

Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition

Stepping into the Future

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Beef up the Web Site

ISSUE: Lack of intercommunication between hiking related organizations on issues of mutual interest

PLAN:

- Calendar of Events
 - Chain saw & Crosscut Certification Classes
 - First Aid, Wilderness First Aid, CPR Classes designed for maintainers
 - Trail Building Classes
 - Regional conferences & work trips
 - Local club hikes/backpacks open to all clubs
- Listing of regional trail networks, trail guides, trail communities, etc of interest to hiking community



Standardization of Training within the National Forests

ISSUE: As of now, it is not clear if crosscut or chainsaw certification in one district is acceptable in another district. Varies from district to district and forest to forest

- Big problem for trails in multiple districts/forests such as the AT and BMT

PLAN: Work with regional national forests to try to resolve this issue, perhaps on the Region 8 level.



Leave No Child Inside Nature Deficit Disorder

ISSUE: There is a large emphasis nationwide on getting kids into the outdoors for a greater appreciation and stewardship of nature and to attack the problem of obesity in children

PLAN: Develop a program or list of suggestions on our website and in print which can be used by outdoor clubs to interface with schools to get kids exposed to nature (hikes, backpacks, seminars, work trips, etc)



Trail Communities

ISSUE: Not enough interaction between hiking groups and the local communities close to the trails

PLAN:

- Encourage clubs to develop the concept of “Trail Communities” as done by ATC and Florida Trail.
- A joint program by community leaders and outdoor interest groups to promote the outdoor opportunities in and close to a local community
- Highlight these communities in club or trail-related publications



Regional Trail Networks

ISSUE: Local residents don't know about the trails in their backyard. Not enough loop trails available (no one wants to do a shuttle)

PLAN:

- Encourage clubs to inventory all the trails in their region
- Encourage publication of a trail guide for their region
- Examine the possibilities of linking trails with new trail building if needed to make more loop hikes available
- Look into linking regional trail networks in with long-distance trails such as Pinhoti, AT, BMT, Cumberland Trail, Florida Trail, Sheltowee Trace, Bartram Trail
- Consider methods of publicizing trail networks locally and regionally, with emphasis on trail communities as well
- Put links to these regional networks and trail guides on the SEFTC Website



Increase SEFTC Membership

ISSUE: We currently have 27 member clubs. This is not all the hiking clubs in the Southeast

PLAN:

- Continue to bring into the SEFTC the other clubs not currently part of SEFTC and get them actively engaged.
- Be sure that every member club has two Leadership Council Representatives and keep in communication with them