

AUGUST 2021

GROWTH RINGS

APPALACHIAN FOREST NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWSLETTER



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Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area promotes and supports a network of partnerships based around our unique Forest Heritage. We work in 16 West Virginia counties and 2 counties in Western Maryland.

To learn more about us and the work we do, including our AmeriCorps program, visit afnha.org or contact Lukas Ray at lukas@afnha.org for more information



Management Planning Update

A big **THANK YOU** to all that participated in the Planning Exchange Camp and in our two virtual sessions afterwards. We loved being able to network with you and gain tremendous feedback in each session. We have a busy Fall 2021 ahead of us, continue below for next steps!

Next Steps and Upcoming Dates:

- Stewardship and Enhancement Task Group
 - Meeting Sept. 20th, 1pm-3pm, virtual.
- Interpretation and Visitor Experience Task Group
 - Meeting Sept. 27th, 1pm-3pm, virtual.
- Organization Structure and Management Task Group
 - Meeting TBD, stay tuned! Will meet in early Nov.

AFNHA is planning on hosting three regional, in-person public meetings the week of October 18th. The location of these three meetings could be in Lewisburg, WV, Buckhannon, WV, and Cumberland, MD. These are TENTATIVE! If the rise in COVID-19 numbers continues, we will conduct these virtually. Please stay tuned for more on these public meetings! You can always contact us at **planning@afnha.org** with any questions on upcoming meetings and steps.



HIRING FOR 2021-2022 TERM!



AmeriCorps



Can you believe it is almost that time of year again? AFNHA AmeriCorps has opened the search for new members for the 2021-2022 term! Click the AmeriCorps logo to follow information for the upcoming term and position descriptions!

Contact Chrissy Hall, Program Manager at chrissyh@afnha.org with any questions on our AmeriCorps program.



Click **HERE** for
Conservation
Positions



Click **HERE** for
Heritage
Community
Development
Positions!

AFNHA AmeriCorps has been awarded a competitive AmeriCorps grant for 34 members for the 2021-2022 term, plus an additional 8 positions just awarded from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. In addition, the ARPA funding will raise member stipends to \$16,000 a year. This gives us a total program of 42 member positions, our largest ever. Because these additional funds were just awarded, we are still recruiting for a number of positions. While the new term starts September 8, we will continue recruiting through the fall until all positions are filled.



Appalachian Forest
National
Heritage Area



AFNHA wants to thank our 2020-2021 AmeriCorps members, whose terms ended today. We are honored, along with the communities and organizations you served, to have had you with us this past year. You will be greatly missed! We wish you nothing but the best in all the tremendous things you will tackle in the future. You have all done an outstanding job!

Enjoy some pictures from the 2020-2021 AmeriCorps term below:







Upcoming Events



↓ Click on each logo for more info!

Alpine Lake Music Festival
August 21st, All Day
Terra Alta, WV
304-789-2481



The 9th annual Alpine Lake Music Fest is August 21, 2021 and we're throwing a big party with food, drink, local vendors, and, of course, five great bands! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the gate

Western Maryland
Craft Beverage Festival
Sept. 5th, All Day
Frostburg, MD
301-697-1882



Join us at Hoffman Park on Sunday, Sept 5th from Noon - 6pm for the 2021 Western Maryland Craft Beverage Festival! This 3rd year event is designed to showcase Maryland's breweries, wineries, distilleries, and their products. This year's festival proceeds will go to the Allegany County Animal Shelter, the only "no kill" municipal animal shelter in the state of Maryland.

Freshwater Folk Festival
Sept. 11th, All Day
White Sulphur Springs, WV
304-646-0602



The Freshwater Folk Festival is a full day of splendid music, tasty food, local crafts and fun hands-on educational activities built around the Festival mission which is to promote understanding, appreciation and conservation of freshwater resources and to celebrate the local natural history and culture of White Sulphur Springs and Greenbrier County.

Follow AFNHA on Facebook and Instagram!

