



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Saturday, June 20, 2026

☼ **West Virginia Day** ☼

Irish Road Bowling, Live Music, and More!

10:30 am. Story Time - What's in Your Pocket -

Something for the little guys. Learn about some famous scientists and what they packed in their pockets as curious children. All participants will receive a "Budding Naturalists" coloring sheet and a sticker. ☼

11:30 am. Sloths of West Virginia?

Learn how some unusual bones found in a West Virginia cave changed what we know about life on Earth! ☼

12:30 pm. Irish Road Bowling Registration Open

Located in the gravel Picnic Area parking lot next to Cabin #27.

1:30 pm. Irish Road Bowling Begins!

This traditional sport involves participants rolling a solid iron ball along a paved road course, with the goal of completing the course in the fewest number of throws. Bowlers compete individually or in small groups. The entire course is about 1.5 miles long. Bring your own bowls or borrow one for a small deposit fee. Always a lot of fun!

A Father's Day weekend tradition at Blackwater Falls. ☼

2:00 pm. "Stained Glass" Butterfly Wings - Create a set of wearable, child-sized butterfly wings with colors that catch the sun! This craft requires adult supervision and assistance. Materials fee is \$3.00.

3:00 pm. The Water Cycle Game!

Meet at the Nature Center fire circle to become a droplet of water and collect beads to chronicle your journey from ocean, to cloud, to rivers, and more! ☼

7:30 pm. Celebrate West Virginia! Live Music at Blackwater Lodge

Join West Virginia's "Bard of Education", Mick Souter, for an evening of songs and stories all about the Mountain State. Free and open to the public. Program will take place in the Harr Conference Center at Blackwater Falls Lodge. ☼

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Father's Day!

12:30 pm. Roving Ranger at the Blackwater Falls Boardwalk

A Park Naturalist will be stationed at the top of the boardwalk stairs and ready to answer all your park-related questions. Grab a park map, pick up the brand new Junior Ranger Journal, see if you can answer the trivia question of the day, or just say hello. ☼

National Pollinator Week is June 22 - 28, 2026.

Monday, June 22, 2026

11:00 am. Butterfly Life Cycle - Join the naturalist to learn about the stages in the life of a butterfly while making this craft. ☼

1:00 pm. What's Bloomin'? - Take a walk with a naturalist and have a look at the plants that are flowering this week. Easy walking. About an hour. ☼

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Noontime Nature Film and Craft - Hummingbirds- Make a paper hummingbird finger puppet while watching a film about some of the toughest and most energetic creatures on the planet. Film is rated G and runs about 60 minutes. ☼

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Noontime Nature Film and Craft - Backyard Bugs - Make a wearable pollinator mask while watching wildlife educator Sean Roach discover some of the amazing bugs in his backyard. Film is not rated and runs about 35 minutes. ☼

Friday, June 26, 2026

11:00 am. Digging up the Past - Join the nature center attendant for a presentation about geology and what clues it gives us about the Earth's past. During the program, clean and polish a piece of prehistoric amber. It will take some persistence to get it to a high polish. \$3.00 materials fee. ☼

Noontime Nature Film - Day the Dinosaurs Died - Join us for this film that investigates new evidence about the asteroid collision that ended the reign of the dinosaurs. Film is not rated and runs about 60 minutes.

almost heaven



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Saturday, June 27, 2026

10:00 am. Flowers, Ferns, and More Walk - Join the naturalist to get a closer look at a variety of plants found within the park. About an hour of easy walking. ☀

11:00 am. Weather Window Craft and Film - Learn about the different kinds of clouds as you make a weather window. Afterward, watch a film all about weather. Film is not rated and is about 35 minutes long. ☀

1:00 pm. Stream Search! - Meet the naturalist outside the lobby of the Blackwater Falls Lodge for a short walk to the banks of Shays Run. Look for and identify the creatures that live in, on, under, and around the water and learn what they can tell us about water quality. Come willing and prepared to get wet! ☀

3:00 pm. Bug Ball! - Join the naturalist on the Nature Center lawn to toss the Bug Ball and learn some trivia facts about bugs. ☀

Sunday, June 28, 2026

10:30 am. Story Time - The Extraordinary Ordinary Moth - Something for the little guys. Learn about some amazing moths during this fun story. All participants will receive a "Budding Naturalists" coloring sheet and a sticker. ☀

Noontime Nature Film - Butterfly and Moth - Join the Nature Center staff to watch this film that looks at these miraculous creatures. Film is not rated and runs around 35 minutes. ☀

1:00 pm. Fun With Watercolors! - Make some original art with the Nature Center staff using this unusual color transfer method. Roll up your sleeves, it can get a little messy.

Monday, June 29, 2026

9:00 pm. Full Strawberry Moon Hike - Meet the naturalist at the Nature Center for lightning bugs, night sounds, stargazing, and more. Easy walking along park roads, less than 1 mile. Please dress for the weather. About an hour. ☀

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

1:00 pm. Frogs and Toads of West Virginia - Learn about the different frogs and toads that can be found in the state and their unique calls. Includes a free craft. ☀

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

1:00 pm. Owls of West Virginia - Learn All about these nocturnal birds of prey and find out which ones can be found at Blackwater Falls State Park. ☀

Thursday, July 2, 2026

11:00 am. Backbone Bonanza - What kinds of animals have a backbone? Find out during this fun craft with the naturalist. Designed for elementary aged children, but fun for all. ☀

1:00 pm. Butterfly or Moth? - Join the naturalist to learn how these creatures are similar and different from each other. Stick around afterward to make some origami butterflies...or moths! ☀

Friday, July 3, 2026

10:00 am. Morning Along the Lake - Join the naturalist for a walk along the shore of Pendleton lake to look and listen for signs of wildlife. Wear sturdy shoes. About an hour. ☀

1:00 pm. "Stained Glass" Amphibian Craft - Make your own imitation stained glass salamander to hang in your window. ☀

2:00 pm. Meet Our Snakes - Learn a bit about the snakes that can be found in West Virginia and meet a few of the Nature Center animal ambassadors. ☀



Ask about the NEW Junior Naturalist activity book and how to earn the NEW Junior Naturalist Patch!

☀ in description indicates a qualifying activity.

almost heaven

Saturday, July 4, 2026
Independence Day!

7:30 am. Early Bird Walk

Come find your first bird for our 250th year on the “first Saturday” bird walk at BWFSP. An easy 1-2 mile stroll on pavement and packed trails. Meet at the Nature Center at Pendleton Lake. ☀

10:00 am. Pase Point Hike

Meet the naturalist at the Nature Center for this hike along the rim of the Blackwater Canyon to Pase Point. Trail is uneven with rocks and roots and may be muddy. Wear sturdy shoes. This is an out-and-back hike totaling 3 miles. Leashed, well behaved pets are welcome. ☀

11:00 am. Nature Film - Eagles

Join the Nature Center staff for this film about the continent’s most recognizable bird of prey and how they have returned from the brink of extinction. Film is not rated and runs about 60 minutes. ☀

1:00 pm. Strike the Fire!

Meet the naturalist at the Nature Center Fire Ring to practice some primitive fire lighting methods. ☀

1:30 pm. Campfire Hot Dogs!

Enjoy a hot dog, courtesy of the Nature Center. The only catch is that you have to roast it yourself.

2:30 pm. “Stained Glass” Butterfly Wings

Create a set of wearable, child-sized butterfly wings with colors that catch the sun!
This craft requires adult supervision and assistance. Materials fee is \$3.00.

Ask about how your pet can earn the West FURginia State Park Ranger dog tag.



Meet our Staff



KENNY, NAI/CIG



BLAINE



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)