Friends of Allegheny Wilderness Trail Crew 2019

The trail stewardship season is just about upon us, and Friends of Allegheny Wilderness is gearing up for its 19th season of doing trail work in the Allegheny National Forest.

Here is a partial 2019 schedule. Contact FAW at info@pawild.org for more information or to sign up for any of these projects.

April 6th and 7th – FAW will be clearing the 7-mile Minister loop trail in the proposed Minister Valley Wilderness Area. If there is time, the group will also pause at the triple forks area to collect trash and demolish any non-Leave No Trace-conforming gigantic fire rings and rock furniture, etc. that may have been built over the last year by campers. They will meet at the Minister Creek parking lot on Route 666 on Saturday morning, spending the night in the proposed wilderness area, and hiking out on Sunday.

April 27th and 28th – FAW has been the formal adopting organization of the 13-mile Hickory Creek Wilderness trail since its inception — in keeping the trail clear of fallen woody debris and encroaching live vegetation for people walking trail single-file on foot for almost two decades now. Members will meet at the Hickory Creek Wilderness trailhead on Saturday morning, spend the night in the wilderness, and hike out on Sunday.

May 11th – The annual Allegheny Reservoir Cleanup. As usual, FAW volunteers will be participating in this annual event, which is organized by the larger umbrella of the Allegheny River/Allegheny Reservoir Cleanup Committee. While members will likely mostly be heading across the state line to help clean up the shoreline in New York, they will be in very close proximity to the proposed Complanter Wilderness and proposed Tracy Ridge Wilderness in the Allegheny National Forest. Check out http://www.allegheynrivercleanup.com/reservoir.html for more details and to sign up.

July 27th and 28th – Hickory Creek Wilderness trail stewardship. Same as the April Hickory Creek Wilderness project. Falling trees and limbs around the trail loop is a ongoing process — this is a wonderfully wild forest, so there will likely be new material on the trail that needs to be cleaned.

Fall 2019 (to be determined) – Hickory Creek Wilderness trail stewardship. Same as April and July. Watch for more details.

For all trail stewardship projects, FAW will be utilizing non-motorized hand tools only, such as axes, pruners, and saws. No chainsaws or other power tools are ever allowed in designated wilderness areas like Hickory Creek, or Minister Valley, so no specialized training is needed in that regard.