


# Hemlock Treatment in Helton Creek

## Project Details

<b>Date</b>	<b>Saturday October 22, 2022</b>	
<b>Event</b>	Service event to complete the hemlock treatment in Helton Creek in Union County south of Blairsville. According to prior treatment logs, we expect to treat or retreat approximately 155 trees.	
<b>Notice</b>	<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>&gt; 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>&gt; Face coverings will not be required but will be available for those wishing to wear them.</p>	
<b>Where to Meet</b>	Lark Gap pulloff, US Highway 19/129, 1.1 miles south of Vogel State Park, across from Helton Creek Road. See maps on last 2 pages. Directional signs will be posted. GPS 34.75394/-083.92489	
<b>Schedule</b>	<p><b>9:30 a.m.</b> – All volunteers meet at Lark Gap pulloff. 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><b>12:30 p.m.</b> – Everyone will break for lunch. After lunch, we’ll resume work.</p> <p><b>3:00 p.m.</b> (but probably sooner) – We’ll stop work, clean the equipment, caravan back to the meeting place, and head for home.</p>	
<b>Access</b>	Access to the treatment sites is via Forest Service gravel roads. High clearance or four-wheel drive vehicles are not necessary.	
<b>Terrain</b>	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.	
<b>What to Wear</b>	Dress for the weather and the activity, including long pants and long sleeves, sturdy footwear with socks, gloves, and rain gear in case of light rain. <b>Two of the sites involve crossing a small stream, so if you have waders or high-top waterproof boots, bring them!</b> Nitrile gloves will be provided for those who will be handling chemicals.	
<b>What to Bring</b>	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.	
<b>Don’t Bring</b>	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.	
<b>Registration:</b>	<b>Participants must sign up in advance</b> Contact Jim Wentworth, 706-897-0645 or <a href="mailto:wentwrth@windstream.net">wentwrth@windstream.net</a> . Please provide both your phone number AND email address.	

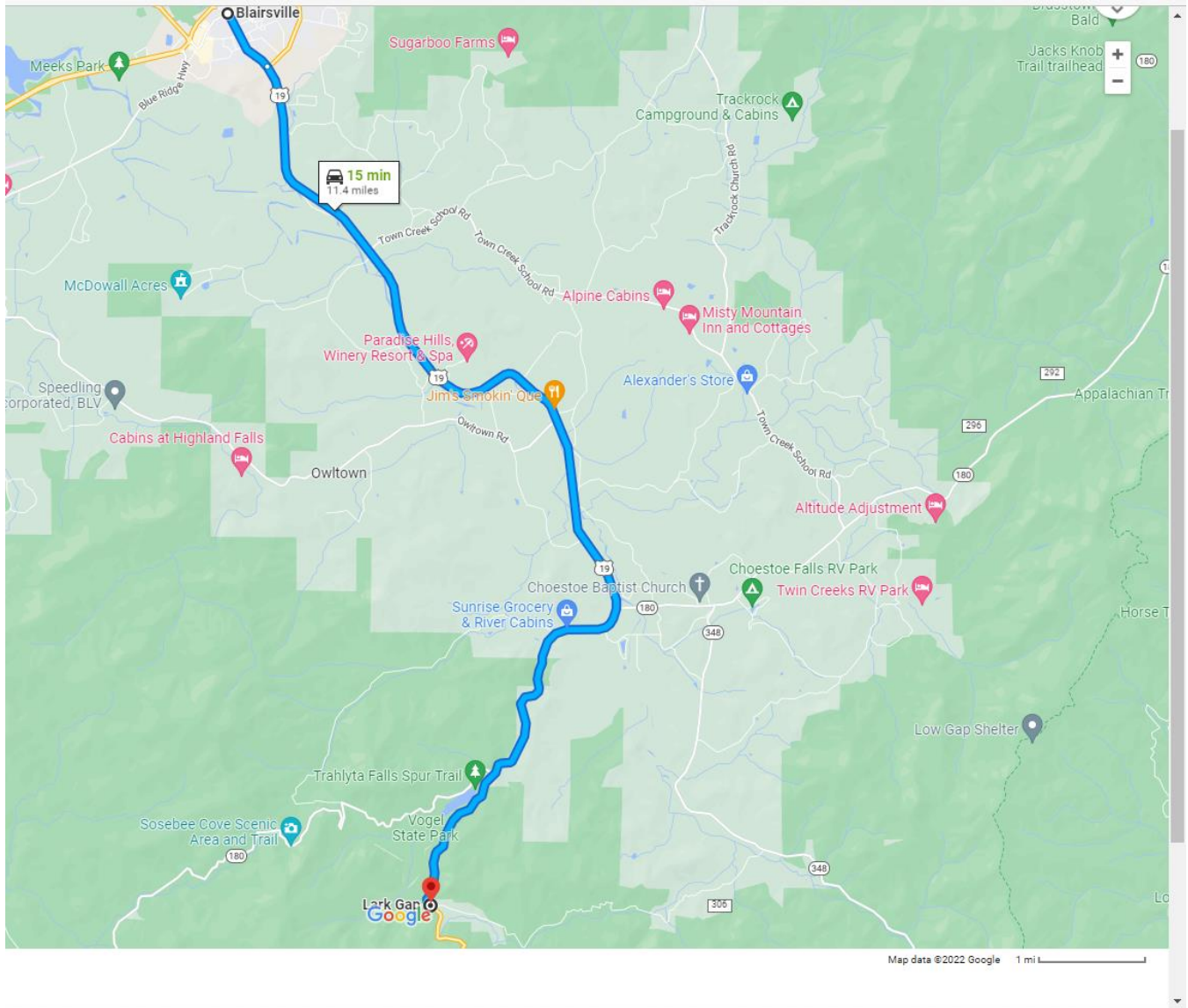
If you have questions, please call or email *before* you get to the area as phone service is sketchy there.



# Driving Directions

**From Blairsville-** go south on US Highway 19/129 for approximately 11 miles to large pull off on right (Lark Gap). Pull off is 1.1 miles south of Vogel State Park and immediately across from Helton Creek Road.

**From Dahlonega –** Go north on Highway 9 for approximately 8 miles. At traffic circle (Stonepile Gap) take 1<sup>st</sup> exit on Highway 19 N and go 5.3 miles. Turn left on US Highway 19/129 and go approximately 9 miles to large pull off on left. Pull off is immediately across from Helton Creek Road.



See close-up map on next page.

