2023 Naturalist Week Schedule

Monday
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
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.

Thursday
sunrise 6:19 am, sunset 8:54 pm
7:00 am Bird-Banding Station Open
8:00 Breakfast
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

Friday
8:00 am Breakfast & Pack Up
9:30 Secret Spots & Sharing Circle
12:30 pm Lunch & Departure