

August 2023: Board discussed/agreed to hire outside help to work on SCTA trails before the fall heavy riding season (Sept./Oct). The Trail Maintenance Committee has been hard at work addressing repairs and drainage issues. Little clearing of trails has been done in the past 3 or 4 years and needed attention. It was determined that this work could be accomplished without disrupting/diverting valuable resources from other trail work in progress. Project to include:

Clearing of trails: encroachment of trees/saplings, weeds and sticker bushes/trail overgrowth along property owner fencing and boundariesclear back 6-10' wide, and 7' for canopy where feasible, cut limbs back to trunk of tree when possible (slows regrowth/reduces need to redo for 2-3 years)

Pavilion: clearing around the pavilion prior to pest control inspection/treatment and redo pavilion horse crossings

Proctor Ridge maintenance: fill in 5 large mud holes near the entrance to the Proctor Ridge Trail w/crusher run

Laurie LeRoy worked with Garden Kings to review work to be done, maps, and schedules. They agreed to work on week ends and the Labor Day Holiday to accommodate our need to get this done before December when they would have more availability. They were willing to work 11 or 12 hours per day. ***There was no increase to the costs for overtime or holiday hours.*** They used their own equipment (chain saws, mowers, weed wackers, extension saws, tools, vehicles/trailers) and fuel. \$25.00/hour for work with equipment. \$20.00 for straight manual labor work. Since almost everything was with equipment-we agreed to just go with the \$25/hour so we did not have to separate the crews.

COMPLETED: Most of the planned work was accomplished - in 5 work days between Aug. 30th and Sept 10th:

Cleared 6 miles of underbrush/trees/weeds along Spruce Creek Loop and Proctor Ridge Trails (see map)

Pavilion road crossings: assisted with tar and rock application

Pavilion clean up: mowed, cleared back trees/underbrush, removed rotted wood/debris behind building

Proctor Ridge: Filled 5 mud holes with rock (small pile remains for follow up after traffic and rain)

Also Removed 10-12 truck & 20' trailer loads of tree debris and burned at Pavilion

NOTE: Trail Maintenance Committee did trim on Indian Rock/Cherokee area in July-so did not include

NOT COMPLETED:

Last 100 feet of Proctor Ridge as it enters the Park needs trim back and weed wacking (Laurie will try to do)

Spruce Creek between Reynolds and Spurlock-needs to be mowed and property line marked

(we own 30' wide strip-to the county road. We will lose survey markers we paid for soon if not addressed)

Evergreen Trail and Johnson Place were not put on the list: but do need trimming/cut back)

WHAT WENT WELL & LESSONS LEARNED

Workers were very diligent/worked hard and were polite to riders and homeowners. Clearing six miles is a lot of trail work. Would consider using them on other projects-available for "day labor" and other jobs. However, need to have more direct SCTA supervision due to lack of trail work experience, language barriers and long hours.

Should have had more SCTA guidance/supervisions as the workers are not horse people, especially on days when we had 2 crews working in different areas. They did not chainsaw trees off short enough-had to go back and cut stubs on some

trails. Also, should have had more helpers/flaggers when working on horse crossings by pavilion....which resulted in 2 truck/trailers going through wet tar.

There was more tree trash in some areas than could be discarded on the side of the trail. We did not plan for hauling out the debris and burning at the pavilion. Had to go back and get debris thrown over fence at Platters, and several other areas with larger piles. (Added at least 20 hours to the work)

Although several Facebook posts were made to advise of the work days, it was difficult to keep up with/detail what was being worked on for any given day. Could have been better if there was a separate person assigned to ask/track/post and set out "trail work" signs every day.

Request for approvals:

Aug. 25, 2023 \$2,000, plus \$350 for 1 load of rock– e-mail approval (9) YES unanimously

Sept. 10, 2023 \$2,000 e-mail approval (8) YES: Jim did not vote

Oct. 11, 2023 \$980 e-mail approval for overage (8) YES: Monica did not vote

TOTAL APPROVALS=\$5,330 (\$4,980 LABOR + \$350 ROCK)

HOURS AND COST SUMMARY

5 work days:

Wed. Aug. 30 th	1 crew: 4 workers	11 hours = 44
Sun. Sept 3 rd	2 crews: 7 workers	12 hours = 84
Mon. Sept. 4 th	2 crews: 6 workers	11 hours = <u>66</u>

194 hours ON SITE

Billed \$3,280 for 131.2 hours (I did not keep track of lunch/dinner breaks)

Sat. Sept. 9 th	1 crew: 4 workers	11 hours = 44 hours
Sun. Sept 10 th	1 crew: 3 workers	8 hours = 24 hours
Sun. Sept 10 th	1 crew: 4 workers	5 hours = <u>20</u> hours (they went home at noon)

88 hours ON SITE

282 TOTAL hours ON SITE

Billed \$1,875 for 75 hours (I did not keep track of lunch/dinner breaks/those)

TOTAL BILLED \$5,155 FOR 206.2 HOURS LABOR

Rock: \$145 (2nd ½ of load of crusher run dropped at pavilion-10-17-2023 invoice : \$290/load)

TOTAL EXPENSES=\$5,300 (\$5,155 LABOR + 145 ROCK)

Spruce Creek Trails Association Trail Map

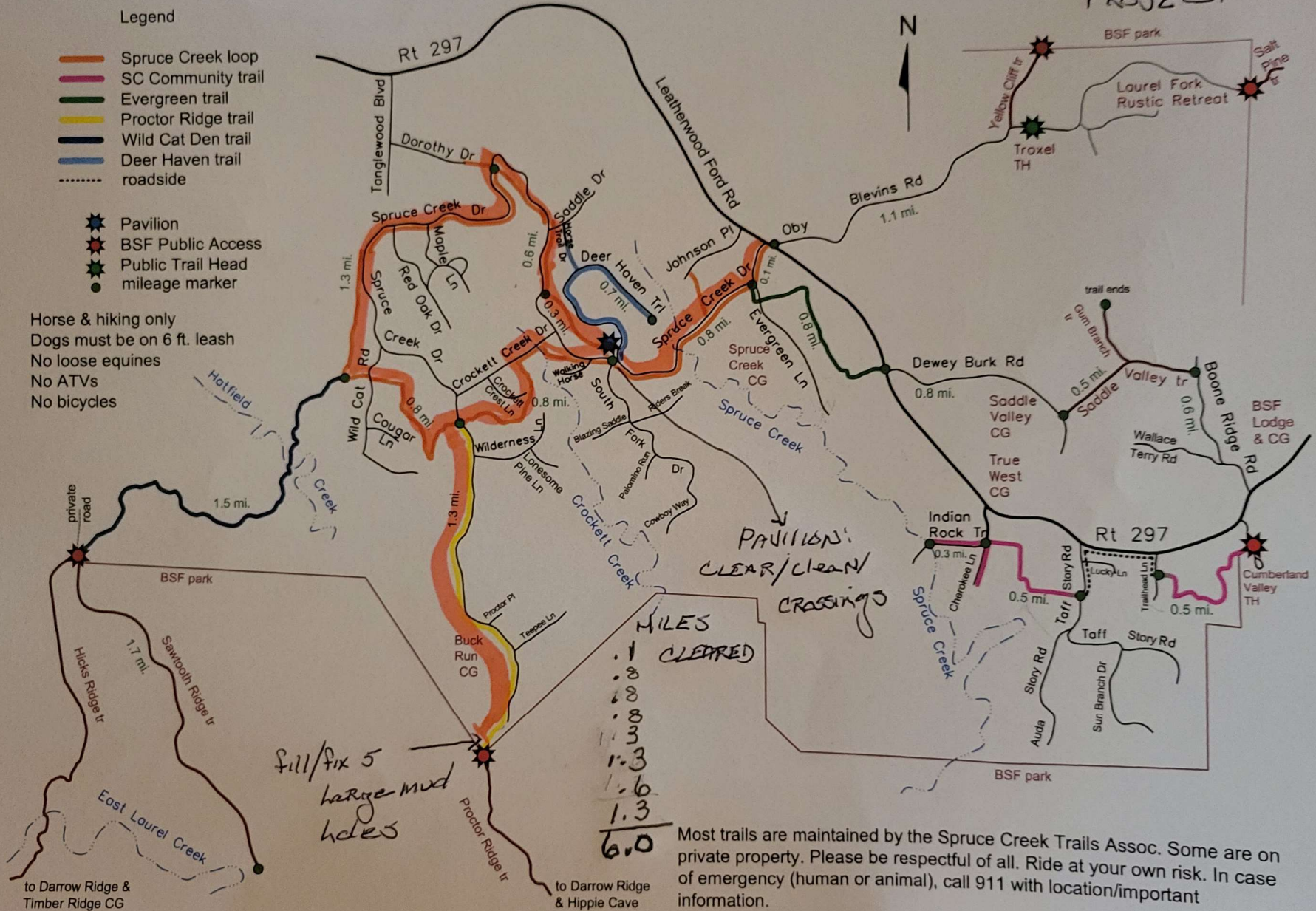
2023
CLEARING/
CLEANUP
PROJECT

Legend

- Spruce Creek loop
- SC Community trail
- Evergreen trail
- Proctor Ridge trail
- Wild Cat Den trail
- Deer Haven trail
- - - - - roadside

- Pavilion
- BSF Public Access
- Public Trail Head
- mileage marker

Horse & hiking only
Dogs must be on 6 ft. leash
No loose equines
No ATVs
No bicycles



MILES CLEARED

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fill/fix 5 large mud holes

Most trails are maintained by the Spruce Creek Trails Assoc. Some are on private property. Please be respectful of all. Ride at your own risk. In case of emergency (human or animal), call 911 with location/important information.