

SATURDAY HIKES - LIVING WITH NATURE AT WINTERGREEN

Our Saturday hikes are designed to help better understand the nature of Wintergreen and surrounding wilderness. Topics range from tree and wildflower identification to geology and wildlife. These special programs are free for Foundation Members, children with Family Memberships, and renters with a valid Family Membership Pass. They are available to non-members for a fee. Dogs are welcome at The Trillium House, on the grounds and trails. However, we ask you to refrain from bringing dogs on our guided hikes. Saturday hikes *are rated moderate to strenuous*, bring water and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Meet at the Nature Foundation's Trillium House. Follow us on Facebook, and check our website weekly for updates.

Jan

4, 1:30pm

First Thursdays: Community Walks

Start the New Year off by putting your best foot forward on this walk with neighbors and make new friends. Together, we will gather evidence to correctly identify the flora and fauna seeking refuge during the winter months. Emily Ferguson, a Virginia Master Naturalist and Tree Steward, for a tour of the Stoney Creek Park trail. We will meet in the parking lot at Stoney Creek Park on Stoney Creek West. Wear appropriate shoes and gear. *This hike is rated moderate*. Please register in advance. FREE.

Jan

12, 7-9pm

Winter Lecture Series: Invasive Species: How Concerned Should We Be?

What do Burmese pythons, the red berries on holiday wreaths, and COVID-19 have in common? All are introduced invasive species that are reshaping ecosystems, disrupting economies, and contributing to the spread of disease. Join us as Bryon Brown, Associate Professor of the Department of Biological Sciences at Virginia Tech and a key member of the Invasive Species Working Group, delves into the critical work of the ISWG in addressing invasive species. He will also share his research on invasive crayfish and their impact on the delicate balance of our streams and rivers. Refreshments provided. Payment is due at time of registration. \$10/Member, \$15/Non-Member.

434-325-8169

Jan

13, 1:00pm

Living with Nature at Wintergreen

Join a Foundation Naturalist for an interpretive hike. Explore Wintergreen's natural environment during the exhilarating month of January! *These hikes are rated moderate.* Payment is due at time of registration. FREE/Member, \$8/Non-Member.

Jan

17, 9am-1pm

Wintergreen Perimeter Hike Series #2

Join Josh Palumbo as we spend the winter months navigating the rugged perimeter of the Wintergreen hiking system. Our second adventure will include the Cedar Cliffs North, Cedar Cliffs South, Pedlars Edge, and Blackrock trails. *This section of the perimeter hike series is rated difficult.* Dress appropriately for the weather and bring plenty of food and water. Payment is due at time of registration. \$8/Member, \$12/Non-Member.

Feb

1, 1:30pm

First Thursdays: Community Walks

Chase away those winter blues by discovering the emerging new growth of early bloomers. Join your neighbors and friends as we scan the area for fresh green vegetation. Meet Emily Ferguson, a Virginia Master Naturalist, at the Allen Creek Nature Preserve trailhead near the junction of Towhee Ct and Stoney Creek East. Please wear appropriate footwear if it's been rainy. *This hike is rated moderate.* Please register in advance online. FREE.

Feb

2, 7-9pm

Winter Lecture Series: Fostering Ecological Well-being in Virginia's Natural Landscapes

Kevin Heffernan, stewardship biologist with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, will provide an overview of invasive species concerns. He will discuss the history of the DCR invasive plant list, the invasive species management plan, recent legislative developments, updates on several key species, and a preview of what's in store for 2024. Refreshments provided. Payment is due at time of registration. \$10/Member, \$15/Non-Member.

of Events

Feb

14, 9am-1pm

Wintergreen Perimeter Hike Series #3

Join Josh Palumbo as we spend the winter months navigating the rugged perimeter of the Wintergreen hiking system. Our last adventure will include the Pond Hollow, Fortunes Ridge, and Brimstone trails. *This section of the perimeter hike series is rated difficult.* Dress appropriately for the weather and bring plenty of food and water. Payment is due at time of registration. \$8/Member, \$12/Non-Member.

Feb

16, 7-9pm

Winter Lecture Series: Managing Invasive Species in the Landscape

Join us for the final winter lecture installment featuring Landscape Architect John James, who will shed light on the importance of cultivating native plants. Gain insights into the reasons behind growing native plants and acquire knowledge on how to contribute to the eradication of invasive species, with a particular focus on the Wintergreen community and Nelson County. Refreshments provided. Payment is due at time of registration. \$10/Member, \$15/Non-Member.

Feb

17, 1pm

Living with Nature at Wintergreen

Join a Foundation Naturalist for an interpretive hike. Explore Wintergreen's natural environment during the exhilarating month of February. These *hikes are rated moderate*. Payment is due at time of registration. FREE/Member, \$8/Non-Member.

Mar

7, 1:30pm

First Thursdays: Community Walks

Meet neighbors and make friends while checking out what has sprung this spring! Join Emily Ferguson, a Virginia Master Naturalist and Tree Steward, for a tour of the Stoney Creek Park trail. We will meet at the trailhead in the cul-de-sac of Wood Nettle Lane. Wear appropriate shoes and gear. *This hike is rated moderate.* Please register in advance online. FREE.

434-325-8169

Mar

16, 1pm

Living with Nature at Wintergreen

Join a Foundation Naturalist for an interpretive hike. Explore Wintergreen's natural environment during the exhilarating month of March! *These hikes are rated moderate.* Payment is due at time of registration. FREE/Member, \$8/Non-Member.

Mar

20, 9am-3pm

Descending Humpback

Join Josh Palumbo as we bushwhack into the Crawford's Knob backcountry. The route will start along the Appalachian Trail will offer great views of Wintergreen and the Rockfish Valley. We will then hop off trail and descend the contours of Humpback Mountain down to Crawford's Knob. The group will bushwhack down through our Natural Area Preserve and finish up in Stoney Creek. *This hike is rated as difficult.* Dress for all weather conditions and bring plenty of food and water. Payment is due at time of registration. \$10 Member, \$15/Non-Member.

Mar

28, 9am-3pm

Ladies Day Out Hike

Okay ladies let's get out our boots and trek the scenic Saunders- Monticello Trail for a smooth 4 mile hike. With native hardwood forest, deep ravines and spectacular views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, this easy rated trail will take us to a café for a light lunch and back to view a 10 minute film on Thomas Jefferson and the plantation. Bring water and money for lunch. Payment is due at time of registration. \$10 Member, \$15/Non-Member.