



**For Immediate Release**  
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**More than just a place to ride and camp, The Drop Inn will be an energizing community hub for South Knoxville.**

Knoxville, TN – The Drop Inn, located in South Knoxville just down the road from the Baker Creek Preserve, is an up-and-coming project that will add new trails and some highly desired camping-style lodging to the Urban Wilderness. The property is an essential piece to expanding the outdoor adventure area, 1,000+ acres of green space that contains 50+ miles of multi-use trails. With a vision to maintain the character of the land and a desire to contribute something meaningful to the area, the Drop Inn intends to be more than just a place to stay and play, it will be an important and energizing community hub.

The Drop Inn project started in the spring of 2021 and has a developing timeline. Its first contribution to the community will be a small network of trails, opening sometime this summer for all to enjoy. In the future, The Drop Inn will expand its offering to camping-style accommodation including vehicle camping, tent sites, and tiny cabins. Beyond that, The Drop Inn intends to host events like community bike rides, workshops, and acoustic music.

In the spring of 2021, when a piece of land along Sevierville Pike in South Knoxville popped up on the market, Eva Millwood and Bryan Foster followed their gut instincts, seeing an opportunity to contribute to the Urban Wilderness. The property was adjacent to Marie Myers Park, home of the Year-Round Get Down trails. For them, along with their business partner Carter Miller, the feeling was more than just an effort to preserve land and provide trails. The trio had the vision to fill a niche for something that did not yet exist in the area. They want to create a community hub, a place for people to come from near and far to gather after a day of adventuring through the Urban Wilderness, from out-of-towners looking for camping to locals on a bikepacking dry run.

This summer, people will get their first chance to experience The Drop Inn through freshly built trails. Designed by C2 Recreation and built by Ideride Trailbuilders, the new routes are an exciting complement to the Year Round Get Down trails - flowing singletrack intermixed with rocks and jumps. The small network will have a couple of different places to "drop-in", making the trails accessible from Marie Myers and Baker Creek Preserve. "The expansion of the

Year-Round Get Down trails is something that I am really excited about. As the mountain bike community grows in Knoxville, I believe that it is important to match that growth by adding more all-weather trails to the system. Allowing riders the experience of being on the trails in most conditions is key to getting creative with new routes and connecting trails within Marie Myers Park" says Carter.

As trail construction wraps up, the team continues to develop the lodging and event aspects of the Drop Inn. They are focusing more on quality than quantity, and those who come to stay are guaranteed to have an intimate and memorable experience. Part of that will be sharing and highlighting the natural resources of East Tennessee. As the project goes into full swing, the team continues its commitment to land stewardship. Among other things, they are working to remove invasive plant species to allow native ecology to regenerate, and aim to protect wildlife corridors in the Urban Wilderness.

In addition to trails and lodging, the Drop Inn will eventually host events from local community bike rides to music, and possibly small weddings and other gatherings.

When fully realized, The Drop Inn will be the first establishment of its kind in the Knoxville area. "We want to be a place where people feel cared for while they rest and recover from a fun day in the woods" shares Eva. "I want people to have their milestones here."

The Drop Inn is a project brought to you by Eva Millwood, Bryan Foster, and Carter Miller. The team is working in collaboration with Appalachian Mountain Bike Club, Cannon and Cannon, Hedstrom Design, and the City of Knoxville.

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