

June/July 2019



OZARK TRAIL NEWSLETTER



Be SAFE!....have FUN!...get INVOLVED!

Summer has arrived on the Ozark Trail! Our volunteers have had some amazing success this spring maintaining and building trail, even with the challenging wet weather this year. We will have more events coming this fall - We would love to have you and your friends come out and join us!



Check out this fantastic video from Ryan Hanlon of Route 3 Films about our incredible Trail!

You can click the links below to check out his website and Facebook page
Route 3 [website](#)
Route 3 [Facebook](#)



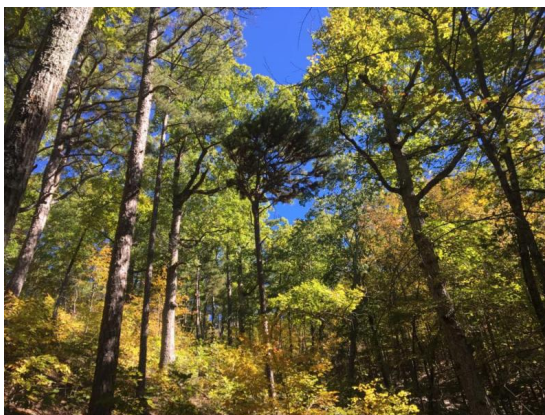
Be Safe!

Unfortunately, there have been recent reports of car break-ins at trail heads, namely around the

Barton Fen TH and the TH near Council Bluff Lake.

This video has some interesting ideas on keeping your car and belongings safe at trail heads as you head out for extended trips.

If you see anyone or anything suspicious at a trail head, please report what you are seeing to the local authorities. Most trail heads have local authorities posted.

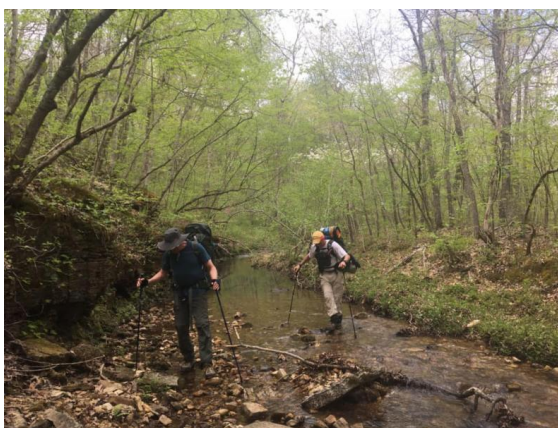


Have FUN!

Have you wondered what the Blair Creek section of the Ozark Trail looks like? Well, your wait is over- check out this quick video of a trip that was taken last month between CR 235 and Powder Mill (about 22 miles approx)- enjoy!

Looking to explore more of the trail? Check out the OTA trip planner to plan your next adventure- click [HERE](#)

Have a cool Ozark Trail trip video you would like to share? email miketobin@truestrengths.net

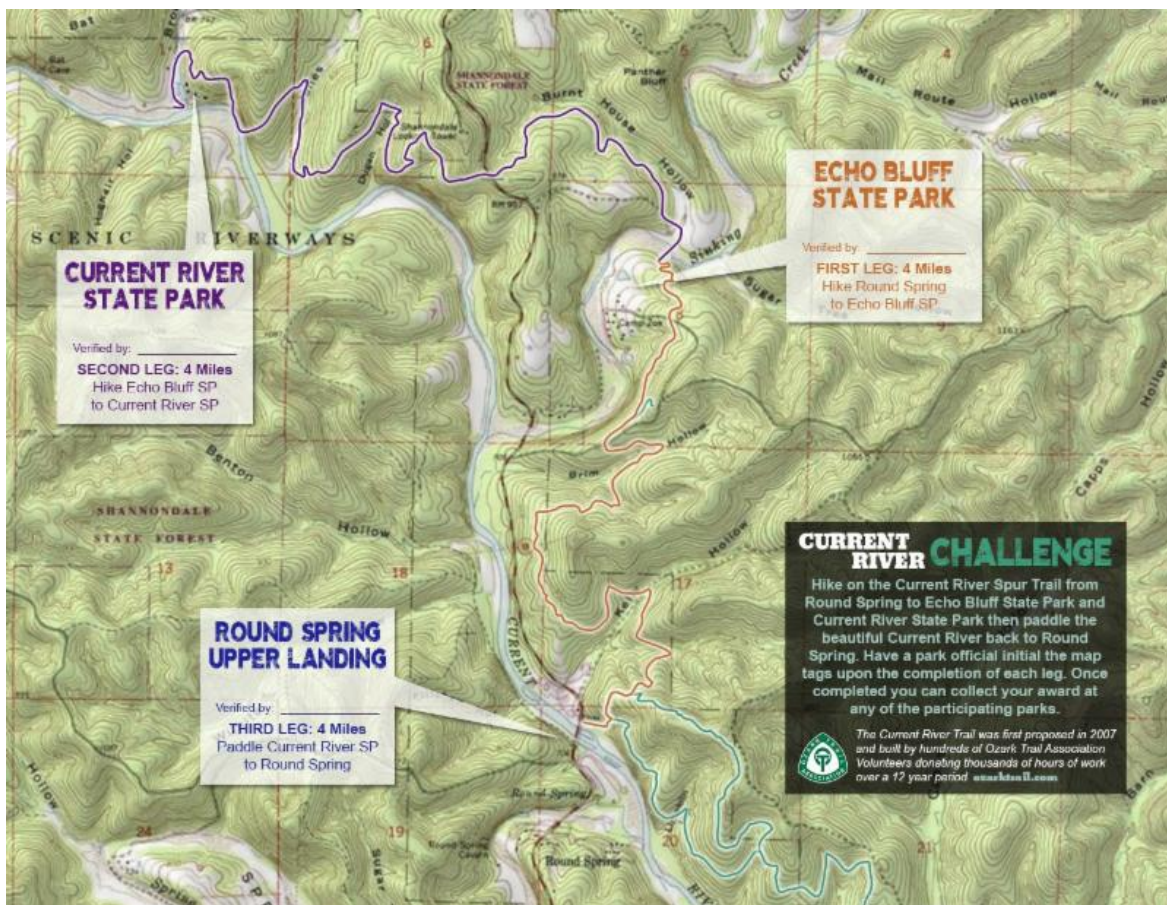


Check out what we have worked on so far- Get INVOLVED!

HIKING AND RUNNING RACE Saturday, June 8th
 Taum Sauk Mountain to Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park
 Food & Awards
13 miles



June 8th- Devils Tollgate Hike and Run Race, Taum Sauk Mountain to Johnson' Shut Ins SP: An awesome day celebrating the Ozark Trail while enjoying a fund-raising event supporting the work our OTA volunteers do on Missouri's longest National Recreation Trail right in our own backyard. Many, many thanks to Ryan Maher and Jake Grossbauer, co-race directors who's love of trail running and the OT became a perfect match to make the Devils Toll Hike and Run Race happen.



June 1st- Current River Challenge- Round Spring Park, Echo Bluff SP, Current River SP- What a beautiful weekend as the OTA partnered with Ozark National Scenic Riverways and two Missouri State Parks, Current River and Echo Bluff to celebrate National Trails Day. Our first 'Hike and Float' event provided 70+ visitors an opportunity to hike from Echo Bluff SP to Current River SP, enjoyed lunch and then floated down to ONSR Round Spring facility. A big thank you to Round Spring Ranger Dave Tobey and his staff, Carr's

Canoe Rental, CRSP Superintendent David Savage and his staff as well as our amazing OTA volunteers who helped from cooking, to shuttling to cleaning up. The weekend was a huge success from the get go!



April 13th OTA Mega Event: Never listen to the weather man... Our OTA volunteers didn't last weekend as 89 joined together to have an excellent day getting done another 1700+ ft of new trail. From our youngest trail builder (3 years old) to our oldest (we won't say who!) you made it happen individually and collectively! What a great feeling to walk out at the end of the day on new trail! As we gathered at the end of the day enjoying food, fun and fellowship with new friends and treasured old ones, we listened to the rain with foot stomping music from the Root Diggers. Many thanks to everybody who drove from afar (Madison Wisconsin and Northern Iowa) to those just down the road! Know you left your mark on a trail that is creating a plethora of recreational opportunities for this area of Missouri!



May 4th, OTA Challenge Hike- We are so excited to share about just one of our amazing events, the OT Challenge Hike that happened May 4th based out of Bass River Resort. This is not only an 17.9m hike, but another component is to raise \$1250 or more! Twenty-one OTA volunteers put forth monumental efforts raising funds by putting on a 5k race to leading the charge of an ‘Ales for Trails’ event to reaching out to businesses, family and friends to meet their goal and more! Preliminary total looks to be \$25k and our stretch goal is \$30k! Please consider making a donation in honor of one of our participants. OT Challenge Hiker/volunteer/member Alicia Brehe said it best....”The Ozark Trails is kind of like NPR, highly utilized, greatly appreciated and underfunded.”

These events don’t happen overnight and huge accolades go to Steven G. Liescheidt who was the coach, cheerleader, organizer, man behind the ‘get ‘er done’ attitude for the past 3 years. And to those of you who hiked to put the ‘frosting on the cake’, THANK YOU! Your passion and love for this trail shined brighter than the sun on May 4th !

Click [HERE](#) for the Ozark Trail Association calendar of events

Join the OTA- click here!

The Ozark Trail Association is supported by donations,

corporate sponsorship, but mainly by trail enthusiasts, hikers, backpackers, equestrian users, and mountain bikers- just like you!

Would you consider joining us? Click on the button above to join the Ozark Trail Association. Let's continue the legacy of protecting, serving, and maintaining our magnificent trail- your support will help us to do just that! Thank you!

