

June – August 2024

Bring water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. Snowshoes or grippers may be needed for winter hikes. Distances are round trip and approximate, as are elevation gains. Hike leader has discretion to refuse anyone who is not adequately prepared. If you are sick or have any symptoms, please stay home and join us next time.

June 1, Saturday – National Trails Day – Upper Elevation Work Party, Killington

Outdoor enthusiasts all over the country will be out sprucing up the trails for the summer hiking season. Come lend a hand as we clear brush and water bars, paint blazes and cut blowdowns on the upper-elevation stretches of the Long Trail. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes, lunch, water and bug spray, tools will be provided. **Larry Walter, 802-775-3855** or **Dave Coppock, 802-683-1614**

June 8, 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. Call leader for meeting place and time, and plan for an early start. Must call leader by 5 p.m. Friday to sign up. Masks may be required for carpooling. **Allison Henry, 802-779-4404**

June 15, Saturday – Green Mountain Club Annual Meeting, Waterbury Center

Held this year at club headquarters, it's a great opportunity to meet staff members and folks from the other sections, get updates on GMC's activities and projects around the state, and join in on some hikes after the business meeting. For information on registration, lodging, meals and additional activities, see your summer Long Trail News or visit greenmountainclub.org/annual-meeting

June 22, Saturday – Cooley Glen Trail, Lincoln

Great for those working on Side-to-Side certification. 7 miles, difficult, at a moderate pace. Option to continue on to Mt. Grant if the group wants. Plan on an early start, must call leader by 5 p.m. Friday to sign up. Masks may be required for carpooling. **Allison Henry, 802-779-4404**

June 29, Saturday, rain date Sunday – 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 ft. total climb. Call for meeting place and time. **Herb Ogden, 802-293-2510** hogden@vermontel.net

July 6, Saturday, rain date Sunday – Pico Loop, Killington

Hike with us up Pico via the Long Trail from Route 4, then make a loop of it by descending via the Sherburne Pass Trail and visiting Deer's Leap across the road before finishing the hike through Maine Junction. 10 miles, difficult, with a 2500-ft. total elevation gain. Please give the hike leader a call to find out the meeting place and time. **Sheamus Fagan, 802-498-8751**

July 13, Saturday – Blue Ridge Bushwhack, Mendon to Chittenden

We'll start with a strenuous hike up Blue Ridge Mountain via the Canty Trail, then bushwhack down the other side to Lefferts Pond. 5 miles, difficult, but quite an adventure! **Larry Walter, 802-775-3855** or **Dave Coppock, 802-683-1614**

July 20, Saturday, rain date Sunday – Little Rock Pond, Wallingford

Hike in to this beautiful wilderness pond via a less-used trail from Wallingford. We'll pass through the site of the once-bustling lumber mill town of Aldrichville, where stone walls and a few artifacts can still be seen. Bring a suit if you'd like to take a dip. 5 miles, moderate. Call for meeting place and time. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**

Turn the page over, there are more hikes and 2 paddles on the back!



July 27, Saturday – Bristol Pond Paddle, Bristol

We'll do a leisurely exploration together of this 248-acre pond (aka Winona Lake) where bald eagles, ospreys and great blue herons have been reported. Bring your own paddle-powered craft, an approved personal flotation device for each person, water, lunch and sun protection. Contact leader **before** July 26 for meeting place and time and to sign up; leader may limit group size. **Ruth Hare, 802-223-1196** (evenings), vt_rh@protonmail.com.

August 10, Saturday – Haystack Mountain, Pawlet

Climb through a forest of oak, ash and hickory to a sweeping view of the Mettawee River Valley, Taconic Range, Greens and Adirondacks. Part of the Nature Conservancy's North Pawlet Hills Natural Area, it's home to bobcats, hawks, ravens and peregrine falcons. 3 miles, moderate, with some steep pitches. Dogs are not permitted in Nature Conservancy preserves. Call leader for meeting place and time. **Diane Bargiel, 413-687-1109**

August 17, Saturday, rain date Sunday – Killington via Bucklin Trail, Killington

Let's give our local 4000-footer a visit with a straightforward out-and-back hike of the Bucklin Trail from Brewer's Corners on Wheelerville Road. 7 miles, difficult, with a 2400-ft total elevation gain. Please give the hike leader a call to find out the meeting place and time. **Sheamus Fagan, 802-498-8751**

August 24, Saturday – Lowell Lake State Park Hike or Paddle, Londonderry

Bring kayaks or canoes for a day of paddling, or hike the 3.5-mile, mostly flat trail around the lake. Swimming is also an option. State Park admission fee or pass required. Drivers may request masks for carpooling. Call leaders for meeting place and time. **Larry Walter & Viv Bebee, 802-353-3976**

Wednesday Hikes for Seniors

The Godnick Adult Center sponsors a series of hikes at a less strenuous pace for adults and older adults. Hikes typically cover 2-4 miles, involve limited to moderate elevation gain, and try to avoid treacherous footing. Participants should bring water, lunch and bug spray. Hikers are encouraged to wear sturdy footwear, long sleeves/pants(to protect against ticks), and be prepared for Vermont weather.

Meet at 9 a.m. at the Godnick Center, 1 Deer Street to carpool. We return in the early to mid-afternoon. For further details, call the hike leader listed on the schedule. All are welcome. NOTE: Hikes are subject to change due to weather and/or trail conditions. (.....and please, no dogs.)

May 29, 2024 – Slate Valley Trails Hike leader: Renee Warren 802-747-4466. Venture into the woods on an easy-moderate 3-mile walk. We'll be searching out wildflowers: the last of the spring ephemerals as they exit and turn over the stage to early summer blooms.

June 12, 2024 – Texas Falls & Robert Frost Interpretive Trail Hike leader: Lyn Drigert 802-775-7038. Texas Falls is a 1.2-mile hike through the woods, near waterfalls. Narrow path, slight elevation, rocks and tree roots. The Robert Frost Interpretive Trail is a .9-mile loop, on the boardwalk through woods and a field.

June 26, 2024 – Jamaica State Park/Buttermilk Falls Hike leaders: Renee Warren & Lyn Drigert

See the Godnick Adult Center newsletter on their website for the rest of the summer hike schedule. Also find information there about the **Understanding the Woods** hikes offered on the second Thursday of the month, 9:30–10:30, at Pine Hill Park, Oak Street Ext. Join Sharon Shea for a monthly exploration of our relationship to our woodlands. During the hike Sharon will moderate discussion about the ecological history of our woodlands and their continuing importance in our lives. Participants will be encouraged to engage and contribute throughout the hike. By participating community members will gain some physical activity, social interaction and knowledge of the natural environment within the park. The next date will be June 13. **Registration is required for the Understanding the Woods series, free, suggested donation \$5.**