



The Clean Water Act is Under Threat from U.S. Supreme Court

Written by Sharon Fisher

People care deeply about clean water. Our rivers, lakes, and streams are vital to a healthy environment and a vibrant economy, and provide endless opportunities for swimming, fishing, boating, and other recreation. Above all, we need clean, safe drinking water to live.

Polluters are pushing to prevent the Clean Water Act from protecting streams and virtually all wetlands. It is vital that we protect our Appalachian mountain streams and wetlands – everything flows downstream.

On October 3, the United States Supreme Court will hear arguments in a case called “Sackett v. EPA”, which will determine which waters can and cannot be protected by the Clean Water Act.

If special interests get what they’ve asked for in the case, it would severely undermine the long-standing safeguards for wetlands that help protect our communities from flooding and streams that supply our drinking water.

The Clean Water Act was enacted 50 years ago with extraordinary bipartisan support and has served as our most fundamental tool for protecting waters across the country. Wetlands protect communities by naturally preventing excess flooding during catastrophic weather events as experienced recently in eastern Kentucky and southwest Virginia and are essential for trapping and filtering pollutants that would otherwise be carried into downstream waters.

Nearly every sector of the economy – from high tech manufacturing to commercial fishing, and even your favorite local brewery – relies on clean water to run, supply, and support their businesses.



TCC Program Director, Jala Tyler, along with other volunteers participate in local water habitat surveys being directed by Dr. Wally Smith, conservation biologist at UVA-Wise.

The Clinch Coalition’s mission includes the protection of our watersheds. More information will be coming leading up to the Supreme Court listening to oral arguments and continuing until their final decision, expected early next year.

The Clinch Coalition is one of nine organizations across the nation to receive funding to inform the public about the Clean Water for All Coalition campaign.



Are You Registered?

OUR RALLY IS THIS SATURDAY!

September 24th: The Clinch Coalition's High Knob Naturalist Rally!

This year, The Clinch Coalition's High Knob Naturalist Rally will be in person on September 24th, 2022 from 10am-4pm. Pre-registration for the event is open now for you to make your choice of hikes! Make sure to pre-register, and we will see you on September 24th, 2022!

Pre-registration is not required but will better ensure you get the hike you want. Healthy snacks and water will be provided or bring your own lunch for a picnic in the forest.

Rally Schedule

September 24th, 10am-4pm

Station 1

9:30am-3pm: Registration & General Information

Station 2

10:00am-4pm: Donation Station

Station 3

10:00am-4pm: First Aid & Health Station

Station 5

10:00am: First Hike Excursion

2:00pm: Second Hike Excursion

Station 8

12:00pm-2:00pm: Healthy Food Station

Station 9

11:00am-12:00pm: Water Testing

With Matt Hepler

12:00pm-12:15pm: Annual Group Photo

12:15pm-1:30pm: Live Music

1:30pm-2:30pm: Reptiles

With All are God's Creatures

2:30pm-3:30pm: Wild Medicinals

With Eddie Yates

3:30pm-4:00pm: Rabies

With Virginia Department of Health



MAP OF EVENTS

Below is a map of the area, labeled by the station number with a provided key. Make sure to attend the events scheduled at the listed times so you don't miss your favorite hike or panel!

High Knob Naturalist Rally Map
High Knob Recreation Area

LIST OF STATIONS

- Station 1**
Information & Registration, Hike Registration
- Station 2**
TCC Donation Station
- Station 3**
First Aid & Health Station
- Station 4**
Restrooms
- Station 5**
Hikes
- Station 6**
Partners
- Station 7**
Kids Area
- Station 8**
Food
- Station 9 (Amphitheater)**
Presentations
- Station 10 (Lake)**
Kayaking with Stone Mountain Adventures

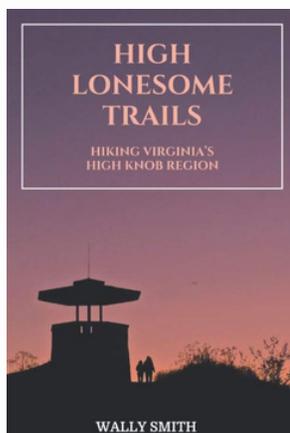
Hiking Times
10:00am Hikes
2:00pm Hikes

Station 5

Salamanders Wally Smith Forest Tree ID Lois Boggs Wild Edibles Phil Meeks Breeding Birds of HK Wayne Browning Mushrooms and Fungi Adam Boring Geology on High Knob Phil Shelton	Butterflies and Insects Chris Allgyer The Forest As An Intelligent System Wayne Browning Forest Ecology Dave Skinner Ferns Phil Shelton
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HOURS
10AM-4PM

Need more information?
Visit us at our registration desk!



Prioritize Your Health? Get a Prize!

Participate in TCC's Health Station at this year's rally to get the chance to win a free copy of Dr. Wally Smith's book, *High Lonesome Trails!*

Make sure to register for this year's rally and attend our health station this Saturday! If you do, you can get a chance to win the first comprehensive summary of trails published in print for the High Knob area of far Southwest Virginia.

Register at www.clinchcoalition.org/registration.

If you would like to become a member or make a donation, please visit www.clinchcoalition.org.