


Hemlock Treatment on Clements Branch- Cooper Creek WMA

Project Details

Date	Saturday June 17, 2023	
Event	Service event to complete the hemlock treatment on Clements Branch on the Cooper Creek WMA in Union County, off GA Highway 60 between Morganton and Suches. According to prior treatment logs, we expect to treat or retreat approximately 125 trees.	
Notice	<p>As SGH is committed to protecting the health and safety of our volunteers at all events, we will be following CDC guidelines regarding the <i>coronavirus</i> pandemic.</p> <p>> If you have, or recently have had, a fever or any other symptoms of COVID-19, please do not sign-up and do seek appropriate medical help.</p> <p>> Face coverings will not be required but will be available for those wishing to wear them.</p>	
Where to Meet	Cooper Creek Store - 27880 Morganton Hwy, Suches, GA (GA Highway 60) See maps on last 2 pages. 34.74365/ -84.12586	
Schedule	<p>9:30 a.m. – All volunteers meet at the Cooper Creek Store (come early and enjoy one of their great biscuits). First, you’ll receive a briefing on the condition of the hemlocks, treatment process to be used, and safety reminders. You’ll be organized into small teams including at least one experienced SGH Facilitator per team and receive your equipment and supplies. Then we’ll caravan in as few vehicles as possible to the access point for each treatment site and begin treating trees.</p> <p>12:30 p.m. – Everyone will break for lunch. After lunch, we’ll resume work.</p> <p>3:00 p.m. (but probably sooner) – We’ll stop work, clean the equipment, caravan back to the meeting place, and head for home.</p>	
Access	Access to the treatment sites is via Forest Service gravel roads and will include the crossing of one creek ford requiring high clearance vehicles. We will shuttle folks to the site as needed.	
Terrain	The terrain at the work sites is flat in some places and hilly in others but not dangerously steep anywhere. We’ll make sure everyone is assigned to a site where they can be safe and comfortable.	
What to Wear	Dress for the weather and the activity, including long pants and long sleeves, sturdy footgear with socks, gloves, and rain gear in case of light rain. Nitrile gloves will be provided for those who will be handling chemicals.	
What to Bring	Pack a personal water bottle, sack lunch, hiking stick, and camera if you like. If you have any serious allergies (like bee stings), bring whatever you need to manage. We’ll provide extra bottled water and snacks.	
Don’t Bring	This is an environmentally-friendly, pack-it-in pack-it-out event, so please don’t bring any glass or styrofoam items. Also, as much as we love dogs, please don’t bring them.	
Registration:	Participants must sign up in advance Contact Jim Wentworth, 706-897-0645 or wentwrth@windstream.net . Please provide both your phone number AND email address.	

If you have questions, please call or email *before* you get to the area as phone service is sketchy there.

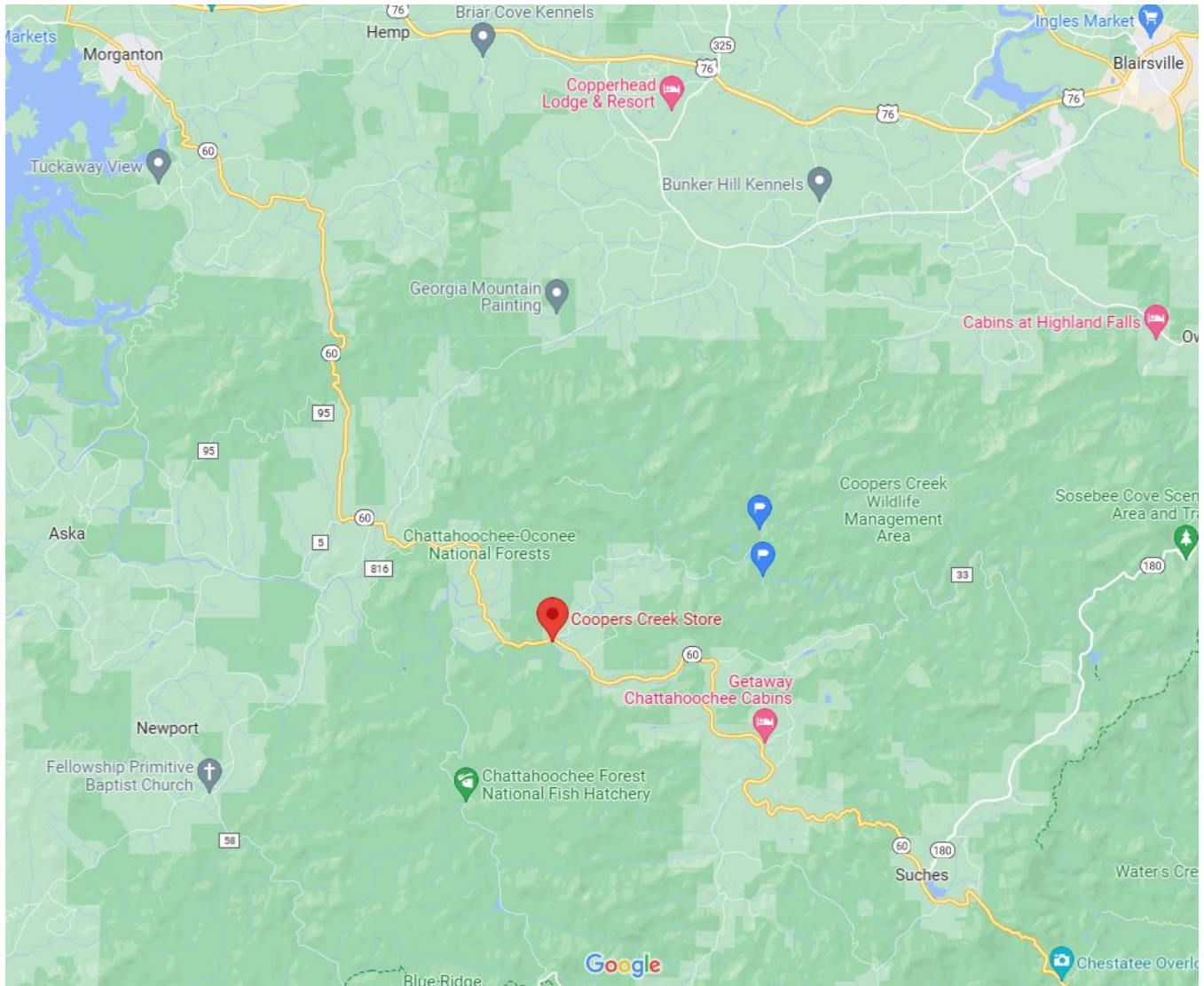


Driving Directions

From Blue Ridge – Take Highway 515 to Morganton, then GA Highway 60 south for approximately 16 miles to Cooper Creek Store. The store is on the right, directly across from Coopers Creek Road.

From Blairsville - Take the old Blue Ridge Highway west for approximately 7 miles, turn left on Skenah Gap Road and go 8 miles to the intersection with GA Highway 60. Turn left and go about 4.5 miles to Cooper Creek Store. The store is on the right, directly across from Coopers Creek Road.

From Dahlonega – Take GA Highway 60 north about 16.5 miles to Suches, continue north on Hwy 60 for about 11 miles to Cooper Creek store. The store is on the left, directly across from Coopers Creek Road.



See close-up map on next page.

