

Since 1997, Jeff Brewer has enthusiastically served in various roles as a leader with the North Carolina Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail (FMST) organization. He has organized and led volunteers as they planned, marked, built, and now maintain 60 miles of the Falls Lake Trail; part of the 1,200 mile Mountains to Sea Trail that spans the state of North Carolina. Mr. Brewer's down-to-earth personality and genuine love of the trail and the outdoors are just some of the qualities that allow him to excel as a leader in the hiking community.

Mr. Brewer was instrumental in the founding of the FMST and acted as President from 2004 – 2009. He took the lead in working with USACE and other land managing agencies to develop an MOA for building 35 new miles and maintaining the full 60 miles of trail at Falls Lake. Mr. Brewer's strong determination and his ability to form positive relationships with partners and the local community have directly led to providing and expanding excellent hiking opportunities for the public. Since stepping down as President in 2009, Mr. Brewer has served as the Falls Lake Trail Task Force Leader. In that role, he coordinates efforts of nearly 900 volunteers that are active in 6 trail workdays each year. He has worked closely with partner agencies to keep all informed of issues as they arise, and promptly works to resolve them.

Mr. Brewer has been an invaluable champion of our NRM mission at Falls Lake. He always works with COE staff to ensure new trail is constructed in accordance with NEPA and trail safety standards. He has led the effort to design and install three new campsites along the trail for backpackers completing overnight hikes. He organizes an annual chainsaw safety course with USFS to ensure the local chainsaw crews are properly trained. He educates and informs an email list of trail volunteers about workdays and other important news about the trail at Falls Lake. He is currently involved in updating all of the interpretative map kiosks on the trail. It goes without saying that because of Jeff Brewer's heartfelt dedication to the hiking community and natural resources at Falls Lake, thousands of people across North Carolina will enjoy the beauty and tranquilly of Falls Lake and all the MST offers.



US Army Corps of Engineers®

Volunteers Build New Trail at Falls Lake on NPLD



Ranger Ferrell recognizes FMST Lead Volunteer Jeff Brewer as a finalist for the Corps Foundation's Enduring Service Award.



The Friends of the Mountains to Sea Trail (FMST) had 80 volunteers out to celebrate National Public Lands Day (NPLD) on Saturday, September 25th. The volunteers split into two groups to tackle trail building and clearing at several sites along the 60 miles of trail that FMST maintains at Falls Lake. FMST and USACE collaborated in receiving a \$1,000 NEEF grant to support this event.

• Partnerships



FMST volunteers hard at work constructing a new section of trail along Panther Creek at Falls Lake.

Working Today to Build a Better Tomorrow