



WEST VIRGINIA

state  
parks

WATOGA  
STATE PARK

## Monday December 29<sup>th</sup>

### 11:00am Hike ~ Arboretum

#### Fred E Brooks Memorial Arboretum

Join us for a hike in this 400 acre trail system. Built by the CCC and opened in 1938 this was the first arboretum in West Virginia. We will be hiking the NW loop (3.1 miles). This is a moderately difficult trail with some steep and rocky terrain. Please wear hiking appropriate footwear and a hiking stick is recommended.

### 3:30pm Watoga State Park History

#### CCC Museum

Meet at the Civilian Conservation Corp Museum. We will tour the CCC museum and take a short walk around the park office area and discuss the park history.

## Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup>

### 11:00am First Day Hike First Day Hike 2025

Start the New Year with an adventure through nature and history at Watoga State Park. This will be an easy hike available for all ages and skill levels. We will hike about 2 miles at a slow pace with several stops along the way. Winter is a great time to learn about animal tracks. We will also explore the history of the Civilian Conservation Corp. Be prepared for the cold and possible snow. Wear warm layered clothing and sturdy hiking boots. Bring water, binoculars & your camera! Hot coffee and cocoa will be available at the Activities Building following the hike.

## Friday January 10<sup>th</sup>

### 3:00pm Winter Hike ~ Nature Trail

#### Activities Building

Join us at the Activities Building for a short winter hike. We will hike about 2 miles at a slow pace. Winter is a great time to look for animal tracks. Take our Watoga State Park tracks in the snow quiz for the chance to win a prize. Be prepared for the cold and possible snow. Wear warm layered clothing and sturdy hiking boots.

## Monday January 20<sup>th</sup>

### 11:00am Winter Hike ~ Bear Pen Trail

#### Bearpen Trailhead along Island Lick near Cabin #11

Join us for a short winter hike. We will hike about 2 miles at a slow pace. Winter is a great time to look for animal tracks. Take our Watoga State Park tracks in the snow quiz

for the chance to win a prize. Be prepared for the cold and possible snow. Wear warm layered clothing and sturdy hiking boots.

### 3:30pm Watoga State Park History

#### CCC Museum

Meet at the Civilian Conservation Corp Museum. We will tour the CCC museum and take a short walk around the park office area and discuss the park history.

## Night Sky Viewing

The optimal viewing location during the winter months is the Watoga Lake Dam.

December New Moon 12-30-2024

January Full Moon 1-13-2025

January New Moon 1-29-2025

## Dark Sky Backpacks

There is (one) Youth Dark Sky Backpack and (two) Regular Dark Sky Backpacks available to check out for overnight guests at Watoga. Check at the Park Office for details.

Programs are also available upon request throughout the year. This could include guided hikes, CCC History tours, School Groups and much more. If you would like to schedule an activity during your stay at Watoga, please contact Tim Lavender. Phone or text 304-651-0308 or via email at [tim.a.lavender@wv.gov](mailto:tim.a.lavender@wv.gov).

Stop by the Park Office and take our "Animal Tracks in the Snow" quiz with a chance to win a prize!

In January 1925 the West Virginia Game & Fish Commission purchased 4,546 acres of former lumber company land from the Watoga Land Association and created Watoga State Forest.

Join us in 2025 as we celebrate 100 Years of Watoga with special events throughout the year.

*almost heaven*