

## TENNESSEE TRAILS

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The May activity of the Tennessee Trails Association will be an exploratory hike on Clinch Mountain in Grainger County, on the proposed "Trail of the Lonesome Pine" on Saturday, the 15th. Max Young, chief planner for the Department of Conservation, will be the leader..

The route of the hike will follow the crest of Clinch Mountain in a northeasterly direction from Powder Springs Gap about 7 miles, descending on an old road (if we can find it, Max says). There will be an initial climb from about elevation 1800 to 2200 feet. After that the route will be relatively flat.

The Trail of the Lonesome Pine is included in the State Trails System Act.. There are some paths existing on the crest of Clinch Mountain and we hope to be able to use some of them.

To get to Powder Springs Gap, follow Highway U. S. 11W from Knoxville to Joppa, a distance of around 20 miles. Turn left and follow a paved road to the top of the mountain. Hikers coming from Nashville should follow I-40 through Knoxville, leaving at the Rutledge Pike exit. Oak Ridgers may follow Emory Road to Blaine and turn left on 11W or take I-40 to Rutledge Pike. Joppa is about 8 miles from Blaine.

Departure time from Powder Springs Gap will be 9:30 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time. Conservation Commissioner W. L. Jenkins may go along with us.

We had a good turnout for the wildflower hikes in Frozen Head State Park on April 17. Henry Hall came all the way from Memphis (Mrs. Hall too). We had one hiker from Clarksville and Bob Brown brought his mother. She made it in fine shape and expects to be on the Clinch Mountain hike. The McIntyres now use two "kiddie packs" and each carries a tot. On the trail.

Bob Brown reports he attended a hearing conducted by Senator Henry, sponsor of the Trails System Bill, which passed the House some weeks ago. Commissioner Jenkins made a strong statement in favor of the bill. Sen. Motlow voiced approval of the House amendment which bars use of the power of eminent domain to cross pasture land or cultivated fields. It was expected that the bill would be called up for a vote in the Senate around April 26.

Conservationists mourn the death on April 12 of Louis M. Doney, of Knoxville, former president of the Tennessee Conservation League. Mr. Doney was an enthusiastic hiker until his health failed. He made the motion on Dec. 7, 1968 to form the TTA and later introduced John McIntyre to the organization.

Work is going ahead at full speed on the Walden's Ridge section of the Cumberland Trail, with Scout Troops working every weekend. Your editor investigated a complaint of dumping refuse on the crest of the ridge a few days ago. Employees of the Division of Forestry feel that they are doing the public a favor by dumping away from public roads,