

September – November 2023

Bring water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. Distances are round trip and approximate, as are elevation gains. Hike leader has discretion to refuse anyone who is not adequately prepared. Call the hike leader for meeting place and time, and if you are unable to go, please let the leader know ASAP so that someone else can take your place if space is limited. If you are sick or have any symptoms, please stay home and join us next time.

September 16, Saturday – Bald Peak, Pittsford

A loop trail that climbs to two overlooks, with views of the Otter Creek Valley and the Adirondacks. It's about 3 miles, moderate, with a couple steep scrambles. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Larry Walter, 802-775-3855**

September 23, Saturday – Beane Trail to Birch Glen Camp & Molly Stark Balcony, Starksboro

Great for those working on Side-to-Side certification. The Beane Trail is an easy climb through an old sugaring area to Birch Glen Camp, a log-cabin-style shelter. We will then follow the Long Trail south with some steep climbing to Molly Stark Balcony and return the same way. 6 miles, moderate. Be prepared for an early start – must call leader by 8 p.m. Thursday to sign up. Vaccination required for carpooling. **Allison Henry, 802-779-4404**

October 7, Saturday – Long Trail Day

This club-wide celebration of the LT features events and hikes around the state. Visit greenmountainclub.org for details. To find out how to volunteer or participate locally, contact **Wayne Krevetski, 802-282-2237**

October 14, Saturday, rain date Sunday – Beechwood History Hike, Mendon

Join us as we explore a bit of Rutland and Killington Section history on the grounds of “Beechwood,” also the site of Rutland Fire Clay, a once-thriving area business begun in the 1880s. We'll start with a short, easy hike through the woods from Mendon to several of the old pits, then wind our way to the house and several outbuildings that remain. See the article on page 7 of Smoke & Blazes for an outline of the history, and two descendants of the founders may be on hand that day to fill in the details. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**

October 22, Sunday – Merck Forest, Rupert

We'll hike the trails and wood roads that wind through the former farmland of Merck Forest. Depending on which routes we choose there may be views, pastures, ponds or even a replica of Thoreau's Walden Pond cabin. Approximately 4 miles, moderate. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Larry Walter & Vivian Bebee, 802-353-3976**

October 28, Saturday – Jockey Hill, Shrewsbury

We'll park where the Clement Shelter Rd. leaves the Gilman Rd. and follow the Clement Shelter Rd. to its end at a long-abandoned farm north of the shelter, then follow a wood road north around Jockey Hill to the Tin Shanty Rd. and end at the CCC Road to Bridgewater. Part of this is the original route of the Long Trail. 5 miles, moderate, 700' total climb. Covid vaccination strongly recommended. **Herb Ogden, 802-293-2510, hogden@vermontel.net**

November 4, Saturday – “Put the Trail to Bed” Work Party

Join us for our last-of-the-season work day and help us keep the Killington Section trails in shape. Bring lunch, sturdy shoes and work gloves, tools will be provided. **Larry Walter, 802-775-3855** or **Dave Coppock, 802-683-1614**

November 12, Sunday – Mount Tom, Woodstock

A safe hunting season hike at Vermont's only National Park. We'll hike the carriage roads to the mysteriously named “Pogue” pond, and on to the summit for lovely views of the village and valley below. Some climbing but ascents are gradual, about 4 miles, moderate. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**

November 19, Sunday – Pot Luck Supper, 1 p.m., Godnick Adult Center, Deer St., Rutland

Our annual fall tradition is back! Bring your own place setting, utensils and a dish to share. Hopefully we'll have a program after the meal. Vaccination recommended. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**