

Orange-
Chatham
Group

Summer Picnic

Please join us for the Sierra Club summer picnic at Umstead Park in Chapel Hill from 3-6 PM on Saturday, June 7. Bring enough food for yourself and another person and we can share. Kids are welcome.



www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg/

Bolin Creek Restoration

One Year Anniversary! Last May the Sierra Club, with the cooperation of the Greenways Commission and the Botanical Garden began a long-term project of restoring degraded areas of the Bolin Creek watershed. Initial efforts have focused on removing invasive exotic plants in the floodplain.

Working over an entire year has been helpful in determining the best practices and seasons to attack certain species. We've hit the privet, wisteria, bittersweet, English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, mimosa, and a few other rogue interlopers.

If you're interested in the project, now is a good time to see the first blush of results. At the Greenway entrance on Bolinwood Drive, just off Hillsborough St., walk downstream along the paved path. Along the stream bank, on the right, all privet is cleared away and spicebush, buckeye, dogwood, and other lower canopy natives are reclaiming their niche. In comparison, on the left of the path is an explosion of privet that is essentially a monoculture below the tall pines and sycamores. Almost all natives have been squeezed out by the aggressive foreigners.

We will continue this work through the year, but we also need volunteers to inventory flora and fauna, and to monitor water quality. If you are interested in Bolin Creek and this highly rewarding project, please get in touch and we'll help you get involved.

Bolin Creek Project Contact — Bill Bracey by voice at 942-9937 or email at arbornet@mindspring.com.

OCG Meetings & News

Saturday, Jun 7 3-6 PM at Umstead Park in Chapel Hill—Summer Picnic

No ExCom meeting this month.

OCG Contacts

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Andrea Rohrbacher	Treasurer	
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Outings

3rd Saturday - Bolin Creek Trail. Work is continuing on the Bolin Creek habitat restoration project. After a fairly small amount of work, a significant improvement is now visible along the Greenway. Almost all of the Chinese privet has been removed from the first target section, and we've put a dent in the bittersweet and wisteria as well. There may be an opportunity this winter to reintroduce some more desirable native species.

This is a long-term project, and we need many more volunteers. It's hard work, but very rewarding. The difference is visible immediately, and the effect is long lasting. After the initial pilot project is complete, other sections of the creek will be targeted. The plan is to include neighborhood groups from the various areas adjacent to the creek.

We meet the third Saturday of each month at the Greenway entrance on Bolinwood Drive, just off Hillsborough Street in Chapel Hill. Please contact Bill Bracey at arbornet@mindspring.com, or 942-9937 if you are interested in participating.

1st and 3rd Saturdays of each Month - American Tobacco Trail Service Outing. Friends of the American Tobacco Trail and the Sierra Club are continuing their efforts to extend the American Tobacco Trail in southern Durham and surrounding counties. Generally, the group meets on the first and third Saturdays of every month starting at 9:00 AM. The workgroup meets at the Scott King Rd. crossing of the ATT. If you would like to know more about trails and greenways construction or maintenance and other service outings in the Triangle, contact Thad Howard (HWG) at 919-544-9126 or e-mail thad.howard@duke.edu.

JUN 7 (Sat.) Eno River Service Outing. Celebrate National Trails Day by helping maintain and improve a state park. This service outing will probably work with rangers at Eno River State Park. Contact Matt Brown (OCG) before 8:00 p.m. at 919-732-0855 or e-mail matt.brown@mail.com.

JUN 14-15 CAPE FEAR RIVER. Experience a few white water thrills on this river located on the edges of the Piedmont & Coastal Plain. It will be an easy trip despite the rocks; the approximate distance will be only 16 miles. We will camp on Saturday night at Raven Rock State Park. No pets or children under age 13. Leader reserves the right to change paddling location if weather and/or water level dictate. Contact

Chandler Stewart (CG): cstewart4@mindspring.com or by phone between 8:30 & 10:30 P.M. at 910-739-4879 or 910-536-4416.

JUN 22 (Sun) Eno River State Park. Moderate, over six miles. Contact Margaret Anderson (OCG) at 919-493-0397 or andcamlib@hotmail.com.

JUL 14 (Mon) Harpers Creek Base Camp Sign-up deadline for Jul 26-27 outing listed below.

JUN 28 (Sat) Bond Lake. Sierra Seniors Hike and paddle at Bond Lake in Cary. Bring something for the grill, a dish to share, and your beverage. Contact Gretta Hervey (481-0806 or mail ghervey27@aol.com).

JUL 19-20 LUMBER RIVER Experience an even more beautiful section of the Lumber by going farther south--this section has long white sand bars & wide beaches--which invite you to stop for breaks & make for great camping spots. This will be an easy trip, with the total distance approximately 28 miles. Sat night we will camp along the River on one of these pristine beaches. No pets or children under age 13. Leader reserves the right to change paddling location if weather and/or water level dictates. Contact Chandler Stewart (CG): cstewart4@mindspring.com or by phone between 8:30 & 10:30 P.M.--910-739-4879 or 910-536-4416.

JUL 20 (Sun) Local Park. Hike at a local park, details TBD. Contact Margaret Anderson (OCG) at 919-493-0397 or andcamlib@hotmail.com.

JUL 26-27 Harpers Creek Base Camp. Sign-up deadline July 14. Escape the summer heat while learning about several of the many waterfalls and trails in this proposed wilderness area. Easy pace will leave ample time for swimming and playing in the falls. Our base camp will be a local Forest Service Campground. Moderate. Contact Steve Lund (CG) at 919-481-1300.

AUG 11 (Mon Mt. Rogers Trip Sign-up deadline for Aug 23-24 outing listed below.

AUG 16-17 COASTAL RIVER PADDLING. Location to be determined, but possibly Town or Rice Creek near Wilmington. Details to be determined & announced in future newsletters. Leader reserves to change paddling location if weather and/or water level dictates. Contact Chandler Stewart (CG): cstewart4@mindspring.com or by phone between 8:30 & 10:30 P.M.--910-739-4879 or 910-536-4416.

Complete outings information is available on-line at <http://www.sierraclub-nc.org/ocg/>

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