



## AT Backpacking Trip\*

March 8-10, 2013

19.3 Miles (Friday PM – Sunday afternoon)

Leaders: Dalton Muzyka & Mr. Moultrie



### Location:

We will hike between Standing Indian Campground (North Carolina) and Dicks Creek Gap (Georgia). We will have two groups, Group #1 (Philmont Crew) hiking south-to-north and Group #2 (all others) hiking north-to-south. We will cover 15.6 miles of the AT (Dicks Creek Gap, GA, to Deep Gap, NC) plus 3.7 miles of the Kimsey Creek approach trail in North Carolina

### Trip plan:

Meet at the church at 5:30 PM on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. Eat dinner before coming to the church – we won't have time to stop on the trip up. The north-to-south group will hike from the Standing Indian Backpacker Parking to Deep Gap. The south-to-north (Philmont) group will hike to the Plum Orchard Gap area (about 4.3 miles). **It will be dark by the time we get on the trail so be sure to have a flashlight with fresh batteries.**

### Hiking Plans:

Location	Distance	1 ← Group → 2	Location	Distance
Standing Indian Parking (NC)	-	Start point	Dicks Creek Gap (Georgia)	-
Deep Gap (campsites)	3.7 miles	Friday Night	Plum Orchard Gap Campsite	4.3 miles
Plum Orchard Gap	11.3 mi	Saturday Night	Deep Gap (NC)	11.3 miles
Dicks Creek Gap	4.3 miles	Exit point (Sunday)	Standing Indian Parking (NC)	3.7 miles

### Other details:

Food groups will need to prepare and pack two breakfasts, one lunch and one dinner. Please bring money for a fast-food lunch on the way home on Sunday. All trail meals should be light and pack-able. This trip is a required training hike for those Scouts participating in the Philmont backpacking trek this summer. Please see Mr. Query ASAP if you are a member of the Philmont crew and cannot attend this hike.

### Equipment needed:

For this early-spring hike in the mountains of north Georgia and North Carolina, you may encounter freezing temperatures and/or wet weather so you will need to pack accordingly. Forecasts for nearby low-land areas are 35F/63F. Temperatures at 4000' can be 10F colder! You must have a full rain suit (a poncho is **not** acceptable). For warmth you will need to pack multiple layers of **NON-COTTON** clothing so that you can be comfortable in a variety of weather conditions and activity levels. You must bring several changes of wool or synthetic hiking socks and liners. **Don't forget gloves and a warm head covering.** There will be a final equipment check the evening of the departure and you will **not** be allowed to go on the trip if you don't have proper gear packed. Remember the advice that in cool/cold weather camping, "**Cotton Kills**". The trip is intended to be lots of fun but our first priority is keeping everyone safe from hypothermia, frost-bite and other weather-related conditions.

### Who is eligible to attend?

You must have successfully completed a previous backpacking checkout or longer trip in order to participate in this trip. See Mr. Moultrie if you have any questions about your qualifications for this trip.

### Adult help needed!

We're cross-hiking in two groups to avoid having to shuttle cars. To do so, we'll need at least three adults for each group and 2-3 drivers each. We'll work out the details on Monday but drivers need to bring an extra set of keys so we can avoid a 90-minute shuttle between the starting and ending locations!