

# 2021 Hike Schedule

<i>Date and Location</i>	<i>Details</i>
<p><b>March 27   Meeman-Shelby State Park</b></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>: <i>var. sororia</i> (common blue violet), <i>var. albiflorus</i> (white wood violet), and <i>var. 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>Meeting Place: 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>Lunch: Bring to eat at picnic area in park.</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Bart Jones, Phone/email: 901-485-2745, bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>
<p><b>April 3   Old Stone Fort Park, Coffee County</b></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>Directions/Meeting Place: 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. 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>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 Phone/email: 931-461-0262, horndd@lighttube.net</p>
<p><b>April 10   Taylor Hollow, Larkspur Conservancy</b></p> <p>Taylor Hollow is one of the premier spring wildflower locations in Tennessee and is always a treat to visit. At this time, we should expect to see the rare Least Trillium (<i>Trillium pusillum</i>) and other more common spring ephemerals. The day will be split with a visit to the adjacent Larkspur Conservancy, a nature preserve and green burial cemetery.</p>	<p>Meeting Place: 155 Bear Carr Rd. parking area between Taylor Hollow and Larkspur Conservancy, 10:00 am Central Time.</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy, but be very mindful to stay on the trail in Taylor Hollow.</p> <p>Facilities: None</p> <p>Lunch: Bring lunch and water to eat at the picnic tables at Larkspur Conservancy.</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Michelle Haynes, Phone/email: 615-426-7551, michellewhaynes@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>continued on next page</i></p>

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<p><b>April 11   Winding Staircase, Lafayette</b></p> <p>Winding Staircase is a City of Lafayette park which preserves a scenic area of steep rock faces, waterfalls, and large patches of wildflowers. Trails are well marked with self-guided signage.</p>	<p>Meeting Place: Parking lot at the park, 655 Nature Trail Way. For those who would like to meet as a group, join us by 10:00 am Central Time. Since it is a self-guided trail you can go at any time.</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Lots of stairs to negotiate.</p> <p>Facilities: At the parking lot</p> <p>Lunch: Bring what you would like or eat after hike.</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Since this is a self-guided trail, there is no leader.</p>
<p><b>April 17   Frozen Head Wildflower Walk</b></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>Meeting Place: 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>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>Facilities: At meeting place</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Larry Pounds and Jimmy Groton (Reservations required), Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL@aol.com</p>
<p><b>April 24   Stinging Fork Falls to Piney River</b></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 the fall 2018. What spring flowers we will see is hard to predict. The route is definitely scenic. Total walking distance will be about 6 miles. The trail is up and down with many steps.</p> <p>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 until 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>Meeting/Carpool Places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot in Oak Ridge (at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) 9 AM Eastern Time</li> <li>2. Rocky Top/ Exxon/ McDonald's on US 27 in Spring City at 10 AM Eastern</li> </ol> <p>Difficulty: Moderate with some steep sections.</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting places.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring lunch, water, and bug spray.</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Larry Pounds (reservations required), Phone/Email: 865-705-8516 (cell) PoundsL471@aol.com</p>

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<p><b>April 30 - May 1   Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glades Festival</b></p> <p>The largest event celebrating the unique cedar glade habitat of Middle Tennessee. Lots of activities including hikes led by TNPS members Todd Crabtree, Milo Pyne, and Darel Hess.</p>	<p>Check out the website at <a href="http://www.mtsu.edu/glade-center/">www.mtsu.edu/glade-center/</a> for more information.</p>
<p><b>May 8   Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness</b></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/Meeting Place: 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 (35.879935, -85.272278) where we will meet, 10:00 am Central Time.</p> <p>Difficulty: Moderate, Approximately 4 miles with some steep sections.</p> <p>Facilities: None</p> <p>Lunch: Bring water, lunch, bug spray.</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Bart Jones Phone/email: 901-485-2745, <a href="mailto:bjones7777@hotmail.com">bjones7777@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>May 29   AEDC/May Prairie</b></p> <p>For those that missed the 2019 trip, this is your opportunity to again see orchids and other rare plants. The "Oak Barrens" of Coffee County provide some of the best examples of TN rare plants that also occur in the Gulf Coastal Plain and the prairies of the Midwest. As a result, Coffee County is one of only three counties in Tennessee with 50 or more rare plant species.</p> <p>We will visit the AEDC first to see native orchids: <i>Calopogon tuberosus</i>, <i>Cleistes bifaria</i> (now <i>Cleisteslopsis</i>), and possibly <i>Platanthera lacera</i> and <i>Pogonia ophioglossoides</i>. We should also find Death Camas (<i>Zigadenus leimanthoides</i>, now <i>Stenanthium tennesseense</i>), Whorled Loosestrife (<i>Lysimachia quadrifolia</i>), and Hyssop Leaved Skullcap (<i>Scutellaria integrifolia</i>). After lunch, time permitting, we will visit May Prairie. We should see Mock Bishop's Weed (<i>Ptilimnium costatum</i>), Eryngo (<i>Eryngium integrifolium</i>), Coppery St. Johnswort (<i>Hypericum denticulatum</i>), Marsh Pea (<i>Lathyrus palustris</i>), Horned Bladderpod (<i>Utricularia cornuta</i>), and Swamp Candles (<i>Lysimachia terrestris</i>).</p>	<p>Directions/Meeting Place: Wendy's in Manchester at 10:00 am Central Time. Leave I-24 at exit 114 in Manchester, TN. Turn left coming from Chattanooga (right from Nashville) onto US 41 heading NW toward town. Turn right at the 1st traffic light (Raceway at that intersection) beyond the interstate. Wendy's is half a block on the right.</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting place.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring lunch unless social distancing requirements have been relaxed. Bring water, insect repellent, sunscreen, snacks, and camera.</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate walking in low vegetation. Some areas may be wet.</p> <p>Leader: Dennis Horn Phone/Email: 931-461-0262, <a href="mailto:horndd@lighttube.net">horndd@lighttube.net</a></p>

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<p><b>July 17   Thomas Divide/ Kanati Fork</b></p> <p>Car shuttle required. 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 species. This will be about 5 miles with about 3 miles downhill.</p>	<p>Meeting Place: Newfound Gap at 10am Eastern</p> <p>Difficulty: Moderate, but at elevation.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring along with water and bug spray.</p> <p>Facilities: at Newfound Gap.</p> <p>Leaders: Allen and Susan Sweetser Email/Phone: ssretiree@yahoo.com, 865-938-7627</p>
<p><b>September 25   The Grasslands of Dry Branch</b></p> <p>We will travel from the 412 Market to the natural area. Here we will explore the upland grasslands. These grasslands add diversity to the plant and animal richness of the natural area. Leaders will identify plants and animals, collect seed (for conservation initiatives) and discuss the importance of grasslands. We will contribute important data to the Southeastern Grasslands Initiative by adding plant and animal records to iNaturalist. All data will be used to understand the region's grasslands and provide important information regarding management. <i>There is a limit of 15 people for this trip.</i></p>	<p>Directions/Meeting Place: 412 Market at 1403 Linden Hwy (Route 412/20), Hohenwald (35.549535, -87.612235) at 9:30 Central Time (NOTE TIME). Trip will go until 12:30.</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy to moderate.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring to eat after trip.</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting place</p> <p>Contact/Leaders: Allan Trently, West Tennessee Stewardship Ecologist and Cooper Breeden, Southeastern Grasslands Initiative and Tennessee Plant Conservation Alliance. Phone/Email: 731-571-9729, allan.trently@tn.gov</p>
<p><b>October 2   Big Cypress Tree State Park Mycology Safari</b></p> <p>This trip will focus on all the other things that grow out of the ground (and even from plants). We should encounter numerous species of mushrooms, fungi, lichens, and slime molds that are all weird and wonderful. And, of course, we won't ignore the plants – particularly red turtlehead (<i>Chelone obliqua</i>).</p>	<p>Directions/Meeting Place: Take US Hwy. 45E north through Greenfield. Turn left onto TN Hwy. 445 (Kimmery Store Rd.). Turn right onto Big Cypress Rd. and follow to the playground/picnic area where we will meet at 10:00 am Central Time.</p> <p>Difficulty: Easy, but it can be muddy.</p> <p>Lunch: Bring to eat at picnic area after trip.</p> <p>Facilities: At meeting place</p> <p>Contact/Leader: Bart Jones Phone/Email: 901-485-2745, bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>

Please remember to contact the trip leader  
for each hike you plan to attend!