



# BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

## Friday, March 27, 2026

**1:00 pm. Citizen Science: Using Smartphone Apps** - Join the Summer Naturalist to learn about some of the apps that we use on a regular basis, how to best record your observations, and how other observers and scientists can benefit from your contributions. **YPP**

**2:00 pm. Friday Phenology Walk** - Join a Naturalist on this walk to Pendleton Point to look for signs of Spring. Meet at the Nature Center. About 1 hour. Less than 1 mile round-trip. **YPP**

## Saturday, March 28, 2026

**11:00 am. Balsam Fir Hike** - Join a Naturalist for this 1.5 mile long loop that begins and ends at the Nature Center. Keep your eyes and ears open for recently migrated birds and other signs of Spring! Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. About 70 -90 minutes. **YPP**

**1:00 pm. March Mammal Madness** - Get an introduction to this annual competition created by Arizona State University, learn about the divisions, get the rules, and pick up a bracket so you can play at home. The Nature Center will be playing recaps of the matches every Saturday in March at 1:00 pm. **YPP**  
More info can be found at [libguides.asu.edu/MarchMammalMadness](http://libguides.asu.edu/MarchMammalMadness)

**2:00 pm. Meet Our Turtles!** - Join the Nature Center staff to learn all about turtles, find out what kinds of turtles live in West Virginia, and meet some of our animal ambassadors. **YPP**

## Sunday, March 29, 2026

**11:00 am. Jefferson's Giant Claw!** - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn how some mysterious bones found in a West Virginia cave changed how we think about the Earth's past. **YPP**

**1:00 pm. Butterfly Life Cycle and Craft** - Think Spring while you make a butterfly life cycle craft with the Seasonal Naturalist and learn about some well-known butterflies of the area. **YPP**

## Monday, March 30, 2026 - Thursday, April 2, 2026

**Nature Center Open 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

No Activities Scheduled

## Friday, April 3, 2026

### **Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt!**

Grab a basket and a flashlight, It's time for the annual Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt at Blackwater Falls State Park.

Registration will begin in the Nature Center at 7:30 pm. The egg hunting will begin around 8:00 pm. Cost is \$3 per child. Open to anyone aged 12 or under.

## Saturday, April 4, 2026

**8:00 am. First Saturday Bird Walk** - Meet our volunteer bird walk leader at the Nature Center for a morning of birding around the Pendleton Lake area. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars if you have them, and pack water and a snack if you want. Easy walking on pavement and packed trails. **YPP**

**11:00 am. Amazing Amphibians!** - Learn all about the amazing lives of frog, toads, and salamanders with a park Naturalist. We will go outside to investigate a vernal pool, then make a fun amphibian craft to take home. **YPP**

**12:00 pm Amphibian Nature Documentary** - Get a close-up look at the amazing variety of colors, shapes, and sizes in the amphibian family. Not rated. About 35 minutes long. **YPP**

**1:00 pm. March Mammal Madness** - Get an introduction to this annual competition created by Arizona State University, learn about the divisions, get the rules, and pick up a bracket so you can play at home. The Nature Center will be playing recaps of the matches every Saturday in March at 1:00 pm. **YPP**  
More info can be found at [libguides.asu.edu/MarchMammalMadness](http://libguides.asu.edu/MarchMammalMadness)

**2:00 pm. Beaver Walk** - Join a Naturalist to learn a little bit about North America's largest rodent while we walk to Pendleton Lake to explore some actual beaver habitat. Trail may be wet and/or muddy - wear sturdy shoes. Less than 1/2 mile round-trip. About 45 minutes. **YPP**

## Sunday, April 5, 2026

**11:00 am. Rabbit Nature Documentary** - Explore how surprising and remarkable rabbits and hares can be as they face incredible challenges in the wild, from habitat loss to climate change. Not rated. About an hour long. **YPP**

**1:00 pm. Hummingbird Nature Documentary** - Stunningly beautiful high-definition, high-speed footage of hummingbirds in the wild combined with high-tech presentations of their remarkable abilities help us to understand the world of hummingbirds as we never have before. Not rated. About an hour long. **YPP**

## Monday, April 6, 2026 - Wednesday, April 8, 2026

**Nature Center Open 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

No Activities Scheduled

## Thursday, April 9, 2026

**1:00 pm. Butterfly Life Cycle and Craft** - Make a butterfly life cycle craft with the Seasonal Naturalist and learn about some well-known butterflies of the area. **YPP**

*almost heaven*

Friday, April 10, 2026

**1:00 pm. Paracord Crafting** - Make a paracord survival bracelet with the Naturalist so you'll always be prepared. \$1.00 materials fee. **YPP**

**2:00 pm. Friday Phenology Walk** - Join a Naturalist on this walk to Pendleton Point to look for signs of Spring. Meet at the Nature Center. About 1 hour. Less than 1 mile round-trip. **YPP**

Saturday, April 11, 2026

**10:00 am. Bird Migration Meander** - It's beginning to look like migration season! Join a Naturalist for a stroll along Pendleton Lake in search of feathered friends. Expect uneven terrain, areas of mud, and some puddles. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars if you have them. About an hour, 1/2 mile walking. **YPP**

**11:00 am. Birds, Birds, Birds** - Join a Naturalist for some fun, family friendly activities learning how to identify birds. May include a few rounds of bird bingo or other games. **YPP**

**1:00 pm. Meet Our Turtles** - Learn about some of the turtles that call the Mountain State home, meet the turtles that live at the Nature Center, and learn their stories. Includes a free craft. **YPP**

**2:00 pm. Go Wild for Black Bears!** - Get the facts on West Virginia's State Mammal and learn how to Bear Aware with a park Naturalist. **YPP**

**3:00 Shaving Cream Rainbow Art** - Make a totally original work of art using this unusual color transfer method. Materials fee is \$1.00.

Sunday, April 12, 2026

**11:00 am. Porte Crayon, the Dobbin House, and the Blackwater Boom** - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn about Blackwater Falls before it was a State Park. **YPP**

**12:00 pm. Film - The Resilient Forest** - This hour-long documentary looks into the history, culture, folkways, forestry practices, and conservation of the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area. Not rated. **YPP**

Monday, April 13, 2026 -  
Monday, April 20, 2026

**International Dark Skies Week**

Nature Center programs will focus on all the reasons to turn off your lights at night. From owls, bats, and fireflies to stargazing, bird migrations, human health, and the work towards maintaining a dark sky at Blackwater Falls State Park. Check back soon for a full schedule of programs

Young People For Parks

is a junior naturalist program for youth aged 6 to 16. Ask for more information at the Harold Walters Nature Center

YPP in description indicates a qualifying activity.



- 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.

**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

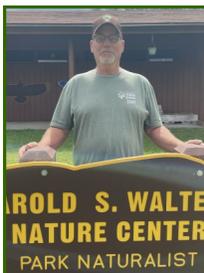
# Meet our Staff



**BLAINE**



**KENNY, NAI/CIG**



**BRUCE**



**VICTOR**

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 all items and picking up and dropping off this resource at Harold Walters Nature Center during operational hours of nature center.

## Harold Walters Nature Center Open Daily

10:00 am to 4:30 pm

Nature Store: 10 am to 4:00 pm.

*(subject to change at discretion of park naturalist*



WEST VIRGINIA

**state  
parks**

**BLACKWATER FALLS  
STATE PARK**

## Full Moon Hikes 2026

All Full Moon Hikes will meet at the Nature Center unless noted otherwise

### Flower Moon Hike

Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 8:30 pm.

### Blue Moon Hike

Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – 9:00 pm.

### Strawberry Moon Hike

Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 pm.

### Buck Moon Hike

Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 pm.

### Sturgeon Moon Hike

Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 pm.

Meet in the Blackwater Lodge lobby

### Harvest Moon Hike

Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 pm.

### Hunters Moon Hike

Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm.

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