

LET'S GO!



SECOND QUARTER 2026 Quarterly Hike Schedule



P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • www.carolinamountainclub.org • e-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamountainclub.org

HIKE RATINGS

First Letter	Second Letter
Distance	Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles	AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9.1-12 miles	A: 1,501-2,000 ft.
B: 6.1-9 miles	B: 1,001-1,500 ft.
C: Up to 6 miles	C: 1,000 ft. or less

If it's not possible to go on the regularly scheduled hike, it may be possible to accompany the leader when the hike is scouted. Hike cancellations are announced on the CMC website in the Breaking News box. Hike Leaders will announce a cancellation or significant change at least a few hours before the hike. Hikers that do not have internet access or live hours away: call the hike leader to ensure that you are informed about hike changes. See the Hike Schedule on the CMC website for more complete and timely information at www.carolinamountainclub.org.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

All members are encouraged to participate in trail maintenance activities. Non-members are invited to try it a few times before deciding if they want to join the Club and be a regular part of a crew. We train and provide tools.

Below is a general schedule of work days. Exact plans often are not made until the last minute, so contact crew leaders for details. MST and A.T. section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Art Leob Monday Crew

Dan Sanford, sanford.danielj@gmail.com

Waynesville Wednesday Crew

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Asheville Thursday Crew

Dale Gerhardt, patchwrk18@gmail.com
Ken Hummel, kenhummel60@gmail.com
David Pizzolato, pizzolato957@gmail.com

Asheville Friday crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com
Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Pisgah Friday Crew

Don Cooper, dncpr47@gmail.com
Robert Bolt, otherob@inbox.com

Quarterly Saturday Crew

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com
Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Free Rangers Crew

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Remote Overnight Crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com

Section Rovers Crew

Jan Onan, janonan59@gmail.com

Wilderness Response Crew

Paul Dickens, psdicken@gmail.com

A.T. Section Maintainers Supervisor

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com

MST Maintainers (South to North)

Oconaluftee River to Old Bald

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Old Bald to Hwy 215

Robert Bolt, otherob@inbox.com

Hwy 215 to Big Ridge O/L

Available

Big Ridge O/L to BRP Visitor Center

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

BRP Visitor Ctr to Greybeard O/L

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Greybeard O/L to Black Mtn Campground

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Secondary Trails Maintainers Supervisor

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

A.T.-MST For hiking the 228 miles of the A.T. and MST on CMC maintained sections. Contact ATMST@CarolinaMountainClub.com

FH100 For hiking all 100 trails in the "100 Favorite Trails of the Smokies and Carolina Blue Ridge." Contact Marie Chamberlin at marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

LTC For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact LTC@carolinamountainclub.org

P400 For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. Contact P400@CarolinaMountainClub.org

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. Contact SB6K@carolinamountainclub.org

WC100 For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the area. Contact w100@carolinamountainclub.org

YPC For hiking eight different Land Management areas with youth 17 and under. Contact Kay Shurtleff at kshurtleff@msn.com

900M For hiking every trail in GSMNP. Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com

TRAIL RUNNING HIKES

Trail Running hikes submitted by Karen Lachow. Trail Running hikes are designed to provide opportunities for experienced trail runners to join a group on unpaved forest and mountain trails with varied terrain. Hikes assemble at the location and time described for that hike. Driving distance is roundtrip from the first meeting place. Please contact the hike leader to reserve your space.

Sunday No. R2602-0246

April 26

Coffee Pot Mtn.

Loop Trail Running

9:30 AM

Hike 7.7, Drive 50, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **P400**

Paul Scalese, 570-878-5465,
pscalese15@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River).

Second Meeting Place: Trace Ridge Trailhead at 10:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. This group run will circle

NEXT CMC

COUNCIL MEETING

When: Tuesday, May 18, noon-4 p.m.

Where: Reynolds Village YMCA, 3rd floor conference room

Info: Contact Karen at president@carolinamountainclub.org if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome to attend.

SATURDAY WORKDAYS

Quarterly Saturday Trail Maintenance Workdays for 2026 are June 6th, August 15th and September 26th. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love (lesrlove55@gmail.com, 828-230-1861) or Chris Werbylo (jcw402@aol.com) for details and where to meet.

Coffee Pot Mtn. We will hike, not run, the uphill section on the Trace Ridge Trail to the junction with the Spencer Gap Trail. We'll then run down, following the Spencer Gap and Hendersonville Reservoir trails to return. The run will be at a very social pace, complete with a snack/photo break at the reservoir. Participants are assumed to have prior trail running experience. Runners should be prepared with proper hydration, layering and footwear with good traction. Expect to see many wildflowers.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

LEISURE HIKES

Leisure hikes submitted by Jeff Wilcox. Leisure hikes are designed to provide more hiking opportunities for beginners, youth, or anyone else looking for a shorter, slower-paced CMC hike. The hikes are open to CMC members as well as families and newcomers. Please contact the hike leader to reserve your space.

Saturday No. L2602-0834 **April 4**
Swannanoa Creek via Bernard Mtn. and Point Lookout **9:00 AM**

Hike 2.5, Drive 30, 300 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Jeff Wilcox, 828-989-8755, jwilcox@unca.edu
Only Meeting Place: River Ridge Market Place behind CVS off Exit 53B of I-40. Contact leader for reservation. In this "leisurely" variation of #0834, we'll start at the Point Lookout trailhead in Ridgecrest. We'll parallel the train tracks as we make our way down the trail, which in the 1800s was part of the Western Turnpike stagecoach line and the primary link between Asheville and eastern North Carolina. We'll make our way down to the scenic vista at Point Lookout (a historic tourist stop in the 1920s when the trail became US 70), then venture just a little past it to see Lick Log Tunnel before backtracking (300 feet uphill) to our cars.

Topo(s): Montreat, Old Fort

Saturday No. L2602-0530 **April 18**
Rice Pinnacle P.L. #2 - Ledford Gap and Wolf Branch **10:00 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 20, 200 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

P400

Carroll Koepplinger, 828-231-9444, cakoep29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader by email for reservation. This shorter version of #0530 will be a pleasant stroll through Bent Creek, encompassing the Ledford Gap and Wolf Branch Trails, with little elevation gain.

Topo(s): Skyland

Saturday No. L2602-0912 **May 2**
Rattlesnake Lodge **9:00 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 15, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321, quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura, 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. The hike will start and end at the Bull Gap trailhead on Ox Creek Road, continuing on the MST to the Rattlesnake Lodge site, where we will point out the remains of the stables, pool and other features. We will stop for a snack break at the lodge site. We will then have time to view a few more remains, including the old spring--a great photo location. We'll return via the same route.

Saturday No. L2602-0116 **June 6**
Craggy Pinnacle from Craggy Gardens Picnic Area **10:00 AM**

Hike 3, Drive 40, 750 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,

AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321, quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura, 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader by email for reservation. This is a two-part hike. First, we'll drive to the Craggy Pinnacle parking lot at MM 364 for a 1.6-mile roundtrip hike to the overlook. From there, we'll drive back to the Craggy Gardens picnic area for a shortened version of CMC hike #0116. We will hike out to the Visitors Center and Overlook and return, with a stop at the gazebo. Hopefully it's a clear day with beautiful photo opportunities. Be sure to bring a jacket or sweatshirt for this higher-elevation hike.

Topo(s): Montreat

WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Brenda Worley. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the schedule; start times vary. *Times listed are departure times – arrive early.*

Wednesday No. W2602-0548 **April 1**
Sams Gap to Big Bald **8:00 AM**

Hike 13, Drive 50, 3300 ft. ascent,

Rated AA-AA+, **AT-MST**

Mike Knies, 828-253-6114, knies06@att.net

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact the leader for a reservation. This challenging hike offers a classic view similar to Max Patch, but without all the people. We will follow the A.T. north from Sams Gap to Big Bald, then reverse direction to our starting point. Beautiful views and steep climbs along the way! This hike is

#46 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Sams Gap

Wednesday No. W2602-0518 **April 1**
Five Waterfalls in S.C. **7:30 AM**

Hike 7.8, Drive 170, 500 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,

WC100

Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656, cell: 828-606-7297, bjdworley@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:00 AM.

Contact the leader via email for a reservation. Visit five great waterfalls in South Carolina, all on the Waterfall 100 Challenge: Spoonauger, King Creek, Yellow Branch, Issaqueena and Station Cove. All are in-and-out hikes, with 1-2 miles round trip each. Long drive and long day, but well worth it with waterfalls and spring flowers.

Topo(s): Tamassee

Wednesday No. W2602-0519 **April 8**
Raven Cliff Falls, Cathedral Rock, Dismal Trail Loop **8:00 AM**

Hike 9, Drive 95, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,

WC100

Vonnie Gamble, 410-375-7764, ygamble99@yahoo.com and Bob Smith, 828-696-6185, wcnites@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact the leader for a reservation. This scenic loop hike features a waterfall and spectacular stone cliffs. From the Raven Cliff parking lot, we take the #13 Gum Gap Trail, then #14 Naturaland Trust Trail, descending down to the #12 Dismal Trail, where we will cross the rushing waters of Matthews Creek, ascend the dramatic Cathedral Cliff alongside and over Raven Cliff Falls, then hike back to the cars. \$3 per person State Park fee. Wear orange; this is turkey season in SC.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Wednesday No. W2602-0208 **April 8**
Buck Spring Gap to Big Creek to Good Enough Gap **8:00 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 40, 2400 ft. ascent,

Rated B-AA

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528, hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Inn parking lot near convenience store at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for a reservation. From the Mt. Pisgah trailhead parking area, follow the parkway north around Buck Spring tunnel to Big Creek Trailhead (about 1/4 mile). Follow Big Creek Trail down to Big Creek. At this point, an unnamed trail leads up to Laurel Mtn. trail at Good Enough Gap (no bushwhacking on this trail). Follow the Laurel Mtn. Trail back to the parking area; there is the possibility of a side trip to a big waterfall if the group is willing. This is turkey season; please wear orange. Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2602-0316 **April 8**
Carl Sandburg National Historic Park **8:00 AM**
Hike 4, Drive 60, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Carl Sandburg parking lot at 8:45 AM.

Limit of 5 hikers. Michael Chapman, a volunteer at the Carl Sandburg National Historic Park, will join us on this special hike to talk about Carl Sandburg's life as poet of the people and the place he called home. We will hike the trails that poet/author Carl Sandburg enjoyed. The house tour is separate from this hike and has a fee of \$10 unless you are 62 or older, when it is \$6. If you have the Senior Pass, it is free.

Topo(s): Hendersonville

Wednesday No. W2602-0629 **April 15**
Rough Creek Watershed Loop #1 **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 55, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,
Gsshepherd620@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Canton Park-n-Ride lot off Exit 33 of I-40 at 8:45 AM.

Contact the leader for a reservation. It is recommended that hikers wear long pants on this hike. No shorts. This is a rarely-used trail in the Canton Watershed. During this loop hike, we walk uphill in the morning, partially on grassy roads and partially in the woods, to a ridgeline with long-distance views. Next, the trail returns to the woods and includes a stop for lunch at a sunny rock outcrop with views. After lunch, we return downhill, crossing Rough Creek on a bridge.

Topo(s): Canton

Wednesday No. W2602-0316 **April 15**
Carl Sandburg National Historic Park **8:00 AM**
Hike 4, Drive 60, 600 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,

butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Carl Sandburg parking lot at 8:45 AM.

Limit of 5 hikers. Michael Chapman, a volunteer at the Carl Sandburg National Historic Park, will join us on this special hike to talk about Carl Sandburg's life as poet of the people and the place he called home. We will hike the trails that poet/author Carl Sandburg enjoyed. The house tour is separate from this hike and has a fee of \$10 unless you are 62 or older, when it is \$6. If you have the Senior Pass, it is free.

Topo(s): Hendersonville

Wednesday No. W2602-0420 **April 15**
Allen Gap to Tanyard Gap **8:30 AM**
Hike 8.8, Drive 60, 2100 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA, AT-MST, LTC
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place
Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No reservation needed. Contact the leader by phone only. This will be a moderately-paced hike. This is one of the prettiest sections of the A.T. in our area. We will take a side trip to the Rich Mountain fire tower and visit the Spring Mountain shelter. Please bring enough cars so that all hikers can be safely belted in for the car shuttle. This hike is #42 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is turkey season; please wear orange.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2602-0959 **April 22**
Richard L Hoffman Trail - Bailey Mountain Preserve History Hike **9:00 AM**
Hike 5.5, Drive 60, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact the hike leader via email for a reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. We are privileged to be joined by Ryan Bell of Mars Hill University and Chair of the Friends of Bailey Mountain, who will talk about the history and preservation efforts of the Bailey Mountain Project. Bailey Mountain is home to a diversity of habitats. The hike begins with a scenic ascent through the Smith property pasture. As the trail enters the forest, hikers can look back over the Heritage Farmstead and views of Mars Hill. The 2.3-mile trail to the summit winds upward and deeper into the forest for an 1100-ft. climb over a series of switchbacks where we will stop for lunch. The return

will be on a different trail that is laced with spicebushes, and we'll hope to see many wildflowers. After rejoining the main trail, we'll hike to the end and take time to explore the historic barns on the property. Optional time to hang out after the hike in Mars Hill to enjoy a coffee, get an ice cream, or explore the town.

Wednesday No. W2602-0428 **April 29**
Cane River Gap to Little Butt **8:30 AM**
Hike 7.5, Drive 52, 2200 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leaders at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 8:45 AM.

Contact the leaders by email for a reservation. This hike begins with a steep 1200-ft. ascent to the ridgeline, then continues along the top of the ridge with a few gradual ups-and-downs. After Big Butt, we'll follow the narrow ridgeline with good views to our lunch spot at Little Butt, which has a great view of the Black Mountain range across the valley. We will return to our cars via the same route. Wear orange; it is turkey season.

Topo(s): Mt. Mitchell

Wednesday No. W2602-0403 **April 29**
Fawn Lake P.L. #5 - Reasonover Creek **8:30 AM**

Hike 6.2, Drive 82, 200 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Adrianne Chang, 414-690-5424,
acjp9349@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for a reservation and let her know where you will be meeting. This beautiful spring wildflower hike in DuPont Forest is a variation of hike #0403. We will begin at the Reasonover Creek Trail and hike to Lake Julia, where we will have lunch. We will return via Camp Summit Rd, a short hike on Conservation Rd and end on Mine Mountain Trail back to our cars. We hope to see many interesting wildflowers on this hike. There are two rock-hop stream crossings if it has rained recently.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2602-0089 **May 6**
Lemon Gap to Max Patch **8:00 AM**
Hike 11, Drive 100, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,
AT-MST
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,

butler.tom3381@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact leader for a reservation. On this classic hike, Josh Kelly, Botanist and Resilient Forests Program Director with MountainTrue, will join us. Josh will have information regarding all the interesting plants and wildflowers we will see on this hike. We will travel along a beautiful section of the A.T. from Lemon Gap to our lunch spot on top of Max Patch with its scenic 360-degree views, and then return to our cars at Lemon Gap. This hike is #40 of the 100 Favorite Trails. This is turkey season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2602-0531 **May 6**
Pisgah Inn to Mills River Overlook **8:30 AM**
Hike 5.3, Drive 50, 650 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **AT-MST, P400**

Adrienne Chang, 414-690-5424, acjp9349@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Second Meeting Place: BRP Mills River Overlook at MM 404.5 at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for a reservation and let her know where you will meet. This wildflower hike is a variation of hike #0531. We will leave a car(s) at Mills River Overlook and drive to the Pisgah Inn to begin the hike. We will take a short detour on the Laurel Mountain Trail to view some amazing wildflowers, then continue to the Mills River Overlook. We will return via a short car shuttle to Pisgah Inn. It is turkey season; please wear orange.
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2602-0372 **May 13**
Big Fork Ridge to Rough Fork Loop **8:00 AM**
Hike 9.6, Drive 70, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, **900M**

Jim Ervin, 828-455-4134, cell: 828-444-4134, ervingarden@bellsouth.net

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact the leader for a reservation and let him know if you will meet at the Food Lion or trailhead. This is a beautiful spring hike in the Smokies. From the end of the road in Cataloochee Valley, we will hike up the Big Fork Ridge Trail, then turn right onto the Caldwell Fork Trail. We turn downhill on the Rough Fork Trail and head back to our cars. This hike is #35 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Note: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.
Topo(s): Dellwood

Wednesday No. W2602-0582 **May 13**
Gauging Station - Pink Beds Loop **8:30 AM**
Hike 10.7, Drive 56, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated A-B, **P400**

Connie Corn, 828-684-1202, cell: 828-674-0248, cornconnie@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River).

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first. Contact the leader by email for a reservation. This will be a pleasant loop from the gauging station, covering parts of the S. Mills River, Buckhorn Gap, Black Mountain, Barnett Branch, and Pink Beds Loop Trails.
Topo(s): Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2602-0095 **May 20**
Hemphill Bald from Polls Gap **8:00 AM**
Hike 9.5, Drive 80, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, **900M**

Becky Smucker, 828-231-2198, bjsmucker@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first. Contact the hike leader via email for a reservation. We will hike from Polls Gap to our scenic lunch spot at Hemphill Bald in the GSMNP, with outstanding views. The return route will be via the same trail. This hike is #37 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Note: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.
Topo(s): Dellwood

Wednesday No. W2602-0558 **May 27**
Round Top Ridge to Rich Mtn., A.T. to Hot Springs **8:00 AM**

Hike 12, Drive 70, 3300 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA+, **AT-MST**
Philip Walton, 925-324-3805, fourlo.at@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillico St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Parking lot behind Big Pillow Brewery in Hot Springs at 8:45 AM. Contact the leader for a reservation. From the Hot Springs meeting point, we cross the French Broad on the A.T. to Lover's Leap Ridge, crossing Pump Gap, Tanyard Gap, and then ascend Rich Mountain to the junction of the Round Top Ridge Trail. There will be an optional in/out to the Rich Mountain fire tower, and then we'll descend on the Round Top Ridge Trail back to the river and cross back to Hot Springs.
Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2602-0165 **June 3**
Mt. Le Conte, via Boulevard & Alum Cave Trails **7:30 AM**
Hike 13, Drive 140, 2650 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA, **SB6K, 900M**
Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528, hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:00 AM - but contact leader first. Contact the hike leader for a reservation. Limit of ten hikers. This classic and exciting hike features great views from the A.T., Boulevard Trail, our lunch spot at Cliff Tops on 6593-ft. Mt. Le Conte, and the spectacular Alum Cave Trail. In addition, you can check out the Le Conte Lodge cabins and see many interesting old photos in the common room of the lodge. Car shuttle. Note: A parking pass is required for each vehicle in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.
Topo(s): Clingmans Dome

Wednesday No. W2602-0380 **June 3**
Big Creek in Pisgah Ranger District **8:00 AM**
Hike 8.3, Drive 35, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **P400**

Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718, marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 8:15 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader for a reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This is a longer version of Hike #0380. We will hike the Big Creek Trail to an unnamed trail near Good Enough Gap and return. There are a few wet crossings. Please bring poles and wear shoes you don't mind getting wet, as we won't be able to stop at every crossing to change.
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2602-0444 **June 10**
Avery Creek Loop **8:00 AM**
Hike 10, Drive 80, 1700 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, **P400, WC100**

Kelly O'Rourke, 434-249-5176, kellyleann@comcast.net

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact the leader via email for a reservation. This is a scenic hike featuring waterfalls. We'll first climb to Buckhorn Gap via Twin Falls, then follow the Black Mountain Trail to Club

Gap, and return downhill on the Avery Creek Trail. This hike is #65 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Topo(s): Pisgah Forest, Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2602-0657 **June 17**

Yellow Mountain Gap to Carvers Gap and Return 8:00 AM

Hike 8, Drive 120, 2400 ft. ascent,

Rated B-AA, **AT-MST, SB6K**

Brenda Worley, 828-684-8656,

cell: 828-606-7297, bjdworley@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact the leader via email for a reservation. This is a variation of Hike #0657. From Yellow Mountain Gap, which is the less crowded and very scenic way to get to Roan Mountain, we will hike the A.T. through open meadows featuring spectacular 360° views with rhododendron and azalea in bloom, with a side trip over Grassy Ridge Bald (6160-ft.) to a scenic lunch spot. We will not go all the way to Carver's Gap. We will go as far as needed to see the flowers, and then return to our cars at Yellow Mountain Gap. Note: Featured flowers are Catawba rhododendron, flame azalea, and Gray's lily. Be prepared for strong winds, fog and cold temperatures year-round. This in-and-out hike does not qualify for #100 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Carvers Gap

Wednesday No. W2602-0992 **June 24**

Pilot Rock Trail to Laurel Mountain Trail to Slate Rock and return 8:15 AM

Hike 9.5, Drive 52, 2344 ft. ascent,

Rated A-AA, **AT-MST**

Barton Paschal, 828-545-6795,

bartonpaschal@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 at N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River).

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Ranger Station off US 276 at 9:00 AM.

Contact leader for a reservation. Josh Kelly, Botanist and Resilient Forests Program Director with Mountain True, will join us. Due to the partial closure of Yellow Gap Road, we will begin the hike at the gate near the Wolf Ford Horse Camp, hike one mile on the road to the Pilot Rock Trail, and then take a variety of trails to Slate Rock. Slate Rock is a granite dome

that offers beautiful views of the surrounding mountains. We will loop back to the Pilot Rock trailhead on Pilot Cove Road. From there, we will return to our cars via the road walk back to Wolf Ford Horse Camp. We may see young American chestnut trees blooming this time of year. Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day weekend hikes submitted by Karen Lachow. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. All hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary.

Sunday No. A2602-0657

April 5

Carvers Gap to Stan Murray

Shelter on the A.T.

8:00 AM

Hike 8, Drive 120, 2000 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,

AT-MST, SB6K

Mike Knies, 828-253-6114, knies06@att.net

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This modification of hike #0657 starts at Carvers Gap, following the A.T. through open meadows and over Round Bald and Jane Bald with spectacular 360-degree views. A side trip to the summit of Grassy Ridge Bald fills the requirements for hike #100 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Returning to the A.T., we'll hike to the Stan Murray Shelter through a gnarly forest for lunch before returning to the trailhead.

Topo(s): Carvers Gap

Saturday No. A2602-0035

April 11

Looking Glass Rock

9:30 AM

Hike 5.8, Drive 60, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated C-A,

P400

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,

butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 10:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This moderate, well-graded in-and-out trail leads to the top of this pluton and then downhill to the first viewpoint, with beautiful views of the mountains. After visiting the west-facing face, we'll hike downhill, turn right, and pass the helicopter pad to the second viewpoint. We'll hope to see early spring wildflowers. This hike is #56 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2602-0444

April 12

Avery Creek/Twin Falls Loop

8:30 AM

Hike 10, Drive 80, 1800 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,

P400, WC100

Victor Zona, 248-767-2651,

victor.zona@sbcglobal.net

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. This hike is a lollipop, starting and ending at the horse stables on Avery Creek Road and taking the Avery Creek and Buckhorn Gap Trails to our first stop at Twin Falls. Next we will climb the Buckhorn Gap Trail to the intersection of Buckhorn Gap and Black Mountain Trails with a stop at the Buckhorn Gap Shelter for lunch. From here we'll hike to Club Gap and return downhill on the Avery Creek Trail. Several new bridges have been built along Avery Creek, but our first crossing will be a rock hop. This hike is #65 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest, Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2602-1019

April 19

Stool Mountain Trail

8:30 AM

at Table Rock State Park

Hike 5.4, Drive 112, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated C-B

Norm Sharp, 864-268-9409,

cell: 864-609-7182, norm.Sharp@att.net

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at Table Rock Nature Center.

Second Meeting Place: Table Rock State Park at 9:45 AM.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. The Stool Mountain Trail is a new trail in Table Rock State Park, just to the side of Table Rock. A less technical trail than Table Rock, it is still a strenuous hike, gaining over 1,500 feet in elevation over 2.7 miles as it climbs through stream valleys, boulder fields, and rock overhangs to the summit of Stool Mountain. The trail features spectacular views of Table Rock itself, the South Carolina piedmont below, and Table Rock Reservoir. We will see evidence of the Table Rock fire which burned almost 16,000 acres in April 2025. NOTE: \$6 admission fee per person.

Saturday No. A2602-0998

April 25

Hendersonville Camino Walk

9:00 AM

Hike 9, Drive 40, 300 ft. ascent, Rated B-C

Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,

dannyhiker@gmail.com and Diane Jacqmin,

828-513-1298, cell: 630-946-9623,

dsjacq@sbcglobal.net

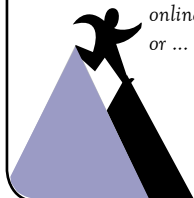
First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: First Congregational Church, 1735 5th Ave W, Hendersonville at 9:30 AM - but contact leader first.

How to join the CMC

1. Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
2. Click **Join CMC** (on the top menu).
3. You will see instructions for joining online or via mail.

or ... write to us at CMC,
PO Box 68, Asheville,
NC 28802 and we'll
mail you an application



Contact the hike leaders by email for reservation. Walk the Hendersonville Camino, an easy walk on sidewalks and trails, including a part of the Ecusta Trail. See Osceola Lake, quiet neighborhoods and a vibrant downtown. Have a café con leche at a coffee shop and explore the murals on side streets. The hike simulates a short day on the Camino de Santiago. Wear good sneakers or low boots. Bring water, snacks and lunch.

Sunday No. A2602-0051 **April 26**
Hickey Fork, White Oak Trail **8:30 AM**
 Hike 7.5, Drive 85, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
 Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
 tishdesjardins8@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No registration is needed for this hike. Contact the leader by phone if there are any questions. Starting at the footbridge over Hickey Fork, we'll proceed at a moderate pace, doing a nice loop hike using two different trails and finishing on heavily rebuilt Hickey Fork Rd. Check Breaking News for any changes or cancellation. Topo(s): White Rock

Sunday No. A2602-0924 **May 3**
Whitehouse Cliffs - Rocky Fork
Wildflower Hike **8:30 AM**
 Hike 9, Drive 70, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
 Susan Murphy, 703-507-7668,
 susan.m.murphy.6@gmail.com and
 Brian Murphy, 703-593-6702,
 bkmurphy2@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leaders at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26 at 8:45 AM.

Contact Susan Murphy by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. While we're fresh and energetic in the morning, we'll start the day with the steep, 1-mile, 900-foot ascent from the parking area up to the summit of Whitehouse Cliffs to take in the amazing 360-degree views. After descending, we'll grab our packs from our cars and start on the Rocky Fork Trail along the creek. In a short distance, we'll turn onto the more remote White Oak Flats Trail, hiking 3.5-miles up to a high ridge with views, where we will hope to see many wildflowers, including patches of pink and yellow lady slippers. We'll return the same way. This hike fills the requirement for #45 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Saturday No. A2602-0008 **May 9**
Bee Tree Gap Road to
Tanbark Tunnel **9:30 AM**
 Hike 6.2, Drive 40, 1900 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,
AT-MST

Marcia Bromberg, 860-798-9905,
 mwbromberg@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. A pleasant spring hike on the MST. Beginning at Bee Tree Gap, we'll hike over Lane Pinnacle, through the Rattlesnake Lodge site, then down to the Tanbark Tunnel. This hike features excellent views, interesting rock formations and spring wildflowers. There are several steep but short ups-and-downs and a long, gradual descent. Car shuttle.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Sunday No. A2602-0771 **May 10**
Burningtown Gap to
Tellico Gap on the A.T. **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 178, 2125 ft. ascent,
 Rated A-AA, AT-MST
 Donna Lanning, 828-606-7956,
 dblanning@bellsouth.net

Only Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. We will start at Burningtown Gap and turn around at Tellico Gap. This trail falls entirely in old-growth, deciduous forest. It is not what you expect; because of its thin, rocky soil, we will see inspiring, interlaced trees, and no conifers at all. The trail crosses over or beside five balds: Burningtown, Copper Ridge, Tellico, Black and Rocky, all over 5,000 feet. We will enjoy long-range views from rock outcrops and high ridges.

Topo(s): Wayah Bald, Wesser

Sunday No. A2602-0526 **May 17**
Down the Incline **8:30 AM**

Hike 8, Drive 80, 1350 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation. P400, WC100

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
 hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. This loop traverses the Middle Prong Wilderness, beginning on the MST at Rough Butt Overlook. Following the MST north, we'll turn onto the Buckeye Gap trail, an old logging railroad grade. At the site of an old logging incline, we'll bushwhack down to meet the Haywood Gap Trail as it climbs up to meet the MST. We will then follow the MST back to our

cars. With a steep descent and climb, this hike is much more strenuous than it is rated. Poles are recommended. Possible rock hops or wet crossings.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. A2602-0644 **May 24**
Mingus Mill semi-circle **8:00 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 110, 2800 ft. ascent,
 Rated A-AA, 900M

Jim Ervin, 828-455-4134, cell: 828-444-4134,
 ervingarden@bellsouth.net

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler.

Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. From the Smokemont Campground in Great Smoky Mountain National Park, this hike begins with a 4.7-mile, 2,800 ft. climb up to Newton Bald, a former bald with good views from the ridge top. We will follow the Mingus Creek Trail along the ridge, then descend along the creek. This should be a good time for spring wildflowers. If the group wants at the end, we'll walk around Mingus Mill and visit the Enloe Slave Cemetery. Note: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>. Short car shuttle.

Topo(s): Smokemont

Saturday No. A2602-0598 **May 30**
Pink Beds to Soapstone Ridge
and Buckhorn Gap Shelter **8:30 AM**

Hike 10, Drive 80, 1850 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,
P400

Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-699-8857,
 lsbernhardt50@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 9:00 AM.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. Let leader know if you want to meet at the Pink Beds trailhead. From the Pink Beds parking lot, we will begin on the Pink Beds loop, then climb the Barnett Branch Trail up Soapstone Ridge, where we will hope to see many wildflowers along the way. We'll do an out-and-back on the Black Mountain Trail to the Buckhorn Gap Shelter where we will stop for lunch. On the return, we'll go over Rich Mountain, which offers views to the north and south, then down Club Gap to FS 477 and a short road walk up US 276 to the Pink Beds parking lot.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2602-0615 **May 31**
Black Balsam Loop via
Graveyard Ridge & ALT **8:00 AM**
Hike 7, Drive 7, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
AT-MST, P400, SB6K
Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This hike has great views and visits two peaks over 6000 ft. We will begin from FS 816 on the MST, then turn left onto the Graveyard Ridge Trail to Ivestor Gap. We return on the Art Loeb Trail over Tennent Mtn. and Black Balsam Knob. We'll stop at the high points to enjoy the great views. Timing should be right for blooming wildflowers. New hikers take note: there is a 200-ft. altitude gain over 1/4-mile early in the hike, and two more uphill, each with about 500-ft. elevation gain, in the last leg of the hike. This hike is #50 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Sam Knob, Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2602-0095 **June 7**
Hemphill Bald from Polls Gap **8:00 AM**
Hike 9.5, Drive 85, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A,
900M

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Food Lion - 35 Westridge Market Pl. Candler. Form carpools and meet the leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Maggie Valley Post Office at 8:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. We will hike from Polls Gap to our scenic lunch spot at Hemphill Bald in the GSMNP, with outstanding views. The return route will be via the same trail. This should be a perfect time for spring wildflowers. This hike is #37 of the 100 Favorite Trails. Note: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in GSMNP. For more info: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Dellwood

Saturday No. A2602-0872 **June 13**
Cradle of Forestry History Hikes
on National Get Outdoors Day **10:00 AM**
Hike 1, Drive 70, 200 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329,
schultz.karenj@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Cradle of Forestry. Come join the fun at the historic Cradle of Forestry in Pisgah National Forest to celebrate National Get Outdoors Day. This family-friendly event is open to the public with free admission and activities throughout the day. CMC will have a table set up, and there will

be vendors, food trucks, author readings, and more. No registration is needed; just show up and enjoy the day! There will be four separate 1-hour guided hikes during the day. At 11:00 AM and then repeating at 1:00 PM, there will be a 1-hour hike on the First Biltmore Campus Trail, taking visitors through the historic grounds of the Biltmore School of Forestry and visiting numerous historic buildings. At 12:00 PM and then repeating at 2:00 PM, there will be a 1-hour hike on the Forest Festival Trail, taking visitors through the sapling gardens, trout runs, moon trees, and a historic Climax logging locomotive. Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2602-0538 **June 14**
Vineyard Gap, Riverside and
Bradley Creek Loop **8:30 AM**
Hike 6.1, Drive 36, 1046 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
P400

Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Turkey Pen parking lot at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Limit of 12 hikers. Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. This variation of hike #0538 will be a nice loop, starting from the Turkey Pen parking area. Proceeding counter-clockwise, we'll follow the Vineyard Gap Trail until it dead ends at the Riverside Trail. We'll follow Riverside to the Bradley Creek Trail, taking it to the South Mills River Trail and back to the parking lot. The Riverside and Bradley Creek Trails have multiple wet stream crossings. Wear boots/shoes you don't mind getting wet. Poles are highly recommended. This time of year, we will hope to see late spring/early summer wildflowers along the way. It is recommended that only high-clearance vehicles make the drive on Turkey Pen Rd.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. A2602-0741 **June 21**
A.T. from Carver's Gap
to US 19E **7:30 AM**

Hike 15, Drive 120, 2100 ft. ascent,
Rated AA-AA, **AT-MST**

Les Love, 828-230-1861,
lesrlove55@gmail.com and Catherine Love,

828-658-1489, catmllove2@gmail.com
First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Mountain Harbour B&B, 9151 US-19E, Roan Mountain, TN at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leaders by email for reservation. Limit of 20 hikers. This is a one-way shuttle hike, all on the A.T. between Carvers Gap and US 19E, with some of the most breathtaking views in western NC. We'll start up Roan Mountain, hiking over Round and Jane Balds. We'll proceed to Hump Mountain, then continue

all the way to US 19E. In late June, the flower display is spectacular (rhododendrons, flame azaleas, Gray's lily, etc.). This is a one-way shuttle hike. All hikers must be able to hike the full 15+ miles from end to end. Bring cash for the cost of the shuttle, \$10/person.

Topo(s): Carvers Gap, Elk Park

Saturday No. A2602-0475 **June 27**
Hump Mountain and
Yellow Mountain Area **8:00 AM**

Hike 8.4, Drive 133, 2400 ft. ascent,
Rated B-AA, **AT-MST**

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Publix at 165 Weaver Blvd. Weaverville lower end of parking lot off Exit 19 of I-26. Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. Join us along one of the most scenic areas on the A.T. near Roan Mountain (Roan-Unaka Range), where we will watch for blooming rhododendron, flame azalea and Gray's lily. We will hike from Roaring Creek Road to Yellow Mountain Gap, joining the A.T. along an open ridge to Little Hump Mtn. and Hump Mtn. We will have lunch on a grassy bald at 5587 ft. and return to Yellow Mtn. Gap, then take the Overmountain Victory Loop back to the trailhead. This hike is #99 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Carvers Gap

Sunday No. A2602-0357 **June 28**
Upper Pisgah Ridge Loop **8:30 AM**
Hike 6.8, Drive 60, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
AT-MST, P400, WC100

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the hike leader by email for reservation. We'll do a scenic circle of the Graveyard Fields area, using Pisgah Ridge Trail and MST, with lunch at a beautiful overlook. Then we'll follow the Graveyard Ridge Trail, with a stop to swim or dip our feet at one of the Yellowstone Falls.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Newcomers are welcome, but non-members MUST call the leader before the hike to determine the requirements. Half-day hikes submitted by Lee Silver. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary. *Times listed are departure times – arrive early.*

Sunday No. H2602-1013 **April 5**
Boyd Branch P.L. #6 -
Boyd Logging Rd. 10:30 AM
 Hike 4.2, Drive 10, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,
 cakoep29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact leader by email for reservation. No limit on the number of hikers. This new CMC hike in Bent Creek will begin at the parking area just before Boyd Branch Rd. off Bent Creek Rd. We will take the Boyd Branch Trail, then continue on the Boyd Logging Rd. and Little Hickory Trail to Ingles Field Gap. Our descent will either be on the same route, or on Ingles Field Gap and Connector Trails, followed by Boyd Branch Rd. and Trail back to our cars.

Sunday No. H2602-0054 **April 12**
Photography Experience going
towards John Rock 9:00 AM
 Hike 2.4, Drive 65, 350 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

David Huff, 828-712-6712,
 davidhuffmc@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Fish Hatchery - Pisgah Forest. Contact leader for reservation. Join us for a fun 2.4-mile round-trip hike on the beautiful John Rock Trail going towards John Rock. This easy-to-moderate version of hike #0054 features gentle elevation gain and a lovely variety of spring wildflowers. Before setting out, we'll briefly discuss simple techniques for photographing flowers. Participants are encouraged to bring a digital camera or use a smartphone to take photos along the trail. For comfort and safety, long pants and long sleeves are recommended. Youth ages 11 and up are welcome when accompanied by an adult.
 Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2602-0910 **April 19**
Rocky Fork - Flint Creek 10:00 AM
 Hike 6, Drive 70, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
 Marcia Bromberg, 860-798-9905,
 mwlbromberg@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This in-and-out creekside hike is in the Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park in TN. From the park entrance, we will hike up Rocky Fork Rd., then follow beautiful Flint Creek Trail for 3 miles, enjoying the many wildflowers along the way. After lunch we'll return by the same route. All of the water crossings on this route along Flint Creek Trail have now been bridged.

Sunday No. H2602-0431 **April 26**
Chestnut Cove to MST
to Sleepy Gap to Explorer Trail 9:30 AM
 Hike 5, Drive 12, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
 heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This hike off Bent Creek Gap Road follows a number of trails up to Chestnut Cove, then follows the MST to Sleepy Gap and back down into the Bent Creek area. There is a steady climb of about 950 ft. spread out over the first 2 miles, but we will take our time and hope to see early spring wildflowers along the way. There may be some slippery rocks, roots and leaves on this trail, so poles are recommended
 Topo(s): Skyland

Sunday No. H2602-0171 **May 3**
Cat Gap Loop 10:00 AM
 Hike 5, Drive 70, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
P400

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
 butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Second Meeting Place: Fish Hatchery - Pisgah Forest at 10:45 AM.
 Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This hike features some dry rock hopscotch stream crossings, log bridges and waterfalls. Looking Glass Rock is visible as Cat Gap is approached.
 Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2602-0531 **May 10**
Mt Pisgah parking lot to Big
Ridge Overlook on the MST 10:00 AM
 Hike 4.4, Drive 30, 550 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST, P400

Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,
 bobbipowers23@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This is a shorter version of hike #0531. After a steep climb up Little Pisgah Mountain in very early spring at 5000' plus, we gradually hike 1000' down to late spring. Expect oodles of blooming trilliums during the first half of the hike and then dramatic boulder fields along the best-preserved section of George Vanderbilt's pony cart trail from the estate to Buck Spring Lodge, with plenty of later-blooming wildflowers along the way. Car shuttle.
 Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2602-0285 **May 17**
Lane Pinnacle 10:00 AM
 Hike 5, Drive 30, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,
 quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
 828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact hike leader by email for reservation. Form carpools and meet leaders at the trailhead at Bee Tree Gap. This is a great in-and-out and up-and-down hike on a high ridge with excellent views. After a short climb of this high-altitude ridge, we can enjoy 4 lovely viewpoints. We'll take the MST from Bee Tree Gap to Lane Pinnacle and return. The climbs are short but quite steep. Expect beautiful views. We will proceed at a moderate pace.

Sunday No. H2602-0407 **May 24**
Lower Dill Falls 10:00 AM
 Hike 4.1, Drive 85, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
WC100

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
 hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Second Meeting Place: BRP Cold Mountain Overlook at MM 412 at 10:45 AM - but contact leader first.
 Contact hike leader for reservation. We will hike to Dill Falls, a magnificent 70-ft. waterfall, then hike up the west side of Tanasee Creek from the point where Charles Creek Road crosses the creek. There will be two stream crossings that can be done without removing boots if the water level is low.
 Topo(s): Sam Knob

Sunday No. H2602-0219 **May 31**
Flat Creek Trail 9:00 AM
 Hike 5.2, Drive 104, 1000 ft. ascent,
 Rated C-C, **900M**

Connie Corn, 828-684-1202,
 cell: 828-674-0248, cornconnie@yahoo.com
Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Contact hike leader for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. A leisurely-paced, high-elevation hike in Great Smoky Mtns. Natl. Park. Hike from Heintooga Ridge Rd. (BRP milepost 458) to the picnic area and back to the trailhead. A beautiful area with a possible wet creek crossing. Beautiful view from the path below the picnic area. NOTE: A parking pass for each vehicle is required in the GSMNP. For more information: www.nps.gov/grsm/plan-yourvisit/fees.htm.
 Topo(s): Bunches Bald

Sunday No. H2602-0004

June 7

Glassmine Falls Overlook to

Graybeard Overlook and return 10:00 AM
Hike 5, Drive 55, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST

Dennis Bass, 828-367-7792,

cell: 828-367-8619, dbass3607@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Lower parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. An enjoyable hike on the MST with good views and an interesting variety of trees and shrubs. Hopefully we will also have a good display of rhododendrons in bloom.

Topo(s): Montreat

Sunday No. H2602-0707

June 14

MST - Craven Gap to

Haw Creek Overlook

9:30 AM

Hike 6, Drive 10, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST

Judy Magura, 828-579-0321,

quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,

828-579-1099, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Lower parking lot of Folk Art Center. Contact leader by email for reservation. Form carpools and meet leaders at Craven Gap at 9:50 am. This is a pleasant in-and-out hike on a popular, well-maintained section of the MST. We'll hike in the woods to a scenic overlook at the turnaround point for a lunch break, then return to our cars.

Topo(s): Oteen

Sunday No. H2602-0963

June 21

Old Fort Gateway

10:30 AM

Hike 5, Drive 30, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Lee Silver, 828-442-6549,



Further
information about
regulations is available at [www.
carolinamountainclub.org](http://www.carolinamountainclub.org)

HIKING INFORMATION: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests. Non-members need to call or email the hike leader to introduce themselves and find out more about the hike. Hikes may be canceled by the leader due to adverse weather or dangerous roads. Minors are welcome on CMC hikes, if accompanied by a responsible adult. Pets are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to the trailhead and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver's operating expenses. Some CMC hikes require reservations. Check the hiking schedule to determine whether a reservation is required, and if so, call or e-mail the leader to reserve your space.

Hike leaders have the right to reject participants who are not properly equipped for the hike or who are unlikely to be able to complete the hike. All hikers are expected to follow the leader's instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers should obtain the leader's permission if they wish to leave the hike before its completion.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT: CMC's website (www.carolinamountainclub.org, click on Hiking) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit. Carry at least two quarts of liquid (water, Gatorade, juice) for a full day hike, no matter what time of year. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. They should be broken in before the hike. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Even if there is no sign of rain in the morning, you need to be prepared for an afternoon shower. Your first aid kit should include any personal medication, including allergy medication, if needed. Wear layered clothing – you'll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds, then put them back on in cooler conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY: Each CMC member and guest agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her own safety and for the safety of accompanying minors. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in Club hikes and other activities.

mhsrunning@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. The new Old Fort Gateway trail system is a multi-user system of trails on Curtis Creek, east of Old Fort. We will hike parts of six trails, working our way up the Jarrett's Creek area.

Sunday No. H2602-0718

June 28

Pisgah Ridge, Silvermine Bald,

Little Sam & Flat Laurel

8:30 AM

Hike 5, Drive 61, 650 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
AT-MST, P400

Kris Medic, 812-371-1031,

krismedic@sbcglobal.net

Only Meeting Place: Tanger Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact the hike leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. On this loop hike, we will start at the Black Balsam parking lot, hike the MST to Little Sam Trail and return via Flat Laurel Creek Trail. If the day is clear, we will enjoy many spectacular views.

Topo(s): Sam Knob

CONSERVATION: CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Councilor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by joining and paying dues. To join online or by paper application, go to www.carolinamountainclub.org and click on the green Join button just below the Member Login. Choose either Join CMC online or CMC application form (pdf). Don't have internet access? Mail a note to the CMC address requesting an application form be mailed to you. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. Hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS

President: Karen Schultz, president@carolinamountainclub.org

Vice-President: Paul Curtin, cmcvp@carolinamountainclub.org

Secretary: Eva Blinder, secretary@carolinamountainclub.org

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Immediate Past President: Les Love, pastpresident@carolinamountainclub.org

Vice Treasurer: George Bauernfeind, treasurer@carolinamountainclub.org

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Councilor for Membership:

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