

Date submitted (Eastern Standard Time): 11/30/2020 12:46:18 PM

First name: Anna

Last name: Tuziw

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

My husband, Mike, and I live below Max Patch in Madison County. When we first moved here nine years ago, we used to love hiking up and around Max Patch, playing ball with our dog and just enjoying the beautiful views, the quiet and the serenity. Over the past year, however, the number of people on Max Patch has grown exponentially. We no longer go there at all because of the huge crowds which are totally inconsiderate, not to mention, dangerous. Parking is non-existent given the very small parking area and just driving up to Max Patch is dangerous due to people ignoring and even destroying the no-parking signs along the road. In fact, the road is usually so over-crowded with cars parking on both sides that emergency vehicles couldn't possibly get to Max Patch, or the surrounding residents, if and when they're needed.

Many of those coming to Max Patch are there just to party . . . they don't know or care about "leave no trace". They bring piles of trash which they leave behind. They use the undergrowth along the trails as their bathroom, leaving toilet paper and human feces wherever they go. Bathrooms are badly needed! There are sometimes upward of 100 tents on the bald on weekends, with music blaring, people shouting and yelling. It's anything but serene and quiet!

Max Patch needs some loving attention badly! Campers have "created" new trails, damaging the grass, torn down rail fences and used them as firewood, and generally made Max Patch unwelcoming to those of us who love and care about it. Please devote resources to alleviate these problems . . . bathrooms, parking, trail maintenance, traffic control!