

TNPS 2020 Event Schedule

<p>3/14, Wild Ones Plant Natives Symposium</p> <p>The ninth annual event is between 8AM and 430 PM Eastern. Check the website for more information, schedule, speakers, exhibitors, and vendors: https://tnvalleywildones.org/plantnatives-2020/</p>	<p>Meeting Place: University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.</p>
<p>3/28, Old Stone Fort State Park, Coffee County</p> <p>Bonnaroo is not the first party to be held in Manchester. Some 2000 years ago Native Americans held ceremonial events in the 50-acre enclosure inside what is now the State Park. The enclosure is bounded by the Duck River on one side and the Little Duck River on the other, as both rivers cut their way down through the Highland Rim to the Central Basin, forming waterfall steps along the way. The far end of the enclosure is bounded by the old river channel, now referred to as “the moat.” We will hike along the “walls” of the enclosure and along the Moat Trail to the junction of the rivers. Spring wildflowers should be abundant in the lower sections of the trail, including Virginia Bluebells, Yellow Trout Lily, Sharp-lobe Hepatica, Rue Anemone, Wild Ginger, and toothwort species.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, snacks, and camera. Plan to have lunch in Manchester around 1:00 pm after the hike.</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Dennis Horn</p> <p>Phone/email: 931-461-0262 horndd@lighttube.net</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: Park Visitor Center 10:00 am Central Time</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate 2 mile hike</p> <p>Facilities : at the visitor center.</p> <p>Directions: From I-24 exit 110, turn south onto TN Hwy 53 toward Manchester. Go about one mile to a tee. Turn right onto US Hwy 41. Go another mile to the park entrance on the left. Drive on the main park road to the visitor center parking lot.</p>
<p>3/28, Spring Wildflowers at Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park, Memphis</p> <p>Leave the urban environment behind and explore the wooded ravines of this large state park for spring wildflowers. We will concentrate our time hiking along the horse trail where we should see all three varieties of <i>Viola sororia</i>: var. <i>sororia</i> (common blue violet), var. <i>albiflorus</i> (white wood violet), and var. <i>priceana</i> (Confederate violet) among other common spring ephemerals. If time allows, we may go to another paved walking/biking trail that has a large population of the uncommon oceanblue phacelia (<i>Phacelia ranunculacea</i>) with its minute light blue bell-shaped flowers that easily can be mistaken for baby blue-eyes. This trail also has lots of wild blue phlox (<i>Phlox divaricata</i>), prairie trillium (<i>Trillium recurvatum</i>), and spring beauty (<i>Claytonia virginica</i>).</p> <p>Lunch: Bring to eat at picnic area in park.</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Bart Jones</p> <p>Phone/email: 901-485-2745 bjones7777@hotmail.com</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: Parking lot at the park Visitor Center 10:00 am Central Time</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate. The horse trail does go down and back out of ravines and the trail can be muddy after a rain.</p> <p>Facilities: At the Visitor Center and at parking area of hiking/biking trail.</p>
<p>4/3-5, Annual Conference at Red Boiling Springs</p>	<p>See Registration Form or tnps.org.</p>
<p>4/11, Frozen Head Wildflower Walk</p> <p>This is a joint outing for the 53rd Frozen Head Wildflower Pilgrimage with TNPS and TCWP. We will have an excellent opportunity to see spring wildflowers. The first mile is ideal for those with rather limited hiking capabilities; the trail is wide and flat. It is a loop with quick return to the parking area (Interpretive Trail). For those continuing the next 2 miles are steeper and rougher but still moderate (Judge Branch and S. Old Mac Trails).</p> <p>Difficulty: Option 1. One mile of wide flat trail. Easy. Option 2. Three miles with a stream crossing and some steep places. Moderate.</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Larry Pounds and Jimmy Groton</p> <p>Phone/email: 865-705-8516 PoundsL@aol.com</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: For carpool: Gold’s Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita’s, 9AM Eastern. If going straight to the trail meet at 10 AM Eastern.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray</p> <p>Facilities: At Meeting Place</p>
<p>4/11/2020, Rock Island State Park, Warren/White Counties</p> <p>Rock Island State Park is located in the Eastern Highland Rim on the Caney Fork River in Middle Tennessee. The town of Rock Island was a thriving community in pioneer days and a major stop on the Kentucky to Alabama road. The Great Falls Cotton Mill operated there from 1892 to 1902 and the main building is still standing high above the river. The hike will begin at the overlook of Twin Falls. We will then follow alongside the river downstream to the Blue Hole and loop back past a small cave and waterfall. The trail has a rich spring flora with over 100 species recorded during the TNPS plant inventory in 2012. (continued on next page)</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Dennis Horn 931-461-0262 horndd@lighttube.net</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: Meet at Twin Falls Parking Lot, 10 AM Central</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate 2 mile hike</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, snacks, and camera.</p>

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<p>4/11/2020, Rock Island State Park, Warren/White Counties (continued from previous page)</p> <p>Bring your camera and enjoy the spring wildflowers. After lunch at the Market we will hike the very short but amazingly diverse Badger Flat loop.</p>	<p><i>Directions:</i> On US Hwy 70 South, midway between Sparta and McMinnville, turn onto Hwy 136. Continue past the small town of Rock Island (gas station and archway) and over the Caney Fork River. Turn left onto the first road past the bridge (Powerhouse Rd). It will have a sign saying 'to Twin Falls.' In about 2 mi. this road will dead end at the Twin Falls parking lot.</p>
<p>4/17-19, Trails and Trillium</p> <p>The Trails & Trilliums festival attracts hundreds of hikers, wildflower enthusiasts and families who come to the Cumberland Plateau during peak wildflower season. This 3-day festival raises funds to support the initiatives of the Friends of South Cumberland (FSC), working in support of South Cumberland State Park. https://www.trailsandtrilliums.org/</p>	<p>Where: Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle, Tennessee</p>
<p>4/18/20, Stinging Fork Falls to Piney River</p> <p>We will caravan from the Exxon to the Lower Piney River Trailhead to start a shuttle leaving some cars there. We will then carpool to the Stinging Fork Falls Trailhead. From there we hike back to the Piney River Trailhead. This section of the Cumberland Trail was completed in fall 2018. What spring flowers we will see is hard to predict. The route is definitely scenic. Alternatives: People are welcome to head back early to the Stinging Falls Fork Trailhead. They will need a car there or will have to wait till the afternoon when the shuttle is completed. With this alternative you could drive back from the Stinging Fork Trailhead to the Piney River Trail Head and walk in along the flat trail by Soak Creek to meet the rest of the group as they reach Soak Creek.</p> <p>Difficulty: Total walking distance will be about 6 miles. The trail is up and down with many steps.</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Larry Pounds (Reservations not required but are helpful for planning and to send updates or cancelations.)</p> <p>Phone/email: 865-705-8516 PoundsL471@aol.com</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: For carpool: Gold's Gym/ Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's 9 A.M. Eastern Time</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, lunch, bug spray.</p> <p>Facilities : At meeting places</p>
<p>4/22-25, Wildflower Pilgrimage</p> <p>The Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage is an annual event in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park featuring professionally-guided walks to explore the region's rich natural and cultural resources. Programs included fungi, ferns, wildflowers, trees and shrubs, medicinal plants, and more. Directions and details: www.wildflowerpilgrimage.org</p>	<p>Where: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, TN</p>
<p>5/1-2, Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Wildflower Festival</p> <p>Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Festival is an annual event held at Cedars of Lebanon State Park at the Cedar Forest Lodge (from the main entrance take the fork in the road to the right to the first building on the right). Lectures, hikes, roundtable discussions and more. Details and directions: www.mtsu.edu/glade-center</p>	<p>Where: Cedars of Lebanon State Park</p>
<p>5/9, Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness, Sparta</p> <p>We will explore the Chestnut Mountain and Polly Branch Trails where we hope to see large stands of pink lady's slipper (<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>) and mountain laurel (<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>), and if we're lucky, we might be able to catch the end of the bloom season for other spring ephemerals such as dwarf ginseng (<i>Panax trifolium</i>). A few woody perennials may be in bloom, too, including Dutchman's pipe (<i>Aristolochia macrophylla</i>) and nine-bark (<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>).</p> <p>Directions: In De Rossett 8 or 9 miles E. of Sparta on US 70, turn south on Eastland Road at Bondecroft Headstart Village. Go about 6.5 miles until you get to the graveled parking area on the right at the entrance of the WMA.</p>	<p>Contact/Leader: Bart Jones</p> <p>Phone/email: 901-485-2745 or bjones7777@hotmail.com</p> <p>Meeting Place/Time: Polly Branch Falls Trailhead 10 AM Central</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, lunch, bug spray.</p> <p>Facilities : None</p> <p>Difficulty: ~4 miles with some steep sections</p>

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<p>6/20/2020, Couchville Coneflowers at Sunset</p> <p>The Tennessee Coneflower was the first federally listed plant species in Tennessee to be removed from the Endangered Species List. The population at this State Natural Area is one of the reasons that goal was achieved. We will see a lot of them and other glade and barrens species as we watch the sun get lower in the sky on one of the longest days of the year. Some of the views along the trail can be spectacular so bring your camera gear to capture the beauty of the coneflowers and the summer sky. Ticks and mosquitos could make an appearance so bring some type of defense. The hike is only a mile along the loop trail but we will take our time and spend about 3 hours to get to the best view of the setting sun.</p>	<p><i>Contact/Leader:</i> Todd Crabtree</p> <p><i>Phone/email:</i> 615-532-1378 todd.crabtree@tn.gov</p> <p><i>Meeting Place/Time:</i> Couchville State Natural Area parking lot (36.101176, -86.529356) at 4 PM Central</p> <p><i>Difficulty:</i> Moderate difficulty due to some rocky and uneven terrain and potential high temperatures.</p> <p><i>Lunch:</i> Bring plenty of water and footwear with ankle support</p> <p><i>Facilities :</i> None at the meeting place</p>
<p>7/18, Thomas Divide to Kanati Fork (Car Shuttle Required)</p> <p>We will hike Thomas Divide trail and then go down the mountain on the Kanati Fork Trail. We will see a variety of plants and look for some rare plants. This will be about 5 miles with about 3 miles downhill.</p>	<p><i>Leaders:</i> Allen and Susan Sweetser ssretiree@yahoo.com 865-938-7627</p> <p><i>Meet:</i> Newfound Gap at 10am Eastern</p> <p><i>Bring:</i> Lunch, water and bug spray.</p> <p><i>Facilities:</i> at Newfound Gap.</p>
<p>8/29/2020, A Morning in the Barrens at Flat Rock</p> <p>Numerous composites will be flowering at this time of year and some of them are rare or uncommon. Grasses will also be putting on a show as we wind our way through the barrens before the worst of the heat arrives in the middle of the day. Globally rare plants can be found on this natural area and we will see a few and discuss the ongoing management that benefits them. Bring your insect repellent as we will occasionally leave the security of the trail. The total distance hiked should be less than 2 miles, but the heat at this time of year could make it feel worse.</p>	<p><i>Contact/Leader:</i> Todd Crabtree</p> <p><i>Phone/email:</i> 615-532-1378 todd.crabtree@tn.gov</p> <p><i>Meeting Place/Time:</i> Flat Rock State Natural Area parking lot (35.858582, -86.295628) , 8 AM</p> <p><i>Difficulty:</i> Moderate difficulty due to some rocky and uneven terrain and potential high temperatures.</p> <p><i>Lunch:</i> Bring plenty of water and footwear with ankle support</p> <p><i>Facilities :</i> None at the meeting place</p>
<p>9/5/2020, Crab Orchard Mountain Powerline Fall Flowers</p> <p>We will walk along the powerline right-of-way to see many species of aster, goldenrods and other fall flowers. This is a joint TNPS and TCWP outing.</p> <p><i>Meeting Place/Time:</i> For carpool: Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's at 9 A.M. Eastern Time. If meeting at trailhead meet at 10 A.M. Eastern.</p>	<p><i>Contact/Leader:</i> Larry Pounds (Reservations not required but are helpful for planning and to send updates or cancellations.) 865-705-8516 PoundsL471@aol.com</p> <p><i>Difficulty:</i> The walk will be less than 4 miles round trip.</p> <p><i>Lunch:</i> Bring water, lunch, bug spray.</p> <p><i>Facilities :</i> At meeting places</p>
<p>10/24/2020, Late Fall at Carroll Cabin Barrens State Natural Area</p> <p>Since we were thwarted by severe storms last year, we will make another attempt at this trip. One of West Tennessee's botanical jewels, Carroll Cabin Barrens State Natural Area harbors one of just two state populations of Great Plains ladies'-tresses (<i>Spiranthes magnicamporum</i>). These orchids are the latest-blooming of all our native orchids and occur in widely scattered prairie relicts in the South that are disjunct from the main populations found in the upper Midwest. If we are lucky (and there has been no frost), we hopefully will enjoy some nice fall foliage and some of the last flowers of the other special fall plants of the barrens like barrens silky aster (<i>Symphotrichum pratense</i>), stiff aster (<i>Lonactis linariifolia</i>), blue sage (<i>Salvia azurea</i> var. <i>grandiflora</i>), and obedient plant (<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>).</p>	<p><i>Contact/Leader:</i> Bart Jones 901-485-2745 bjones7777@hotmail.com</p> <p><i>Meeting Place/Time:</i> Parking lot of the Carroll Cabin Barrens State Natural Area (35.467472, -88.053667) at 10:00 am Central Time.</p> <p><i>Difficulty:</i> Easy to moderate. Much of the walking is on slopes and there are areas where rocks protrude.</p> <p><i>Lunch:</i> Late lunch at MeoMio's Cajun Restaurant close by.</p> <p><i>Facilities</i> at the restaurant.</p>