



# Appalachian Trail Days Festival 2022

## Schedule of Events

All information is subject to change. To see an updated schedule, visit [www.visitdamascus.org/traildays](http://www.visitdamascus.org/traildays)

### Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

**11am** at the Damascus United Methodist Church: **Matt 'Trigger' Hall**, former Appalachian Trail Chaplain.

### Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

**7am-3pm: TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE...** Bargains on every street!

**9am-noon:** Dr. John Roberts of VCA Highlands Animal Hospital will be holding a **rabies clinic** at the gazebo in Town Park. Other routine vaccines will also be available at a discounted price! Please bring dogs on leashes and cats in carrier crates. [vcahighlandsva.com](http://vcahighlandsva.com)

**4pm:** Trail Days **Beauty Pageant** at the gazebo in Town Park.

### Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

**7pm: Open Mic at Mojo's** Trailside Café and Coffee Shop. Sign up at 7pm; Show starts at 7:45pm. Everyone is welcome – comedians, musicians, singers, poets, performers, audience, hikers. Always free for all to see! The kitchen will be open as well.

### Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

**Manufacturer Representatives** will be setting up in the Tent City parking lot, and from Thursday (12<sup>th</sup>) through Saturday (14<sup>th</sup>), will be available to assist hikers with equipment repairs, gear advice and specialized services. These Reps are there to help with any issues you may be having with your gear, and they generously donate their time and skills to provide **FREE gear repairs, expert fitting and other services** to the A.T. community. We hope you'll take advantage of this service opportunity in the Tent City parking area, but even if you don't need any repairs, stop by and thank them for what they do!

**9am-3pm: "The Place" Annual Work Day.** Come and be part of this 9th Annual Work Day at "The Place Hostel". Free Lunch provided for the first 25 volunteers. Volunteers are welcome to stay the night before the workday and thru Trail Days. Be part of keeping the oldest Hostel on the Appalachian Trail in good shape. For More info contact: [roy\\_hiking@yahoo.com](mailto:roy_hiking@yahoo.com).

[www.facebook.com/theplacehostel](http://www.facebook.com/theplacehostel)

**6pm:** Trail Days Ministry Team **Cookout & Music** in Town Park – everyone welcome (in the event of rain, this event will be canceled)

### **Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**

**“Ride Board”** on Facebook. [www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard](http://www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard) (If you want to offer or get a ride, to or from Trail Days, you should ‘create a post’, do not send a message.)

**8am-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team will be providing **hair cuts** at One Way Ministries, and **showers & laundry services** across the street at Tent City.

**8am-10pm:** One Way Ministries open with **drinks, snacks, and charging stations.**

**9am: Tent City opens** (1011 S. Shady Ave.) for weekend **parking** (\$20 per car) & **campground entry** (wristbands are good for the entire weekend and cost \$15 per person on Thursday, \$10 on Friday, and \$5 on Saturday).

**10am-6pm** at Allyn’ Fix it Man’ Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City - **Stuff the Sleeping Bag Contest**, sponsored by BIG AGNES®. One winner will be chosen over this 3-day event, based on participants time, and announced on Saturday. The prize is a \$200 sleeping bag from Big Agnes®

**Noon-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team **welcome and information tents** open; as well as **‘Pickin’ and Grinnin’ on the Front Porch with Tuck’** at One Way Ministries (come play your favorite instruments).

**4pm** at the Big Agnes/Allyn’ Fix it Man’ Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City – **Musical Chairs**, sponsored by Crazy Creek®. 1 chair prize per event.

**5:30-8pm** at One Way Ministries: **Hiker Feast** (free tickets are required – get them at Info Tents or One Way).

**7-10pm: Coffee House** at One Way Ministries - LIVE band, dancing & food.

**8:30-11pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music** by **If Birds Could Fly**

### **Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>**

**“Ride Board”** on Facebook. [www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard](http://www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard) (If you want to offer or get a ride, to or from Trail Days, you should ‘create a post’, do not send a message.)

**7:30am: Prayer Gathering** at One Way Ministries – Everyone is Welcome!

**8am-4pm:** Trail Days Ministry Team **welcome and information tents** open, as well as **‘Pickin’ and Grinnin’ on the Front Porch with Tuck’** at One Way Ministries (come play your favorite instruments). **Showers** at the Town Pool, and **showers & laundry services** at Tent City.

**8am-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team offers the following services in the parking lot at First Baptist Church: **Medical Team, foot washing/massages; Narcan training & medication dispensation.**

**8am-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team providing **small supplies ministry** @ One Way Ministries and in the First Baptist Church parking lot.

**8am-10pm:** One Way Ministries open with **drinks, snacks, and charging stations.**

**All Day: Scavenger Hunt** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth for a clue card, find the answer & return it for a free pair of Farm to Feet socks (until we run out!)

**All Day: Raffle** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth to enter. Do not have to be present to win.

**9am-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team offers **Starbucks coffee, cold drinks, snacks and a Charging Station** in the parking lot at First Baptist Church.

**9am-5pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team will be providing **hair cuts** at One Way Ministries.

**10am: Corn Hole Tournament** begins @ One Way Ministries.

**10am-noon** at Mt. Rogers Outfitters: **Shoe Fitting** by Oboz Fit Specialists.

**10am-1pm:** Dr. John Roberts of VCA Highlands Animal Hospital will be doing **hiking dog check-ups** at One Way Ministries.

**10am-2pm** at One Way Ministries: **Put your mug on a postcard.**

**10am-4pm** at the L5A booth in Town Park: **Hikes for Those with Disabilities** – Using Special equipment, Luke5Adventures will take individuals with disabilities on a 45minute hike on the AT. These hikes will be available during the entire festival by visiting the Luke5Adventures booth. There is no charge. [www.luke5adventures.com](http://www.luke5adventures.com)

**10am-6pm** at Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City - **Stuff the Sleeping Bag Contest**, sponsored by BIG AGNES®. One winner will be chosen over this 3-day event, based on participants time, and announced on Saturday. The prize is a \$200 sleeping bag from Big Agnes®

**11:00am-1:30pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Annual ALDHA Hiker Reception.** ALDHA stands for Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association. Come for the camaraderie and free food. **ALL ARE WELCOME**, hikers, hiker's friends, and dreamers. Volunteers needed and food donations greatly appreciated. Please contact organizer "Trailangelmary" for more information: [trailangelmary@aol.com](mailto:trailangelmary@aol.com) or visit [www.aldha.org](http://www.aldha.org).

**11am-5pm** at the Damascus Branch Library: **Trail Days Zero Day @ the Library** – Offering refreshments, crafting stations with macrame making, trail magic jar making, board games, adult coloring, giant Jenga, croquet on the lawn, bubble guns, etc! There will also be popular movies available, charging stations, free wifi, lounging inside and out, and public computers. [www.wcpl.net](http://www.wcpl.net)

**Friday afternoon: Raffle** at the TOAKS Booth. Please come visit us to chat, see our quality titanium gears, and sign up for the raffle! We'll be raffling TOAKS titanium cups, pots, cutlery, and tent stakes. Titanium is lightweight, durable, non-rusting, and non-toxic – great choice for backpacking!

**12:30-2:30pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music by My New Favorites!** [www.mynewfavorites.com](http://www.mynewfavorites.com)

**1pm** at the Big Agnes/Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City – **Musical Chairs**, sponsored by Crazy Creek®. 1 chair prize per event.

**1pm: Eating Contest** at One Way Ministries - Great prizes! *Registration starts at 1 pm – eating starts at 2!*

**2pm** at Tent City - **Billville Leki Pole Throw Contest** with prizes in field near Billville camp.

**2-3pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Grandma Gatewood Takes A Walk**. Actress Anne Van Curen transforms into Emma "Grandma" Gatewood to describe what it was like to be the first woman to solo hike the AT in 1955, at the age of 67. Based on the book "Grandma Gatewood's Walk" [mountainstorytelling.com](http://mountainstorytelling.com)

**3-5pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music by Sam Collie & The Roustabouts!** <https://samcollie.com>

**3:30-5pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Hot Weather Hiking: AKA Sweat Is Not The Enemy**. When temperatures soar, staying cool and safe requires more than just drinking water. Dehydration, muscle cramps, and heat exhaustion can happen even at higher elevations. Come to this interactive workshop about strategies for avoiding heat related injuries. [www.ALDHA.org](http://www.ALDHA.org)

**4-5pm** at the Damascus Trail Center: **Stewardship Social** – Are you interested in doing more to help the Appalachian Trail? Love ice cream? Come network with organizations to learn about how to get involved in trail maintenance and beyond at our ice cream social. We'll bring the ice cream, you bring a desire to protect our trails! (Free ice cream while supplies last, provided by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.) <https://appalachiantrail.org/>

**4pm** at the Big Agnes/Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City – **Musical Chairs**, sponsored by Crazy Creek®. 1 chair prize per event.

**4-5pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music by Jamen Denton**

**5pm** at the Damascus United Methodist Church: **On the Trail with Chappy Jack**, former Appalachian Trail Chaplain.

**5-6:30pm** at the Old Mill Conference Room: **We made it! Six kids; two parents; one job; five seasons**. From Sept. 2020 to Sept. 2021, this family of eight (known on the trail as the Perch Creek Explorers) completed an unconventional northbound AT hike. This all with six kids using two vans, while homeschooling and working full-time. Come meet them and hear how they did it, and what happened along the way.

**5-6:30pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music by Jesse Harmon**

**5:30-7pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Give Me Shelter on the Appalachian Trail**. (*Presentation and book signing*) Sarah Jones Decker is the author and photographer behind the popular book: The Appalachian Trail: Backcountry Shelters, Lean-tos, and Huts. Come learn more about the history, design, and documentation of these iconic structures and gathering spaces. [sarahjonesdecker.com](http://sarahjonesdecker.com)

**5:30-7:30** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music by Donnie and the Dry Heavers!** [dryheavers.com](http://dryheavers.com)

**6-9pm** at the Wicked Chicken: **Live music by Mumblin Blues!**

**7pm** at Tent City - **Soup and chili contest**. Hikers please come and taste and vote for your favorite of each, soup and chili. Entries please bring your own table so we can be more spread out. In field near Billville camp.

**7-10pm: Coffee House** at One Way Ministries - LIVE band, dancing & food.

**7-8:30pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music by Eliza Thorn**

**7:15-8:45pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Nimblewill Nomad!** Since 1998, one of the most remarkable hikers of the AT has been M.J. "Eb" Eberhart. In one of the 'feel good' stories of the AT Class of 2021, he became the oldest thru-hiker. Come hear this master storyteller and Flagg Mountain (AL) sage. He is an extraordinary example of how to retire and then to live your life to the fullest. There also will be a short discussion on the controversy surrounding attempts to make the Pinhoti Trail a southern extension of the AT. The president of the Alabama Hiking Trail Society will be attending.

**8-10pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music by Fritz & Company with Special Guests!** [www.fritzandcompany.com](http://www.fritzandcompany.com)

**9-10:30pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **My 54 y.o. Love Affair with the Appalachian Trail.** Come be regaled by a recent inductee into the Appalachian Trail Hall of Fame - Warren Doyle (18 AT traverses). Be prepared to be entertained, amused, enlightened, agitated, pushed out of your comfort zone, and inspired by Dr. Doyle's passion for this 2,193-mile green thread of simplicity and freedom. The question of "What motivates someone to walk the entire trail 18 times?" will be answered by evening's end. [www.warrendoyle.com](http://www.warrendoyle.com)

**9-11pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music by James Meadows**

### **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**"Ride Board"** on Facebook. [www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard](http://www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard) (If you want to offer or get a ride, to or from Trail Days, you should 'create a post', do not send a message.)

**7:30am: Prayer Gathering** at One Way Ministries – Everyone is Welcome!

**8-9:30am** at the Rock School Auditorium: **How Has AT Thru/Section-Hiking Changed Over the Last 50 Years.** Talk and discussion moderated by Warren Doyle. [www.warrendoyle.com](http://www.warrendoyle.com)

**8am-noon:** Trail Days Ministry Team **welcome and information tents** open, and **laundry services** at Tent City.

**8am-1pm: 'Pickin' and Grinnin' on the Front Porch with Tuck'** at One Way Ministries (come play your favorite instruments).

**8am-2pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team offers the following services in the parking lot at First Baptist Church: **Medical Team, foot washing/massages; Narcan training & medication dispensation.**

**8am-4pm:** The Trail Days Ministry Team providing **small supplies ministry** @ One Way Ministries and in the First Baptist Church parking lot; **Showers** at the Town Pool, and **showers & laundry services** at Tent City; and **Starbucks coffee, cold drinks, snacks and a Charging Station** in the parking lot at First Baptist Church.

**8am-10pm: Charging stations** at One Way Ministries.

**All Day: Raffle** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth to enter. Do not have to be present to win.

**9am-1pm** at Laurel Creek Park: **Damascus Farmers Market!**

**9am-11am** at Laurel Creek Park: **Live Music by Jeanna Greene**

**9am-noon:** The Trail Days Ministry Team will be providing **hair cuts** at One Way Ministries.

**9am-Noon: Scavenger Hunt** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth for a clue card, find the answer & return it for a free pair of Farm to Feet socks (until we run out!)

**9:45-11am** at the Rock School Auditorium: **The Sutton Family: Thru-hiking with a young child.** Discussion, video, and question/answer. Definitely one of the 'feel good' stories of the AT Class of 2021, the Sutton family walked the entire way with their 4-5 y.o. son (trail name-Little Man). Starting in January, and taking 209 days to reach Katahdin, they learned a lot about how to entertain a young child through long days and all types of trail conditions.

**10am-Noon: Trail Stories** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth and tell us your story on video for a free pair of socks to hike the trail with.

**10am-2pm** at One Way Ministries: **Put your mug on a postcard.**

**10am-4pm** at the L5A booth in Town Park: **Hikes for Those with Disabilities** – Using Special equipment, Luke5Adventures will take individuals with disabilities on a 45minute hike on the AT. These hikes will be available during the entire festival by visiting the Luke5Adventures booth. There is no charge. [www.luke5adventures.com](http://www.luke5adventures.com)

**10am-6pm** at Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City - **Stuff the Sleeping Bag Contest**, sponsored by BIG AGNES®. One winner will be chosen over this 3-day event, based on participants time, and announced on Saturday. The prize is a \$200 sleeping bag from Big Agnes®

**10am-10pm:** One Way Ministries open with **drinks and snacks.**

**10:30-noon** at the Old Mill Conference Room: **Foot Care on the AT.** Walking 10 hours a day, day in and day out can play havoc on your feet. Foot problems can make hiking miserable and possibly end your hike early. Come discover how to take care of your feet on a long hike. Be prepared to take your shoes off. [www.ALDHA.org](http://www.ALDHA.org)

**11am-noon** at the Damascus Branch Library: **Foraging for Edibles on the Trail** – Ben Casteel will lead a walk where he points out the various plants and fungi one can eat along the trail. He will also show you what to avoid! (Very popular event, and there will be books and displays on this subject in the Library.) [www.wcpl.net](http://www.wcpl.net)

**11am-noon** at the Damascus Trail Center: **BearVault Food Storage Contest** - Join BearVault and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy for lively contests to win BearVaults! Also learn about using bear canisters on the Appalachian Trail to properly store food while backpacking. Everyone will have the chance to try out a BearVault, ask questions, and enter the big raffle. (BearVault will be doing their demo at the ATC Trail Days tent on the Damascus Trail Center lawn.) <https://bearvault.com/> <https://appalachiantrail.org>

**11am until sold out:** Support the **Veterans Memorial of Damascus!** The Veterans Memorial Committee will be serving pulled pork sandwich or chicken breast with beans, chips, and a drink at the Veterans Memorial at the southern end of the Town Park. All proceeds go to construction and maintenance of the Memorial. Visit us on Facebook @ Veterans Memorial of Damascus. Come on by and enjoy **the best BBQ in the south!**

**11am-1pm** at Laurel Creek Park: **Live music by Raymond and the Senior Citizen Group!**

**11:45am-1pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Hostel Inspiration and Reality** - Neville Harris of Woods Hole Hostel will share her experience, insight, and reality of what it's like to operate a hostel on the Appalachian Trail. If you are thinking of opening a hostel or just curious- what is running a hostel like? You may get more than you can imagine from this talk. There will also be ample time for discussion with questions and hopefully some helpful answers.

**Saturday afternoon: Raffle** at the TOAKS Booth. Please come visit us to chat, see our quality titanium gears, and sign up for the raffle! We'll be raffling TOAKS titanium cups, pots, cutlery, and tent stakes. Titanium is lightweight, durable, non-rusting, and non-toxic – great choice for backpacking!

**12-1pm** at the Damascus Branch Library: **Herbal First Aid on the Trail** – A certified herbalist will discuss which herbs and plants you can find along the trail to help with blisters, tension, sore muscles, cuts, etc. She will also hand out some small samples of said herbs with instructions. [www.wcpl.net](http://www.wcpl.net)

**12-2pm** at Southern Threads Boutique: **Live music by Aubery Rey Band!**

**12:30-1:30: AT Hiking – Then and Now** at the Old Mill Conference Room: How did a family of six survive 262 miles of the AT in 1990 without modern conveniences? What hardships and blessings did they encounter with heavy packs, no GPS, no cell phones, no Apps. Tom and Janie Niedfeldt answer those questions through slides and stories. [www.lindajaneniedfeldt.com](http://www.lindajaneniedfeldt.com)

**12:30-2:30pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music by BIG Son!** [www.facebook.com/bigsonband](http://www.facebook.com/bigsonband)

**1pm** at the Big Agnes/Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City – **Musical Chairs**, sponsored by Crazy Creek®. 1 chair prize per event.

**1-3pm: Trail Stories** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth and tell us your story on video for a free pair of socks to hike the trail with.

**1-5pm** at the Wicked Chicken: **Live music by Adam Musick!**

**1:30pm: Trail Days Hiker Parade Line-Up** in front of Sundog Outfitter.

**2pm: Trail Days Hiker Parade** from Sundog Outfitter to the Town Park.

**2-6pm** at Appalachian Heritage Distillery: **Live music by RJ Smith**

**3pm: Trail Days Live Auction**, at the Gazebo in the Town Park! Outdoor Gear, Crafts, Books and more. Also on auction will be Lodging, Bike Shuttles, Meals, and other Gift Certificates. All proceeds go to benefit "The Place" (donation Hostel owned by United Methodist Church of Damascus), the oldest hostel on the Appalachian Trail. Donations are requested before noon the day of the Auction, please bring donations to the Auction trailer in the park. Sponsored by Blevins Realty. This year's auctioneer is Wayne Collins with A OK Auction Gallery, LLC of Damascus, VA. Contact Roy Knight at 504-343-3734 or [roy\\_hiking@yahoo.com](mailto:roy_hiking@yahoo.com) for pick-up or mailing address. [www.facebook.com/TrailDaysAuction](http://www.facebook.com/TrailDaysAuction)

**3:30-5pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Increasing Your Success on Completing the AT.** Valid and time-tested tips and advice to complete a thru- or section-hike by a wise, old man - Warren Doyle. Includes FREE one-page 'book'. [www.warrendoyle.com](http://www.warrendoyle.com)

**4pm** at the Gazebo in Town Park: **Hiker Talent Show!**

**4pm** at the Big Agnes/Allyn' Fix it Man' Morton's booth in the Free Gear Repair Area at Tent City – **Musical Chairs**, sponsored by Crazy Creek®. 1 chair prize per event.

**4-5pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music by Jamen Denton**

**5pm** at the Damascus Trail Center: **Grand Prize Drawing** for the ATC Gear Raffle

**5:30-7:30pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music** by **Ranford Almond!** [www.facebook.com/Ranford-Almond-179202138759012/](http://www.facebook.com/Ranford-Almond-179202138759012/)

**5:30-6:30pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music** by **David Via**

**6-9pm** at the Wicked Chicken: **Live music** by **Mumblin Blues!**

**7pm** at Tent City - **Billville Useless Gear Contest** with prizes. Be creative and enter or just come and watch the fun!

**7-7:45pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **Contra Dance beginners' workshop**. Come learn the basics so you can strut your stuff later!

**7-8:30pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music** by **Ron Short & The Possum Playboys**

**7-10pm: Live Music** under the big tent at One Way Ministries with snacks and drinks.

**8-10pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music** by **Tuatha Dea!** [www.tuathadea.net](http://www.tuathadea.net)

**8-11pm** at the Rock School Auditorium: **FREE Contra Dance** (a Trail Days tradition)! Live music. Caller is AT thru-hiker Warren Doyle. [www.contradancersdelight.com](http://www.contradancersdelight.com)

**9-11pm** at 7 Trails Grill: **Live Music** by **Phantom**

### **Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**

**"Ride Board"** on Facebook. [www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard](http://www.facebook.com/traildaysrideboard) (If you want to offer or get a ride, to or from Trail Days, you should 'create a post', do not send a message.)

**All Day: Raffle** - Stop by the Farm to Feet booth to enter. Do not have to be present to win.

**10am:** Run Damascus – **Trail Days 5k!** [www.facebook.com/Run-Damascus-109100134986325/](http://www.facebook.com/Run-Damascus-109100134986325/)

**10:30am-noon: Worship Service** in Town Park, provided by the Trail Days Ministry Team.

**11am-6pm** at Appalachian Heritage Distillery: **Bloody Mary bar**

**1-3pm** at the Town Park Gazebo: The Trail Days Committee hosts **Live Music** by **Carson Peters & Iron Mountain!** <https://carsonandironmt.com>

**1-3pm** at the Damascus Trail Center: **Community Planting Day** – Help the Washington County Master Gardeners and Appalachian Trail Conservancy plant a native garden. All supplies and refreshments will be provided. (Proof of vaccine may be required\*) <https://appalachiantrail.org/>

**1-5pm** at the Wicked Chicken: **Live music** by **Adam Musick!**



**1:30pm: Free North and South bound shuttles** leave One Way Ministries (for Erwin and Bland) - Sign up at One Way.