

Blue Ridge Parkway

North Carolina, Virginia

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Wildfire-Risk Reduction Work Begins Near Asheville

The National Park Service is removing storm-generated tree debris to reduce wildfire risk and improve public safety. Work begins in the Asheville corridor in October 2026 and continues through April 2027.

Where is the project happening?

Work zones are located between mileposts 380 and 391 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Crews will generally work at one location at a time before moving to the next.

What can I expect?

- There may be short delays due to intermittent one-lane closures. Please follow all posted signs and traffic flagger instructions.
- No full closures to the Parkway are expected as a result of this project.
- Visible heavy equipment in work zones and an increased presence of hauling trucks on the Parkway.
- Project vehicles entering and leaving the roadway.
- Workers and monitoring staff walking along roadsides and/or in forested areas near the Parkway.
- The Mountains-to-Sea Trail will experience temporary trail closures between mileposts 380 and 391 while debris operations are underway. Please stay out of closed areas.

Why is this work important?

On September 27, 2024, Hurricane Helene passed through western North Carolina with sustained winds of 80 miles per hour at Mt. Mitchell adjacent to the Parkway and record-breaking rainfall of 14 to 30 inches. The Parkway sustained damage and, in some cases, complete devastation of the motor road, slopes, structures, vegetation, and developed areas.

Debris from Hurricane Helene has accumulated in volumes and locations that present a clear wildfire risk to communities, homes, and other resources. This debris also creates safety hazards for emergency responders, staff, visitors, and adjacent landowners.

This project aims to reduce the risk of damaging wildfire by removing burnable organic materials—often referred to as fuels—to protect public safety, while supporting the protection of natural and cultural resources.



Learn more

Scan the QR code or visit
parkplanning.nps.gov/BLRIFuelReduction

Thank you for your patience!



Blue Ridge Parkway Mechanical Wildfire Risk Reduction Sites

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- Mechanical Removal
- Federal Land (Fee)

