

Naturalist Week

June 17-21, 2024

Monday

3:00-5:00 pm Check-in *Pavilion*
5:45 Supper *Dining Hall*
7:00 Orientation & Introduction to Secret Spots *Pavilion*
8:15 Welcome Campfire *Council House*

Tuesday

7:45 am Morning Stretches *Pavilion*
7:45 Weather Data Collection *Weather station (located outside Gift Shop)*

8:00 Breakfast

9:00 Secret Spots

9:45 Morning Breakout Sessions: *All sessions begin in Pavilion*
1. A Naturalist's Path with John DiDiego *Friendship Circle*
2. Buggin' Out: Entomology with Logan *Goliath Table*
3. Waterfall Hike with Jeremy Lloyd *Pavilion*

12:30 pm Lunch

1:30 Afternoon Breakout Sessions:
1. Spoon Carving with Elizabeth Davis *Council House*
2. River Snorkeling with Logan Rosenberg *River House*
3. Introduction to Lichens with John DiDiego *Cove Room*

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

7:30 Art Hour with Debora Cook
Any hour can be art hour! However, we've set aside this particular one for you to learn about a range of possible projects to work on from our summer artist-in-residence.

8:30 Nighttime Nature on Tremont's Campus led by Joe Gordon
Meet in the Pavilion and get ready for encounters with our nocturnal neighbors likely including salamanders, snakes, bats, fireflies & more.

Wednesday

sunrise 6:19 am, sunset 8:53 pm

- 7:00 am Birding around campus with Logan Rosenberg *Pavilion*
- 7:45 am Morning Stretches *Pavilion*
- 7:45 Weather Data Collection *Weather station (located outside Gift Shop)*
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 Secret Spots
- 9:45 Morning Sessions: *This morning is designed so you can come & go as you wish from one station to the next.*
1. Reading Rocks: Geology with Logan Rosenberg *Friendship Circle*
 2. Snake Population Study at Tremont's 2nd campus with Joe Gordon *Requires a ten-minute carpool. Meet in Dining Hall*
 3. TENTATIVE: Bird-banding *Council House*
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 1:30 Afternoon Breakout Sessions:
1. Nature Art with John DiDiego *Friendship Circle*
 2. Tree I.D. with Jeremy Lloyd *Council House*
 3. Propose-a-Session: Organize your own session with others if you wish! *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!*
- 6:00 Supper
- 7:30 Appalachian Stories with Elizabeth Rose *Friendship Circle*

Thursday

- 7:00 Early Breakfast for Gregory Bald hikers
- 7:45 Morning Stretches *Pavilion*
- 7:45 Weather Data Collection *Weather station (located outside Gift Shop)*
- 8:00 Breakfast & Pack Bag Lunch
- 9:00 Secret Spots
- 9:30 Choose Your Own Adventure ~ *It's hiking day! As we head deeper into the*

park, we'll weave in a variety of storytelling modes – journaling, photography, and list-keeping of the flora and fauna we encounter – ideally to later share them with others.

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. Breakfast at 7:00. Departure at 7:30.
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 an optional side trip to Clingmans Dome. Breakfast at 8:00. Departure at 9:00.
3. West Prong – Rated **easy/moderate**, this 4-mile roundtrip hike takes you from the Middle Prong watershed to the West Prong watershed located on the far side of nearby Fodderstack Mountain. After lunch at a backcountry campsite we'll return via Dorsey manway. Breakfast at 8:00. Departure at 9:00.

4:30ish

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

Lunch & Departure