Friends of the Smokies assists the National Park Service in its mission to preserve and protect Great Smoky Mountains National Park by raising funds, awareness and providing volunteers for needed projects.











## THANK YOU FOR BEING A FRIEND OF THE SMOKIES!

FriendsoftheSmokies.org (800) 845-5665 PO Box 1660 | Kodak, TN 37764

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TRAILS FOREVER

# TRAILS FOREVER ENDURES

Friends of the Smokies established the Trails Forever endowment in 2012, thanks to a matching gift from the Aslan Foundation in Knoxville. The endowment funds a full-time trail crew to reconstruct and rehabilitate some of the park's most impacted trails.



Trail improvements are designed to last 75 years and make the trails safer and more enjoyable for millions of hikers for decades to come.

Trails Forever has completely rehabilitated more than 20 miles of Trails in the Smokies.

### Trails include:

- Forney Ridge (2010)
- Chimney Tops (2012)
- Alum Cave (2015)
- Rainbow Falls (2018)
- Trillium Gap (2020)
- Abrams Falls, slated for completion 2022

### "EVERY TRAIL IN THE PARK IS Somebody's Favorite."

- **George Minnigh**, retired Backcountry Trails Supervisor, Great Smoky Mountains National Park

# YOUR GIFT TO TRAILS FOREVER

Every dollar counts in repairing and expanding iconic trails in America's most-visited national park. You can make a difference with a gift to Friends of the Smokies' Trails Forever.



**Donate** Online at FriendsoftheSmokies.org/TrailsForever Or by check, mail to:

Friends of the Smokies PO Box 1660 Kodak, TN 37764 The crew members restoring these iconic pathways use the same techniques to move, cut, and shape native stone and logs as did the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) who built the trails in the early 1900's.

Sustainable, durable staircases, foot bridges, turnpikes, and drainage culverts built by the Trails

Forever crew are designed to blend into the landscape in a natural way in keeping with the national park's historic wilderness character.



### Restoration of a single Smokies Trail can involve:

- Millions of pounds of crushed rock
- Hundreds of stone and timber steps
- Thousands of pounds of stone for bridges & stepping stones
- Hundreds of linear feet of drainages
- Hundreds of square feet of stone and locust retaining walls
- Miles of blocked social trails
- Tens of thousands of volunteer hours

### **Trillium Gap Trail**





For information about volunteering, visit FriendsoftheSmokies.org/TrailsForever