



BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Friday, March 13, 2026

2:00 pm. 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 14, 2026

10:00 am. Green Day Hike - Meet a Naturalist at the Gentle Trail parking area to explore a Red Spruce forest and upland bog ecosystem. Please wear study shoes, as the trail is uneven and may be wet and/or muddy in places. Participants will earn a WV State Parks Green Day Hike patch. About 1 hour. Around 1 mile. **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

2:00 pm. Critters of the Day: The Red and Gray Foxes - Join a Naturalist to learn about the two different species of foxes that can be found in West Virginia. Fur color isn't their only difference. **YPP**

Sunday, March 15, 2026

11:00 am. Amazing Insect Craft- Make your own glowing firefly with the Nature Center staff and learn a little about insects. Craft fee is \$2.00. **YPP**

11:30 am. Nature Documentary - Backyard Bugs - Wildlife educator Sean Roach discovers a variety of amazing bugs right outside his door. Not rated. About 40 minutes. **YPP**

1:30 pm. Weather Window Craft and Film - Join the Nature Center attendant to learn about the different kinds of clouds while you make a weather window craft and learn all about weather with a 35 minute film. Film is not rated. **YPP**

Monday, March 16, 2026 - Thursday, March 19, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

Friday, March 20, 2026

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**

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 21, 2026

10:00 am. Green Day Hike: version 2.0 - Meet a Naturalist in the Blackwater Lodge lobby for this loop hike along sections of several different park trails. Expect wet and muddy trail conditions and uneven terrain with the last leg of the hike being a long, steep descent. Participants will earn a WV State Parks Green Day Hike patch. About 1 hour. Just under 1.5 miles. **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

2:00 pm. Getting' Squirrely! - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn about the different kinds of Squirrels found in the state of West Virginia, what they eat, and where they live. **YPP**

3:00 pm. Nature Documentary - A Squirrel's Guide to Success- Join the Nature Center staff for this film that looks into the amazing adaptations of squirrels from around the world. Run time is 53 minutes. Not rated. **YPP**

Sunday, March 22, 2026

11:00 am. Diggin Up the Past: Fossils! - Join the Nature Center attendant to learn about fossils, take a look at some of the fossils in the Nature Center, and uncover your own replica fossil to take home. Materials fee is \$3.00. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Paracord Crafting - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to make a paracord "survival" bracelet and learn why you should always carry cordage when recreating in the outdoors. Craft fee is \$1.00 **YPP**

Monday, March 23, 2026 - Thursday, March 26, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

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**

almost heaven

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

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**

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 around 7:30 pm.

Cost is \$3 per child. Open to anyone aged 12 or under.

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

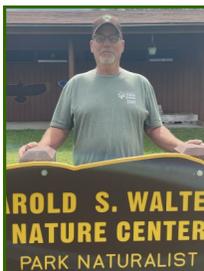
Meet our Staff



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)