



WEST VIRGINIA
**state
parks**

**BLACKWATER FALLS
STATE PARK**

Friday, June 5, 2026

World Environment Day!

11:00 am. Mason Bee Houses - Learn about some of our native solitary bees and help out the pollinators in your own backyard by making a home for them. \$3 materials fee. Supplies are limited. ☼

1:00 pm. Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species of West Virginia - Did you know that WV is home to plants and animals found nowhere else? Learn more with the naturalist. ☼

2:30 pm. Roving Ranger! - A Park Naturalist will be at Pendleton Point to answer all of your park questions. Stop by and say hello. ☼

Saturday, June 6, 2026

National Trails Day!

7:30 am. First Saturday Bird Walk - Meet out volunteer bird walk leader at the Nature Center for a morning of birding along park roads and trails. Bring binoculars if you have them. ☼

10:00 am. National Trails Day Hike: Naturalist Loop - Meet the Naturalist at the Sled Run parking area for this 1.5 mile hike through a Mixed Northern Hardwood Forest. Short interpretive stops will be made along the way. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Expect the hike to last 70- 90 minutes. ☼

Noon. Parts of a Tree Craft and Film - Enjoy a fun craft that's easy for the little guys while watching a film all about trees. Film is about 35 minutes long and not rated. ☼

1:00 pm. Citizen Science and Smartphone Apps - Join the naturalist to learn about using some popular smartphone applications and how to best record your observations. ☼

2:00 pm. Another National Trails Day Hike - Meet the naturalist to the Nature Center for this hike to the Pendleton Point Overlook and back. Total distance is less than 1 mile. About 45 to 60 minutes. ☼

Sunday, June 7, 2026

10:00 am. National Trails Day Hike at Cathedral State Park - Meet the naturalist in the parking area of Cathedral State Park to explore this hidden gem of a park. One of the few examples of an old-growth Hemlock forest still remaining, it is a great opportunity for birding. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Cathedral State Park is located along U.S. Route 50 in Aurora, West Virginia, about 30 minutes from Blackwater Falls. ☼

11:00 am. A Little Park History - Join the naturalist for a crash course in the history of West Virginia, Tucker County, and Blackwater Falls State Park. ☼

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.

Sunday, June 7, 2026, continued.

2:00 pm. Is It Edible? - See if you can identify the specimens in the photos and determine whether they are poisonous or safe to eat. A naturalist will be available to provide some hints if you need them. ☼

Monday, June 8, 2026

11:00 am. What's Bloomin' Wander - Join the naturalist for some easy walking around the Nature Center lawn to see what plants are currently flowering. ☼

1:00 pm. Sloths of West Virginia? - Learn how some unusual bones found in a West Virginia cave changed what we know about life on Earth! ☼

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

11:00 am. Ferns And Friends Walk - Join the Summer Naturalist to get up close and personal with some ferns, club mosses, and more. About an hour, less than 1 mile walking. ☼

2:00 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, June 10, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

Thursday, June 11, 2026

11:00 am. Nature Documentary - Is your trash can making raccoons smarter? Join us for this film that takes you into the elusive, wily, and sometimes destructive world of raccoons. About 1 hour long. Rated G. ☼

Friday, June 12, 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. 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. ☼

2:30 pm. Roving Ranger! - A Park Naturalist will be at Pendleton Point to answer all of your park questions. Stop by and say hello. ☼

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Saturday, June 13, 2026

10:30 am. Story Time - Whose Tracks Are These? - Something for the little guys. Learn about the tracks of some familiar animals during this fun story. ☼

11:00 am. Hummingbird Craft - Learn a little about hummingbirds while you make a hummingbird finger puppet.☼

1:00 pm. Stream Search - Meet the naturalist outside 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. Come wiling and prepared to get wet! ☼

2:30 pm. Make a Pollinator Mask - Ask the Nature Center staff to make a butterfly or bee mask to wear. Show your support for these important insects. Free Craft.

3:00 pm. Fireflies and Lightning Bugs - Everyone loves them, but what do you really know about them? How and why do they glow? What do they eat? Are there different kinds? Come find out more!



Sunday, June 14, 2026

11:00 am. Digging Up the Past: Fossils! - Dive in to geology, fossils, and more with the Nature Center attendant. Even uncover your own replica fossil souvenir - \$3 materials fee. ☼

1:00 pm. What's Bloomin' Wander - Join the naturalist for some easy walking around the Nature Center lawn to see what plants are currently flowering.☼

2:30 pm. An Introduction to WV State Natural Areas - Join the Naturalist to learn about this new state-level public land designation, where they are, and how they were selected. Three different State Natural Areas are located within the bounds of Blackwater Falls SP. ☼

Monday, June 15, 2026 -Tuesday, June 16, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

11:00 am. To 1:00 pm. - Crafts! - A variety of free and low-cost crafts will be available in the Nature Center activity room. All Materials will be provided. Fee varies based on selection, up to \$5.

Thursday, June 18, 2026

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

No Activities Scheduled

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.

☼ in description indicates a qualifying activity.

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



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
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**BLACKWATER FALLS
STATE PARK**

West Virginia Weekend!

Celebrate West Virginia's Birthday at Blackwater Falls State Park

Friday, June 19, 2026

11:00 am. What's Bloomin' Wander

Join the naturalist for some easy walking around the Nature Center lawn and pollinator area to see what plants are currently flowering. ☀

1:00 pm. The American Chestnut

Join WV Master Naturalist Sam Muncy for a presentation about the tree that once dominated the forests of Appalachia, its demise, and the efforts to bring the chestnut back from the brink of extinction. ☀

2:30 pm. An Introduction to WV State Natural Areas

Join the Naturalist to learn about this new state-level public land designation, where they are, and how they were selected. Three different State Natural Areas are located within the bounds of Blackwater Falls SP. ☀

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. ☀

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. ☀

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