



WEST VIRGINIA  
**state  
parks**

# BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

## Sunday, December 22, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 a.m. Wild for backbones**– Join seasonal naturalist for this program designed for the young and young at heart. Program is about one hour and held indoors. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**12:00 p.m. Jewelry craft**– Join the recreation attendant to create a unique piece of jewelry from a ring to a bracelet to a necklace. Craft fee is \$1.00 to \$4.00 depending on selected craft.

**1:30 p.m. Sands of Time**– Join the recreation attendant in the nature center to explore West Virginia geology and Blackwater Falls geology with maps and the augmented sandbox. An optional craft activity is available for a fee of \$2.00. Presentation is about 45 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

## Monday, December 23, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:00 a.m. Leaf a long to Walk Pendleton Point** – Join the seasonal naturalist for a morning stroll along trails to an overlook of Blackwater Canyon exploring nature. Program is about one hour with about one mile walking along natural root and rock strewn trails. Leashed and well-behaved dogs are welcome to attend this program with their owner. This hike qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**1:00 p.m. Christmas Crafts & Movie**– Join the staff to create one of our Christmas themed crafts while enjoying a heartwarming animated tale that begins in a snowy forest on Christmas Eve, where a forlorn little pine tree wonders if she will ever become a real Christmas Tree. Film is G rated. And about 45 minutes. Craft Fee is \$1.00 to \$4.00 depending on craft selected.

## Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:00 a.m. Park Campfire & Campfire Treat**– Join the seasonal naturalist for a traditional park campfire of singing Christmas Songs and creating a tasty treat over the flames. Hmmm– What will her treat be ? Campfire is about one hour and outside at campfire circle (inclement weather may move campfire indoors).

**1:00 p.m. Christmas Candle Craft & Bees**– Join the seasonal naturalist to learn about our native bees and the honey bee while creating a holiday scented candle tin or Mason bee house. . Craft fee is \$2.00 to \$4.00.

## Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Nature Center Closed for Christmas

## Thursday, December 26, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:30 a.m. Youth Wild for Bears**– Join the seasonal naturalist to explore the world of bears through activities and crafts. Presentation is open to all ages but designed for young children. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program.

**1:00 p.m. Bears Nature Film**– Join the staff for this film about bears from the mighty grizzly to the sloth bear. Film is NR and about one hour. Film qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages welcome to watch the film.

## Friday, December 27, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:30 a.m. Toddler Hour**– Join the seasonal naturalist for a reading of a story followed by a craft or activity. We will explore various nature themed topics throughout the winter months each week. Presentation is about 30 minutes. Call us to discover this weeks topic at 304-259-5511.

**1:00 p.m. Skulls, Skins and Scat**– Join the park naturalist for this presentation about identifying wildlife skulls, skins and scat. Program is indoors and expected to be about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**2:30 p.m. Fangtastic**– Sink your teeth into hearing about our native snakes. Meet one of our slithery snake friends during the presentation. The presentation is indoors and about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend the presentation.

## Saturday, December 28, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 a.m. Brews, Venom and Slime in Nature** Join the seasonal naturalist to learn how animals use venom and slime to help them survive while enjoying a cup of tea or coffee. Optional craft of creating your own bag of slime to take home available. Presentation is about 45 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**11:30 a.m. Who was Porte Crayon**– Join the seasonal naturalist in the Falls overflow/Bus parking lot near park intersection for a history lesson about the local area. Presentation is about one hour. Hike is about 1/4 mile. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**1:00 p.m. Glowing Eyes**– Join the seasonal naturalist to hear about who is behind those glowing eyes at night and why they glow. Optional craft available. Program is about one hour.

*almost heaven*

**Saturday continued...**

**Glowing eyes...** qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**2:30 p.m. Jewelry Craft**– Join the recreation attendant to make a necklace or ring for \$2.00

**Sunday, December 29, 2024**

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 Walking into History** – Join the seasonal naturalist at the trailhead of Gentle Trail for this short walk along the paved trail to an overlook of Blackwater Falls as he covers the history of the area. Trail is about 1/4 mile and may be snow/ice covered. Hike is about one hour. Hike qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. Hike is open to all ages. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend with owner.

**11:30 a.m. Prehistoric Amber**– Join the recreation assistant for this program to learn about amber. A family may use simple tools to remove the crusty shell and polish a piece of amber in its natural state. Will it contain an insect, piece of pollen or nothing at all? Recommended for ages 6 years and up.

Supplies are on a first come basis. Presentation expected to take up to one hour. Program qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Craft fee is \$3.00

**1:30 p.m. Meet and Greet our Turtles**– Join the seasonal naturalist to hear about turtles found in West Virginia and how the resident turtles came to find the nature center home. About 1 hour. All ages welcomed to attend.

Optional craft activity available during presentation. Presentation qualifies for

the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**2:30 p.m. Snowflakes**– Join a seasonal naturalist to hear how snowflakes form and more. Presentation includes a snowflake craft and expected to be about 30 minutes. Presentation qualifies for Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**Monday, December 30, 2024**

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 a.m. Woodland Evergreen Plants Hike**– Join a naturalist at Gentle Trail for a walk along a section of Yellow Birch Trail as we explore the different evergreen plants found along the trail. Hike is approximately one mile and expected to be 70-90 minutes. Hike qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. all ages are welcome to attend.

**1:00 p.m. Winter Birds and Abandoned Nest**– Join a naturalist to hear about local birds found at Blackwater Falls during the winter months. Hear about various nest left behind after breeding season in our trees, shrubs and other plants. Presentation is expected to be an hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program but all ages are welcome to attend. **2:30 p.m. Creature Feature-Snowshoe Hare**– Join a naturalist to hear about the snowshoe hare. Presentation is about 20 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program but all ages are welcome to attend.

- Keep pet leashed—
- Activities that are pet friendly are indicated by leashed pet icon beside activity.
- Walk facing Traffic on roadways
- Bike with traffic on roadways
- Stay on designated trails to preserve the landscape and to stay found in an emergency.
- Please, observe that some park trails border private or National Forest property. Observing the park boundaries and aware of hunting seasons is advised
- Walking with a partner or group is recommended
- Carry extra water for your family and your pet
- All programs are free unless otherwise noted.
- Our programs are designed to educate and entertain folks of all ages. Children under 12 must have an adult with them at programs.
- Please, plan to arrive 5 minutes early for program . If you show-we go unless safety is a concern.
- Programs begin promptly at scheduled time. •A no show or late arrivals may cancel the activity
- Please, contact the Nature Center for any program changes.
- Rattlesnakes and other wildlife Live Here! Keep pet leashed and family aware of surroundings.

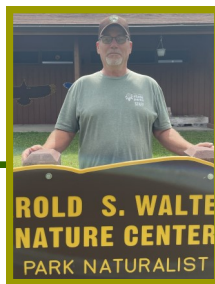


- All Activities meet at Harold Walters Nature Center unless otherwise noted in description.

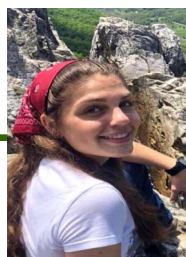
**Meet our Staff**



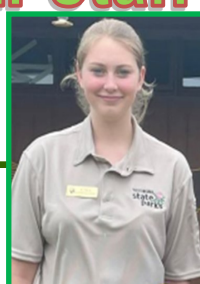
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**KENNY**



**Paulita, NAI/CIG**

**Young People for Parks Program (YPP)**

Program listed as YPP is *open to all ages* but qualifies to meet the youth requirements to earn the YPP patch: To Earn the patch

(1) you must be age 6-16 years. (2) Attend Three of the Blackwater Falls State Park activities listed as YPP qualified (3) Complete the brochure and Meet with us at the Nature Center to retrieve your patch. *Exclusive at Blackwater Falls State Park*—

*The Rattlesnake Pin ask at Harold Walters Nature Center how your child can earn this unique Pin.*

Since 1978, the Harold Walters Nature Center has been educating & facilitating environmental education through the park's vast natural resources by offering a variety of free to low cost programs designed to assist visitors to learn more about the natural world.

Naturalist staff may also be available to conduct programs for school groups and organized groups at the park or nearby community Call 304-259-5511 for more information

**CHECK OUT OUR KIDS EXPLORATION BACKPACK**

The individual borrowing the Exploration Tool kit will be responsible for picking up and dropping off this resource at Harold Walters Nature Center during regular business hours of nature center.



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## Monday continued...

**2:30 p.m. C.C.C.** – What was the CCC? Did the CCC have an impact on Blackwater Falls, How did this program impact the West Virginia park system? Find out with the seasonal park naturalist. Presentation is about 45 minutes Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program but all ages are welcome to attend.

**1:00 p.m. Finding Your Way**– Join the seasonal naturalist, for r this introductory film into knowing how to use a map and a compass to get you there and back safely and with confidence. The film is about 30 minutes. Film qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to watch the film.

**1:30 p.m. Compass Craft**– Join the staff to color and glue a cardboard compass for a fee of \$2.00 each.

## Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 p.m. To 1:00 a.m. New Year's Eve Party**- Bring in 2025 in beautiful Blackwater Falls State Park Lodge Milton Harr Conference Center with the naturalist crew and Disc Jockey entertainment by Abe's One DJ's. Dance Only is \$25.00 per adult. Children pricing available. Tickets available to purchase at door. Dinner/Breakfast/Dance package available for pre-registration by calling 304-259-5511 prior to December 30, 2024. Overnight accommodations separate and available through Blackwater Falls Lodge reservations at 304-259-5216.

## Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to **3:00 p.m.**

### First Day Hike 2025: Blackwater Falls State Park

**January 1, 2025 @ 10:30 am**

Join the naturalist crew at **10:30 a.m.** in the Harold Walters Nature Center of Blackwater Falls State Park to put your best foot forward into the new year by walking on this morning hike along Balsam Fir Trail with a park naturalist. The trail is about 1.5 miles through a northern hardwood forest that includes a short interpretive stop or two along the way. Trail is expected to take 70-90 minutes to complete. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend with their owner. A West Virginia State Park First Day hiking patch will be handed out to each participant at the conclusion of the hike. Hike qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to hike.

## Thursday, January 2, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:00 a.m. Owls of West Virginia**- Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation about owls found in the mountain state while dissecting an optional owl pellet (supplies limited to first come basis). Program is indoors and about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. The Owl Pellet fee is \$2.00

## Friday, January 3, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:30 a.m. Toddler Hour**– Join the seasonal naturalist for a reading of a story followed by a craft or activity. We will explore various nature themed topics throughout the winter months each week. Presentation is about 30 minutes. Call us to discover this weeks topic at 304-259-5511

**1:30 p.m. Forest Film**– Join the staff for this film about the resilient forest that documents the settlement, early history, industrialization, folklife, recreation, conservation and forestry practices that have formed the cultural identity of residents of the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area. NR. Film is about one hour. The film qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

## Saturday, January 4, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:00 a.m. Habitats and Craft**– Join the seasonal naturalist to learn about some habitats then create your own habitat on a paper plate. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

**1:00 p.m. Dig It!**- Join the recreation attendant for a beginners presentation into the geology of the area and fossils in general. Dig out your own fossil or create your own fossil. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Craft activities are optional for a fee of \$4.00 each.

**2:30 p.m. Winter Mushrooms**– Join the seasonal naturalist for an introduction to West Virginia mushrooms and what may be visible during the winter months. Presentation is expected to be an hour and indoors. Program qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

## Sunday, January 5, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*almost heaven*

## Sunday, January 5, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### 11:00 a.m. Kids Movie & Fingerpainting–

Join the staff to journey into the winter woods with two snowdrifts as they introduce their forest friends and a time when a stranger visited the woods. Kids have the opportunity to finger-paint while watching the film. Film is about 30 minutes. Film qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

### 1:00 p.m. Raptors of West Virginia–

Join the recreation assistant for this presentation about birds of prey (No Live Birds!). Presentation is expected to be an hour and indoors. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program but all ages are welcome to attend.

**2:30 p.m. Wildlife Tracks–** Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation about West Virginia wildlife tracks. Presentation is expected to be an hour and mostly indoors with a short venture outside in search of tracks. A plaster of Paris track may be created during this presentation. Presentation qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

## Monday, January 6, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**10:00 a.m. Meet and Greet Our Snakes -** Join the naturalist for this presentation about West Virginia Snakes and meet a live snake in Harold Walters Nature Center. Program is about one hour and held indoors. This program qualifies for Young People for Parks Patch or rattlesnake pin program. All ages are welcome to attend.

## Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Thursday, January 9, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## Friday, January 10, 2025

Nature Center Open: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**11:30 a.m. Toddler Hour–** Join the seasonal naturalist for a reading of a story followed by a craft or activity. We will explore various nature themed topics throughout the winter months each week. Presentation is about 30 minutes. Call us to discover this weeks topic at 304-259-5511

**1:30 p.m. Geology Fun Program -**Join the recreation attendant in the nature center to explore West Virginia geology and Blackwater Falls geology with maps and the augmented sandbox. All ages welcome to attend but designed for ages 10 and up. This program qualifies for the Young People for Parks patch or rattlesnake pin program. Ask the nature center staff about these programs at 304-259-5511. Optional craft fee is \$2.00

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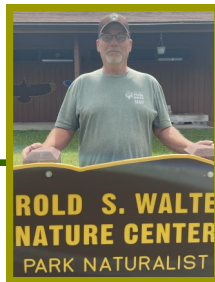
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## Meet our Staff



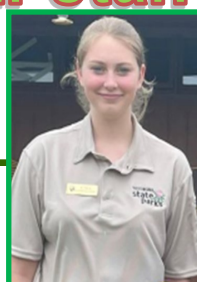
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