

1 Ridgerunner Talk	Ridgerunners share their 2025 season highlights and parting thoughts (note the season will be well over prior to the event, however, several of them live local to our area and are PATC members). Could get a panel of them and use just a handful of prompts
2 Sunrise Hike	
3 Rolling Grade Dip & Other Water Control Structures	Rolling Grade Dip what is it, how do they work, how to build one and how do they compare with other water control structures, Outdoors
4 Trail Tread Preservation and Maintenance	Come brush up on your old skills or maybe learn some new ways to mitigate trail tread erosion. With all the rain this year our trails are being tested by taxing our trail management plans. What have we done? What are we doing? And what can we do in the future to control erosion. Bring your experiences and practices that work or maybe are not working. We will hike in search of a trail that could use some help. Bring an open mind and we can learn together.
5 Trail Blazes	Come learn the art of trail blazes.
6 Hike Leader Class	Do you love to hike? Are you an experienced hiker? Do you want to share that love with others? Bob Malkowski and Marit Anderson provide leadership and facilitation skills for planning, organizing and leading fun and responsible hikes. The normal \$20 fee is waived for registered VolunteerFest PATC members.
7 Trail Tread Preservation and Maintenance	Come brush up on your old skills or maybe learn some new ways to mitigate trail tread erosion. With all the rain this year our trails are being tested by taxing our trail management plans. What have we done? What are we doing? And what can we do in the future to control erosion. Bring your experiences and practices that work or maybe are not working. We will hike in search of a trail that could use some help. Bring an open mind and we can learn together.
8 Trail Patrol meeting	Metrics, Updates from Leads, Open discussion.
9 Trail Patrol What is it?	Come, ask questions, learn what Trail Patrol is and how you can become a patroller.
10 Women's Workshop	Hands-on Intro to Trail Maintenance Tools and Ergonomics: Come learn how to use the tools of the trail. Then join another workshop to put them into practice.
11 Technology and Social Media	Use of Technology and Social Media in the outdoors—probably destined to be a Leave No Trace component tech and social media can enhance our experiences in the outdoors and sharing that with others on the one hand and it can diminish our enjoyment of the outdoors and even lead to resource damage on the other hand

12 Backpacking 101	<p data-bbox="325 116 850 154">"Mini-Session: Gear Up for Backpacking"</p> <ul data-bbox="325 159 1134 235" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 159 1060 196">· David Manning, PATC Backpacking Committee Chair <li data-bbox="325 201 1134 235">· Matthew Blizzard, PATC Trail Patrol & 2024 AT Thru-Hiker <p data-bbox="325 284 1978 397">Are you curious about backpacking but not ready for an overnight adventure? Join our concise 2-hour mini-session designed to give you the fundamental knowledge and confidence to take your first steps onto the trail!</p> <p data-bbox="325 446 577 483">What You'll Learn:</p> <ul data-bbox="325 488 1606 950" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 488 1606 609">· Backpacking Essentials: The Essentials You Need: <ul data-bbox="378 532 1606 609" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="378 532 1606 570">o Brief overview of critical gear categories (shelter, navigation, hydration, first aid, food). <li data-bbox="378 574 955 609">o Highlight key items and their importance. <li data-bbox="325 657 1228 777">· Smart Packing: What to Bring & How to Pack It: <ul data-bbox="378 701 1228 777" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="378 701 1228 738">o Focus on efficient packing techniques and weight distribution. <li data-bbox="378 743 1060 777">o Discuss essential vs. luxury items for a short trip. <li data-bbox="325 826 1606 950">· Introduction to Backpacking Gear: <ul data-bbox="378 870 1606 950" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="378 870 1606 907">o Condensed gear demo, focusing on key items like highlighting different backpacks or tents <li data-bbox="378 912 892 950">o Comfort and safety considerations. <p data-bbox="325 998 525 1036">Why Attend?</p> <ul data-bbox="325 1040 1018 1161" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 1040 1018 1078">· Gain practical tips from experienced instructors. <li data-bbox="325 1083 913 1120">· Learn crucial safety and planning basics. <li data-bbox="325 1125 955 1161">· Discover if backpacking is your next passion!
13 An Overview of the GPS System and Hiking Navigation Apps	<p data-bbox="325 1166 1978 1242">Bill Holman will discuss how GPS devices and satellite communicators get and use information for navigation apps. This is a beginner level class for those new to using the GPS system.</p>
14 Plan hike, Make a Map with Software	<p data-bbox="325 1333 1501 1370">Planning hikes and creating maps using tools such as AllTrails, Far Out, Power Point, Word</p>

15 Cabin work for All	<p>What is involved in maintaining cabins. Cabin renovation activities to include:</p> <p>COMRADERY - we eat, laugh, enjoy evenings, tell lies, exaggerate stories</p> <p>CHINKING - what a labor of love - nails, chicken wire, scaffolding and home made cement - is there anything "funner" in the world?</p> <p>CONSTRUCTION - build a deck, replace a floor, swing a hammer, doesn't everybody want "privy builder" listed on their resume???</p> <p>OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES - pull weeds, cut trees, make sidewalks, build bridges - your home yard skills put to the real test. Bring Lunch</p>
16 Building a Strong Community of Hike Leaders: Sharing Experiences, Addressing Challenges, and Envisioning the Future of Hike Leaders	<p>Designed for both current hike leaders and those interested in becoming a hike leader. The focus is on fostering an open, collaborative environment where participants can share their experiences, raise pertinent issues, and brainstorm ways for PATC to grow and support a robust network of hike leaders.</p> <p>Participants are encouraged to come to the session ready to share their personal experiences, suggestions, and aspirations. Whether you are a seasoned hike leader or considering taking on this rewarding role for the first time, your perspective is invaluable. By pooling our collective knowledge, we can identify common challenges, celebrate successes, and develop new approaches to leadership and community building.</p> <p>Topics might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences with Meetup and Other Platforms: How effective are current tools for organizing hikes and engaging participants? What works well, and where are there gaps? • Ideas for Improving PATC Hike Leader Support: What resources, training, or incentives would make leading hikes more accessible and enjoyable? • Expanding the Ranks of Hike Leaders: How can PATC better reach out to potential hike leaders? What improvements to current training and mentorship opportunities could encourage more members to step up? <p>Through open dialogue and shared vision, PATC can continue to cultivate a strong, supportive, and dynamic community of hike leaders. Whether you are eager to share your journey or to embark on a new path as a hike leader, your voice matters. Let's come together to build the future of hiking leaders.</p>

17 The PATC Certified Trail Maintainer Program	What is the Certified Trail Maintainer Program, indoors, 1-2 hours (A/V presentation) Bring your lunch
18 Understanding Sawyer Training	Cross-cut vs Chainsaw certification and where to get them and where do they apply, outdoors
19 Battery powered tools	The North District Hoodlums will demonstrate how battery powered equipment can compete with petroleum power tools. We'll compare noise, power, usability and portability. We'll also demonstrate the wide variety of equipment that can use batteries. We will demonstrate several manufacturers equipment
20 Sharing Experiences, Addressing Challenges, and Envisioning the Future of Hike Leaders	<p>Join us for a collaborative discussion designed for experienced hike leaders.</p> <p>As leaders, we're comfortable with the essentials of planning and executing a successful hike. But our true test often comes from the unexpected: the challenging situations and tough judgment calls that demand more than just a map and a compass.</p> <p>This roundtable is an opportunity for us, as skilled leaders, to move beyond the basics and delve into the nuanced, real-world scenarios that define effective leadership. We will pool our collective experience to discuss best practices, share diverse perspectives, and learn from one another in a peer-to-peer setting.</p> <p>This isn't a training for beginners. It's a chance for us to refine our advanced skills, challenge our own decision-making, and ensure we are all better prepared for whatever the trail throws our way. We look forward to a robust and insightful discussion.</p> <p>Come prepared to engage and share your expertise as we work through practical topics and challenging situations.</p>
21 Using Avenza Maps	The PATC has a long and proud history of producing trail maps, dating back nearly 100 years. For the Club's latest map updates, electronic versions of PATC trail maps are being published via the Avenza app for smartphones and computers. Learn about the process the PATC's GIS Committee goes through to update its trail maps and how to use Avenza – not just for PATC trail maps, but for maps nearly anywhere in the world, including many free maps! You can even upload your own maps to Avenza.
22 Planning and Making Shelters	

23 Invasive Plants and the Trail	Invasive plants present a challenge for native landscapes - posing a serious threat to biodiversity and ecological balance. For hikers and trail users, invasive plants degrade the natural beauty of the landscape and can cause additional trail maintenance problems. Join Rob Lamar, PATC's Natural Resource Advisor, for a one- hour presentation on invasive plants, their impact on our trail lands, some common invasives within the PATC's geographic area, and ways you can control these invasives and protect our trail corridors. Afterwards, there will be an optional field session, to give participants a "hands on" opportunity to identify some common invasives and practice removal techniques.
24 Town Hall Leadership Forum	The PATC elected officers will be available to answer questions from the membership in a townhall format.
25 SNP/PATC partnership	A couple ideas: 1) A table set up with pelts, (replica) skulls, etc. of wildlife found in Shenandoah for folks to explore mosly passively 2) An educational game that's often geared to children! Something that will get folks moving and playing, nothing
