

Recovery Points



The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 2

April 2015

CORE New Year's Day Run

Andrew Taylor
CORE President

In keeping with CORE's annual New Year's tradition I decided to host this year's New Year's Trail Ride. I tried to find something that would have something for everyone and so landed on a trip to George Washington National Forest to Flagpole and Reddish Knobs. Due to New Year's falling mid-week we pushed the ride back to the 3rd, Saturday. Attending this year were the following.

- Andrew and Cherie – Silver Nissan Xterra
- Kevin and Gigi – Silver Lexus LX450
- Serguei and Sebastian – Blue Jeep JKU

Cherie and I headed to Harrisonburg from Charlottesville where we were still visiting her family for the holidays. Kevin and Serguei had met in up in Frederick and caravanned down together so we could all meet at the Sheetz in Harrisonburg. After everyone said hello and got last minute provisions and fuel we loaded up and headed out.

The forecast was for rain and freezing rain in the area, something that had postponed the New Year's run in

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...because access to YOUR public land is too important to lose

4 Wheel Parts Named Presenting Sponsor of BFGoodrich Tires Outstanding Trails Program

Compton, CA (PRWEB) April 01, 2015

Reprint: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/bfgoodrich/4-wheel-parts/prweb12624042.htm>

BFGoodrich® Tires builds tires for any adventure, including those that take drivers off their daily roadways. Through its Outstanding Trails program that promotes sustainable and responsible off-road driving, BFGoodrich Tires will once again award grants of \$4,000 each to three qualified and passionate off-road clubs in North America. These clubs will use their grants to continue their efforts that preserve and protect their hometown trails.

As Outstanding Trails enters its 10th year, BFGoodrich has selected 4 Wheel Parts as presenting sponsor of this year's program. 4 Wheel Parts will promote the program and provide a critical outreach extension to four-wheel-drive clubs across North America. The program also is conducted in collaboration with United Four Wheel Drive Associations (UFWDA), Blue Ribbon Coalition and the Off Road Business Association.

To date, Outstanding Trails has awarded grants to 36 off-road trails nominated by 35 local clubs throughout North America. The program has provided more than \$140,000 in grants in support of these trail conservation efforts.

Nominations will be accepted beginning April 3 through July 10, 2015, on the BFGoodrich Tires website at bfgoodrichtires.com. The competition invites off-road clubs from around North America to nominate local trails that merit grants for maintenance or refurbishing. Trails are selected based on uniqueness, terrain type and enthusiast support.

"Off-road communities and clubs that promote and preserve this activity are true driving enthusiasts," said Duane Thomas, brand communications manager for BFGoodrich Tires. "Outstanding Trails allows BFGoodrich Tires and our sponsors to join these clubs in maintaining a robust and responsible off-road culture."

BFGoodrich has assembled a panel of judges comprised

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■ CORE New Year's Day Run

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2013 for two weeks. I however had decided to still lead the trip this day because the ground temps had been in the 40's the last few days, I thought surely we'd have no issues! As we approached George Washington National Forest on US-33 we dealt with just light rain. No slick conditions, just a bland gray day.

Just a few hundred feet from Flagpole Knob there was a sudden change in the world around us. Everything was covered in a thick sheet of ice.

We turned left onto Skidmore Fork Road and we're finally on dirt. We rode the washboard dirt road and took a left to get closer to the Switzer Lake. We pulled over and everyone aired down to make the ride better. We really weren't expecting any need for the extra traction, but the softer ride is nice on rough roads. Kevin ended up not airing down as he realized his new to him LX450 was already riding at a low pressure. Kevin and Gigi let Zeus, their dog, out to run around for a bit, then we loaded back up and got on our way toward Flagpole.

The plan for the day was to first go to Flagpole Knob, then on to Reddish Knob, exploring some side roads on the map along the way. Eat at Reddish, then backtrack nearly to Flagpole and then turn to take a road towards Meadows Knob, eventually passing through the Meadow and eventually back out of the park. A nice relaxing trip with just enough fun spots to keep it interesting!



As we started to climb the mountain toward Flagpole though we started to see freezing rain that had stuck to the trees. At first it was light, a welcome frozen precipitation sighting that made it feel more like a winter run! At one point we came upon some downed pine tree branches that we were able to go over, we thought they had been cut down. Soon we came upon a small tree that had fallen across the road, but this was too tall to just drive over. We got out to investigate and found the ground slightly slick in some spots. Serguei pulled out a Ka-Bar Cutless knife and made

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■ BFG Tires Outstanding Trails Program

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of four-wheel industry veterans to evaluate Outstanding Trails grant submissions. This group selects three winning trails, which will be announced at Off Road Expo in October.

About BFGoodrich Tires

With more than 100 years of heritage, BFGoodrich® Tires is dedicated to providing high performance tires for those who have a passion for driving in virtually any environment. Combining technical expertise with 40 years of motorsports experience, BFGoodrich Tires delivers tires for a full range of driving experiences from ultra-high performance street to off-road terrain with one common theme – extreme performance. Come upgrade your performance with BFGoodrich and see where our tires can take you at <http://www.BFGoodrichTires.com>, on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BFGoodrichTires](https://www.facebook.com/BFGoodrichTires) or on Twitter at [@BFGoodrichTires](https://twitter.com/BFGoodrichTires).

About 4 Wheel Parts

4 Wheel Parts is the global leader in off-road truck, Jeep and aftermarket performance products. With 69 locations across the U.S. and Canada and growing, 4 Wheel Parts Service Centers install all the products they sell. Maintaining the nation's largest inventory of off-road tires, wheels, lift kits, and accessories, 4 Wheel Parts serves customers across the country and around the globe. Life is Better Off-Road™. Visit them at 4wheelparts.com or call toll-free 877-474-4821.

About United Four Wheel Drive Associations

United Four Wheel Drive Associations is the world's leading representative of all-brand, four wheel-drive enthusiasts. UFWDA benefits, developed and tested over the past 30 years, include four-wheel-drive safety and awareness education; such user ethics programs as adopt-a-road, conservation volunteer and volunteer trail patrol; assistance with new club formation; education seminars to aid four wheelers through complex state and federal programs affecting trail access; internet forums designed to instantly connect members globally; and unlimited member access to its full-time legislative advocate and nationally recognized attorney who works exclusively for four-wheel-drive enthusiasts to protect access and prevent road and trail closures. For more information on the UFWDA log on to ufwda.org

About the BlueRibbon Coalition

The BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) is a national non-profit organization that champions responsible recreation and encourages a strong conservation ethic and individual stewardship, while providing leadership in efforts to keep outdoor recreation alive and well -- all sports; all trails. With members in all 50 states, BRC is focused on building enthusiast involvement with organizational efforts through membership,

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■ CORE New Year's Day Run

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quick work of cutting the tree so we could push it off the trail. We moved on. Just a few hundred feet from Flagpole Knob there was a sudden change in the world around us. Everything was covered in a thick sheet of ice. We each slid as we tried to turn onto Flagpole.

Flagpole was covered in 1/8in of ice, you could see the billowing fog coming across the knob, but that was all we could see. There was no view, just fog, and thick ice on all the grass, ground, and trees! Just walking was treacherous. We decided to continue on, assuming this was a small area of this kind of ice. However we soon found the entire path to Reddish Knob was covered in the 1/8in thick layer of ice. No matter how built your vehicle is, ice is the great equalizer unless you have chains on your tires!

At one point I stopped to get out and assess the path in front of us, an off-camber downhill dirt road that appeared to be covered in ice. I put the Xterra in park, opened the door, and the vehicle started sliding, ever so slightly. It stopped a few inches later, but not before the point was made, we were on treacherous ground! All 3 of us drove at a snail's pace hoping that once we got to the paved road near the summit of Reddish Knob we could take the paved road off this icy mountain. Somewhere along the ridge between Flagpole and Reddish Knob one of the ice laden pine tree branches we were all driving through managed to nearly break Kevin's passenger side mirror off the vehicle! On we continued. Upon getting to the paved road however we discovered it had not been treated at all, and had the same 1/8in of ice on it. It however was slightly worse though since being paved it had less bumpy texture to give our tires even a little something to grip!



After a brief break for food, and a discussion about our situation, we decided to call it a day and take our chances headed down the paved road, to the left, which on the map did not have switchbacks like the right did. We got onto the paved road and kept our right tires just off the pavement so that we had something touching the softer earth beside the iced pavement. Within a half mile or so conditions improved. The road became wet, and about a mile after that the thick fog that had limited our visibility all day to approximately 100ft vanished!

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MAFWDA Recommended Businesses

The MAFWDA membership recommends these local businesses for your four wheel driving accessories and services. If you own a business or know of a business that would like to become a Business Partner contact Larry Pope MAFWDA President Director (President@mafwd.org).

Adrenaline Off Road LLC



Your one stop shop for all of your parts and service needs. Installation is available for everything that we sell. Buy, sell, trade used parts and entire vehicles. Find your lowest advertised price and we will match or beat it.

www.adrenalineoffroad.com

15201 Birmingham Drive
Burtonsville, MD 20866
301-502-6180

Extreme Terrain



Your online retailer of aftermarket Jeep Wrangler parts and accessories headquarter just outside of Philadelphia, PA. ExtremeTerrain is staffed with enthusiasts dedicated to customer satisfaction.

www.extremeterrain.com

7 Lee Blvd, Suite 100
Malvern, PA 19355
1-800-988-4605

River Raider Off-Road



High quality off-road enhancements for the four wheel enthusiasts.

www.riverraider.com

6389 Rockhill Rd
Chambersburg, PA 17202
717-262-3079

Mount Zion Offroad



We provide complete service for your Jeep with experienced techs, specialized tools, and a knowledgeable staff.

www.mountzionoffroad.com

4785 Carlisle Road
Dover, PA 17315
717-308-1844

DO YOU KNOW YOUR MAFWDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Your MAFWDA Board of Directors is composed of volunteer members who contribute their free time to keep the organization going. Currently we have the following folks on the BOD:

President – Larry Pope
President@mafwd.org

Vice President – Bob Weaver
VicePresident@mafwd.org

Treasurer – Larry Pope
Treasurer@mafwd.org

Secretary – Mike Vincenty
Secretary@mafwd.org

Land Use Director – Preston Stevens (PA Jeeps)
LandUse@mafwd.org

Director of Events and Public Relations – Vacant
PublicRelations@mafwd.org

Do you have free time and are willing to help MAFWDA? If so contact one of the Board members at the email addresses above. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PA JEEPS CLUB MEETING

Sunday April 12, 12 Noon

York Township Parks building
25 Oak Street, York, PA 17402

Contact: Wayne Fish
Email: president@pajeeps.org
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

EVOR CLUB MEETING

Friday April 24, 7PM

Friendship Community Library
127 Main Street, Beech Creek, PA 16822

Contact: Jim Neidrich
Email: jim@eaglevalleyoffroaders.com
Web site: <http://www.eaglevalleyoffroaders.com>

PA JEEPS CLUB TRAIL RIDE

April 25

Rausch Creek

Contact: Jennifer Watson
Email: events@pajeeps.org
Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>
Forum: <http://www.pajeeps.org/forum/>

WHEELIN' FOR HOPE

All proceeds from Wheelin' for Hope go to the American

■ BFG Tires Outstanding Trails Program

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participation in the administrative process, outreach, education and collaboration among recreationists. BRC works with land managers to provide recreation opportunities preserve resources and promote cooperation with other public land users. BRC is recognized nationwide for its credible staff of landuse and recreation professionals, as well as a legal team with nearly 30 years of accomplishments. Learn more at BlueRibbonCoalition.Org. ❖

■ CORE New Year's Day Run

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Once off the mountain we decided we had ample time to check out a local attraction I had wanted to surprise everyone with. We headed south until we came to the Natural Chimneys Park and Campground. In addition to the interesting geological features the park is named after it appeared to be a nice campground that would allow a group like CORE to camp with some in tents and some in RV's with hookups. In addition to that they host an annual jousting tournament each August!

After checking out the Natural Chimneys Serguei and his son decided it was time to head home. The rest of us found the Union Station Restaurant and Bar in Harrisonburg and had a spectacular dinner. The main topic was the day's adventure, and how next time we'd heed warnings of frozen precipitation in the area a little more seriously! Following dinner we parted ways, already looking forward to the next trail ride!

Andrew Taylor ❖

Cancer Society via the Relay for Life of Nelson, Virginia.
April 24-26, 2015

Contact: wheel4hope@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.wheelin4hope.com/>

BIG DOGS ICE BREAKER

Gore, VA
April 25, 26
Contact: johnhuntipilot@yahoo.com
Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

EVOR SPRING RIDE

May 2
Contact: Jim Neidrich
Email: jim@eaglevalleyoffroaders.com
Web site: <http://www.eaglevalleyoffroaders.com>

CORE CLUB MEETING

May 17, 3PM
On the Border Restaurant
8053 Leesburg Pike
Vienna, VA 22182
703-734-9512

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■ Calendar

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Guests welcome!

Contact: Andrew Taylor

Email: perpetualdynamism@gmail.com

Web site: <http://www.core4x4.org>

BIG DOGS SPRING FLING

Gore, VA

June 26-28

Contact: johnhuntspilot@yahoo.com

Web site: <http://www.bigdogsoffroad.com>

PA JEEPS 20TH ALL BREEDS JEEP SHOW

York Fairgrounds

York, PA 17404

July 18, 19

Web site: <http://www.pajeeps.org>

BANTAM JEEP HERITAGE FESTIVAL

75TH BIRTHDAY BASH

Butler, PA 17404

June 12-14

Web site: <http://www.bantamjeepfestival.com>

Any additions? Contact Mike Vincenty to get them added to the MAFWDA calendar (Newsletter@mafwda.org). ❖

MAFWDA GRSF Volunteer Weekend 4/10-12 2015

Larry Pope

MAFWDA President

MAFWDA has made arrangements with the Forest Manager of Green Ridge State Forest in Flintstone, Maryland to participate in a volunteer weekend. This will be a camp and work project with those camping arriving the afternoon of Friday April 10th, volunteer work Saturday April 11th, and departing on Sunday. I have established a great professional relationship with the Forest Manager over the past couple of years. I have lead several volunteer weekends at Green Ridge when I was a member of CORE. There are no actual off road trails located on the forest, those we had were closed 3 or so years ago. There are some roads that are not regularly maintained by the forest service and can be a little rough; stock rigs should be okay on most if not all roads. When the volunteer work is done I can lead a tour of the forest and travel some of the rougher roads and possible creek crossings. There are several overlooks with great views of the surrounding area and the Potomac River down in the valley.

A primitive group camp site (G-6) has been reserved

for us for the weekend that will accommodate no more than 20 people. This site will not accommodate large RVs or travel trailers; pop-up camper may fit. I recommend a tent so we can get everyone on site. The site has a small pavilion and I am working with forest personnel to have a porta-john placed on site. If that doesn't work out then your bathroom will be where the rest of the animals relieve themselves. The proposed work consist of restoring a couple primitive camp sites and a trail accessing the Chesapeake and Ohio Tow Path along the Potomac River.

At this particular time I am collecting names of those who wish to participate and volunteer. I need the number of volunteers so I can provide the information to the Forest Manager so he finalize the work plan. I hope to get about 15 - 20 volunteers. When we have that done I will send out an email with the details to the participants only, this email is only a call for volunteers. If you can only participate on Saturday that is fine also.

If you will be participating please reply back to me at lt pope@comcast.net not later than March 20th. List your percentage (1% - 100%) of probability that you will be participating when you reply back to me. List also if you will be camping the weekend or just participating on Saturday.

This is a family oriented weekend event so bring the brood with you.at Green Ridge State Forest (GRSF).

Extreme Terrain Joins MAFWDA Supported Businesses

Mike Vincenty

MAFWDA Newsletter Editor

The Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association is pleased to announce that Extreme Terrain has partnered with the Association to become the latest MAFWDA supported business.

Extreme Terrain is an enthusiastic supporter of open and clean trail programs.

Extreme Terrain is an online retailer of aftermarket Jeep Wrangler parts and accessories headquarter just outside of Philadelphia, PA. Extreme Terrain is made up of a staff of Wrangler enthusiast dedicated to the satisfaction of their customers. Call today to talk to them about your next modification project.

The logo for Extreme Terrain features the words "EXTREME" and "TERRAIN" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Above the text is a stylized graphic of a mountain range with a yellow sun or light source behind the peaks.

Visit them online at: <http://www.extremeterrain.com>

MAFWDA Potomac State Forest Four Wheeling Camping Weekend 8/14-16 2015

Preston Stevens

MAFWDA Land Use Director

DESCRIPTION OF TRIP: This is a family oriented trip, which features outstanding primitive (dry) camping, in the woods, excellent scenery, very enjoyable four wheeling on old wooded CCC roads, possible swimming, fishing, unique shopping opportunities and a great chance to do some team conservation work.

We may do some wheeling on Friday. Keep in mind, we will be wheeling on some routes rarely traveled. So, if you have a chain saw or bow saw, gloves and safety glasses, please consider bringing them along.

Lunch will probably be at the campsite. Then some more wheeling. Dinner. Then, do some more wheeling or swimming and then some nice campfire. Sunday, will feature some more wheeling, possible swimming, etc. Monday, chill out day. Shopping, fishing and packing.

I have reserved the site from August 11th thru the 19th. You and your friends and guests are more than welcome to come up earlier and/or stay later. You very well may be on your own at those times. Trust me, there are far more things to do than time to do them. I very much recommend the extended stay. We have been doing that for decades, now. The most difficult time is going home.

TERMS AND EXPECTATIONS TO WHEEL ON THIS TRIP: This is a very unique opportunity. Once again, we will be provided unique access to trails. Some may be open during Deer Season, some others for snow mobiles, some never open. Otherwise, they are gated closed. Please keep in mind, the only time you can have access there, is with this outing. If you venture up there on your own, you will be cited and worse than that, stand to cause all of us to lose that valuable access. This is almost too good to be true. So, let's make sure that is never becomes just that.

Historically, we do a bit of trail related volunteer work on that Saturday Morning in return for some fun, family wheelin'. Last year, we were still working on re-opening our favorite routes that Super Storm Sandy 3 years ago, had closed with 30+ inches of very heavy, wet snow. Everyone there last year said they still wanted to finish what we started. If Forest Manager, John Denning is still good with that, then that is our plan.

Everyone worked very hard last year. Still, we are not sure if we got to the "intersection". My goal is for everyone not to work as hard, yet complete our task.

Still, the wheeling just to do that was really good and fun. This road, currently is not maintained, so really, it is up to us.

DESCRIPTION OF FOUR WHEELING: The roads we plan on using are typically very tight, little used old Jeep trails, often there from either the C.C.C.'s work, old timber operations or another multiple use trail, such as a snowmobile route. Some have not seen any sort of maintenance in 20 to 30 years or more. In most cases, a stock Jeep can handle most of these roads. There are a few difficult sections that may be an issue or fun if you will. Yes, there are sections that may be too much for a bone stick 4x4. Skid plates and tow hooks are certainly a must on many of these routes. They feature some rocks, steep grades and sometimes wash outs. We will wheel on Saturday and some years on Sunday, morning.

RULES: Tread Lightly! Or not at all! Everyone will air down, no exception. If you get hung, up, do not rip up the trail. If we mess them up, they will be closed. . No Alcohol on the trail rides. No exceptions! Pets are permitted. Owners must keep control of their pets and clean up after them. No independent wheeling. We go as a group, only.

FISHING: There is fishing in Laurel Run, the Potomac River or several other areas outside of the Laurel Run/Wallman area. The Jennings Randolph Lake and Youghiogheny River Lake are excellent places to take any kind of small to medium sized power or non-power boat. Jennings Lake is a beautiful, unique place to boat, swim and fish. It is rarely, if never crowded. It is loaded with fish. They just do not always bite. Broadford Lake and the Savage River Reservoir require the use of an electric motor or paddles. You can fish from the bank or pier at Broadford. Of course, there is Deep Creek Lake. There is a small usage fee at each location. Excellent fishing there. You must have a Maryland Fishing Fresh Water License. Also, a trout stamp to fish the River and Laurel Run, if over the age of 16.

SWIMMING: Last year was not so good to go swimming. It never got out of the 70's on the warmest day. Yet, most years, it is great. There is a nice swimming hole in the Potomac River that is a local favorite.

CAMPING: There are NO hook ups. No set camping pads on our site. There is a concrete outhouse in easy walking distance from the site, but not too close. The ground is rocky. You will actually be camping under the trees. Typically, it is 10 to 20 degrees, or more cooler than in Baltimore. Even 5 to 10 degrees cooler than Oakland.

The camping fee is for the entire site. Thus the cost will be divided up amongst the attendees, based on camping families/units. Where you camp is first come,

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■ MAFWDA Potomac State Camping Event

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first serve. In short, camping is really inexpensive. The more that camp, the cheaper it is.

MOTELS: There is one right in Mountain Lake Park. I have to be honest with you. I know very little about it or how nice it is. There are a few right in Oakland, as well. The one in Mountain Lake Park is right near an auto parts store. How can you beat that?

AUTO PARTS: There is a nice auto parts store right in Mountain Lake Park and there is a Ram/Jeep Dealer in Mountain Lake Park and other parts stores and dealers in Oakland. These seem to be real good folks. Still, try to make sure your vehicle is in good, well maintained order. For yourself and others with you.

WEATHER: Garrett County is the wettest region in Maryland. So, rain is not out of the question. The temperatures may range as high as the upper 80's (rare) to as low as the low 40's at night. If it is very humid, (possible, but not typical,) Avon's Skin So Soft or a good bug repellent can save your trip. Bring extra clothes. Trust me on that one. Yet, normally, they are not an issue.

ITEMS TO BRING:

Required

Your own water, camping gear or Motel reservations, food and cash to go toward the group camping site.

Tow hooks on your rig (Yes, folks have indeed needed a pull)

Tire Air gauge (Take my word for it, airing down is a huge help, besides protecting the resource)

Spare Tire and Jack (A plug kit is not at all a bad idea. Guess how I know that)

Start out with a full tank of gas. (Please fuel up before getting to the campsite. There is a BP station in site of the turn off to Route 560. You probably will not burn that much. Still, you do not want to have to cut your day short due to low fuel)

Recommended gear

31" tires or a bit larger, all or mud terrain (not a must, but you may have to fore go one or two routes with smaller tires)

Skid plates (some routes are very rocky)

Flash light(s) (It gets dark there. Real dark!)

Matches (old school, but when you need them, you need them)

Small travel cooler for trail ride snacks and cold drinks (no alcohol on trail) (I recommend a soft cooler)

Sun glasses (hopefully, they would be a must)

Hat (trust me, it can make for a better trip)

Sun screen (even in the mountains, you can get a sneak attack sunburn)

Bug repellent (usually not an issue. But, we have been known to use some)

Extra water (Think primitive camping. You may want to wash up, as well as for cooking and drinking. Sometimes it is simply too chilly to swim)

Extra toilet paper (We are not the only ones that use that outhouse. Plus, always keep a roll in your vehicle)

Air Compressor (It can make a trip just a bit nicer last year)

Rain gear (That way, it will not rain. Sounds good, anyway.)

Tarp to cover your tent (Same reason as the rain gear. Besides, it is really loud in a heavy rain. LOL)

Bow and/or chain saw (please bring and use your safety gear when using the chain saw)

Work gloves (They can really make it easier to do this work and save your hands)

Tools, especially to disconnect sway bar and a hammer for tent stakes.

(Unfortunately, I have had to use mine on numerous occasions)

Chairs for sitting around Camp Fire (To me, one of the highlights of the weekend. Being around the campfire with friends and family)

CB radio (channel 34) (It is way more fun being able to communicate with each other on the trail)

Cell Phone (service has improved a lot at the campsite, maybe not so much so in the lower areas) (Stand in the clearing and point your right hand toward the satellite and lift your left foot up 6" and talk real loud)

Lantern (Hey, they are a big help there)

First Aid Kit (Just so you will not need it. Consider one with a snake bite kit. We never needed one. But, they are there. There is a reason the one road is called Rattlesnake Ridge)

Camera (Come on, this is Garrett County and you will be with great friends. Need I say more?)

DIRECTIONS: Will be provided on MAFWDA web site

WHO CAN ATTEND: All Middle Atlantic Member in good standing, potential member and invited guests are welcome. All attendees are expected to follow the rules of Tread Lightly! And help out with the work detail, as long as they are physically able. If you are

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Member Clubs



PA Jeeps

Home of the PA Jeep show
York Pennsylvania area

PA Jeeps, Inc
P.O. Box 212
Shrewsbury, Pa 17361-0212 717-309-0513
www.pajeeps.org

CORE

Promoting Responsible Four Wheeling



Washington DC metro area

CORE is organized as a nonprofit organization for the purpose of providing social, educational, and recreational four wheel drive activities for its members and guests, as well as participating in and supporting civic activities for the betterment of the community.

www.core4x4.org
<https://www.facebook.com/core4x4>
info@core4x4.org

Eagle Valley Off Roaders



Lock Haven, PA

Eagle Valley Off Roaders is a family based non-profit four wheel drive club open to all makes and models of 4x4's.

EVOR is committed to promoting stronger family bonds and raising children to both enjoy and respect their environment by maintaining existing public trails and expanding trails on private lands that are open to our use. EVOR participates in trail clean ups and cuttings to help ensure that future generations can enjoy our sport.

www.eaglevalleyoffroaders.com
jim@eaglevalleyoffroaders.com

Are you missing something? Where is your club? If you would like your club to be represented here, contact Mike Vincenty at secretary@mafwda.org for information on how your club can join and contribute to MAFWDA.

■ MAFWDA Potomac State Camping Event

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unable to help, do not let that stop you from coming up. We all understand. Please contact me (Preston) as to let me know that you and your guests are coming up, including a vehicle count. It simply helps me to lay out the trail ride schedule. I encourage you to bring the entire family up and friends. It is an outstanding family location. There literally tons of things to do in Garrett County.

This is one of the nicest areas that you will ever get to wheel and camp at with your entire family. I look forward to hearing from you. If you aren't sure if you are in the right spot or are struggling finding your way there, my Cell Phone Number is (Verizon) 443-605-3573. Remember, I may be in a location when you call, that has poor or no signal. Just keep trying and by all mean, leave me a message with your phone number.

I will be posting updates, as they occur. Please, do not for a moment hesitate to contact me with any questions.

See you there! ❖



Preston Stevens is the MAFWDA Director of Conservation & Land Use. He is also a member of PA Jeeps.

Quote

"I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me." **[Fred Allen]**

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." **[Theodore Roosevelt]**

"We must reject the idea that every time a law's broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions." **[Ronald Reagan]**

MAFWDA Online Store

Get your MAFWDA merchandise here!

Did you know that Middle Atlantic Four Wheel Drive Association has an online store? Here you can purchase great MAFWDA branded merchandise on the online store. Tee-shirts, sweatshirts, coffee mugs; we got it all!

<http://www.cafepress.com/mafwda>

This month's featured item.



- Beach Tote Bag
- 100% cotton (14 oz.) canvas
- Dimensions: 12" x 16" x 5¾"
- Outside pocket with Velcro® closure
- Inside pocket with flap
- Available in 3 colors

\$20.99

Do we have your email?

As a member of MAFWDA, you should be receiving periodic communications from your fellow MAFWDA Board Members. If you haven't been receiving these messages, we probably do not have your current email address. Shoot Mike V your email address at Secretary@mafwda.org and he will ensure you are added to the MAFWDA email list.

Also all current MAFWDA members are encouraged to post items of interest for follow four wheelers on this public email list. Simply send email message to mafwda_news@mafwda.org.

News Items Wanted

The MAFWDA "Recovery Points" newsletter is always looking for interesting articles and news items for publication. If you or your club has something that you would like to share with other members of the fourwheel drive community, please shoot an email to Mike V (MAFWDA newsletter editor) at Newsletter@mafwda.org and he will ensure your contribution is included in the next published edition.

"Recovery Points" is published quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, and Oct).

Quick Bites

Forest Service Extends Comment Period for Surveying Additional Routes for the Proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline

Reprint – March 3, 2015

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gwj/news-events/?cid=STELPRD3833687>

Roanoke, VA-- The Forest Service is extending the comment period on surveying two additional areas for the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline. The two additional areas include a 5.3-mile segment and a 6.2-mile segment, crossing the Jefferson National Forest in Craig, Montgomery, and Roanoke counties, Virginia and Monroe County, West Virginia. Comments are now being accepted through Friday, April 17, 2015. Comments should focus on concerns about surveying on the national forest. The Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC), as the lead federal agency, will conduct in-depth environmental analysis on the construction of the pipeline, with many opportunities for public involvement.

Granting this extension will give citizens of Craig, Montgomery, Roanoke, and Monroe counties opportunities to discuss these alternative routes with Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC prior to submitting comments on the survey to the Forest Service.

Proposed environmental surveys include surveying wetlands, water, soil, and suitable habitat for sensitive species, including federally listed threatened and endangered plants and animals. Surveys will also

record and document cultural resources and invasive species. The Forest Service will use public comments and an environmental review to decide whether to issue a permit for the environmental and cultural resource surveys on the Jefferson National Forest.

Potts Mountain Jeep Trail delayed opening

Reprint – March 31, 2014

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/gwj/alerts-notice/?aid=27459>

Date(s): Mar 26, 2015 - Apr 17, 2015

Contact(s): Eastern Divide Ranger District 540-552-4641

Potts Mountain Jeep Trail will open April 15th if weather permits. The two-week delay in opening is due to the road being extremely saturated from winter precipitation. Traffic on the road in the current condition could create damages and make portions impassable. Please call the Eastern Divide Ranger District for the most current information.

See Something Missing Here?

Where is your club contribution to this newsletter? Where are your trip reports pictures and events? Folks in MAFWDA are interested in hearing what your club is up to and also in participating.

Extreme Terrain Announces Clean Trail Grant Program

Mike Vincenty
MAFWDA Secretary

Extreme Terrain, an online retailer of aftermarket Jeep Wrangler parts and accessories, is pleased to announce their recently launched [Clean Trail Grant Program](#). The program aids various clubs and associations around the U.S in running trail improvement or trail cleanup projects by providing them with trash bags and a \$350 grant.

Help them help us keep the trails we love in prime wheeling condition by signing up for the Grant Program today.



MAFWDA Newsletter Editor: Extreme Terrain is a strong supporter of MAFWDA. Please consider them for your future Jeep upgrade needs.

Visit them online at: <http://www.extremeterrain.com>

Letter Writing Tips

Del Albright

Reprint

aka: Getting the Attention of Bureaucrats and Politicians

By Del Albright, BlueRibbon Director of Operations

"You can't convert a snake into a statesman by simply snipping his fangs; the instinct to bite will always be there!"

How on earth do you capture the attention of a bureaucrat so that your recreation-oriented letter doesn't end up in the proverbial "stack" of unread letters? Perhaps it's not fair to say unread; let's say "sort of read but unheeded."

I've been writing letters to bureaucrats (and happen to have been one), so I'd like to offer some advice. Oh, you ask, what the heck is with the snake business at the start? Well, that's a phrase I coined after watching some of our politicians in action. Mostly it's there to get your attention so you'll read this article!

I've been writing letters to bureaucrats (and happen to have been one), so I'd like to offer some advice. Oh, you ask, what the heck is with the snake business at the start? Well, that's a phrase I coined after watching some of our politicians in action. Mostly it's there to get your attention so you'll read this article!

The first tip for writing letters to bureaucrats (including elected officials) is to GET THEIR ATTENTION UP FRONT -- make your point in the first sentence. If you place yourself in the shoes of an ostensibly busy government official, perhaps reading tons of mail every day, and nowadays maybe even spending hours reading emails, then you'll soon realize that there just isn't enough time in the day. If a letter doesn't hone right in on the salient points, those points might be missed.

My suggestion is: start your letter with your primary reason for writing. For example, if you're going to write to your elected official to say that you're opposed to a piece of Wilderness legislation that is going to close a bunch of roads, then start out by saying so: "I am writing to let you know that I oppose (whatever) legislation."

Immediately after stating your position, you may want to say something nice. A lot of times it really pays to compliment the efforts so far, if appropriate. It lets the reader know that you're not just slamming his/her current work. It might read like this: "I appreciate the time and effort you and your staff have devoted to this issue, and I know you have given this (whatever) a lot of thought." By doing this you acknowledge the fact that they're not just sitting around playing cribbage.

Then move on to some bullet point type facts.

Now you need to lay out your facts in simple form -- easy to read -- visually capturing. And believe me, as a (retired) 30 year bureaucrat, I can attest to the visual effect of bullet points in a letter.

- They stand out and get the point across quickly.
- They draw the eye to focus on them immediately as the salient points.
- They are easy to find again when the reader wants to refer back to your letter.

You can also use numbers if you want to show some sense of priority. But the point is, make your key messages stand out in the letter. Then after you bullet point your key facts, elaborate on each one of them in succeeding paragraphs. I like to discuss one point per paragraph just for simplicity sake; and for ease of finding the information later. Don't overdo it, but underlining and bolding also work to make a key point stand out.

Depending on the topic, you may have to establish your credentials at this point (or even earlier on if that works better). If you are an experienced in your sport, let the reader know your background. If you are a member of organizations like Blue Ribbon Coalition or Tread Lightly, and you think this might give you more credibility with the reader, then point it out.

The next tip is to close your letter with a summary of the key message you've presented, and of course your specific request for their action. Many bureaucrats will read the opening paragraph; the bullet points; and the closing sentence or two. This is called "speed reading" to some folks. It's more like "convenience reading" to me. But this is what it might sound like: "Let me close by restating that I very much oppose (whatever) because I feel this legislation really denies the public the opportunity to enjoy our public lands; and I request that you vote against it when it comes before you."

Lastly, it never hurts to leave the reader with a pleasant salutation and an offer to help. For example, you might say: "Thank you for your time. If I may be of some help to you on this issue, please let me know."

Further, if you want to be included in future mailings, or be notified of any actions affecting your area of concern, include that comment. ❖

[Here is a sample letter](#)

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Del Albright is a career professional advocate promoting trail access and landuse for responsible off-pavement motorized recreation, as well as outdoor photojournalist.

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