



ROC Monthly Newsletter

Thanks for being a part of ROC!
Go to our website for our weekly outdoor schedules, information on the ROC Race Series, local trails, and more.

[Visit Our Website](#)

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate](#)

NEWS



Welcome to all of our new and returning ROC

members and sponsors!

Lisa Hager

Donald Murphy

Mark Snyder

Barbara Mears

Timothy Fulton

Ileana Pastor

Nancy Isenhour

The money we receive from memberships helps us to continue improving local trails, leading group hikes and river floats, and creating new outdoor programs. Membership is only \$20 for individuals, \$35 for families, and \$100 for businesses. We also offer multiple sponsorship opportunities for businesses to help expend and enhance recreational opportunities in Rutherford County.

Members get discounts at Chimney Rock, Barley's Taproom, Copper Penny, Main Street Coffee, Impact Fitness, and more.

Click the link below for more details.

[Get Involved!](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Broad River Fall Sweep
Saturday, September 26th
10 am - 4 pm



On Saturday, September 26th, ROC will be having our annual Broad River Fall Sweep. We will be cleaning multiple sections of the Broad River in Rutherford

County. Volunteers will drop off their boats at designated areas between 10 am and 10:30 am. At 10:30 am sharp, we will take vehicles to the take-out points. We will get started with the clean-up around 11 am.

PLEASE RSVP FOR THIS EVENT. You will be added an email list where we will assign boats and sections, as well as send out important information.

We need volunteers with kayaks as well as canoes. If you have an extra boat that could be used, please let us know. If you would like to participate but do not have a boat, we will try to arrange a boat for you. Let us know if you have trucks or trailers to help carry kayaks and canoes. ROC will provide trash bags and a few grabbers.

Bring a lunch and some water with you. We will stop about half way through the clean-up for a lunch break. River shoes are recommended since we will have to get in the water to get some of the trash.

****To RSVP or for any questions, please contact Jess Kerr
jess@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call 828-351-3235.**



The ROC Monthly Meeting

5:30 pm on Tuesday September 15th.

The meeting will held at Charles Deviney Park in Spindale. 225 Greer St. Spindale, NC 28160.

Feel free to order food from your favorite local restaurant and bring your dinner!

We will space out and observe social distancing practices.
All are welcome!



September Volunteer Days

Saturday September 5th:

Heart of the Foothills Dog Walk. 10 am - Noon.

Come walk shelter dogs and puppies with us!

Expect to walk about about 2 miles, mostly level terrain.

Tuesday September 8th:

**Isothermal Community College Trails. 11:00 am - 2pm.
Expect to walk about 2 miles, mostly level terrain.**

Tuesday September 15th:

**Buffalo Creek Park Loop. 8 am - Noon.
Expect to walk about about 3 miles, mostly downhill.**

Wednesday September 23rd:

**Weed Patch Mountain Trail. 9 am - 5 pm.
Expect to walk about 7.5 miles.**

Tuesday September 29th:

**Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park. 9 am - 11 am.
Expect to walk about 1 - 2 miles, mostly level terrain.**

Contact Jess at jess@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call 828-351-3235 to RSVP or for more information.

UPDATES

September ROC Photo Series!



RUTHERFORD OUTDOOR COALITION'S PHOTO SERIES

Critter Capture

SEPTEMBER 1 - SEPTEMBER 31

THIS MONTH'S PRIZE: \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE
TO CIRCLE B BAR B Q

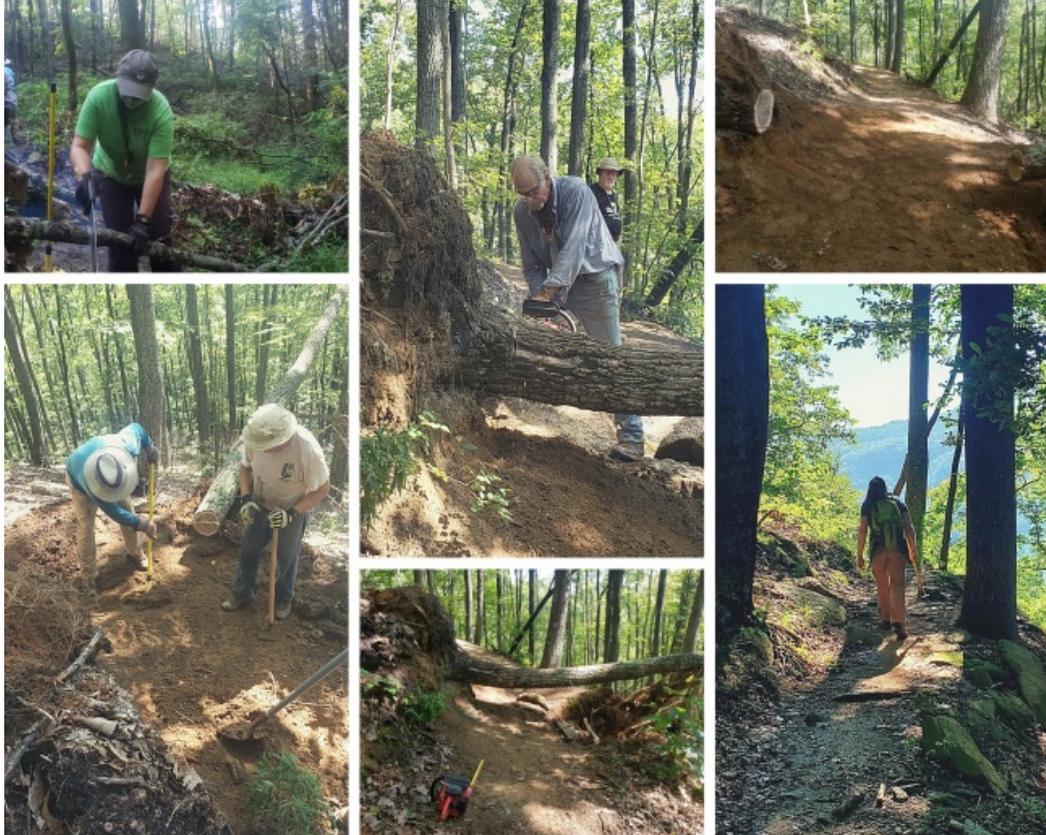
TO ENTER:
UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS TO FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM & USE
#RUTHERFORDOUTDOOR.ORG
1 ENTRY PER PERSON PER DAY

All may participate and share their photos but only ROC
Members are eligible to win prizes.
To become a member of ROC head to
www.rutherfordoutdoor.org

Happy September Everyone!

This month's theme for the ROC Photo Series is Critters!
Don't forget to tag us and use [#rutherfordoutdoor](https://www.instagram.com/rutherfordoutdoor)

Updates on Buffalo Creek Park and Weed Patch



Photos of: Dana Bradley hand sawing a fallen tree; New member Jeff Hodge chainsawing a large tree to be removed from the trail; After the tree had been removed; Bruce Hunt and Bill Ford repairing trail tread; Before the tree was cleared; and Outdoor Programs Director Jess Kerr.

ROC and Town of Lake Lure joined forces for two awesome workdays this month! They went out to do some erosion control, digging out drainages, added a couple rolling grade dips, and removed three trees that had caused some serious damage to the trail! Thank you Ken, Robin, Dana, Bill, Jeff, Bruce, and Jess for your work at Buffalo Creek Park and Weed Patch!

[More about Buffalo Creek Park](#)

Updates on Dittmer-Watts Nature Trails



Photos of: Bruce Hunt and New Outdoor Programs Director Jess Kerr; Bruce Hunt; Dana Bradley

ROC and the Town of Lake Lurewent out to Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park to improve trail tread and ensure the trail is passable. Along the way, ROC member Bruce Hunt checked to see if the Beaver had returned to build another dam. That section of trail remains clear and is draining properly! It was a great workday! Thank you everyone for your help!

[More about the Dittmer-Watts Nature Trail Park](#)

[Updates about the trail at Isothermal Community College](#)



Photos of: David before and after the cutting of the blackberry briars; Adam cutting into the thicket, and our new box turtle friend!

Our Outdoor Programs Director and volunteers trimmed briars, grass and branches from a section of the Orange Trail at Isothermal Community College so that it remains passable! Thank you so much for your time Adam Thomas and David Greenleaf!

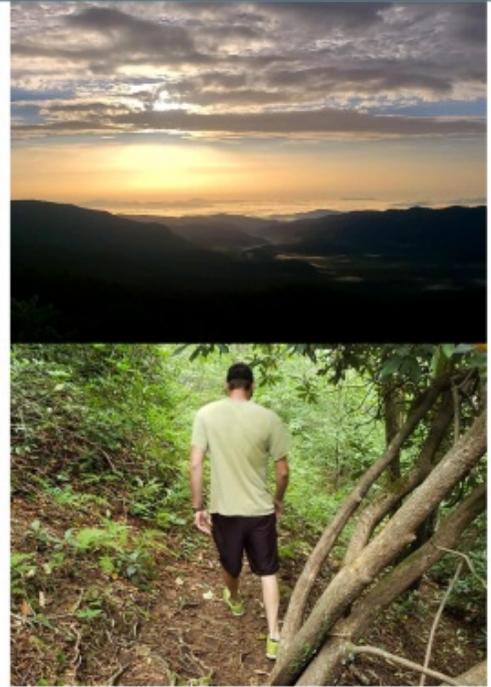
[More about the ICC Trail System](#)

Updates on ROC Hike: Graveyard Fields to Skinny Dip Falls on the Blue Ridge Parkway

GRAVEYARD FIELDS AND SKINNY DIP FALLS



ROC members joined our new Outdoor Programs Director, Jess Kerr, on a short hike to a beautiful swimming spot! We walked from the start of the Graveyard Fields Loop through the forest to the Mountains to Sea Trail for 2 miles to get to the falls. When we arrived we swam, ate lunch, skipped rocks and enjoyed each other's company. We had a few new faces in the group and enjoyed the opportunity to get to know one another on our adventure. We even visited the famed Graveyard Fields Dragon Tree to add another special moment to our trip. Thank you to everyone that joined us for the hike!



ROC Walking Club

The times and dates are listed below.

May 1st - August 31st:

- **Tuesdays:** 6:30 pm at the Thermal Belt Rail Trail. Park in the Rutherford County Farmer's Market parking lot located at the corner of Park Square and Pryor Street in Forest City (behind the new pavilion, POPS).
- **Thursdays:** 6:30 pm at Purple Martin Greenway in Rutherfordton. Park at the new, gravel lot at the corner of S. Main Street and Industrial Avenue.

September 1st - April 30th:

- **Tuesdays:** 4:30 pm at the Rutherford County Farmer's Market parking lot located at the corner of Park Square and Pryor Street in Forest City (behind the new pavilion, POPS).
- **Thursdays:** 4:00 pm at Purple Martin Greenway in Rutherfordton. Park at the new, gravel lot at the corner of S. Main Street and Industrial Avenue.



The walks are led by our Outdoor Programs Director. The club walks together for 30 minutes to an hour depending on location, but you can feel free to walk more or less if you like. This is a great opportunity to interact with others from the community that enjoy walking. Walk at your own pace, enjoy the scenery, and make some new friends.

For more information or to join, visit our ROC Walking Club page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/184160622179015/> or call us at 828-351-3235.

[Facebook Page](#)

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN ROC

Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteering is a great way to build skills, meet people, and give back to the community all while having fun. We invite and encourage individuals and groups of all backgrounds and ages to get involved and help grow a stronger community.

ROC offers many types of volunteer opportunities throughout the year with varying levels of involvement and physical activity. Our volunteer opportunities include trail projects, fundraising events, festivals, group outings, clean-ups, and more.

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, contact Jess Kerr at jess@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call 828-351-3235.

**Trail Boss and River
Steward Programs**

ROC needs Trail Bosses for the ICC Trails in Spindale. If you are interested, please contact us and we will get you started!



- We need people like you to become trail bosses and river stewards for our local trails and river system.
 - **Trail Bosses** walk their section of trail at least once a month, report any issues they see, and help keep their section clean.
 - **River Stewards** float their river section once a month and report downed trees and other obstacles that need to be addressed. There is a River Stewards meeting held on the 2nd Thursday of each month to discuss river improvements and plan future clean-ups.
- If you are interested in learning more about becoming a trail boss or river steward, contact Jess Kerr at jess@rutherfordoutdoor.org or call 828-351-3235.
- [Click Here](#) for more information on Rutherford County trails.

Rutherford Outdoor Coalition | www.rutherfordoutdoor.org

STAY CONNECTED:

