



George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
Clinch Ranger District
9416 Coeburn Mtn Rd
Wise, VA 24293

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forest Service Hosts Guest River Gorge Cleanup

Wise, Va – Join local high school students, Wise County Litter Control Department and the U.S. Forest Service in cleaning the Guest River Gorge Trail area in Wise County, Virginia. Enjoy a day in the forest, get some exercise, meet community members, make the trail safer for people and animals, and restore the area's beauty. Lunch, drinks, gloves, and litter bags are provided. **Meet on Thursday, April 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Guest River Gorge Trail Parking Lot.**

Trash poses a health and safety hazard for people, pets, and wildlife. Garbage such as broken glass and fish hooks can injure children, and plastic bags can cause animals to suffocate or starve when swallowed. By picking up trash, volunteers not only protect people and animals, they enhance the area's beauty for locals and travelers. Both the Guest River Gorge Trail and river are popular for fishing, hiking, bicycling, and kayaking year-round.

Jorge Hersel, District Ranger of the Clinch Ranger District, explains, "The Forest Service is committed to caring for the nation's resources, and volunteers help the Forest Service accomplish important goals. People working together really makes a difference."

The Guest River Gorge parking lot is located approximately two miles south of Coeburn, Virginia, along State Highway 72 South; a large entrance sign is beside the road. Cleanup includes the trail parking lot, trail, and entrance road.

For additional information, contact the Clinch Ranger District at (276) 328-2931.

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