Events

- **Geology of Reflection Riding & Stone Placement in your Garden**
  On Saturday, January 20, go to Reflection Riding Arboretum and Botanical Gardens for an informative talk on the geology of the region. The program will begin with an overview of our regional geologic history and then teach participants how to use stones to change the shape and form of their gardens. For more information, visit www.reflectionriding.org.

- **Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge Kayak Trip**
  On Saturday, January 27, join OutVenture for a very kayak trip around the Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge. Cost is $40 per person, and it includes boat, gear, and transportation. Participants bring water, lunch, and a camera. Observe Sandhill Cranes, Eagles, Herons and other waterfowl. Reservations are required. Visit www.outdoorchattanooga.com or call OutVenture at (423) 842-6629 for more information.

- **“An Inconvenient Truth”**
  The Chattanooga Nature Center's Sustainable Living Series will offer a free screening of Davis Guggenheim’s documentary “An Inconvenient Truth,” which is based on an essay by former Vice President Al Gore. The screening happens on Tuesday, January 30 at 7:00 p.m. at the John A. Patten Recreation and Art Center in Tiftonia. This event will be the first in a series of programs designed to highlight ways that we can help to save our environment. There will be a question and answer period following the film with copies of Gore’s book available for purchase. For more information, visit www.chattanooganaturecenter.org.

- **Tennessee Valley Outdoor Heritage Expo**
  Join Outdoor Chattanooga and the Cherokee Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation for an exposition of hunting, fishing, camping and other outdoor activities on Saturday, February 3, from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Outdoor retailers and organizations from all over the country will be represented. A Hummer H3 will be raffled off with a portion of the proceeds to benefit the Ocoee District of the Cherokee National Forest. For more information about the expo, visit www.CherokeeNWTF.com.

- **Cherokee and Sandhill Crane Festival**
  The 15th Annual Cherokee Indian Heritage and Sandhill Crane Viewing Days will take place on Saturday and Sunday, February 3 and 4. Festivities will be centered at a festival in Birchwood, Tennessee and at the Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge. On Saturday, shuttle service will be available from the Birchwood School for wildlife viewing at the Refuge. For more information, visit www.tennessee.gov/twra/crane07.pdf

- **S-S-Snakes Alive**
  On Saturday, February 3, at 2:00 p.m., visit the Chattanooga Nature Center for an introduction to Chattanooga's resident snakes with CNC naturalist Kyle Waggener. Stars of the program will include the corn snake, king snake, and garter snake. Cost is free for CNC members, $7.00 for non-members. Guests are welcome to spend the
rest of the day exploring the Nature Center and Reflection Riding properties. Visit www.chattanooganaturecenter.org for more information.

Adventures

• **South Cumberland Park Adventures**
  On Thursday, January 18 at 10:00 a.m., meet Ranger Anthony at the Foster Falls parking lot for a 4-mile round trip hike to the Small Wild campground and overlooks. Then on Sunday, January 21 at 9:00 a.m., go to the Carter State Natural Area parking lot for a strenuous 5-mile round trip hike to the caves underlying the South Cumberland Park. Bring two sources of light, long pants, boots, water and a light snack. Visit www.friendsofscsra.org for more information.

• **Fires Creek Rim Hike**
  On Saturday, January 20, the Benton MacKaye Trail Association and the Chattanooga Hiking Club will join forces for a special 9-mile hike on Fires Creek Rim in the Tusquitee District of the Nantahala National Forest near Hayesville, North Carolina. This is a very strenuous hike—over 2,000 ft. elevation gain over rough terrain—will require sturdy boots and a sturdier constitution. To learn more, contact hike leader Jeffrey Hunter at jhunter@AmericanHiking.org or visit www.bmta.org.

Ongoing...

• **Open Gate Days at Lula Lake**
  The Lula Lake Land Trust opens their gates to the public on Saturday, January 27 and February 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Hike, picnic, mountain bike, and bring the pooch as long as he’s on a leash. Visit www.lulalake.org for more information.

• **Tuesday Night Kayak Skills Practice**
  The Rapid Learning Whitewater Kids Club holds weekly kayak roll practice at the University of Tennessee indoor swimming pool from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. every Tuesday night. Cost is $5 per session or free for Rapid Learning members. For more information, call OutVenture at (423) 842-6629 or visit www.outdoorchattanooga.com.

• **Wednesday Night Trail Runs**
  Join the Chattanooga Trail Blazers Adventure Racing Club for a trail run every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. Trail running experience is recommended and headlamps are necessary. The location of the run changes, so email Jim Farmer at farmerjp@bellsouth.net for complete information.

• **Weekly Winter Mountain Bicycle Rides**
  *(Lights are required for all night and evening rides)*
  
  o **Mondays** at 6:00 p.m. on Lookout Mountain’s Guild Trail with the Chattanooga Bicycle Club. The terrain is easy to intermediate. www.chattbike.com. Click on the Interactive Calendar.
  
  o **Tuesdays** with SORBA Chattanooga on Raccoon Mountain at 6:00 p.m. The terrain is intermediate to difficult. www.sorbachattanooga.org.
  
  o **Wednesdays** with the Chattanooga Bicycle Club at Harrison Bay State Park. This is a good beginner night ride. www.chattbike.com. Click on the Interactive Calendar.
  
  o **Saturdays** with Suck Creek Cycle at 1:00 p.m. Ride locations and degree of difficulty change each week. Check out www.suckcreek.com for more information.

News

• **Volunteers Rally to Clean up River Gorge Dump**
  Approximately 35 volunteers and Tennessee River Gorge Trust staff spent a few
hours on Saturday, January 6 cleaning up tires, car parts, trash and other junk from
the former Ritchie Car Dump. Over the last seven years, the Trust has removed over
22,000 tires and some 500 car carcasses. Much still remains to be done and most of
it will have to occur with hands-on volunteers. The next clean up of the Car Dump
site is scheduled for Saturday, February 17. If you or your group would like to
volunteer for one of these projects, please contact the Tennessee River Gorge Trust
at (423) 266-0314 or email TRGT volunteer coordinator Sarah Quattrochi at
sarahq@cnpchatt.org. Learn more about the TRGT at www.trgt.org.

**Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards Nominations**
March 31 is the deadline to nominate an individual or organization for a 2006
Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award. The awards acknowledge outstanding
work in conservation, education, and infrastructure improvements in the State of
Tennessee. Categories include Agriculture, Building Green, Greenways and Trails,
and Aquatic Resource Preservation, just to name a few. Visit
http://state.tn.us/environment/awards for complete guidelines and a nomination
application.

**Use the Internet to Benefit the McKamey Animal Care and Adoption Center**
Use GoodSearch.com to search the Internet and designate the McKamey Animal Care
and Adoption Center under “Who Do You GoodSearch” for. Every time you search the
Internet, money goes to help animals. Use IGIVE.COM and up to 26% of each
purchase made through the shops listed on the Website go to the McKamey Center.
Hundreds of popular retail outlets are participating. For more information visit
www.mckameyanimalcenter.org.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

- **Adopt a Highway with the Chattanooga Bicycle Club**
The Chattanooga Bicycle Club has adopted a section of Suck creek Road as part of
the Adopt a Highway program. Their inaugural clean up will take place on Sunday,
January 28 at 9:00 a.m. The work session will be followed by a bike ride up over
Suck Creek Mountain and down to Powells Crossroads (not for the faint of heart or
weak of thighs). Interested volunteers must view a Tennessee Department of
Transportation safety video and sign a release prior to the clean-up. For more
information, visit www.chattbike.com. Click on the Interactive Calendar.

- **Booker T. Washington Trail Building Days**
On Saturday and Sunday, January 20 and 21, SORBA Chattanooga will continue work
on the Booker T. Washington State Park mountain biking trails. Once work is
complete, a new 1.5 mile section will expand the trail system to more than six
miles. January 27 and 28 will be work days to finish and open additional sections of
the TVA Raccoon Mountain trails. Visit www.sorbachattanooga.org for complete
information.

- **Kudzu and Ivy and Privot, Oh My!**
On Saturday, February 3, the Lookout Mountain Land Trust will sponsor a work day
from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at John C. Wilson Park (off of Cummings Highway
on Lookout Mountain) to help eradicate/control exotic pest plants such as Englis h
Ivy and Winter Creeper. Volunteers will receive direction and orientation about what
to do to help at the beginning of the session. For more information, please contact
Sarah Quattrochi, Volunteer Coordinator, at 653-0091 or via e-mail at
sarahq@cnpchatt.org.

- **The Tour de Georgia 2007**
Chattanooga, Chickamauga, and Lookout Mountain, Georgia will be host cities for
this year’s Tour de Georgia on April 18 & 19, 2007. A huge number of volunteers will
be needed for the event, helping with everything from course marshalling to
hospitality tent decorations. Come rub elbows with the crème de la crème of the
international cycling community and have the best seat in the house. Visit www.tourdegeorgia.com and click on the “volunteer form” link to sign up.

• **Bike Valet Coordinator Needed**  
The Chattanooga Urban Area Bicycle Task Force is looking for a volunteer to coordinate bicycle valet operations at the Chattanooga finish line for the Tour de Georgia on Wednesday, April 18, and during this year’s Riverbend Festival. The job will put you right in the thick of the action for both events. Last year’s Bike to Riverbend valet tent was a huge success and everyone involved had a lot of fun. Folks interested in the position can contact Philip Pugliese at ppugliese@outdoorchattanooga.com.

• **Host a National Trails Day Event**  
On Saturday, June 2, participate in National Trails Day by hosting a trail maintenance work day, dedicating a new trail, or guiding a hike in the woods. Registered organizers will be listed on the American Hiking Society Website and receive support materials for their event. Learn more at www.americanhiking.org.

**Classes and Clinics**

• **Bike Driving - Road I Course in Cleveland, TN**  
A nine-hour class, designed for all riders, that teaches bike selection, basic repairs, clothing and equipment, traffic laws, lane positioning, bike handling and crash avoidance. Bicycle and helmet required for class. Minimum student age is 16; 13 to 15 year olds accepted with parent enrolled. Classes happen on Thursday, January 18 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 21 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Cleveland, TN. Tuition is $50 and pre-registration is required. Visit www.bikechattanooga.org for details.

• **Feather ’n Fly Fly Tying Clinic**  
On Tuesday, February 13, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., learn how to tie those tricky little flies at the monthly fly tying clinic at Feather n’ Fly. Cost is $25 and includes all tools and materials. Visit www.featherandfly.com for more information.

**Monthly Meetings...**

• **Southern Appalachian Back Country Horsemen**  
Thursday, January 18, 6:30 p.m. at the Patio in Madisonville. www.sabch.org

• **Chattanooga Hiking Club**  
Monday, February 7, 7:00 p.m. at the Jones Observatory. http://hiking.chattanooga.net.

**Coming Up...**

• **Chattanooga Ice Bowl**  
Saturday, February 10 www.Chattanoogafdc.org

• **Chattanooga’s Half Marathon and 5K**  
Saturday, March 3 www.chattanoogatrackclub.org

• **Fall Creek Thaw**  
Saturday, March 3 www.machtenn.org

• **River Gorge Trail Race**  
Saturday, March 31 www.rockcreek.com

• **Outdoor Chattanooga’s Outdoor Expo**  
Saturday, March 31 www.outdoorchattanooga.com

• **Chickamauga Chase Road Race**  
Saturday, April 14 www.chickchase.org

• **Raccoon Mountain Bicycle Road Race**  
Sunday, April 15 www.sceniccityvelo.com

• **Tour de Georgia Chattanooga Stage Race & Lookout Mountain Time Trial**  
Wednesday & Thursday, April 18 & 19 www.tourdegeorgia.com
• **Blue Cross Market Street Mile & Mystery History Quest**  
  Saturday, April 21  
  www.chattanoogatrackclub.org

• **3State/3Mountain Challenge**  
  Saturday, May 5  
  www.chattbike.com

• **Tennessee Valley Canoe Club Paddle School**  
  Friday - Sunday, June 1 - 3  
  www.tvccpaddles.com

• **National Trails Day**  
  Saturday, June 2  
  www.americanhiking.org

• **National River Cleanup Week**  
  June 2 – 10  
  www.nationalrivercleanup.org

• **Tennessee River Gorge Trust's Bargin' for the Gorge Dinner Cruise**  
  Tuesday, June 5  
  www.trgt.org

• **Blue Cross Riverbend Run and Walk**  
  Saturday, June 16  
  www.riverbendfestival.com

• **SORBA Chattanooga’s Bicycle Expo at the Chattanooga Market**  
  Sunday, June 24  
  www.sorbachattanooga.org

**SAVE the DATE !!!**

• Outdoor Chattanooga’s Outdoor Expo  
  Saturday, March 31st from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
  Get in gear and get ready to play. Outdoor Chattanooga will take over Coolidge Park for a day of products, programs, gear swapping, and recreational opportunities. $25 will get you a 10 X 10 space to strut your stuff. All proceeds from space rentals will benefit Chattanooga OutVenture programs. Keep an eye on this email for more details.

*Outdoor Chattanooga is a Division of the City of Chattanooga Parks and Recreation Department*

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