



2019 Parkway Needs

Each year, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation works closely with the National Park Service to identify initiatives on the Parkway that need your support. You can give to the projects that mean the most to you or the overall protection of the park. No matter how you choose to give, you're investing in the future of one of the most treasured landscapes in our country.



Your gift will create outdoor exhibits at Craggy Gardens.

Education & Outreach

Craggy Gardens Outdoor Exhibits

Milepost 364 | **Goal: \$6,204**

With the recent addition of new interpretive indoor panels, Craggy Gardens Visitor Center features a wealth of fascinating information about the flora and fauna that call the high-elevation area home. But even in the off-season, the popular hiking destination known for its fantastic long-range views is one of the most visited places on the Parkway. Your gift will create much needed outdoor exhibits for visitors who stop by after hours or during the six months when the visitor center is closed.

New exhibits at Waterrock Knob Visitor Center

Milepost 451 | **Remaining goal: \$31,305**

Waterrock Knob is a majestic and captivating place, not only for its ecosystem but its history. The faded and outdated exhibits at the visitor center do not tell the compelling story of this landscape. Your gift will create dynamic exhibits to share details about the role of conservation in maintaining the pristine environment, Cherokee history and culture, unique biodiversity at the high-elevation site, the return of elk, and more.



Your gift will replace makeshift exhibits at Waterrock Knob Visitor Center.



A couple holds hands at an overlook in 1955.

Digitize historical photographs for public online viewing

Parkway-wide | **Goal: \$25,000**

The development of the Blue Ridge Parkway and its evolution over the decades are a fascinating story that is brought to life through photographs dating back to the initial days of construction in the 1930s. Thousands of images in the Parkway's archives are not available for public viewing. This project will begin the process of organizing and digitizing historical park photographs so they can be made available online for everyone to enjoy.

Renew the Views

Parkway-wide | **Goal: \$60,000**



You can give to clear vegetation at overlooks and reveal the long-range views.

The Renew the Views program takes Blue Ridge Parkway overlooks from “Nothing to see here” to “Wow!” status. Your gift will mobilize the Parkway’s Arborist Incident Response team to remove trees and overgrown vegetation obstructing long-range views. With 216 designated overlooks in North Carolina and Virginia, there are still many sweeping mountain landscapes left to be revealed again. The work is also an investment in the economic vitality of cities and towns all along the way. Most visitors cite the views as the reason for their Parkway visit, thus helping to boost local tourism.

Rock water fountain reconstruction

Milepost 364 | **Goal: \$8,000**

Arched stone bridges, concrete milepost markers, and wood overlook signs are hallmarks of the Blue Ridge Parkway’s character. For decades, rock water fountains in the park’s designated recreation areas also helped define the park’s look. Today, most of the fountains are dry and crumbling. With your support, a fountain at Craggy Gardens will be replaced in an ongoing project to bring back these signature designs and provide visitors with clean water.



Photo courtesy of National Park Service



Your gift will reopen the Bluffs building at Doughton Park.

Bluffs Restaurant

Milepost 241 | **Remaining goal: \$155,000**

It’s been nearly 10 years since the last diners enjoyed a hearty meal at Bluffs Restaurant, but with your help we will reopen this iconic spot at Doughton Park soon. With a new roof, the stone building is ready for the interior rehab that will prepare it for a new operator. The construction work is slated to begin later this year. With your continued support, the doors could open in 2020. Give to reopen one of your favorite stops on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Historical & Cultural Preservation



With your support, crews can complete exterior repairs at Cone Manor.

Remaking Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

Milepost 294 | Remaining goal: \$600,000

In 2016, we kicked off an initiative to raise \$3 million to rehabilitate Moses H. Cone Memorial Park. Today, only \$600,000 is still needed to complete the repairs. This year, a special National Park Service Historic Preservation team will oversee the repairs to Cone Manor, including the weathered and damaged exterior. The work is scheduled to begin in late summer. Plans are also being drawn for parking solutions near the manor to accommodate more visitors.

Natural Resource Protection

Plant nursery intern

Parkway-wide | Goal: \$20,000

The 80,000-plus acres that make up the Blue Ridge Parkway are home to more than 2,000 plant species. To protect this flora and educate visitors, the National Park Service is preparing to create a plant nursery that can help bolster threatened and rare native plants like the Heller's Blazing Star (pictured).



Your gift will create a meaningful learning experience for an intern who will assist park biologists in laying the groundwork for the nursery, including site selection, development of educational materials for visitors, and propagating plants found in the wild.

Mabry Mill flume repairs

Milepost 176 | Goal: \$75,000

Mabry Mill near Meadows of Dan, Virginia, is one of the most photographed sites on the Blue Ridge Parkway, but it is much more than just a pretty place. The mill built by Ed and Lizzie Mabry in the early 1900s is akin to an outdoor museum where visitors can learn about a bygone way of life. To ensure the waterwheel can turn for educational presentations, the flume must be repaired. Gifts for this project will be doubled thanks to a Centennial Challenge grant authorized by Congress. This project is in partnership with the National Park Foundation.



Your gift will keep the mill wheel spinning.

Bee Kind to the Parkway

Parkway-wide | Remaining goal: \$5,428

Last summer, scientists with the Blue Ridge Parkway began re-establishing wildflower areas in the park to bolster populations of bees and other pollinators that contribute to the entire ecosystem. Citizen scientists collected and sorted native wildflower seeds and the soil was prepared for planting. You can help this project reach full bloom with a gift to begin the planting process and conduct pollinator surveys to track the impact of this important Parkway-wide project.

Signature Programs



Kids in Parks is engaging the next generation of park stewards.

Kids in Parks

Goal: \$60,000

Kids in Parks is a network of hiking, biking, paddling and disc golf trails outfitted with free activity guides for children and families. The mission behind these TRACK Trails goes beyond fun; the goals are to encourage kids to be physically active and help them build meaningful connections with nature. In turn, these goals help inspire the next generation of stewards who will care for all public lands, including the Blue Ridge Parkway. Parks are at their best when people use, appreciate, and care for them.

This year, Kids in Parks is celebrating a huge milestone: one million adventures using TRACK Trails! With a donation, you can continue to engage young people in the joys of the outdoors and the stewardship of public lands.

Blue Ridge Music Center programming

Milepost 213 | Goal: \$38,195

This year, thousands of music lovers will clap along to performances by local and national acts, explore the Roots of American Music Museum, and even bring an instrument to jam during the Midday Mountain Music sessions at the Blue Ridge Music Center. You can join the band of supporters providing these cultural experiences with a gift designated for musical programming.



Rangers speak with visitors at the Roots of American Music Museum.

How to Give

Please donate today. Your generosity makes a lasting impact on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Online: Make a monthly or one-time gift with a credit card or through PayPal at brpfoundation.org/donate



Mail: Send a check payable to Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation to 717 S. Marshall St., Suite 105B Winston-Salem, NC 27101

