



Newsletter October 2024



The Friends of Stones River National Battlefield mission is “To Preserve and Promote [Stones River National Battlefield](#), Enhance Recreation, Promote Education and Preserve our Heritage.”

National Public Lands Day 2024

Join us and our partners to clear brush, pick up trash, and remove invasive plants at the former GE/O’Reilly property along Broad Street (Hwy 41 and Van Cleve Lane) on Saturday November 2, 2024, at 8:30 am. The [American Battlefield Trust](#) recently donated this 42-acre tract to the City of Murfreesboro to manage as part of the battlefield of Stones River.



A.E. Matthews sketch of the January 2, 1863, fighting at McFadden’s Farm.
(National Archives)

Combined with adjacent National Park Service property, about 200 acres of the historic battlefield in the McFadden Farm unit where Union and Confederate soldiers faced off on December 31, 1862 and January 2, 1863 is preserved and interpreted for the benefit of the people. To date, the American Battlefield Trust has preserved 74 acres of the Stones River battlefield.

We ask people to register for this volunteer workday at <https://forms.office.com/g/uwX873PZbR>.

Trail Planning at Stones River National Battlefield

Many people think the best way to explore and trace the battle at Stones River is on foot or on bicycle. To improve this kind of experience, the National Park Service wishes to enhance the trails and links to the community greenway system.



Fall colors on the Boundary Trail.

Photo by Friends Board Member Karen Havill-Bingham.

The battlefield is developing a plan that will guide improvements over the next decade. The park held several preliminary sessions with interested people and will hold two meetings where the public may comment on draft plans. The first meeting will be at the park visitor center on Friday October 25, 2024 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The second opportunity to comment will be Saturday October 26 at the Heritage Center, 225 W College Street, Murfreesboro from 10 am to noon.

Strategic Planning for the Friends

We will develop a strategic plan in early 2025 to guide the Friends of the Battlefield to help focus and strengthen our efforts. We need your ideas! If you would like to join this effort, email us at stonesriverbattlefield@gmail.com.

Stones River NB by the Numbers

Battle Acres	~4000
Acres owned by NPS	687
Visits FY 2024	~275,000
Permanent Employees	11
Volunteers FY 2024	1,448
Volunteer Hours FY 2024	10,828
Miles of Trail	11

Join Us!



Website - <https://www.friendsofstonesriver.org/>

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