



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

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**

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.

Monday, April 13, 2026

No Naturalist on Duty

11:00 am. Owl Nature Documentary - What makes owls so special? Learn about how they hunt, how their vision and hearing works, and how they are able to fly so silently. Not rated. About an hour long **YPP**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

No Naturalist on Duty

11:00 am. Frog Nature Documentary - Join us for a journey through the weird and wonderful world of frogs. Their amazing adaptations have made them the most successful of all amphibians. Not rated. About an hour long. **YPP**

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

1:00 pm. Keeping Dark Skies Dark - There is a solution to light pollution... and it's you! Learn why dark skies matter, what you can do to help, and how Blackwater Falls State Park is making changes as part of our dark skies initiative. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Some Bats of West Virginia and Craft - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn about the different bats that can be found in the state of West Virginia. Includes a free bat craft. **YPP**

Thursday, April 16, 2026

No Naturalist on Duty

11:00 am. Coywolf Nature Documentary - Join us for a look into the life of this new hybrid carnivore and see how quickly adaptation and evolution can happen when humans interfere with nature. Not rated. About an hour long. **YPP**

Friday, April 17, 2026

1:00 pm. Astronomy Crafts - Enjoy some free crafts that will help you become a better stargazer and locate some constellations in the night sky. **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, April 18, 2026

10:00 am. Little Naturalists : The Night Sky - Something for the little guys. Join the Seasonal Naturalist to read a couple storybooks that focus on topics like light pollution and its effect on wildlife. **YPP**

10:30 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. Keeping Dark Skies Dark - There is a solution to light pollution... and it's you! Learn why dark skies matter, what you can do to help, and how Blackwater Falls State Park is making changes as part of our dark skies initiative. **YPP**

1:00 pm. Fireflies of West Virginia - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn all about flashing, nocturnal insects. You just might be amazed by what you learn. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Owls of West Virginia - Join the Summer Naturalist to learn all about the owls that make their homes in West Virginia and find out which ones can be found at Blackwater Falls State Park. **YPP**

Sunday, April 19, 2026

10:00 am. Astronomy Crafts - Enjoy some free crafts that will help you become a better stargazer and locate some constellations in the night sky. **YPP**

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**

1:00 pm. Keeping Dark Skies Dark - There is a solution to light pollution... and it's you! Learn why dark skies matter, what you can do to help, and how Blackwater Falls State Park is making changes as part of our dark skies initiative. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Some Bats of West Virginia and Craft - Join the Seasonal Naturalist to learn about the different bats that can be found in the state of West Virginia. Includes a free bat craft. **YPP**

Monday, April 20, 2026

No Naturalist on Duty

11:00 am. Osprey Nature Documentary - Join the Nature Center attendant for this film that follows a family of Ospreys over the course of a summer. Not rated. About an hour long. **YPP**

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

No Naturalist on Duty

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

No Activities Scheduled

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, April 23, 2026

1:00 pm. All About Ramps! - Springtime in Appalachia is all about ramps. Join our volunteer, Beverly, to learn about this wild food and cook up a mess of white beans with ramps. **YPP**

2:00 pm. Fantastic Fungi of West Virginia - Join the Seasonal Naturalist for a presentation about the commonly foraged fungi of Appalachia and get a look into the wild world of mushrooms. **YPP**

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.

Meet our Staff



BLAINE



KENNY, NAI/CIG



BRUCE



VICTOR

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)

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.



WEST VIRGINIA

**state
parks**

**BLACKWATER FALLS
STATE PARK**

Earth Week

Activities at Blackwater Falls State Park

Harold S. Walters Nature Center

Monday, April 20, 2026

11:00 am. Osprey Nature Documentary

Join the Nature Center attendant for this film that follows a family of Ospreys over the course of a summer. Not rated. About an hour long.

Thursday, April 23, 2026

1:00 pm. All About Ramps!

Springtime in Appalachia is all about ramps.

Join our volunteer, Beverly, to learn about this wild food and cook up a mess of white beans with ramps.

2:00 pm. Fantastic Fungi of West Virginia

Join the Seasonal Naturalist for a presentation about the commonly foraged fungi of Appalachia and get a look into the wild world of mushrooms.

Friday, April 24, 2026

2:00 pm. Pendleton Lake Cleanup

Join the Nature Center staff for a litter pickup around the lake and the ball courts.

Saturday, April 25, 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.

11:00 am. Parts of a Tree Craft

Fun for all ages, but geared towards younger children.

1:00 pm. Pollinator Garden Mini Greenhouse Craft

Make a miniature greenhouse planted full of flowers seeds to take home with you. Materials fee is \$4.00.

2:00 pm. Earth Day Binoculars Craft

Make a pair of fully-functional cardboard Earth Day binoculars. Materials fee is \$1.00.

3:00 pm. Pendleton Point Stroll

Join a Naturalist to talk from the Nature Center to Pendleton Point and back again. About 1 hour. Under 1 mile.

almost heaven

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