

SOUTHERN APPALACHIAN NATURALIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Sample Naturalist Week Schedule

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3:00-5:00 pm Check-in - *Pavilion* 5:45 Supper - *Dining Hall*

7:00 Orientation & Introduction to Secret Spots - Meet at the Pavilion

8:15 Welcome Campfire - Council House

Tuesday

7:40 Weather Data Collection - Weather Station (located beside the Visitor's Center)

8:00 Breakfast 9:00 Secret Spots

9:45 Morning Breakout Sessions: *All sessions begin in the Pavilion*

1. A Naturalist's Path with John DiDiego - Friendship Circle

2. Trailing Wildlife Off Trail with Logan Rosenberg - Council House

3. Exploring Mother Nature's Pantry with Ila Hatter - Pavilion

12:30 pm Lunch

1:30 Afternoon Breakout Sessions

1. Butterflies and Blooms at Tremont's Second Campus with Erin Canter - *Meet*

at the Council House

2. Exploring Mother Nature's Pantry with Ila Hatter - Meet at the Pavilion

3. River Snorkeling with Logan Rosenberg - Meet at the River House

4:30 Down Time!

Relax, swim, read, stroll, reflect, write, nap, visit your secret spot,

journal over happy hour with your fellow naturalists, or all the above!

6:00 Supper

7:00 Sundown at Secret Spots: What's the story of your day?

8:00 Night Walks

Wednesday sunrise 6:19 am, sunset 8:54 pm

7:00 am Birding on campus with Logan Rosenberg - Meet at the Pavilion

7:00 Early Breakfast for Gregory Bald Hikers

7:40 Weather Data Collection - Weather Station (located beside the Visitor's Center)

8:00 Breakfast & Pack Bag Lunch

9:00 Secret Spots

9:30 High Country Adventures

A twist on a birding "big day" takes place among the highest elevations where species that don't live in the Tremont area flourish. Natural delights run from the botanical to the herpetological and many other subject areas in between. We'll document our findings through journaling, photography and other means, and will share them with others. Choose your adventure:

2023 Naturalist Week Schedule (Continued)

- 1. Gregory Bald rated **strenuous**, this 11-mile roundtrip hike takes you to 5,000-foot-high Gregory Bald where chances are good of seeing naturally hybridizing azaleas in bloom.
- 2. Andrews Bald rated **moderate**, this ~5-mile roundtrip hike through spruce-fir forest takes you to another unique treeless area in the Smokies, located at 5,900 feet, and includes a side trip to Clingmans Dome.
- 3. Spruce-Fir Investigation rated **easy**, this rambling adventure will include several stops along the 6,000-foot-high "spine of time," with ample time to identify birds, search for salamanders under rocks and logs, and I.D. trees and plants.

6:00 Supper

Thursday

7:00 am

Friday 8:00 am

12:30 pm

9:30

8.00

7:30 Wine & Art Night

Grab a glass and indulge yourself in individuals and/or group art activities. Also bring your favorite nature or outdoor book and share a passage with others around a campfire. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available.

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9:00	Secret Spots			
9:45	Morning Roving Sessions:			
	This morning is designed so you can come & go as			
	you wish from one station to the next.			
	1. Bird-banding with Erin Canter - Council House			
	2. Wildwoods Wisdom (with Map & Compass) with Elizabeth Davis -			
	Friendship Circle			
	3. Finding Fungi Friends with Joey Terlizzi - Pavilion			
12:30 pm	Lunch			
1:30	Afternoon Breakout Sessions			
	1. Telling Our Stories with John DiDiego - Friendship Circle			
	2. Propose-a-Session: What do you want to do? - Pavilion			
4:30	Down Time!			
	Relax, swim, read, stroll, reflect, write, nap, visit your secret spot,			
	journal over happy hour with your fellow naturalists, or all the above!			
5:45	Social Hour - Pavilion			
6:00	Cookout - Pavilion			
7:30	Songs & Stories Around the Campfire - Council House			

sunrise 6:19 am, sunset 8:54 pm

Bird-Banding Station Open

Breakfast & Pack Up

Lunch & Departure

Secret Spots & Sharing Circle

Breakfast

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS INSTITUTE AT TREMONT