

Northern Frontier Section of the Green Mt. Club

Spring 2021 Newsletter

Springtime Greetings!

The good news is that COVID infection numbers in our population are down and vaccinated numbers are up to an effective level. COVID restrictions are easing in VT, which makes it easier for us to hike and camp on the Long Trail. As you can see in the following pages, our section will resume group outings and “in person” meetings. According to the new COVID guidance, both vaccinated and unvaccinated people aren’t required to wear face masks in outdoor public spaces, as long as they’re more than 6’ from those outside their household for more than several minutes. Carpooling is ok for fully vaccinated people and each vehicle may contain people from one household who are not fully vaccinated. We should avoid sharing food, water or gear and avoid crowded parking lots and trails. Contact tracing isn’t required for each outing.

Our hiking season has begun and volunteer adopters from our section have started doing their trail walk-throughs and shelter visits for maintenance. This year, we need to reblaze the section of trail from Route 242 to Jay Peak. There’s a work day in our schedule for this and if you can help, please let me know. The big news on our section this year is that the GMC is having a work crew repair the trail treadway from Route 242 south to Bruce Peak and from Route 242 north to Jay Peak. They’re scheduled to work from June 14th to July 11th on the part south of RT 242 and may need some help carrying tools and equipment to their campsite. If you’re interested in helping with this, please reach out to Lorne Currier (lcurrier@greenmountainclub.org).

Just a reminder for all volunteers who work on the trail and shelters: After you do your work, submit a volunteer work report by going to greenmountainclub.org and click on “volunteer”, then “volunteer report” and type in your information. If you’ve worked with a group, you can submit a group report. Many thanks for all the hard work of the NFS volunteers, you are each greatly appreciated!

Last winter, we learned that the US Border Patrol is planning to install several 120’ tall surveillance towers with cameras along the US-Canadian border. These towers may impact our views from the northern Long Trail and the Green Mountain Club is looking into this. If you are interested in finding out more contact GMC Executive Director Mike DeBonis at (802) 241-8212 or (mdebonis@greenmountainclub.org). You may also contact our US Representative, Peter Welch.

The annual Green Mountain Club meeting will be held on zoom again this year, on Saturday June 12th from 9 to 11:00 AM. On Friday evening, June 11th, a long distance hiker named Derek Lugo will give an interesting talk about his adventures. To attend one or both of these go to (greenmountainclub.org) and look for

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2021 Annual Meeting.

Our Northern Frontier Section annual meeting will be “in person” this year! We will have a potluck and cook-out along with our meeting on Sunday, July 11th at 4:00 PM at the Montgomery Center recreation center pavilion. We'll cook bratwurst and hot dogs; please bring other food that you would like to share. This will be our first NFS gathering in two years and I think we'll all have a very enjoyable evening. Please let me know if you can attend.

Also, please attend one or more of our outings this year. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in good company.

I wish you good hiking and good health this season.

See you on the trail,

Ken Whitehead, President NFS

Date	Event
Sunday, June 27th	Hike Jay Peak from RT 242 (Jay Pass), 1680' vertical rise, 3.5 miles round trip, moderate, contact Jane Williams at (802) 827-3879 or janeallynwilliams@gmail.com
Sunday, July 11th	Northern Frontier Section annual meeting (potluck, cookout) Montgomery Ctr. rec center pavilion 4:00 PM, Contact Ken Whitehead at (802) 933-5352 or mrsswhitehead@gmail.com
Saturday, July 17th	Bike Lamoille Valley Rail Trail from Jeffersonville to Johnson & back, 16 miles round trip, contact Jane Williams at (802) 827-3879 or janeallynwilliams@gmail.com
Sunday, July 25th	Hike Laraway Mountain from Coddington Hollow Road, 1390' vertical rise, 3.6 miles round trip, moderate, contact Ken Whitehead at (802) 933-5352 or mrsswhitehead@gmail.com
Thursday, August 5th	Trail blazing RT 242 to Jay Peak, rain date Tuesday Aug. 10th, contact Ken Whitehead at (802) 933-5352 or mrsswhitehead@gmail.com
Saturday, August 14th Rain date Aug. 15th	Hike on the LT from RT 105 to the Canadian border and back, 520' & 570' vertical rise, 5.2 miles round trip, easy to moderate, contact Jeff & Cathy Miller at (802) 528-6785 or mill48@comcast.net
Sunday August 22nd	Bike ride on rail trail from Swanton to Sheldon, about 12 miles, contact Kip Potter at (802) 868-3125 or pottersvt@comcast.net
Sunday September 19th	Hike Belvidere Mtn. on the Long Trail (from RT 118 & back), 2080' vertical rise, 5.6 miles round trip, strenuous, contact Ken Whitehead at (802) 933-5352 or mrsswhitehead@gmail.com

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Northern Frontier Section Officers:

President: Ken Whitehead (802)933-5352 mrsswhitehead@gmail.com
Vice President: Jane Williams (802) 827-3879 janeallynwilliams@gmail.com
Acting Secretary & Newsletter: Sharon Whitehead (info. Same as Ken's)
Treasurer: Walter Pomroy (802) 635-1770 wipomroy@gmail.com
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