



Thursday April 10th

11:00am Fred E Brooks Arboretum Hike
We will be hiking the lower loop of the Arboretum, (2.5) miles. There are 60 species of trees located within this CCC built trail system. Please wear closed toe hiking shoes and bring something to drink. A hiking stick is recommended for this trail.

3:30pm Watoga Civilian Conservation Corp History ~ Watoga Nature Center Learn about the CCC and the history of Watoga State Park.

Friday April 11th

11:00am Vernal Pool Hike ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park Meet at the park office. We will hike along Cranberry Bog Trail. This will be an easy hike available for all ages and skill levels. We will visit the vernal pools along Cranberry Bog Trail to see what we can discover.

1:00pm Museum Tour ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park Join us at the museum to learn about the battle of Droop Mountain.

4:00pm Hike ~ Beartown State Park
We will be walking the ½ mile boardwalk at Beartown State Park. Beartown is known for its unusual rocky formations, overhanging cliffs, deep crevices and interesting flora.

Saturday April 12th

9:00am Nature Hike ~ Watoga Nature Center
Meet at the Nature Center. We will take an easy 1.5 mile loop hike from the Nature Center. We will travel at a slow pace, stopping often as we look for signs of spring flora and amphibians.

11:00am Watoga Owls ~ Watoga Nature Center
Learn about the owls that call Watoga home. We will dissect an owl pellet to learn about what they eat.

1:00pm Black Bear ~ Watoga Nature Center
Join us for a short program about the West Virginia state animal, Black Bear. Following the program, we will take a short hike to see if we can locate any bear sign.

3:00pm Watoga Geology ~ Watoga Nature Center
Learn about the local geology of Watoga State Park. We will have a short program followed by a fossil hunt!

Thursday April 17th

11:00am Hike ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park
Meet at the park office. We will hike along Overlook Trail making several stops. The trail follows a series of rock cliffs with small caves and an old bear den. We will visit a Civil War trench site and talk about the battle of Droop Mountain.

1:00pm Museum Tour ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park Join us at the museum to learn about the battle of Droop Mountain.

4:00pm Hike ~ Beartown State Park
We will be walking the ½ mile boardwalk at Beartown State Park. Beartown is known for its unusual rocky formations, overhanging cliffs, deep crevices and interesting flora.

Friday April 18th

9:00am Hike ~ Jesse's Cove Trail
Join us at the Jesse's Cove Trailhead in Riverside Campground. We will be hiking to the Workman pioneer cabin and then onto the Ann Bailey Lookout Tower. We will then descend Arrowhead Trail back into Riverside Campground. Please wear closed toe hiking shoes and bring something to drink. A hiking stick is recommended for this trail.

3:30pm Vernal Pool Hike ~ Droop Mountain

Battlefield State Park We will visit the vernal pools along Cranberry Bog Trail and talk about woodland amphibians.

Saturday April 19th

9:00am Lake Hike ~ Watoga Nature Center Meet at the Nature Center. We will take an easy 1.5 mile loop hike around the lake. We will travel at a slow pace, stopping often as we look for signs of spring flora and wildlife signs.

11:00am Watoga Geology ~ Watoga Nature Center Learn about the local geology of Watoga State Park. We will have a short program followed by a fossil hunt!

1:00pm Watoga Civilian Conservation Corp History ~ Watoga Nature Center Learn about the CCC and the history of Watoga State Park.

3PM Nature Hike- Watoga Nature Center. Meet at the Nature Center. We will take an easy 1.5 mile loop hike from the nature center. We will travel at a slow pace, stopping often as we look for signs of spring flora and wildlife signs.

Thursday April 24th

11:00am Hike ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park Meet at the park office. We will hike along the Minie Ball Trail. This trail is located in a ravine where Union soldiers climbed the mountain to attack Confederate troops waiting above. This is about a 2 mile round trip hike.

1:00pm Museum Tour ~ Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park Join us at the museum to learn about the battle of Droop Mountain.

4:00pm Hike ~ Beartown State Park We will be walking the ½ mile boardwalk at Beartown State Park. Beartown is known for its unusual rocky formations, massive boulders, overhanging cliffs and deep crevices.

Friday April 25th

11:00am Arbor Day Hike ~ Fred E Brooks

Arboretum What better place to celebrate Arbor Day than a hike in this historic CCC trail. There are 60 species of trees located within this trail system. We will be hiking the Honeybee Trail (4.4) miles. Please wear closed toe hiking shoes and bring something to drink. A hiking stick is recommended for this trail.

Saturday April 26th

11:00am Nature Hike ~ Watoga Nature Center Meet at the Nature Center. We will take an easy 1.5 mile loop hike from the Nature Center. We will travel at a slow pace, stopping often as we look for signs of spring flora and wildlife signs.

1:00pm Watoga Geology ~ Watoga Nature Center Learn about the local geology of Watoga State Park. We will have a short program followed by a fossil hunt!

3:00pm Black Bear ~ Watoga Nature Center Join us for a short program about the West Virginia state animal, Black Bear. Following the program, we will take a short hike to see if we can locate any bear sign.

Night Sky Viewing for April

The optimal viewing locations are Watoga Lake Dam & Ann Bailey Trailhead. April 1 The Crescent Moon & Jupiter
April 4 & 5 Mars & Moon
April 12 Full Moon
April 24 & 25 Grouping of the Moon & three planets
April 27 New Moon

Dark Sky Backpacks are available to check out for overnight guests at Watoga. Check at the Park Office or Nature Center for details.

**Programs are also available upon request throughout the year. This could include but not limited to School Groups, Guided Old Growth Forest Hikes, CCC History tours and more.

If you would like to schedule an activity during your stay at Watoga, please contact Tim Lavender at the Park Office.
Email: tim.a.lavender@wv.gov
Phone: office 304-799-4087 or cell 304-651-0308

Anytime during the month of April stop by the office and take our "First Signs of Spring" quiz and win a prize.

almost heaven.

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