

WE'RE BACK!
TOP OF GEORGIA REOPENS LOWER SECTION OF PARK FOR CAMPING.

Top of Georgia Members,

It's been quite a week. In just six days we have cleared roads and restored power, water, phones, and internet. We are still working on cable because the large receiving dish for the system was taken out by a tree. All of the trailers and motorhomes in the A and B sections are being moved to the lower section of the park to make way for the heavy equipment arriving next week. The trailers in the E (behind the Pine shelter) and S (storage) sections do not need to be moved.

The insurance company on-site assessor is coming on Monday. Tree removal is scheduled to begin as early as next Tuesday. There will be a crane and other logging equipment on site to lift the massive trees off of the main pavilion, the office/maintenance building, the lawn equipment building, the water plant, the Pratt shelter, the tractor barn, and one Airstream. That will be followed by the old growth pine that the Pine shelter is named for. There are many other trees down around the park that will also be cleared away.

We have leased two 40' steel shipping containers that have been placed below the entrance wall. Once the trees are removed we can start moving everything out of the damaged buildings into these containers. They will be kept locked to protect our belongings while the buildings are repaired or removed.

I am very pleased to announce that we have opened the lower half of the park for camping. All sites have electric, water, sewer, and internet. The Verizon cell phone repeater is also online. The lower park only has 41 sites, and several are taken by the people who were in the upper section, but the rest are available on a first come first serve basis. The check-in desk is now located in the Pratt shelter. The main entrance is closed except to restoration crews. All RV's should use the lower entrance. If you are coming south over Trey Mountain and don't think you can make the sharp turn then continue to the turn-around 8/10's of a mile south of the park.

We still have a long way to go, and the costs are really building, but we will get through this and bring the Top of Georgia back to be even better than before. Many of you in the Georgia unit as well as WBCCI members from around the country have asked how they can help with these mounting costs. We will gladly accept donations to help defray these expenses. If you feel so inclined, you may send a donation to *Top of Georgia Airstream Park, 14255 Hwy 75N, Helen, GA 30545*. Please note "*Tornado Recovery*" in the memo field. You will hold a special place in our hearts for your generosity.

The spring rally is still cancelled, but once we can safely do so we plan to announce some workdays at the park. We have had many calls from members asking when they can come and help. We will let you know very soon.

Finally, I just want to say that I am honored to be the president of a club that has such great people. Your eagerness to give both time and money for the good of the club is commendable. And as I've often told my board of directors – I can't do this without YOU!

Bill Wild
President