



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Friday, December 5, 2025

10:00 am. Morning Along the Lake - Meet a member of the nature center staff for a short walk along the shores of Pendleton Lake to look for signs of wildlife. We'll keep our eyes peeled for Bald Eagles, waterfowl, beavers, and more. About an hour. Less than 1 mile. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Winter Constellations and Stargazing - Join the Seasonal Naturalist for an introduction to looking at the night skies this winter. Get familiar with some of the easier to find constellations and the stars that make them up. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Owls of West Virginia- Join the Summer Naturalist to learn all about these nocturnal hunters and find out which ones can be found around Blackwater Falls State Park. NO Live birds will be present during this program. **YPP**

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:00 am. First Saturday Bird Walk - Meet our volunteer bird walk leader at the nature center parking lot for some easy walking along park roads and trails. Dress appropriately for the weather. Keep your eyes and ears open for year-round residents and wintertime visitors. **YPP**

11:00 am. Fur-real! - Get to know more about some West Virginia mammals and the different purposes their fur serves while getting to touch some real animal pelts. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Balsam Fir Hike - Join a Naturalist for this 1.5 mile loop hike that begins and ends at the nature center. Trail is rocky and root-strewn in places and has a few short, but steep elevation changes. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. About 70- 90 minutes long. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Christmas Suncatchers - Join the nature center staff to make your own Christmas-themed suncatchers. Supplies are limited. Craft fee is \$1 per suncatcher.

Sunday, December 7, 2025

11:00 am. Winter Constellations and Stargazing - Join the Seasonal Naturalist for an introduction to looking at the night skies this winter. Get familiar with some of the easier to find constellations and the stars that make them up. **YPP**

12:00 pm. Weather Film - Join the nature center staff for this documentary film all about the weather. Learn about the science behind different weather phenomena, weather myths, and more. Run time is about 35 minutes, Not rated. **YPP**

1:00 pm. All About Snowflakes - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to look into the fascinating formation of ice crystals that fall to the earth. Try your hand at making a scientifically accurate snowflake. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Celestial Windchime Craft - Join the nature center staff to make a moon and stars themed windchime. Craft fee is \$3.

Monday, December 8, 2025

11:00 am. Nature Documentary - Woodpeckers: The Hole Story - Get a look into the lives of this unique group of birds and learn how they are specially adapted to their lifestyle. Run time is 55 minutes. Not rated. **YPP**

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 -

Thursday, December 11, 2025

No Activities Scheduled

Nature Center open 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Friday, December 12, 2025

11:00 am. Beaver Walk - Join a Naturalist for a stroll along Pendleton Lake in search of beavers and their signs, as well as other wildlife. Hike is about 1/2 mile, but may be wet and muddy. Dress for the weather. About an hour. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Paracord Crafts - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to make a paracord "survival bracelet." Craft fee is \$1. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Evergreen Plants Walk - Join the Summer Naturalist for a walk around the nature center and Pendleton Lake to discover some of our native evergreen plants. About an hour, 1 mile walking. **YPP**

Saturday, December 13, 2025

10:30 am. River Road Walk - Meet a park Naturalist at the Gentle Trail parking area for this walk along an old railroad grade. Learn about the Blackwater Falls ecosystem and how our wildlife survives in the cold. Trail is mostly level, but may be rocky, wet, muddy, or icy in places. About 1.5 miles, about 1 hour. **YPP**

11:00 am. Digging up the Past - Fossils! - Join the nature center attendant to learn all about fossils. What they are, how they form, how old they are, and what kinds of fossils can be found in West Virginia. Explore some of the fossils housed in the Nature Center. Uncover your own replica fossil during the program for a fee of \$3.00. **YPP**

1:00 am. Citizen Science: Using Nature Apps - Join the Summer Naturalist to get a crash course in using your smart phone to record your nature sightings. Making appropriate observations in the apps helps scientists keep track of native species and protects sensitive species from harm. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Gingerbread House Craft - Join the nature center staff to build and decorate your own wooden gingerbread house. Younger children may need adult assistance with assembly. Craft fee is \$5.

almost heaven

Harold Walters Nature Center | 164 Pendleton Lake Road | Davis, WV 26260-0490 | ph. (304) 259-5511
| fax (304) 259-5881 BlackwaterFallsSP@wv.gov

Sunday, December 14, 2025

11:00 am. Animal Tracks - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to brush up on your tracking skills so that you can figure out what kind of critter is leaving tracks in the snow this winter. We may go outside to put your knowledge to the test. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Bees and Candle Making - Make your own poured beeswax candle and learn a little about honeybees in the process. Why do bees make wax, anyway? Supplies are limited. Craft fee is \$3 to \$5 based on selection. **YPP**

2:30 pm. Edible or Not? - See if you can identify the specimen in the photo and place it in the correct category. The Seasonal Naturalist will provide a few hints, if necessary. **YPP**

Monday, December 15, 2025

11:00 am. Nature Documentary - Magic of the Snowy Owl - Join the nature center staff for this intimate look at how this famous species can survive in one of the harshest places on earth .About 1 hour long Rated PG. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Critter of the Day : The Eastern Coyote - Join the Summer Naturalist to learn about this highly adaptable predator and how it has greatly expanded its historic range from west to east. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Craft Time - Stop by the nature center to see what kind of craft or crafts the staff have chosen for today. Selections may range in price from free to up to \$5.

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

1:00 pm. Critter of the Day: The Virginia Opossum - Join the Summer Naturalist to learn all about this amazing odd-ball of a creature, the only one of its kind in North America. **YPP**

Wednesday, December 17, 2025 -
Thursday, December 18, 2025

No Activities Scheduled

Nature Center open 10:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Happening Soon...

Saturday, December 20, 2025

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm.
Pizza with Santa!**

Bring your Christmas lists! Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be at the Smokehouse Restaurant at the Blackwater Falls Lodge. Bring an appetite! Pizza buffet prices are \$19.00 for adults, \$9.50 for children aged 6 to 12, and children under 5 are free. Price does not include tax or gratuity.



- All Programs meet at the Harold Walters Nature Center unless otherwise specified in description.
- Plan to arrive five minutes early for programs. A late arrival may effect your participation in activity. A no show within seven minutes of start time may cancel activity.

- Pets should be physically leashed while enjoying the park. Activities that are pet Friendly are indicated in description. See Park Rules and Regulations about length of leash.

- Protect the environment and yourself by staying on designated blazed trails. Building or constructing unauthorized trails or simply walking off trail harms the landscape and wildlife that call the area home. Avoid short cuts and social trails that are not on the park map or blazed.

- It is suggested to walk with a partner, carry water and perhaps an individually wrapped snack. Carry the 5 c's. Don't know what the 5 c's are then ask at the Nature Center.

- Be observant of adjacent private property or Monongahela Forest Property lines while hiking.

- Children ages 12 and under need to be accompanied by an adult on programs.

- While walking on park roads a person should be facing oncoming traffic. While biking on park roads a person should ride with the flow of traffic and use hand signals. Bikers yield to hikers on trails. All yield to equestrians where they are permitted in some parks.

Nature Center 304-259-5511

YOUR FOOTSTEPS MATTER!

SOCIAL TRAILS ARE HARMFUL! Stay on Existing Blazed Trails. If there is no blaze then it's not a park trail and you should stay off this path to save the environment and it's inhabitants. Not all trails found online or in books are official trails. Use the park trail map

Meet our Staff



BLAINE

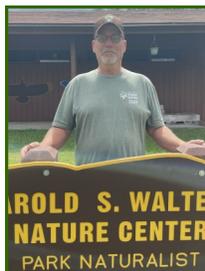


KENNY, NAI/CIG



PAULITA, NAI/CIG

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



BRUCE



VICTOR

**Harold Walters Nature Center
Open Daily
10:00 am to 4:30 pm
Nature Store is 10 am to 4:00 pm.
(subject to change at discretion of park naturalist)**

CHECK OUT OUR KIDS EXPLORATION BACKPACK

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

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