RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp

RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS
2026 OCT -7 PM 12: 15

Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
(ATC) Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Travel Dates:
09/18/2026 to 09/18/2026

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$78.60	$0.00	$15.00	$0.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

10/7/26
Date

SAVANNAH SHAW
Printed Name of Traveler


Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

10/7/26
Date


Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Transportation	$78.60	We had some cancellations so the cost per person became higher due to this.
Meals	$15.00	Meals were cheaper than expected.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Explanation: There were no changes to the pre-approved itinerary.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

- [ ] Yes
- [x] No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.



APPALACHIAN NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Fact-Finding Visit: The Appalachian Trail & Harpers Ferry

FOR SENATE STAFF MEMBERS

September 18, 2026
From 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Hosted by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is a 2,191-mile footpath that extends through 14 states, from Maine to Georgia, outlining one of the most prominent land features in the eastern United States, the Appalachian Mountains.

The Appalachian Trail (A.T.) is a unit of the National Park Service, cooperatively managed by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy (ATC).

The September 18, 2026 Field Trip titled "Fact-Finding Visit: The Appalachian Trail & Harpers Ferry" will feature educational briefings on the history of the Appalachian Trail, its cooperative management system, and the nationally significant role of Harpers Ferry as home to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy headquarters, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Park Office, and the Harpers Ferry Center. The day will include site visits and a lunch to provide additional context on trail management challenges and successes, the cooperative management system, and the interconnection between all the sites visited.

Who Should Attend

This field trip is open to all Congressional staff and is particularly oriented toward staff in states where the Appalachian Trail is located.

The Itinerary

08:30 – 08:45 AM Meet at Spirit of Justice Park for transportation to River Access Parking Lot, Shenandoah St, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

08:45 – 10:30 AM Travel from Spirit of Justice Park to River Access Parking Lot, Shenandoah St, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

10:30 – 11:00 AM **Discussion about the Cooperative Management System:** A first-of-its-kind model in public lands stewardship that remains a cornerstone of A.T. management today. During this first stop, participants will see a roadway trail crossing to see a real-world example of how Surface Transportation policy impacts the A.T. Attendees will traverse the A.T. and arrive at ATC Headquarters in downtown Harpers Ferry.

11:00 AM – 11:55 AM **Visit to ATC Headquarters for a Cooperative Management Briefing:** Participants will visit the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's headquarters in Harpers Ferry for a guided exploration of historical displays, interpretive exhibits, and artifacts that tell the story of the Appalachian Trail and the movement that built it. This session will offer a deeper understanding of the Trail's origins, the founding and evolution of the ATC, and the development of the Cooperative Management System. Presenters will be David Tarasevich, Visitor Services Lead, and John Campbell, Visitor Center Supervisor.

Following the presentation, attendees will have a break to eat lunch.

11:55 AM – 12:00 PM **Travel to Harpers Ferry Center**

12:00 PM – 12:35 PM **Visit to Harpers Ferry Center (HFC):** Participants will visit the HFC, which is a national NPS services center for media and interpretive services. The HFC provides support to all units of the National Park Service on projects including signage, curation of exhibits, restoration of historical artifacts.

12:35 PM – 2:00 PM **Appalachian Trail Field Visit**: ATC anticipates participation by a Ridge Runner from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), one of the volunteer organizations that participates in the Appalachian Trail Cooperative Management System. During this guided field visit along the Appalachian Trail through Harpers Ferry, attendees will observe local trail conditions and receive educational briefings on visitor management, Leave No Trace education, ecological stewardship, and current resource management challenges, including erosion, invasive species, and increasing visitation. The field visit will include interpretive stops at notable locations such as Jefferson Rock and the Winchester & Potomac Railroad Bridge, demonstrating how the Appalachian Trail intersects with nationally significant historic resources and transportation infrastructure while illustrating the collaborative stewardship model used to manage the Trail. The field visit will also include the section where the Appalachian Trail coincides with the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, highlighting the close coordination among federal and nonprofit partners in managing shared public lands.

2:00 – 2:45 PM **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (HAFE)**: The town of Harpers Ferry has been of strategic importance for centuries. As the location of a federal armory and forge, the town was the site of the abolitionist John Brown's attack in 1859, followed by its transfer several times over the

course of the Civil War. The HAFE landscape also includes historic buildings associated with Storer College, a historically Black college that operated for nearly 100 years. This portion of the tour will focus on the historic lower town and the importance of cooperative management within the connected park model at HAFE, and the transportation infrastructure that provides public access to nationally significant resources.

2:50 PM Depart Harpers Ferry

4:45 PM Arrive at Spirit of Justice Park, Washington, D.C.

Details

Small breakfast snacks and a picnic lunch and transportation will be provided, per Rules. Please RSVP by **Wednesday, August 19** (coinciding with the 30-day lead time the House and Senate Ethics Committees require for your travel forms) to Max Raphelson at mraphelson@appalachiantrail.org. Questions? Call: (828) 278-9423. SPACE IS LIMITED. Attendees should feel free to provide their own transportation if more convenient.

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Savannah Shaw

Employing Office/Committee:
SCHUMER, CHARLES E.

Private Sponsor(s):
(ATC) Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Destination(s):
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

Travel Dates:
09/18/2026 to 09/18/2026
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

Covering the conservation and interior portfolio, this trip will help me better understand the importance of protecting historical parks and places like Harpers Ferry for education, conservation, recreation and economic development. Having the opportunity to hear from NPS and Appalachian Trail Conservancy staff will be a great chance to better understand how these two nationally significant recreational and historical organizations work together to support tourism, economic activity, and the environment. I'm looking forward to learning about the ways these partnerships have supported communities and how Congress can encourage continued conservation efforts.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

8/18/2026
Date

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Charles E Schumer
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize Savannah Shaw
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☐ (signify "yes" by checking box)

8/19/2026
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

(ATC) Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Fact-Finding Visit: The Appalachian Trail & Harpers Ferry

SAVANNAH SHAW

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
SCHUMER, CHARLES E.

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Covering the conservation and interior portfolio, this trip will help me better understand the importance of protecting historical parks and places like Harpers Ferry for education, conservation, recreation and economic development. Having the opportunity to hear from NPS and Appalachian Trail Conservancy staff will be a great chance to better understand how these two nationally significant recreational and historical organizations work together to support tourism, economic activity, and the environment. I'm looking forward to learning about the ways these partnerships have supported communities and how Congress can encourage continued conservation efforts.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
(ATC) Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
(●) Yes ( ) No

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address
799 Washington Street, PO Box 807

Address 2 (Optional)

City, State Zip
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425 United States

Phone Number
(828) 278-9423

Organization URL
https://appalachiantrail.org/

History of Congressional Travel

Prior trip in 2025. Prior trip in 2023. Cancelled trip in 2022 due to low turnout. Cancelled trip in 2021 due to Covid.

Educational Activities

Our organization engages in a variety of educational activities aimed at promoting stewardship, conservation, and public awareness of the Appalachian Trail and public lands. These include hosting workshops and training sessions for land managers, volunteers, and the public on trail maintenance, conservation practices, and outdoor safety. We also develop educational materials, conduct outreach programs in schools and communities, and provide policy briefings to inform decision-makers about public land management and conservation funding needs. Additionally, we organize field-based learning experiences to connect people with the natural and cultural history of the Appalachian Trail. We annually organize over 5,000 volunteers.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyists.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.
- ☑ I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

The September 18, 2026 Field Trip titled "Fact-Finding Visit: The Appalachian Trail & Harpers Ferry" will feature educational briefings on the history of the Appalachian Trail, its cooperative management system, and the nationally significant role of Harpers Ferry as home to the Appalachian Trail Conservancy headquarters, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail Park Office, and the Harpers Ferry Center for Media Services. The day will include site visits and a lunch to provide additional context on trail management challenges and successes, the cooperative management system, and the interconnection between all the sites visited.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

This trip advances the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's mission to protect, manage, and advocate for the Appalachian Trail and its surrounding landscape. By providing a firsthand look at the Trail and the Cooperative Management System that sustains it, the trip highlights the ATC's leadership role in stewarding one of the most significant public lands corridors in the eastern U.S. The visit to ATC's headquarters offers insight into the Trail's history and the innovative public-private model that has supported it for nearly a century. The on-trail portion, which may be led by a Ridge Runner from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, showcases the ecological value of the Trail corridor and the challenges it faces—from habitat pressures to increasing visitor use. Together, these components reinforce the ATC's role as both a protector of natural resources and a convener of partners working to ensure the Trail's long-term resilience.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

There are no grantmaking organizations.

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

- [x] The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

- [x] The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.
- [x] No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [x] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

- [ ] The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip
- [ ] The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.
- Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

- Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
09/18/2026 @ 08:30 AM

Trip End Date/Time:
09/18/2026 @ 04:45 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

○ Yes ● No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $65.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Ground Transportation	Charter	$65.00

Note
Round trip on charter bus.

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem

There are no lodging expenses.

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $35.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
09/18/2026	$10.00	$25.00	$0.00	$0.00	**$35.00**	Harpers Ferry	West Virginia	United States	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: Fact-Finding Visit: The Appalachian Trail & Harpers Ferry

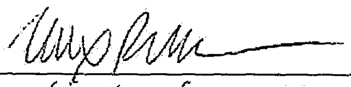
Travel Date(s): 09/18/2026

Travel Destination(s): Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

Sponsor: Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Max Raphelson — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

Federal Policy Specialist — *(title)*



(signature of sponsor representative)

07/17/2026 — *(date)*

Invitee	Invitee	Title
Cydney Karlins	Cydney_Karlins@warnock.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant;
James Ziegeweid	James_Ziegeweid@warnock.senate.gov	Legislative Correspondent
Harrison Walker	harrison_walker@tillis.senate.gov	Senior Policy Advisor
Daniel Hale	daniel_hale@blackburn.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant; Legislative Assistant
Lucas Dapieve	lucas_dapieve@hagerty.senate.gov	Deputy Legislative Director
Mackie Rich	Mackie_Rich@hagerty.senate.gov	Legislative Correspondent
Michah Barbour	micah_barbour@warner.senate.gov	Senior Policy Advisor
Spencer Gilbert	Spencer_Gilbert@warner.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Alessandra McDaniel	alessandra_mcdaniel@justice.senate.g	Legislative Correspondent
Ryan Bardot	Ryan_Bardot@justice.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Baxter Carr	baxter_carr@epw.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Elizabeth Mabry	elizabeth_mabry@alsobrooks.senate.g	Legislative Director
Carmen Leal Ramirez	Carmen_lealRamirez@alsobrooks.sena	Legislative Assistant
Deb Haynie	Deb_Haynie@vanhollensenate.gov	Senior Policy Advisor
Kurtis Miller	kurtis_miller@fetterman.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Abi Jimenez	Abi_Jimenez@fetterman.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Travis Blanchard	Travis_Blanchard@fetterman.senate.gc	Legislative Aide
Laura Atcheson	Laura_Atcheson@mccormick.senate.g	Legislative Director
Prerna Bhat	prerna_bhat@booker.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Marshall Burkhardt	marshall_burkhardt@kim.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Theodore Miller	theodore_miller@gillibrand.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Savannah Shaw	savannah_shaw@schumer.senate.gov	Legislative Correspondent
Jameson Foulke	jameson_foulke@murphy.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant; Legislative Aid
Brian Steele	Brian_Steele@blumenthal.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Hannah Vogel	hannah_vogel@markey.senate.gov	Director of Climate and Environmental Policy
Madison Brothers	Madison_Brothers@sanders.senate.gov	Legislative Aide
Lukas Kauth	lukas_kauth@welch.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Bella Weston	Bella_Weston@welch.senate.gov	Legislative Aide
Janelle Diluccia	janelle_diluccia@shaheen.senate.gov	Energy and Environment Policy Advisor
Anna Ricci	anna_ricci@shaheen.senate.gov	Legislative Correspondent
Ursula Clausing	ursula_clausing@hassan.senate.gov	Tax and Economic Policy Advisor
Alex Shultz	Alex_Shultz@collins.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer

Patrick Bond	patrick_bond@king.senate.gov	Senior Policy Advisor
Benjamin Easter	benjamin_easter@budd.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Charlie Hobbs	charlie_hobbs@budd.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Catherine Laporte Oshiro	catherine_laporte-oshiro@warren.sena	Legislative Staffer
Kathryn Cromack	kathryn_cromack@justice.senate.gov	Legislative Counsel
Jacob Ecke	jacob_ecke@murphy.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
Sarah Taffet	sarah_taffet@kim.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
Leo Confalone	leo_confalone@vanhollen.senate.gov	Legislative Aid
Sarah Schenning	sarah_schenning@vanhollen.senate.gc	Legislative Director
Lee Bridgett	Lee_Bridgett@ossoff.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
Michael Smith	Michael_Smith@ossoff.senate.gov	Fellow
Nicole Duque	nicole_duque@booker.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
Alejandro Quinones-Schoene	Alejandro_Quinones-Schoene@ossoff.:	Legislative Staffer
Jamari Hartley	Jamari_Hartley@husted.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
James Whaley	james_whaley@kaine.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Sabrina Wilhelm	Sabrina_Wilhelm@blackburn.senate.gc	Legislative Staffer
Jaymey Hedberg	Jaymey_Hedberg@blackburn.senate.gc	Legislative Staffer
Daniel Horning	Daniel_Horning@McCormick.Senate.gc	Energy Policy Advisor
Alex Swanson	Alex_Swanson@vanhollen.senate.gov	Legislative Staffer
Catherine Melman Kenny	Catherine_Melman-Kenny@kim.senate	Legislative Staffer
Alex Noffsinger	Alex_Noffsinger@ag.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Coleman Garrison	Coleman_Garrison@ag.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Cross Thompson	Cross_Thompson@ag.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
David Gardner	david_gardner@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Grace Saunders	grace_saunders@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Rachel Lentz	rachel_lentz@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Maya Herman	maya_hermann@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
MJ Calixtro	mariajose_calixtro@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Meagan Gins	Meagan_Gins@energy.senate.gov	Professional Staff Member
Kaitlyn Peterson	kaitlyn_Peterson@EPW.Senate.gov	Professional Staff Member

Ashlynne Beninga	ashlynne_beninga@thune.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Valerie Manak	valerie_manak@barrasso.senate.gov	Deputy Staff Director
Tim Ryder	tim_ryder@schumer.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant
Kevin Lefeber	kevin_lefeber@durbin.senate.gov	Legislative Assistant

The Itinerary

08:30 – 08:45 AM Meet at Spirit of Justice Park for transportation to River Access Parking Lot, Shenandoah St, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

08:45 – 10:30 AM Travel from Spirit of Justice Park to River Access Parking Lot, Shenandoah St, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

10:30 – 11:00 AM Discussion about the Cooperative Management System - a first-of-its-kind model in public lands stewardship that remains a cornerstone of A.T. management today. This first stop will also serve as a real-world example of how Surface Transportation policy impacts the A.T. as attendees will witness a trail crossing on a roadway. Attendees will traverse the A.T. and arrive at ATC Headquarters in downtown Harpers Ferry.

11:00 AM – 11:55 AM Visit to ATC Headquarters for Cooperative Management Briefing - Participants will visit the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's headquarters in Harpers Ferry for a guided exploration of historical displays, interpretive exhibits, models, and artifacts that trace the history of the Appalachian Trail and the movement that built it. This session will offer a deeper understanding of the Trail's origins, the founding and evolution of the ATC, and the development of the Cooperative Management System - a first-of-its-kind model in public lands stewardship that remains a cornerstone of A.T. management today.

ATC staff will present on the Trail's legacy as one of America's earliest and most ambitious conservation projects, built not only to protect a footpath but also to preserve an interconnected corridor of public lands through the most densely populated part of the country. The A.T. remains one of the most visible and successful examples of what can be achieved when federal, state, local, and nonprofit partners share responsibility for stewarding a nationally significant resource. Presenters will be David Tarasevich, Visitor Services Lead, and John Campbell, Visitor Center Supervisor.

Attendees will also eat lunch during this segment.

11:55 AM – 12:00 PM Travel to Harpers Ferry Center

12:00 PM – 12:35 PM Visit to Harpers Ferry Center for Media Services—Participants will visit the Harpers Ferry Center (HFC), which is a national NPS services center for media and interpretive services. The HFC is available to the entirety of the park system to support signage, curation of exhibits, restoration of historical artifacts and more! As one of the non-historic park entities housed in Harpers Ferry, the HFC contributes to the region's status as a conservation hub.

12:35 PM – 2:00 PM Appalachian Trail Field Visit – ATC anticipates participation by a Ridge Runner from the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), one of the volunteer organizations that participates in the Appalachian Trail Cooperative Management System. During this guided field visit along the Appalachian Trail through Harpers Ferry, attendees will observe local trail conditions and receive educational briefings on visitor management, Leave No Trace education, ecological stewardship, and current resource management challenges, including erosion, invasive species, and increasing visitation. The field visit will include interpretive stops at notable locations such as Jefferson Rock and the Winchester & Potomac Railroad Bridge, demonstrating how the Appalachian Trail intersects with nationally significant historic resources and transportation infrastructure while illustrating the collaborative stewardship model used to manage the Trail. The field visit will also take participants to the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park Unit, which overlaps with the Appalachian Trail in Maryland.

2:00-2:45 PM Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (HAFE)—The town of Harpers Ferry has been of strategic importance since time immemorial. As the location of a federal armory and forge, the town was the site of the abolitionist John Brown's attack in 1859, followed by its transfer several times over the course of the Civil War. The HAFE campus is also populated by buildings from the now-closed Historically Black College that operated for almost 100 years. This portion of the tour will focus on the historic lower town and the importance of cooperative management from the 'connected park' at HAFE, as well as the transportation infrastructure that provides public access to nationally significant resources.

2:50 PM Depart Harpers Ferry

4:45 PM Arrive at Spirit of Justice Park, Washington, D.C.