Tennessee Appalachian Trail License Plate Grant Program
Past Grantees and Projects

Since 2010, TN A.T. specialty tags have generated over $520,000 for ATC. Of that amount, the volunteer members of ATC’s TN Tag Grant Committee have awarded $94,739 in Tennessee A.T. License Plate Grants. We are grateful to all of the partners who have participated in this grant program, helping to make the Appalachian Trail and the countryside it traverses the best it can be. Below, you’ll find a list of each year’s grant recipients, accompanied by a brief description of their project(s).

2020: $16,350 granted to support projects totaling $78,038 = 477% leverage

Wildwood Consulting: Thin 6-8 acres of spruce forest on Unaka Mtn. for restoration

Roan Mountain Recreation Foundation: Promote and execute Hikerpalooza 2020

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: Roan Highlands and Grassy Balds Management Programs and digitization of historical photos

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: Install "peakfinder" signs along the A.T. on Round Bald and stabilize trails leading to signs

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Purchase battery powered chainsaw and handsaws for Trail maintenance.

2019: $17,300 granted to support projects totaling $96,173 = 556% leverage

MountainTrue: Treat ash trees along the A.T. in Tennessee to protect against the Emerald Ash Borer.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: Roan Highlands and Grassy Balds Management Programs

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Purchase cordless hedge trimmer and cordless hammer drill; replace Cherry Gap Shelter.

2018: $8,113 granted to support projects totaling $166,654 = 2,000% leverage
Appalachian Long Distance Hikers Association: Recognize and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act.

Roan Mountain A.T. Community: Roan Mountain Hard Core trail maintenance event and Roan Mountain Trail Festival

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: Roan Highlands and Grassy Balds Management Programs

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Paint Overmountain Shelter.

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Purchase First Time Volunteer Recognition Patches

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Paint Curley Maple and Roan High Knob Shelters

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Fabricate and install wooden signs at significant geographical locations on the TEHCC section of A.T.

2017: $10,055 granted to support projects totaling $18,260 = 182% leverage

Forest Fire Lookout Association: Restoration of the historic Rich Mountain Lookout Tower.

Roan Mountain: Support the Roan Mountain A.T. Community designation ceremony and community celebration.

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy: Replace the kiosk posters at Carver’s Gap.

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Repaint and repair the Stan Murray Shelter and purchase a chainsaw to support trail maintenance work.

2016: $4,597 granted to support projects totaling $36,097 = 785% leverage

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Purchase of materials to build cattle fencing for management of open areas; purchase of volunteer patches for first-time maintainers

2015: $13,896 granted to support projects totaling $122,722 = 883% leverage

A.T. Leave No Trace Video Project: Creation of videos serving to educate A.T. hikers about Leave No Trace principles
Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy: Purchase of materials to build an information kiosk on Round Bald

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Food for the Hard Core trail crew; purchase of materials to replace the Koonford Bridge; repairs on several TN shelters

Unicoi County, TN: Completion of trailhead kiosk at Chestoa

---

**2014** – $10,000 granted to support projects totaling $82,777 = 828% leverage

Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Wilderness First Aid Training

James Donaldson: Restoration and maintenance of grassy balds on the Trail through goat browsing projects

Smoky Mountain Hiking Club: Purchase of materials for renovations to the Soak Ash Creek base camp

Tennessee Eastman Hiking and Canoeing Club: Meals for the Hard Core trail crew

Unicoi County, TN: Purchase of materials for trailhead kiosk at Chestoa

---

**2013** - $6,600 granted to support projects totaling $70,393 = 1067% leverage

East Tennessee State University: Purchase of equipment for continuing Northern Saw-Whet Owl population studies, with Southern Appalachian Raptor Research

Southern Appalachian Raptor Research: Continued research on Northern Saw-whet owl populations, with East Tennessee State University

Tennessee Eastman Hiking & Canoeing Club: Food for Hard Core trail crew

The Wilderness Society’s Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards: Purchase of tools and equipment for the new Wilderness Conservation Crew

---

**2012** - $7,828 granted to support projects totaling $68,548 = 876% leverage

Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Purchase of a pack saddle for shared use by our horse group partners in Great Smoky Mountains NP A.T. projects

Cherokee National Forest: Remediation of vandalism at Beauty Spot and work to prevent access of the area to 4-wheel vehicles

Smoky Mountains Hiking Club: Rehabilitation of the Icewater Springs Shelter and surrounding area
Tennessee Eastman Hiking & Canoeing Club: Groceries and patches for the 12th Damascus Hard Core Trail work project; purchase of 115 hard hats for use by Hard Core and Appalachian State University volunteer groups as well as hard hats and loppers for club use.