

Hemlock Treatment at Bob Creek (HCA 58) USFS Blue Ridge Ranger District- Union County Project Details

Date:	Wednesday, March 31, 2021
Event:	Volunteer hemlock treatment project at Bob Creek HCA in Union County. The project involves the retreatment of approximately 32 trees.
Where to Meet:	We'll gather at the parking lot in Jacks Gap at the intersection of GA Highway 180 and Spur 180 (Road to Brasstown Bald). GPS Coordinates 34.84934, -83.79841.
Directions from Hiawassee, GA	Take Highway 76 East for 1.8 miles. Turn Right on GA 19 S/GA 75 S and go 6.3 miles. Turn right on GA 180W for 5.3 miles to intersection with Spur 180.
Directions from Helen, GA	Take GA 19 N/GA 75 N and go 11.6 miles. Turn left on GA 180 W for 5.3 miles to intersection with Spur 180.
Notice:	As SGH is committed to protecting the health and safety of our volunteers at all events, we will be following CDC guidelines regarding the coronavirus pandemic. >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. >All volunteers are required to wear face coverings. >We will maintain a 6-foot social distancing except for family units. >Group size will be limited to 6 volunteers plus the project leader so please sign up early.
Schedule:	9:30 a.m. – SGH volunteers report. First, you'll receive a briefing on the condition of the hemlocks, treatment process to be used, and safety reminders. Then you'll be organized into small teams including at least one experienced SGH Facilitator per team, receive your equipment and supplies, hike to the treatment site, and begin treating trees By 12:30 p.m. (or sooner if finished) – We'll stop work, clean the equipment, have a picnic lunch, and then head for home.
Access:	The road to the meeting site is paved. Four-wheel drive is not necessary.
Terrain:	The terrain at the work sites is moderately rolling. We will walk approximately ½ mile down an old roadbed to reach the site. We'll make sure everyone is assigned to a work 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 sack lunch and personal water bottle, and a camera if you like. Your favorite hiking stick and a small day pack to carry things in may come in handy. We'll provide some snacks and extra bottled water. If you have any serious allergies (like bee stings), bring whatever you need to
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 this time
Registration:	Participants must sign up in advance by contacting Jim Wentworth by phone at 706-897-0645 or by e-mail at wentwrth@windstream.net . If you have questions, please call or email before you get to the area as communications service may be sketchy there.