

## Help build a trail on Bearwallow Mountain

Staff reports • May 20, 2010

**GERTON** — As many as 50 volunteers and trail enthusiasts will build a new trail on Bearwallow Mountain overlooking the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge in celebration of American Hiking Society's 18th annual National Trails Day on June 5.

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy (CMLC) and REI will co-sponsor the event to begin building a mile of new trail to the summit of Bearwallow Mountain. The project is the first segment in a planned trail system that will connect conserved land throughout the gorge including CMLC's 600-acre Florence Nature Preserve.

Bearwallow Mountain rests in the northeastern corner of Henderson County near Gerton, approximately 25 minutes from Asheville and 25 minutes from Hendersonville. It straddles the eastern continental divide and provides hikers with near 360-degree views. The property's remarkable ecological diversity includes a rare mountain bald, old growth forest, swaths of trilliums and dramatic rock outcroppings. The elevation ranges from 3,480 to 4,232 feet on Big Bearwallow summit – a 752-foot change. The new trail will traverse the upper north- and west-facing slopes of the ridgeline.

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy purchased a conservation easement permanently protecting 81.4 acres of Bearwallow Mountain in 2009, and also purchased a right of way to accommodate the new

Advertisement

public trail. CMLC holds an option contract to conserve an additional 388.6 acres on top of Bearallow and Little Bearallow Mountains, along with the right of way needed to connect with the five miles of trails at Florence Nature Preserve.

To get involved with the National Trails Day project, volunteers need to register on REI's website: [www.rei.com/stores/117](http://www.rei.com/stores/117). For more information, visit <http://www.carolinamountain.org> or call 697-5777.



**Mom Dilemma #36:**  
Your daughter insists on wearing her princess costume to the grocery store. Allow it or not?

YES, at least she's dressed!

NO, I have some rules!

momslike.me.com  
where Local moms meet

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™