland Trail



Spring/Summer 2009

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## Moving Forward: A Word From The General Manager

The first half of 2009 has been productive for the Cumberland Trail project. **This year's CTC BreakAway** program yielded 3.8 miles of new trail in Hamilton County and completed maintenance projects in North Chickamauga Gorge. In April, other students traveled from Iowa to help build trail in Morgan County, adding 1.7 miles to the CT. Another success was the completion of the Fiberglass Polymer Resin bridge project. The last of the three bridges purchased by Tennessee State Parks was installed this June. With the completion of the Little Possum Creek Bridge, three of the five major streams in the Rock, Possum and Soddy (RPS) segments can now be safely crossed. All of these accomplishments are a testament of the tremendous volunteer effort that was needed to carry out these tasks, moving the Cumberland Trail closer to completion.

However, 2009 has also had its share of setbacks. A ten year grant with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation expired creating a loss of funding for CTC operations. This necessitated a reduction in **the Conference's staff and the need to seek**

other funding sources. With financial assistance from both the Lyndhurst and Anne Potter Wilson Foundations, proceeds from Bike Ride Across Tennessee, support from the Tennessee Trails Association, and individual donations, funding for 2009 operations has been secured. Nevertheless, additional funding sources and donations will have to be garnered to allow for CTC operations in the near future.

Setbacks are temporary and the outlook for the CTC is good. Funding from foundations, organizations, and individual donations has increased. A Recreational Trails Program grant has been awarded to the CTC for the completion of the New River (Smoky Mountain) segment. The CTC has been allowed to apply for other Federal grants to complete trail work in Morgan and Cumberland Counties. The Conference is seeking additional grants to fund bridges across Big Soddy and Deep Creeks; this would bridge the five major stream crossings in the RPS segment. Plans are being finalized for the 2010 *BreakAway* program. The Cumberland Trail Conference plans to continue moving forward until the project is complete. With continued financial and volunteer support, the goal of a trail from Signal Point to Cumberland Gap will become a reality.

## BreakAway 2009—A Huge Success!

Once again the Cumberland Trail Conference's 2009 Break-Away (BA) trail construction program was a tremendous success. Program participants constructed 3.8 miles of new trail and performed trail maintenance in several areas. This 5 week volunteer program was from February 22 to March 28. During this period, 222 students and 41 Cumberland Trail Conference (CTC) volunteers donated 8,615 hours to the Cumberland Trail project. This very hard-working, diverse group of volunteers represented 16 college and universities, 2 local Tennessee High Schools, and non-student volunteers.



# BreakAway 2009—A Huge Success! (continued)

Students from all over the U.S. joined together to create a lasting legacy. The life changing effect that this program has on each of these individuals is always inspiring. They really appreciate the beauty of the Cumberland Trail and the hard work and dedication it takes to maintain and construct new trail.

This was the Cumberland Trail Conference's 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year to host an *Alternative Spring Break (ASB)*. Tennessee State Senator Bo Watson even visited the work site. All of the students seemed to have enjoyed the *ASB* experience. It all made for an unforgettable experience.



Before



After



<u>Schools That Attended Breakaway 2009</u>	
<u>Totaling 201 Students</u>	
University of Michigan - 11	Eastern Michigan University - 3
Indiana University of Pennsylvania - 24	Grand Valley State University - 8
College of Saint Benedict - 9	North Eastern University - 12
Michigan State University - 12	University of Pittsburg - 21
University of Central Florida - 9	Our Lady of Lake University - 11
Butler University - 30	University of South Florida - 9
Illinois Wesleyan University - 15	Hamilton College - 11
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis - 6	
University Illinois - Chicago - 10	

## From a Student's Prospective:

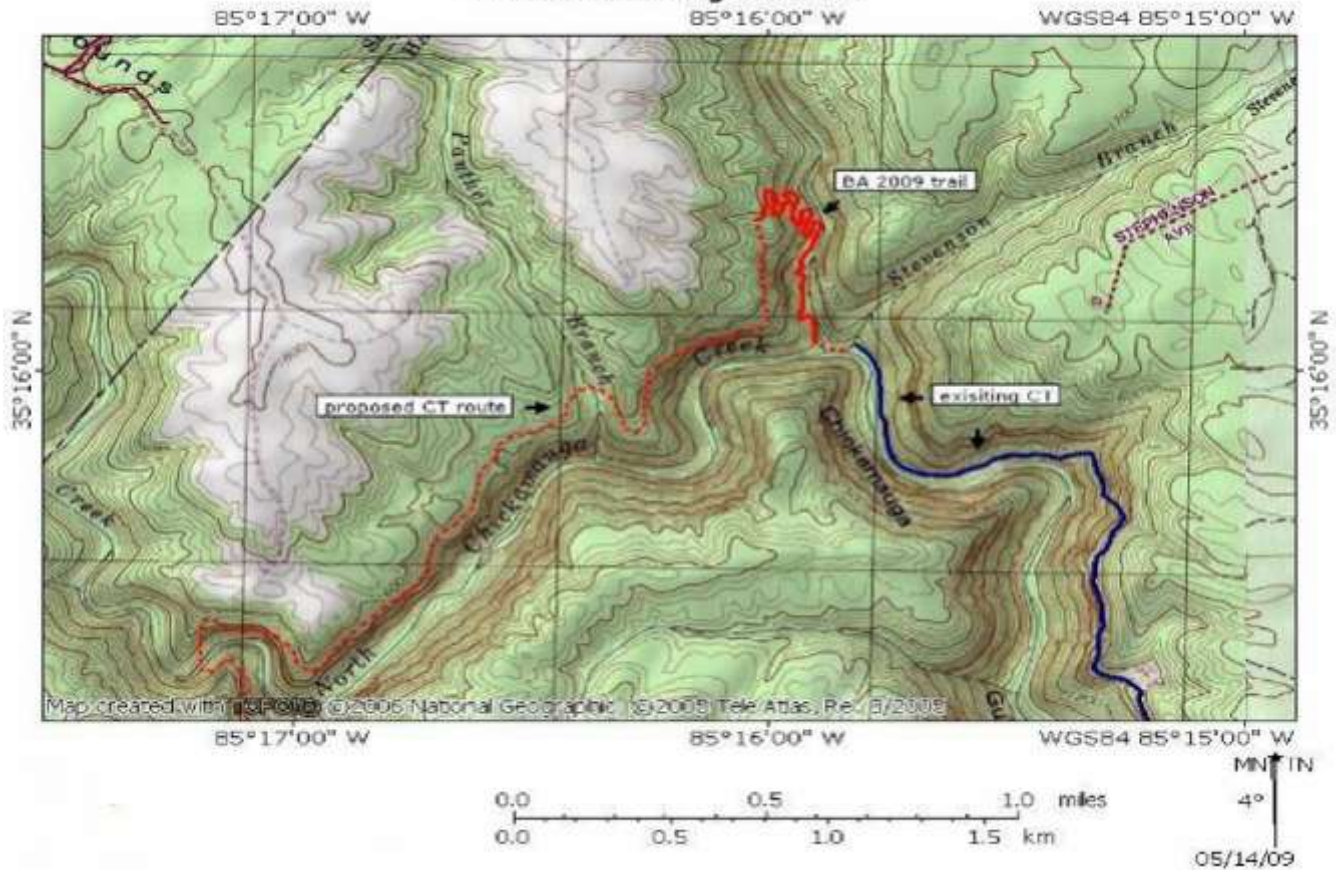
EXCERPTS FROM University of Pittsburg Student

"If anything, my alternative break in Soddy Daisy, Tennessee was an eye-opener. I tried fried okra and gritz, I learned that there is a difference between poisonous and venomous snakes, I met 20 new people from Pitt and lots of others from different schools from all around the country. But most importantly, I realized that, with a little help, I can dig into the earth and cultivate something with my hands. I felt liberated and accomplished that a path was built where there was none before. I also felt satisfied that I was helping others walk to strange and new territories."  
Anna 3/22/2009

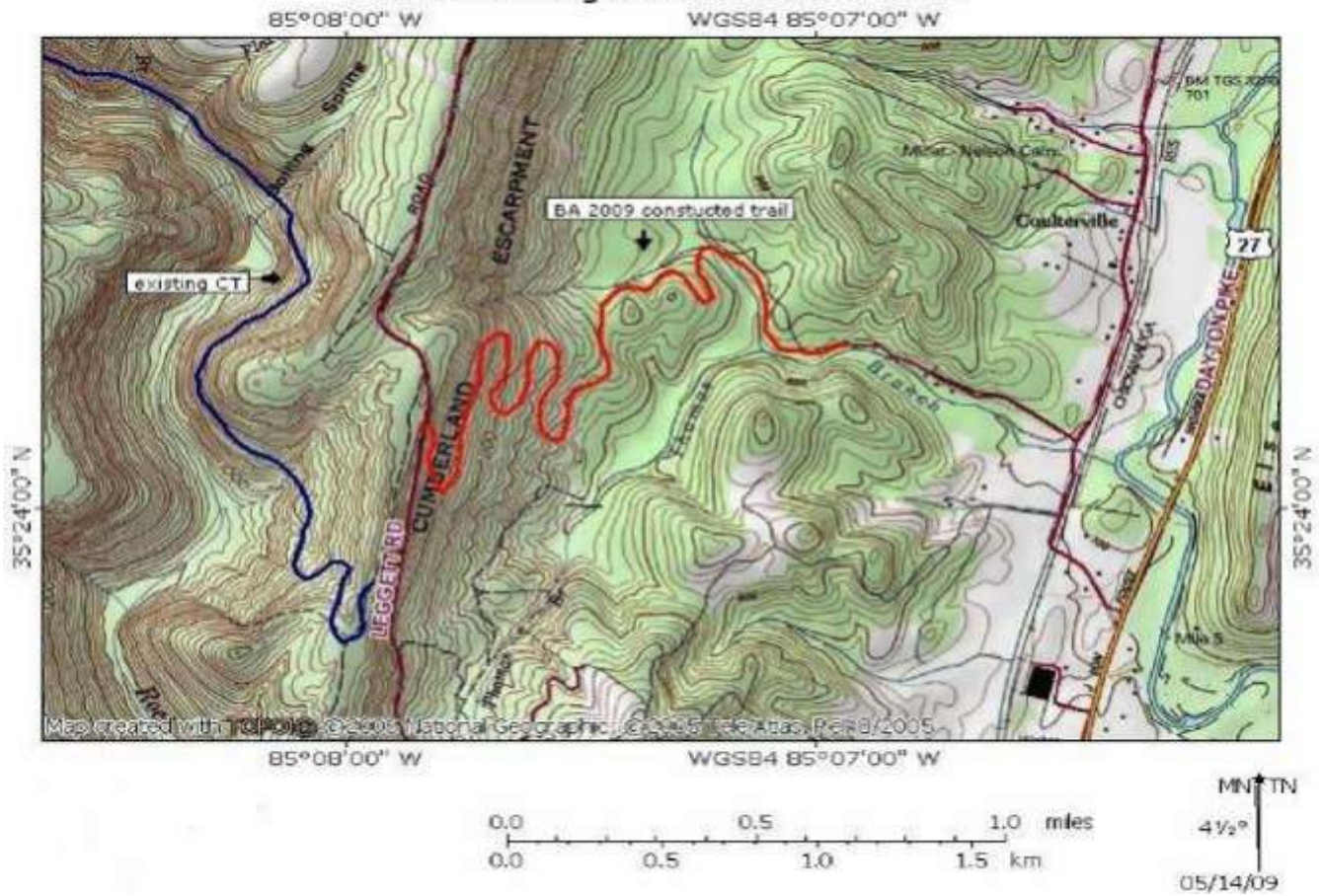


Cumberland Trail State Park rangers and staff assisted with trail construction and provided interpretive programs. Other Tennessee state park rangers assisted with evening educational programs.

### Trail built during BA 2009



### Trail built during BA 2009 Audubon Acres



# We've Gone Too Far to Turn Back Now *Together We Can Complete the Map*

## *Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail*



*Yes, I want to help the  
Cumberland Trail Conference  
change the map and leave a legacy!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    \_\_\_  ) \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year for \_\_\_\_\_ yrs.

*The Cumberland Trail Conference, an associate organization of the Tennessee Trails Association, is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible. We are grateful for your support.*

### *Method of Payment:*

Check, made payable to "Cumberland Trail Conference"

\_\_\_ Visa   \_\_\_ MasterCard

Card no. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Exp date \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

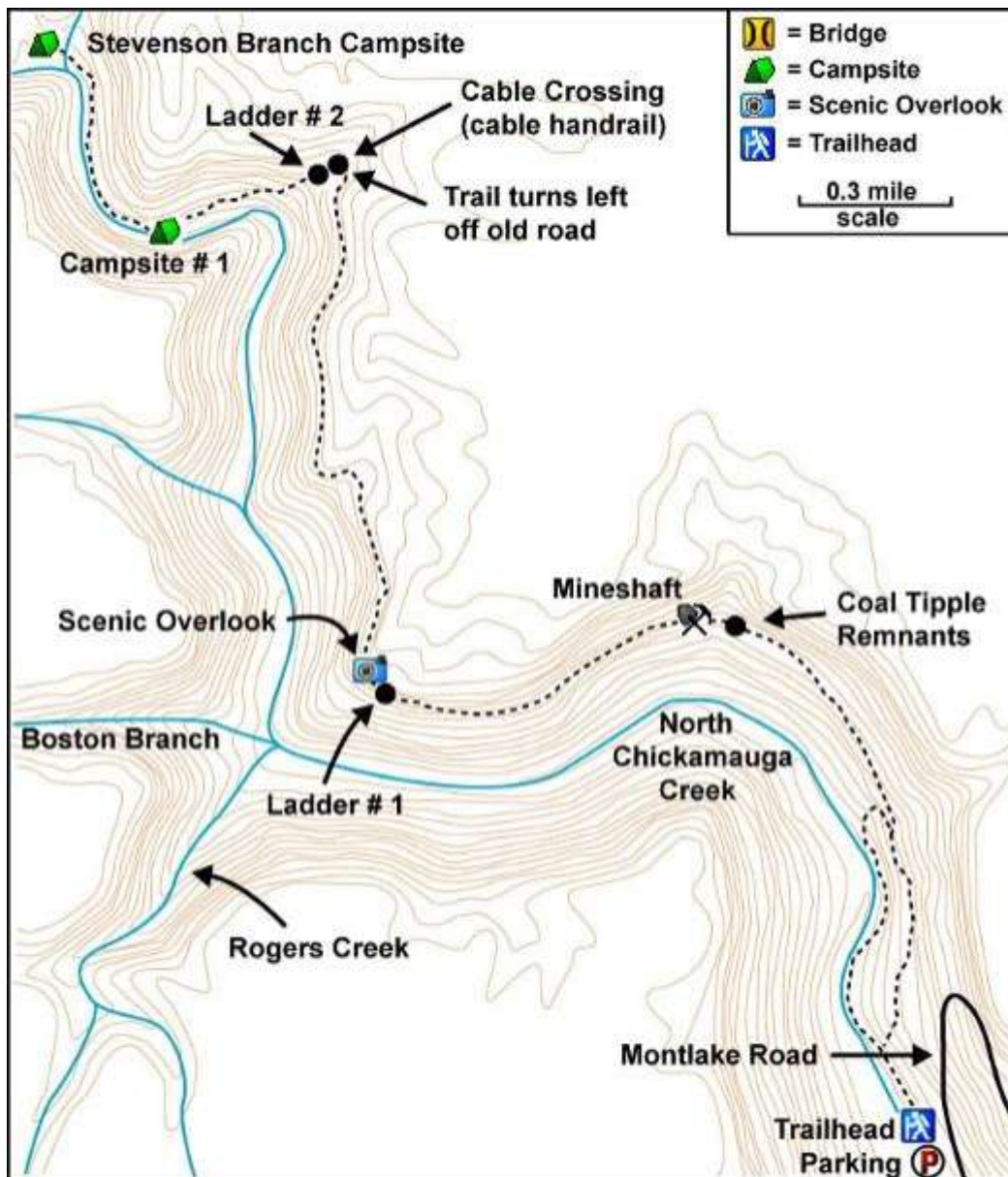
## Take A Hike!

### North Chickamauga Hike Description

Length: 20 miles; rating: moderate. The portion of this segment within the Pocket Wilderness is already popular with day hikers and those who enjoy swimming, fishing, and kayaking. Deep water holes abound.

Location: The North Chickamauga Creek Gorge State Natural Area is located 15 miles north of Chattanooga. The only current trailhead is Bowater's North Chickamauga Pocket Wilderness Trailhead off Montlake Road.

Directions: Take Highway 27 from Chattanooga north toward Soddy-Daisy, exit at Thrasher Pike and turn left, go about a mile to Dayton Pike, and then turn right and proceed a mile to Montlake Road. Turn left on Montlake Road and proceed 1.5 miles to the entrance on the left.



For more information on this hike and more segments of the Cumberland Trail,

please visit our website at [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

## Building Bridges

The completion of these three bridges brings to a close several years of planning. Since the early beginnings in 2000 of trail design in the Rock and Possum segments, a bridge at the three locations has always been a part of the trail design plan. Finally, it is done. Hikers will no longer have to be concerned about high, rapidly flowing water in these two gorges. This overall bridge project has been a learning experience, but now the CTC is prepared to build these types of bridges where needed on the Cumberland Trail. Of course none of this success would have been possible without the support of our project partner, TDEC, and all of the tremendous volunteer effort that went into this project. These bridges are another chapter in the saga that is to be the creation of the Cumberland Scenic Trail and its lasting legacy.



*Big Possum Creek Bridge*



*Rock Creek Bridge*



*Little Possum Creek Bridge*

## CTC Hosts Wartburg Students at Frozen Head State Park

During the week of April 20-24, 16 students from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa volunteered on their spring break and travelled to Wartburg, Tennessee to help build the Cumberland Trail in Frozen Head State Park (FHSP). The goal of the week was to start the construction of the Cumberland Trail from Bald Knob west to Coffin Springs in FHSP. This tremendous group of students, other trail volunteers, and FHSP staff worked very hard and completed 1.7 miles of trail in very steep mountainous terrain. For this project, volunteers camped at the state park and donated 608 hours. This was a very successful start of the trail construction project north out of Frozen Head State Park.



## Donor Acknowledgement— Spring/Summer 2009

### Individuals Who Donated:

Robert Ames  
 Dave & Carol Anderson  
 William & Frederica Armstrong  
 Jean W. Banham  
 June Barker  
 Howard Bauman  
 Joe D. Bayless  
 Nora Beck  
 Tim Bigelow  
 Larry & Linda Blair  
 Edward Boehm  
 Brian Bovee  
 William Boyd & Family  
 Kendall Brady  
 Robert & Anne Brandt  
 Joanne Brengel  
 David Broemel  
 Margaret Busch  
 MAJ Albert Churcher  
 Edward Clebsch  
 Marjorie Collier  
 Chuck Coutant  
 Walter Cygan  
 Gary Darnell  
 Don & Carol Deakins  
 Warren & Carol Devine  
 Mary Lynn Dobson  
 Elsie Dodson  
 Jean Dolan  
 Robert & Rosemary Droke  
 Larry Dunn  
 Mary Fortin  
 Libby Francis  
 Ray & Jo Ann Garrett  
 Gary & Carol Grametbauer

Curtis Hagenau  
 Carol Haley  
 Linda Hixon  
 Tony & Ann Hook  
 Jane Holladay  
 Benita Howell  
 Ron & Rita Karns  
 Diane Manas  
 Russ Manning  
 Jim & Susan McCullough  
 Carolyn Miller  
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 John H. Noel  
 Eve Proper  
 Sam & Emilie Powell  
 Betty Porter  
 William &  
 Carol Quattrociocchi  
 David Reister  
 Bob Richards  
 Rita Senko  
 George Summers  
 Del Truitt  
 Judy & TC Varner  
 Fran Wallas  
 Caroline Woerner  
 Art & Judy Wojta

### Grantors:

Lyndhurst Foundation  
 State of TN (Recreational Trails Program)  
 Sam's Club  
 Evan Means

### In-Kind Donations

#### Made By:

Lewis Bros. Bakery  
 Lowes  
 McKee Foods Group  
 Ron Ramsey/  
 Saint Andrews  
 Larry Ryan  
 Gary Darnell  
 TC & Judy Varner  
 Alex Schafer

### Organizations/Business:

Allison & Kincaid Mills, Inc.  
 B.R.A.T.  
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 Daisy Woman's' Club  
 Exxon Mobil  
 Jay & Jennifer Olan Mills, Inc.  
 Kanobi Communications  
 REI  
 Rock/Creek  
 Tennessee Trails Association  
 American Hiking Society

*Thanks for  
 your support!*



## Cumberland Trail Conference

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Website: [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org)

## Cumberland Trail Conference Activities 2009-2010

September 25-27: Trail maintenance Tennessee River Gorge Segment. Interested volunteers will meet in the morning at 8:00am EST at Signal Point parking lot. Volunteers will be helping to repair wooden steps at Signal Point. This is a National Public Lands Day (September 26) event. Volunteers will need work gloves, water, and lunch. Please register for this event at [www.cumberlandtrail.org](http://www.cumberlandtrail.org) or by contacting the CTC at 931-456-6259

September 28-30: Trail maintenance Tennessee River Gorge Segment. Trail maintenance will be performed from Mushroom Rock to Indian Rock House, and the Mullins Cove and Pot Point loops. This maintenance is in preparation for the October 3, *Stump Jump Race*. Interested volunteers please contact Tony Hook at [cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com) or 931-456-6259.

October 2-3: Rock Creek Outfitters/Chattanooga, Vendor Fair and *2009 Stump Jump Trail Race*. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Cumberland Trail project. Please contact Rock Creek at 888-707-6708(toll free), 423-266-8200 or visit the website at [www.rockcreek.com/stumpjump](http://www.rockcreek.com/stumpjump) for more information.

October 6-9: Trail maintenance New River segment (formally Smoky Mountain segment). Maintenance will be performed from Cove Lake SP trailhead to Norma Road. Interested volunteers please contact CTC office at [cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com) or 931-456-6259.

October 15-19, 22-25 and November 12-16: Bridge replacement Rock Creek segment. Deteriorated log bridges across Boiling Springs, Flat Branch, and Rocky Branch will be replaced. Volunteers are needed to help move material and construct bridges made of treated lumber, further details TBA. Interested volunteers please contact CTC office at [cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com](mailto:cumberlandtrail@rocketmail.com) or 931-456-6259.

November 6-8: Annual Statewide TTA meeting, Townsend, Tennessee. Please visit [www.tennesseetrails.org](http://www.tennesseetrails.org) for more information.

February 21-March 27, 2010: Annual BreakAway program. Lodging will be at the Dogwood Lodge, Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee. Trail construction and maintenance will be in the North Chickamauga Gorge segment, further details TBA.

April-June 2010: Trail construction in the New River segment. This construction will take place in the North Cumberland WMA located in Anderson, Morgan, and Scott counties, further details TBA.