



EMILY BARD

nominated by Tom Lupp

As Chair of the MD AT Management Committee along with Dave House, MD AT District Trail Manager, Dan Hippiie, Ridgerunner Coordinator, and Henry Horn, Shelters Committee Chair, we would like to nominate Emily Bard, of the MD Dept of Natural Resources. Emily is a State Park Ranger formerly assigned to the South Mountain Recreation Area, headquartered at Greenbrier State Park.

Since 2020 Emily has been our Park Service liaison for the MDATMC. She routinely attended the MDATMC meetings and provided updates on current events affecting the AT in MD. When any of the committee members needed assistance or information, Emily would try her best to resolve/answer the issue.

Emily was also very active with assisting trails and shelters. She annually organized the removal of hazardous trees at or near shelters/campgrounds. She would also periodically organize graffiti cleanups along the trail, especially in the High Rock area. She worked to find access points for vehicles across DNR lands. When Greenbrier had a Maryland Conservation Corp crew, she would allocate their time to AT projects including some heavy hauling of materials for the Pogo Campground privy and roofing to the historic Rocky Run Shelter.

Emily was also the contact person for the 2 MD Ridgerunners. She served the team, to screen, interview and select PATC Ridgerunners. She has been our primary point of contact for situating them at Washington Monument State Park, training them on park procedures and providing a critical lifeline on a wide range of logistical and safety issues for the Ridgerunners and hiking community. Equipment was provided for snake capturing and relocation in the Annapolis Rock area. She would coordinate shuttles for the Ridgerunners to effectively cover the AT every week.

As of July, Emily has left her position as Park Ranger at SMRA to become an Assistant Park Manager at the newly formed Freedmans State Historical Park, part of the Patuxent River SP complex. She has been a great source of information and help to the AT in MD. Her knowledge, energy and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by the committee, trails, shelters and Ridgerunners. We are sad to see her leave but glad for her promotion.

