

2022 Field Trip Schedule

April 2 (Saturday) – Ghost River State Natural Area

This early spring trip will visit a rather large population of southern twayblade (*Listera australis*). This small orchid is the earliest blooming native orchid in Tennessee. We should also see numerous early spring species and some nice red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*).

Meeting Place/Time: Near Post Office in LaGrange, at the south side of the intersection of Hwy. 57 and Yager Rd. 10:00 am Central

Difficulty: Easy, but there may be some muddy spots.

Lunch: Bring

Facilities: None

Leader: Bart Jones. Phone: 901-485-2745 Email: bjones7777@hotmail.com



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Southern twayblade (*Listera australis*)

April 5 (Tuesday) - Tour of Vanderbilt Arboretum

Today, Vanderbilt University campus is a green "island" in the middle of urban Nashville. When the university was founded in 1873, the site was almost completely denuded of vegetation as a result of agriculture and deforestation during the Civil War a few years earlier. How did it evolve into its current botanical state, and what were the factors that influenced that development?

On this walk, biologist Steve Baskauf will introduce some of the significant trees on campus while discussing the past and future of this man-made oasis. (For a preview: Vanderbilt arboretum website is <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/trees/>)

Meeting Place/Time: Vanderbilt Central Library: 419 21st Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212. Walk from 21st Ave up steps to the front of the building to meet at 1:00 pm Central. **Note Date and Time!**

Paid parking at Wesley Place Garage: 1957 Scarritt Pl, Nashville, TN 37212 (off 21st Ave opposite from Central Library). Take Daily parking entrance (not Retail entrance). Price is \$3 per hour, but carpooling will help.

Difficulty: Easy (lawn, steps, sidewalks)

Facilities: At Rand Student Center nearby.

Leader: Steve Baskauf phone/ email: 615-476-5827, steve.baskauf@vanderbilt.edu.

April 9 (Saturday) - Wells Hill Park, Lincoln County

Wells Hill Park is the former water supply for the city of Fayetteville. It became the first gravity flow water system in the United States and supplied water to Fayetteville from 1904 to 1954. The 114-acre tract contains a hollow with three ravines, each with a small waterfall and numerous springs. The area is wooded and the slopes provide impressive displays of wildflowers in the spring. With the help of the TN Parks and Greenways Foundation a conservation buyer purchased the property at auction on June 30, 2012. It has recently become a Lincoln County nature preserve. TNPS produced a plant list for the park as part of a field trip in 2013. This year we will simply enjoy the beauty of the area and the numerous plants we find.

Meeting Place/Time: McDonalds on U.S. 231 at the southern edge of Fayetteville, about a mile south of the U.S. 64 bypass, on the left going south toward Huntsville AL at 10:00 am Central.

Difficulty: Easy

Lunch: Bring

Facilities: At meeting place

Leader: Dennis Horn Phone: 931-461-0262 Email: horndd@lighttube.net

April 16 (Saturday) – Frozen Head Wildflower Walk

This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. We will have an excellent opportunity to see spring wildflowers. This will be a switch from last year. We will start from Panther Branch Trailhead. The first 0.55 miles is ideal for those with rather limited hiking capabilities; the trail is wide and flat. For those continuing the next 1 mile along Panther Branch is steeper and rougher but still only moderate. Panther Branch is a place to see dwarf ginseng (*Panax trifolius*).

Meeting Place/Time: Frozen Head State Park office parking area at 10 am Eastern.

Difficulty: Moderate from 1.1 to 3 miles

Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray

Facilities: At meeting place

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com



Wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)



Virginia spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*)

April 23 (Saturday) – Stinging Fork Falls to Piney River

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 truly scenic. Total walking distance will be about 6 miles if you choose. The trail is up and down with many steps. If covid prevents a shuttle we will do an In-and-back-out.

Alternatives: People are welcome to head back early to the Stinging Falls Fork Trailhead. They will need a car there or will have a 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.

Meeting/Carpool Places/Times:

1. Oak Ridge at the Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot (meet at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) in time to leave Oak Ridge at 8:45 a.m. Eastern.
2. Rocky Top/ Exxon/ MacDonald's on US 27 in Spring City at 10 AM Eastern.

Difficulty: Strenuous at times with some steep sections.

Lunch: Bring lunch, water, and bug spray.

Facilities: At meeting places.

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com

Note: This is the third time this outing has been scheduled. Weather has been a problem, but it is too good of an outing not to keep trying.

May 7 (Saturday) - Late Spring Plants in Jackson and Clay Counties

Jackson and Clay counties have some beautiful, rugged country nestled in the hills and hollows along the Cumberland River and its tributaries. In 2018 we explored areas along the Roaring River and Spring Creek south of the Cumberland R. This trip will take us to places north of the Cumberland R. to see plants that flower late in the spring. Plants we plan to see include Guyandotte Beauty (*Synandra hispidula*), Chapman's Meadow Parsnip (*Thaspium chapmanii*), Appendaged Waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum appendiculatum*), and Miami Mist (*Phacelia purshii*). We will caravan along the rural roads with frequent stops to explore the hillsides.

Meeting Place/Time: Love's Travel Stop (includes McDonalds and Subway) on I-40 at exit 280, 7 miles west of Cookeville near Baxter TN at 10:00 am Central.

Difficulty: Easy all day roadside botany.

Lunch: Bring

Facilities: At meeting place.

Leaders: Louise Gregory and Dennis Horn 931-461-0262, horndd@lighttube.net Please call or email ahead of time.



Miami Mist (*Phacelia purshii*)

May 13-15 – Annual Conference, Chattanooga

Field trips: Sittons Gulch (photo right), Cloudland Canyon State Park, GA and Little Cedar Mountain.

Check for updates on the website or the Facebook page.



May 21 (Saturday) – Crab Orchard Mountain Walk

This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. The walk is scheduled in hope of catching spreading pogonia (*Cleistes bifaria*) and prairie lily (*Lilium philadelphicum*) in flower. They are both beautiful, the orchid in a subtle way and the lily in a very showy way. We should see a variety of flowers as we walk open area, powerline, and forested area with streams and rock formations. After the main walk there is a quality wetland that can be visited. Attendees can choose a shuttle or walking the whole loop using a road walk portion. As always there is the option of turning back early. If covid prevents a shuttle, we will do an In-and-back-out or complete the loop.

Meeting Places/Times:

1. Marathon Gas Station at the Crab Orchard exit off I-40 east of Crossville (9 AM central time, 10 AM eastern time)
2. Oak Ridge at the Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot (meet at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) in time to leave Oak Ridge at 8:45 a.m. Eastern

Difficulty: Estimated 3 miles for those doing the shuttle and 4.5 for those walking the loop. The powerline part of the walk is the same as some of us did last fall. The flowers of course will be totally different. The trail up the powerline is steep in places.

Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray

Facilities: At meeting places

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com



Prairie lily (*Lilium philadelphicum*)

May 28 (Saturday) - Elza Gate Paved Greenway



Orange
coneflower
(*Rudbeckia
fulgida*)

This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. We will emphasize tree and shrub identification along the greenway.

Meeting Place/Time: Elza Gate (Oak Ridge City Park) on the Oak Ridge Turnpike near River Road at 9 AM eastern.

Difficulty: This should work for those with limited walking ability. Wheelchairs are a possibility. We will walk or roll on a flattish paved trail. Total out and back distance is perhaps 1.5 miles. As usual attendees can turn back when they want.

Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray

Facilities: None

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com

July 16 (Saturday) - Indian Gap to Newfound Gap, GSMNP

This will involve a car shuttle. May be cancelled due to Covid. Bring masks. We will see high elevation plants along the Appalachian trail.

Meeting Place/Time: Newfound Gap, 10:00 AM Eastern.

Difficulty: Moderate hike of 2 miles.

Lunch: Bring lunch, water, and bug spray.

Facilities: at meeting place

Leader: Allen and Susan Sweetser, Phone: 875 938 7627, Email: ssretiree@yahoo.com



Purple fringed
orchid
(*Platanthera
psycodes*)

September 3 (Saturday) – Walker Branch State Natural Area

We will walk through a field of ironweed, asters, goldenrods, and other colorful plants. We will discuss plants and the insects that visit them.

This field is home for the uncommon Dion Skipper and Southeastern Plains Bumblebee. The walk is considered easy and kid friendly.

Meeting Place/Time: We will meet in the parking lot for AutoZone Auto Parts at 235 Water St. Suite A, Savannah, TN 38372; coordinates of the meeting site are 35.221984, -88.246275. Meet at 9:30 am Central, hike will end around 1:30 pm

Price: \$10, this is a Division of Natural Areas event, therefore the charge. Please register at https://tnstateparks.com/parks/event_details/division-of-natural-areas/#/?event=fall-walk-through-the-fields-of-walker-branch-sna

Difficulty: Easy

Lunch: Bring snacks that can be eaten in the field.

Leader: Allan Trently Phone: 731-571-9729 Email: allan.trently@tn.gov



Late purple aster (*Aster patens*)

September 3 (Saturday) – Van Buren County Powerline

This is a joint outing for TNPS and TCWP. This is a new powerline for our fall wildflower outing. It will require a bit more driving. Hopefully some of the bog orchids will still be in bloom but mostly we will be seeing goldenrods and asters. We will be able to mix driving and walking. This will be handy if it is a hot day.

Meeting Places:

1. Shell Station on the south side of the Peavine exit in Crossville (9 AM central time, 10 AM eastern time)
2. Oak Ridge at the Gold's Gym/Books-A-Million parking lot (meet at the end close to S. Illinois Avenue, near Salsarita's) in time to leave Oak Ridge at 8:45 a.m. Eastern.

Difficulty: This should work for those with limited walking ability. We will walk on a flattish gravel road with a short outing into a boggy area for the adventurous. For those who want this can be mostly a driving trip with stops. The road in is a little rough but quite drivable for most vehicles. We can carpool, covid permitting.

Facilities: the meeting places

Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com



Stiffleaf aster
(*Aster linariifolius*)

September 10 (Saturday) – Oak Ridge Cedar Barrens & Worthington Cemetery TVA Ecological Study Area

This is a joint outing for Wild Ones, TNPS and TCWP. The Oak Ridge Barrens is a small property that supports at least three Tennessee rare plant species: prairie goldenrod (*Solidago ptarmicoides*), naked-stem sunflower (*Helianthus occidentalis*), and Torrey's mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum torreyi*). Torrey's mountain mint is not only rare in Tennessee but considered globally imperiled by NatureServe. Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning (TCWP) has managed the Barrens for 26 years. Volunteer workdays continue to control exotic and native woody, invasive plant species that threaten the integrity of the prairie pockets and creates additional habitat for barrens vegetation. Other commonly seen plants in bloom at this time are 2 species of blazing star, big bluestem, Indian grass, black eye susans, white crownbeard, butterfly milkweed, grey headed coneflowers, false aloe, whorled milkweed, woodland sunflower, lespedeza, rose pink, whorled rosinweed, and golden asters. Special Covid-19 precautions may be needed.

Meeting Place: 200 Fairbanks Rd Oak Ridge, TN. Parking lot at Jefferson Middle School (next to baseball diamond off Fairbanks Rd) at 9:30 AM Eastern

Difficulty: Easy with a slightly rough trail surface in places. Oak Ridge Cedar Barren less than .5 miles and Worthington Cemetery about 1 mile walking.

Lunch: Bring water, lunch, and bug spray

Facilities: Portable toilet at the meeting place.

Leader: Larry Pounds. If you RSVP it helps with planning and allows possible contacting in case of cancelation, Phone/email: 865-705-8516, PoundsL471@aol.com

September 17 (Saturday) – Roadside Botanizing in Northern Decatur County

We will explore the roadsides of northern Decatur County and the wildflowers along the way. Liatris and goldenrods will be numerous, and we will be on the lookout for barbed rattlesnake-root (*Nabalus barbatus*), a rare plant in Tennessee.

Meeting Place/Time: Love's Truckstop off Exit 126, I-40. 10:00 am Central

Difficulty: Easy to moderate

Lunch: Bring

Facilities: At meeting place.

Leader: Bart Jones, Phone: 901-485-2745 Email: bjones7777@hotmail.com

Please contact the trip leaders beforehand if you plan to attend any field trip. This helps them to determine the number of people and to be aware of those that might be late arriving, so they aren't left behind.

Spring Events

- March 3-6 – Nashville Lawn & Garden Show, Nashville Fairgrounds
- March 12 – Wild Ones Plant Natives Symposium, Chattanooga
- March 19 – Wild Ones Plant Sale & Expo, Chattanooga
- April 8-10 – Trails & Trilliums, Monteagle
- April 22-23 – Conservation Days, Murfreesboro
- April 26-30 – Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage, Gatlinburg
- April 29-30 – Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade Wildflower Festival, Lebanon

For details and directions visit the TNPS website Calendar.