



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Monday, January 20, 2025

10:30 a.m. Watercolor Wonder– Join the seasonal naturalist to paint a picture using water color paint and perhaps some shaving cream. All skill levels are welcome to paint and some supplies provided.

1:30 p.m. Paint a T-Shirt– Join the staff to use Fabric Paint to paint your own souvenir t-shirt. Craft Fee is \$10.00 adult size and \$8.00 youth size. Availability of sizes or design is limited to first come basis.

2:30 p.m. The Rise of Mammals Film– Join the staff for the viewing of this hour long vivid portrait of the emergence of a brand new world. It is believed, the course of Earth changed radically on a single day 66 million years ago. An asteroid blasted our planet. The impact ended the Age of Dinosaurs and launched our age, the Age of Mammals. NR. This film qualifies for the Junior naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend the viewing of this film.

Tuesday, January 21, 2025

10:30 a.m. Raptors– Join the recreation attendant for an introduction to raptors found in the mountain state followed by a film about what makes the raptors some of the most successful predators. Raptors have conquered the globe from the African savannah to the high Arctic. Presentation is about 70 minutes. NR. This presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend the presentation.

2:00 p.m. The Butterfly—Join the recreation attendant for the viewing of this film about one of the worlds most beloved insects: the Butterfly. Discover beneath their colorful charm a wealth of hidden scientific secrets that reveals them to be smarter and more resilient than we ever imagined. NR. This film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend the viewing of this hour long film.

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

10:30 a.m. Woodland Wednesday– This weeks spotlight of the woodland is Mushrooms. Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation about West Virginia mushrooms. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend this presentation.

2:00 p.m. Woodpeckers– Join the staff to go deep into the lives of a unique avian family: The Woodpeckers. There is 239 world-wide species of woodpeckers but how many call West Virginia home? Find out with the seasonal naturalist in this hour long presentation. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend this presentation.

Thursday, January 23, 2025

10:30 a.m. Morning Along the Lake Walk– Join the seasonal naturalist watch along the lakeshore to see if any wildlife make an appearance while reviewing some of the plants along the journey. Will we see an American Beaver? A muskrat? A Bald Eagle? Or nothing? Expect the walking portion to be a 1/2 mile and to be outside up to one hour. Naturalist will offer an alternative indoor presentation in inclement weather conditions. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend this hike.

11:30 a.m. Beavers– Join the staff to take a virtual intimate swim with beavers and experience the rich aquatic habitat of one of nature's greatest engineers. This film set in the Canadian Rocky Mountains follows the lives of a family of beavers as they grow, play and transform the world around them. Film is about 70 minutes. NR. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to the viewing of this film.

1:30 p.m. Winter Survival Basics– Join the seasonal naturalist to learn what six items you should carry on every outing year round, how to prepare for hiking in the cold season and what basic items should be kept in your home and car to survive an unexpected night out in the cold. Paracord Bracelet craft fee is \$4.00

Friday, January 24, 2025

11:30 a.m. Budding Naturalist - Frogs and Toads– Join the seasonal naturalist to learn the difference between a frog and a toad using various instruments such as storybooks, videos, crafts, song and more. Presentation is about one hour. Children need to be accompanied by an adult. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation, however, presentation is designed for children up to age six.

12:00 p.m. Wildlife Bingo and Campfire Beans– Join the seasonal naturalist for a bowl of pinto beans cooked over the flames after a game of Searching for signs of Wildlife in a game of Bird Bingo.

2:00 p.m. Fox Craft– Join the seasonal naturalist for today's craft featuring the fox.

2:30 p.m. The Fox– Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation about the red and gray fox found in West Virginia. Presentation is about 30 minutes.

3:00 p.m. Fox Tales– Join the seasonal naturalist on a virtual journey to Canada as we follow the family dynamics and pups of a red fox. Film is about one hour. NR. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to view the film.

almost heaven



BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Saturday, January 25, 2025

10:00 a.m. Hibernation Hike– Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation about how plants and animals survive hibernation. The trail may be snow/ice covered with roots and rocks strewn along path. Trail is about one mile and expect to be outside for about one hour. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend this hike with their owner. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend this hike.

1:00 p.m. Bigfoot Campfire and Pie Iron Cooking– Join the seasonal naturalist for this fun presentation to hear about the legend of bigfoot in the area, perhaps try your skills at hollering like bigfoot and exploring how other wildlife compares to bigfoot as we explore various characteristics and adaptations of bigfoot then try your hand at cooking over the flames with a pie iron. Campfire qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend this campfire.

Sunday, January 26, 2025

10:00 a.m. Candle Craft and Bees- Join the seasonal naturalist to hear about our native bees and the state insect while creating a scented candle tin. Presentation is about 70 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation. Craft fee is \$4.00

1:00 p.m. Meet Our Turtles– Join the seasonal naturalist to hear about how the nature center turtles ended up calling our nature center home and more about West Virginia turtles. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation.

3:00 p.m. Nature Journaling– Join the seasonal naturalist to hear some basic steps to begin keeping a nature journal. Presentation is about 1/2 hour. Some materials provided. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation.

Monday, January 27, 2025

10:00 a.m. Cranberry Woods Walk– Join the park naturalist and seasonal naturalist as we explore a coniferous forest and visit a upland bog. Hike is about one hour and one mile. Trail may be snow/ice/mud covered with rocks and roots strewn along the trail. Study boots and hiking stick recommended. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to hike with us. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend this hike with their owner.

1:00 p.m. Sands of Time– Join the recreation attendant to hear about the geology of Blackwater Falls and West Virginia with the use of maps and augmented sandbox. Presentation is about 45 minutes and qualifies for the junior Naturalist patch program. All

ages are welcome to attend this presentation. Optional craft has a fee of \$2.00

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

11:00 a.m. The Squirrels– Join the recreation attendant for this film about the squirrel family from the tiny chipmunk to the large prairie dogs. Film is about one hour. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to watch the film.

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

11:00 a.m. Raptor Force– Join the recreation attendant for this film about nature's elite aerial killing machines. Film is about one hour. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to watch the film.

Thursday, January 30, 2025

10:00 The American Black Bear– Join the park naturalist for a dynamic presentation about the American Black Bear and how to read bear language and keep you and your pet safe in bear habitat. Presentation is about 45 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend the presentation.

1:00 p.m. Hot Chocolate and The Eyeshine – Join the seasonal naturalist for a to hear about the how and who and animals eyes glow at night. Includes an optional craft activity. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation. Presentation is about 45 minutes.

2:00 p.m. Sand Art– Join the staff to use colorful sand in a jar to create a unique piece of art. Craft fee is \$4.00

Friday, January 31, 2025

11:30 a.m. Budding Naturalist - Whose Tracks?– Join the seasonal naturalist to learn how to identify some animal tracks using various instruments such as storybooks, videos, crafts, song and more. Presentation is about one hour. Children need to be accompanied by an adult. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation, however, presentation is designed for children up to age six.

2:00 p.m. Cake and Bears– Join the seasonal naturalist for a viewing of this film about bears from the mighty grizzly bear to the spectacled bear to the sloth bear as we enjoy a piece of cake with staff as we honor our seasonal naturalist. Film is about one hour. NR. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to watch the film.

almost heaven

Saturday, February 1, 2025

10:30 a.m. Bird, Birds, Birds– Join the seasonal park naturalist for some fun kid friendly activities learning how to identify birds including an adventure outside for a game of I spy or bird Bingo. Program is about one hour and 1/2 mile or less walk.

Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation.

12:00 p.m. Wetland Trivia and Craft– Test your knowledge with a short question and answer session with the seasonal naturalist. Program is about 30 minutes. Optional pitcher plant craft at conclusion of quiz. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

2:00 p.m. Truth or Lie Walk– Join the seasonal naturalist for a short walk along Pendleton Trace trail to Pendleton Point Overlook as he interprets the flora and fauna along the trail. Will you be able to spot his lies? About 1/2 mile. Expect snow/ice/mud and uneven terrain. Dress for the weather. Program is about one hour. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend this hike with their owner.

Sunday, February 2, 2025

10:30 a.m. Paracord Critter Craft– Join the recreation assistant to create her choice of paracord critter for a fee of \$1.00

2:00 p.m. Microscopy Fun– Join the recreation attendant to learn the basics of using a microscope, explore specimens on slides and have fun using observational skills. Microscopes are limited and may need to be shared. Not suitable for very young children. Activity is about one hour. Presentation Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation.

Monday, February 3, 2025

2:00 p.m. Meet and Greet our Snakes– Join the park naturalist to hear the story of the snakes that call the Harold Walters Nature Center home. Also learn about their wild relatives and more in this hour long presentation. A live snake will be highlighted during the presentation. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend presentation.



- Keep pet leashed–
- Activities that are pet friendly are indicated in description.
- 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 pets. Be considerate of pets feet as they are not covered in shoes. Remember your child or pet may get cold before you and should be monitored closely.
- All programs are free unless otherwise noted in description
- 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 change in hours of operation or activity schedule.
- Rattlesnakes, coyotes, black bear and other wildlife Live Here! Keep pet leashed and family aware of surroundings.

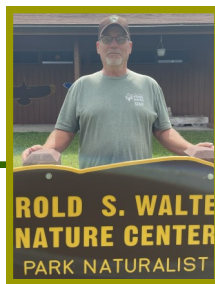
• All Activities meet at Harold Walters Nature Center unless otherwise noted in description.

Nature Center Open 10 am to 4 pm

Meet our Staff



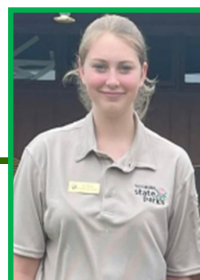
VICTOR



BRUCE



DELLA



KYRA



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.