

# Field Report

DATE: March 30, 2011  
EVENT DATE: February 27-March 26, 2011  
SUBJECT: 2011 Alternative Spring Break (BreakAway)

During a four-week period, The Cumberland Trail Conference hosted its 15<sup>th</sup> annual *Alternative Spring Break* program. The CTC is a host organization for Break Away®: the Alternative Break Connection, Inc. a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports the development of quality alternative break programs by providing training and information primarily to colleges, universities, and nonprofit organizations interested in creating lifelong active citizens through these intensive service-learning programs. The primary focus for the 2011 event was to complete trail construction between Caine and Cooper Creeks in the CT's North Chickamauga Gorge segment. A secondary goal of the event was to perform trail maintenance between the Montlake Road trailhead and the bluff staircase, a distance of two miles.

During the event, 130 college and university students representing 12 schools participated in the event. Students and numerous CTC volunteers donated 5502 volunteer hours and completed trail construction between Caine and Copper Creeks. This completion added an additional 4 miles of continuous trail to the North Chickamauga segment. The newly constructed trail has been blazed, GPS information gathered, and website information will be updated to reflect this newly opened section of trail. Presently, the Cumberland Trail's North Chickamauga Gorge segment has 8 miles of trail open for foot traffic. For this event, CTC volunteers served as trail crew leaders, kitchen staff, and logistical support. Cumberland Trail State Park personnel also assisted with the 2011 *BreakAway*.

In addition to constructing new trail, existing trail in North Chickamauga and Little Soddy Gorge was maintained. This trail maintenance included repairing sections of eroded trail, correcting water run-off issues, correcting areas of trail slough and widening trail tread to 30 inches, removing fallen trees, installing trail signage, and re-blazing the trail.

## BreakAway 2011 Schools

Eastern Michigan University	Saint Andrews
Hamilton College	University of Central Florida
Indiana University Pennsylvania	University of Michigan
Michigan State University	University of Pittsburg
New York University	University of South Carolina
Northwestern University	University of Tennessee

# BreakAway 2011 Map

## North Chickamauga Gorge

