

LET'S GO!



FIRST QUARTER 2024
Quarterly Hike Schedule



P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802 • www.carolinamountainclub.org • e-mail: cmcinfo@carolinamountainclub.org

HIKE RATINGS

First Letter Distance	Second Letter Elevation Gain
AA: Over 12 miles	AA: Over 2,000 ft.
A: 9.1-12 miles	A: 1,501-2,000 ft.
B: 6.1-9 miles	B: 1,001-1,500 ft.
C: Up to 6 miles	C: 1,000 ft. or less

If it's not possible to go on the regularly scheduled hike, it may be possible to accompany the leader when the hike is scouted. Hike cancellations are announced on the CMC website in the Breaking News box. Hike Leaders will announce a cancellation or significant change at least a few hours before the hike. Hikers that do not have internet access or live hours away from the meeting place: call the hike leader to ensure that you are informed about hike changes. See the Hike Schedule on the CMC website for more complete and timely information, including scout reports, at www.carolinamountainclub.org.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

All members are encouraged to participate in trail maintenance activities. Non-members are invited to try it a few times before deciding if they want to join the Club and be a regular part of a crew. We train and provide tools.

Below is a general schedule of work days. Exact plans often are not made until the last minute, so contact crew leaders for details. MST and AT section maintainers work on their own schedule.

Burnsville Monday Crew

John Whitehouse,
johnwhitehouse@icloud.com

Art Leob Monday Crew

Rich Evans, richard.erman.evans@gmail.com

Waynesville Wednesday Crew

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Asheville Thursday Crew

Dale Gerhardt, patchwrk18@gmail.com
Ken Hummel, kenhummel60@gmail.com
David Pizzolato, pizzolato957@gmail.com

Asheville Friday crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com
Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Pisgah Friday Crew

Don Cooper, dncpr47@gmail.com
Robert Bolt, otherrob@inbox.com

Quarterly Saturday Crew

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

Free Rangers Crew

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Remote Overnight Crew

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com
Rich Evans, richard.erman.evans@gmail.com

Section Rovers Crew

Jan Onan, janonan59@gmail.com
Rich Evans, richard.erman.evans@gmail.com

Wilderness Response Crew

Paul Dickens, psdicken@gmail.com

AT Section Maintainers Supervisor

Paul Curtin, pmcurtin@hotmail.com

MST Maintainers (South to North)

Oconaluftee River to Old Bald

Chris Werbylo, jcw402@aol.com

Old Bald to Hwy 215

Robert Bolt, otherob@inbox.com

Hwy 215 to Big Ridge O/L

(Available)

Big Ridge O/L to BRP Visitor Center

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

BRP Visitor Ctr to Greybeard O/L

John Busse, jfbusse@hotmail.com

Greybeard O/L to Black Mtn Campground

John Whitehouse,
johncwhitehouse@icloud.com

Secondary Trails Maintainers Supervisor

Les Love, lesrlove55@gmail.com

SATURDAY WORKDAYS

The Quarterly Saturday Trail Maintenance Workdays for 2024 are April 20, June 1, August 17 and October 12. We meet at 8:30 and return to Asheville by 3:00. Contact Les Love for details and where to meet.

lesrlove55@gmail.com | 828-658-1489

NEXT CMC COUNCIL MEETING

When: Tuesday, Jan. 16 (planning)
Where: Forest Service office on Zillicoa
Info: Call Les at 828-230-1861 if you would like to attend. All CMC members are welcome.

CHALLENGE PROGRAMS

A.T.-MST For hiking the 228 miles of the A.T. and MST on CMC maintained sections. Contact ATMST@CarolinaMountainClub.com

FH100 For hiking all 100 trails in the "100 Favorite Trails of the Smokies and Carolina Blue Ridge." Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com

LTC For hiking all 24 lookout towers in WNC. Contact LTC@carolinamountainclub.org

P400 For hiking every trail in Pisgah Ranger District. Contact P400@CarolinaMountainClub.org

SB6K For hiking all 40 peaks above 6000'. Contact SB6K@carolinamountainclub.org

WC100 For hiking to the 100 best waterfalls in the area. Contact w100@carolinamountainclub.org

YPC For hiking eight different Land Management areas with youth 17 and under. Contact Kay Shurtleff at kshurtleff@msn.com

900M For hiking every trail in GSMNP. Contact Steve Pierce, stevepierce50@gmail.com



HIKING FOR NEWCOMERS!

CMC has scheduled quarterly hikes designed for new hikers. A 30 minute Zoom presentation can be viewed on our CMC YouTube Channel following this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3cVR3BNxkg>

Contact cmcnnewhikers@gmail.com if you would like more information.

LEISURE HIKES (NEW!)

Leisure hikes are a new CMC Outreach initiative to provide more hiking opportunities for beginners, youth, or anyone else looking for a shorter, slower-paced CMC hike. The hikes are open to CMC members as well as families and newcomers. Please contact the hike leader to reserve your space. For now, the hikes will be advertised under the "Youth Partner Challenge" section of the online hike schedules and "Leisure Hikes" section of *Let's Go*. If you have questions or are interested in leading a Leisure hike, please contact Jeff Wilcox at education@carolinamountainclub.org.

Saturday No. Y2401-054 **March 16**
John Rock **10:00 AM**
Hike 4.0, 900 ft. ascent, Rated C-C, **P400**
Lynn Pettipaw, 914-602-4464,
lynn.pettipaw@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Fish Hatchery off FS 475 at 10:45 AM - but contact leader first.

YPC Contact the leader via email for reservation. Follow Cat Gap Loop Trail clockwise; right onto John Rock Trail to the top of John Rock, and return via the same route. At the top there is a great view of Looking Glass Rock and the Fish Hatchery.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

WEDNESDAY HIKES

Wednesday hikes submitted by Daisy Teng Karasek, 828-505-2036, daisytk@yahoo.com. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places as described in the schedule; start times vary. **Times listed are departure times – arrive early.**

Wednesday No. W2401-589 **Jan. 3**
Shut-in Trail
and Lake Powhatan loop **9:30 AM**
Hike 11, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A, **AT-MST,**
P400

Claudette Roberge, 860-205-4473,
Croberge0329@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Bent Creek River Park off NC 191.

Please email leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. The first 5 miles of this loop hike are on the Shut-In section of the MST from NC 191 outside the NC Arboretum to Sleepy Gap. Expect a steady climb to start, with some flatter ridges and climbs along the way. After a break at Sleepy Gap, we will descend to our lunch spot at Lake Powhatan on a series of trails. The walk out on Old Bent Creek Road through the NC Arboretum is broken up by forest trails along Bent Creek to

the entrance of the Arboretum, and then a short walk to our cars. This hike is #75 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Asheville

Wednesday No. W2401-975 **Jan. 10**
White Oak Bridge to Dolves Mountain
in Headwaters State Forest **8:00 AM**

Hike 9.4, Drive 80, 1550 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,

marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Please email leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This new hike is in Headwaters State Forest, along the NC/SC border. Headwaters opened to the public as a state forest in 2018 and is open to foot traffic only. This is an out-and-back hike with a loop in the middle. Starting at the White Oak Bridge trailhead, we climb up Clearcuts Road, an old forest road. At 3.5 miles, we reach a clearing with a campsite. We pick up the Foothills Trail Spur through Grunting Spring Gap and up to the summit of Dolves Mountain, passing through some fire damage from 2016 along the way. Dolves Mountain offers fabulous views of Transylvania County and the upper French Broad River Valley. From the summit, we return 1.25 miles to the large open area and begin the lower part of the loop section, following the Foothills Trail Spur back to a small clearing at the end of the loop, then follow Clearcuts Road back to the trailhead.

Wednesday No. W2401-976

Jan. 17

Biltmore Lake -

Pisgah National Forest Ramble **10:00 AM**

Hike 8.5, 1500 ft. ascent, Rated B-B

Paul Benson, 828-273-2098,

PDBenson@charter.net

Only Meeting Place: Biltmore Lake Clubhouse.

Note: This hike starts/ends on private property and hikers must be accompanied by a resident of Biltmore Lake. Limit of 12 hikers. Beginning at the Biltmore Lake Clubhouse, we'll follow the Lakeside Loop and Appalachian Morning Trails and connect with old logging roads that will take us to the summit of Scott Mountain with long range views. We'll then descend into the Baldwin Field Branch Valley of the Pisgah National Forest, following a scenic stream down to connect with old logging roads that will return us to the Biltmore Lake trail system and the clubhouse. The leader has reserved the Biltmore Lake fire pit for an informal fireside after-hike social hour. Sign up only on the CMC Meetup site: <https://www.meetup.com/Carolina-Mountain-Club/>

Wednesday No. W2401-059

Jan. 17

Boyd Branch P.L. #1 -

Ingles Field Gap 10:00 AM

Hike 6.2, Drive 10, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,

P400

Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116, cell: 828-567-9443,
bbente@bellsouth.net

Only Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a new hike in the Bent Creek area. From the Boyd



Wildcat Rock - Winter view on the trail! Photo by Tom Butler.

Branch trailhead, we will hike up to Ingles Field Gap and end at the Rice Pinnacle parking lot. Short car shuttle required.
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2401-437 **Jan. 24**
Slate Rock Creek, Pilot Cove 8:30 AM

Hike 7.1, Drive 60, 960 ft. ascent, Rated B-C, **P400**

Bob Smith, 828-696-6185,
wncnites@gmail.com and Vonnie Gamble,
410-375-7764, ygamble99@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet hike leaders at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 in front of gas pumps (Mills River) at 9:00 AM. Contact Bob Smith via email or text for reservation. Due to limited trailhead parking, limit of 15 hikers. The hike will start at Slate Rock Creek Trailhead and proceed up cascading Slate Rock drainage cove to a great viewing spot on Slate Rock. Expect beautiful views of Pilot Cove, Pilot Rock, Pink Beds, and beyond. After reaching the Pilot Cove Trailhead, we will walk 1.7 miles on Yellow Gap Road back to our cars.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Wednesday No. W2401-717 **Jan. 31**
Sunburst to Waterfalls 8:30 AM

Hike 6.2, Drive 54, 700 ft. ascent, Rated B-C, **P400**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Form carpools and meet the hike leader at the trailhead on FS 97, off NC 215 outside of Canton.

Leader will provide driving directions in advance. Contact leader via email for reservation. Two-thirds of this hike follows one of the prettiest Forest Service roads around, with switchbacks and good views of the forest and a rushing stream. We will detour twice, each time to view a waterfall. As a winter hike, depending on the temperature, we may see frozen or partially frozen falls. It's all uphill going in and downhill on the way back.

Topo(s): Sam Knob, Waynesville

Wednesday No. W2401-529 **Feb. 7**
Fletcher Fields & Spencer Branch 9:00 AM

Hike 9.3, Drive 40, 961 ft. ascent, Rated A-C, **P400**

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
hkassell@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 NW corner of parking lot near the No. Mills River Rd. entrance (Mills River) at 9:15 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This

is a variation of Hike #529. Starting from the trailhead at Wash Creek, we will do a loop hike using the following trails: Henderson Reservoir Road, Fletcher Creek Trail, Fletcher Creek Road, Middle Fork Trail and Spencer Gap Trail.
Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Wednesday No. W2401-200 **Feb. 14**
Silver Steps Trail to Jones Gap Falls 8:30 AM

Hike 10.5, Drive 95, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329,
Schultz.KarenJ@GMail.com and
Ken Scharmann, 847-772-4693,
kennethscharmann@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 9:00 AM - but contact leader first. Contact Karen Schultz via email for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #200. We will start in Caesars Head State Park and follow the Silver Steps Trail, visiting Silver Steps Falls and Toll Road Falls. We'll then continue on the Jones Gap Trail and stop at Jones Gap Falls to have lunch. We will return the same way. Note: The park charges \$3 admission fee per person.
Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn., Waynesville

Wednesday No. W2401-198 **Feb. 21**
Rainbow Falls in the Smokies 8:00 AM

Hike 6, Drive 160, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated C-A, **900M, WC100**

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:30 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #198, covering just the first three miles. The trailhead is near Gatlinburg in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The trail was rehabilitated a few years ago and is one of several ways to reach Mt LeConte. We will hike up to Rainbow Falls and then return to the trailhead the same way. According to the National Park Service, during extended winter cold spells, an impressive ice formation builds around the falls. After the hike there will be an optional stop at Maddi Maes Cafe in Gatlinburg for coffee or ice cream (weather depending). NOTE: A parking pass is required in the GSMNP. Information and purchase of parking tags can be found at: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Mt. Le Conte

Wednesday No. W2401-295 **Feb. 28**
Pump Gap Loop 9:00 AM

Hike 7, Drive 80, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated B-B, **AT-MST**

Bev MacDowell, 828-777-5806,
bevmacdowellhappy@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26.

Please email or text leader for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. We will head north on the A.T. along the French Broad River, then climb up to Lovers Leap for great views. We continue on the A.T. along the ridge above Hot Springs to Pump Gap, where we will go down the Pump Gap Trail to Silvermine Campground and back to the parking area. This hike is #41 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Wednesday No. W2401-501 **March 6**
Hickory Nut Gap to Blue Ridge Pastures via Strawberry Gap 9:00 AM

Hike 6, Drive 19, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Becky Smucker, 828-231-2198,

bjsmucker@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds).

This trail was opened September 2022 by Conserving Carolina and is the newest trail to be completed in the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge trail network. This hike starts with a fairly steep climb up the Strawberry Gap Trail. About halfway up the trail, a rock outcrop known as Ferguson Peak offers sweeping views. We will reach the Blue Ridge Pastures after three miles and enjoy views of the Hickory Nut Gorge, Little Pisgah and distant views of the highest mountains in the eastern United States. We will have lunch and then return via the same trail to the trailhead.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Wednesday No. W2401-033 **March 13**
Ramsey Cascades 8:30 AM

Hike 8, Drive 148, 2300 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA, **900M, WC100**

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40.

Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 8:45 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This is the club's first venture on this trail since its recent rehabilitation. We will be going through diverse forests. We'll see huge old-growth tulip trees at the mid-point of the hike. Sixty-foot-high Ramsey Cascades is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Smokies. This hike is #26 of the 100 Favorite Trails. NOTE: A parking pass is required in the GSMNP. Information and purchase of parking tags can be found at: <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Topo(s): Mt. Guyot

Wednesday No. W2401-339 **March 20**
A.T.: Garenflo Gap to Hot Springs 9:00 AM
Hike 7, Drive 83, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
AT-MST
Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
desraylet@aol.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 & NC 208 at 9:45 AM.

This is a variation of hike #339. This A.T. section has gentle terrain and open forest, crossing minor ridges and draws, goes through the middle of Hot Springs and over the French Broad River bridge. Car shuttle.

Topo(s): Hot Springs, Lemon Gap, Spring Creek

Wednesday No. W2401-888 **March 27**
Asheville Camino de Santiago Walk 9:00 AM
Hike 12, 500 ft. ascent, Rated A-C
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,
dannyhiker@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: To Be Determined.

Contact leader via email for reservation. You will be notified of meeting place close to the hike date. Hike through several Asheville neighborhoods and greenways in West Asheville and the RAD district, on bridges and past waterways. See how various parts of Asheville are connected. You're welcome to leave at any time, but you'll be surprised at how comfortable and social this walk will be. This hike simulates a day on the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. Bring water and food. We'll stop for morning coffee (no time for a full breakfast), lunch and afternoon snacks, but feel free to bring all your own food.
Topo(s): Asheville

Wednesday No. W2401-204 **March 27**
Max Patch Ramble 9:00 AM
Hike 5.2, Drive 93, 1100 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
AT-MST

George Shepherd, 405-596-2632,
shepherdgeorge@att.net

First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pilot Truck Stop off Exit 24 of I-40 at 9:15 AM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. We will do a scenic hike around Max Patch, following the A.T. north to visit the Roaring Fork shelter built by CMC, then returning on the Buckeye Ridge Trail and A.T. over Max Patch and back to our cars. Expect spectacular views from the summit of Max Patch.

Topo(s): Lemon Gap

ALL-DAY WEEKEND HIKES

All-day hikes submitted by Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879, heyk127@hotmail.com. Driving distance is round trip from the first meeting place. All hikes assemble at the location described for that hike. Some hikes will have second meeting places, and starting times may vary.

Monday No. A2401-893 **Jan. 1**

**Green River Game Lands
Annual New Year's Day Hike 9:15 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated B-B
Kathy Cornn/Kyle, 828-458-1282,
katherinenkyle@gmail.com and Michael Cornn,
828-458-1281, mwcornn@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26. Contact leaders for reservation and include whether you will meet for breakfast before the hike. Join us for breakfast at Cracker Barrel at 8:00 AM or at 9:15 AM in the parking lot to leave for our traditional New Year's Day hike in the Green River Game Lands. We will follow the shorter route on the west side of the Game Lands, using the Bishop Branch and Bear Branch Trails, then hike down the Green River Cove Trail for lunch by the big rocks. After hiking back up, we'll return on the Pulliam Creek Trail, with a short walk on the road back to our cars. Possible wet creek crossing towards the end. This is the last day of hunting season. EVERYONE PLEASE WEAR BLAZE ORANGE!

Topo(s): Clifffield Mtn

Sunday No. A2401-892 **Jan. 7**
**MST Winter Hike - NC 191
to Folk Art Center 9:00 AM**

Hike 14, 2050 ft. ascent, Rated AA-AA,
AT-MST

Les Love, 828-230-1861,
lesrlove55@gmail.com and
Catherine/Mrs Les Love, 828-658-1489,
catmlove2@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Back parking lot of Folk Art Center.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Join us for this newest annual tradition. This is a great winter workout hike on the MST through the Asheville corridor that everyone has had so much fun doing in previous years. We will begin at the French Broad Overlook near the NC Arboretum, hike over the rolling Biltmore section of the MST and end at the Folk Art Center. There will be a much-anticipated stop along the way for lunch and warmup at the Fresh Market. Car shuttle.

Topo(s): Asheville

Saturday No. A2401-550 **Jan. 13**
Paris Mountain Variation 9:30 AM

Hike 6, Drive 130, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,
cell: 860-798-9905, mwrbromberg@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 10:00 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This shorter variation of hike #550 will take us around the perimeter of Paris Mountain State Park in South Carolina. We'll hike along a beautiful stream, visit two lakes and, at our highest point, visit the site of a former fire tower. One section is very rocky; another is a steep downhill so hiking poles are recommended. Luckily for us, it is hikers only on Saturdays, so no dodging bicycles! NOTE: \$6/person admission fee; \$3.75 for SC seniors.
Topo(s): Paris Mtn.

Sunday No. A2401-826 **Jan. 14**
**Corn Mill Shoals P.L. #4 -
Cedar Rock and Burnt Mtn. 8:30 AM**

Hike 9.8, Drive 90, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated A-B
Marie Chamberlin, 678-492-6718,
marie.m.chamberlin@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Ingles on NC 191/280 N end of parking lot in front of Pardee Urgent Care (Mills River) at 9:00 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservations. Limit of 12 hikers. This three-loop hike will explore a rock quarry, mountain vistas and river views. The hike is a labyrinth in Dupont, but with well-marked junctions. There will be a combination of various trails, including a view of Corn Shoals, Cedar Rock and the old quarry.
Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. A2401-113 **Jan. 21**
**Cold Mtn. from
Camp Daniel Boone 8:00 AM**

Hike 10.4, Drive 52, 3400 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA+, *Wilderness hike, limited to ten hikers, contact leader for reservation. P400, SB6K*
Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Home Depot off Exit 44 of I-40. Form carpools and meet leader at the trailhead.

Second Meeting Place: Cold Mountain Trailhead at Daniel Boone Scout Camp at 8:45 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. From the Daniel Boone Camp, we will climb past laurel and rhododendron to Deep Gap and continue to the top of Cold Mountain for great views towards the BRP and Mt. Hardy. This hike is #47 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Cruso, Waynesville

Saturday No. A2401-092 **Jan. 27**
Star Gap **9:30 AM**
Hike 6.8, Drive 40, 1650 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Carroll Koepplinger, 828-231-9444,
cakoep29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain). Contact the leader by email for reservation. This shortened and modified version of hike #92 will be on the Star Gap Trail. We will hike (at a moderate pace) the Star Gap Trail to Jarrett Creek and return on the same trail back to the trailhead. We will have the option of hiking to Bernard's Rock overlook or possibly hike a short distance beyond Jarrett Creek. The 1650' ascent/descent is very moderate with only a couple of short steep sections. Option on the way back to stop at Andrews Geyser (which may or may not be on) and read the historical marker commemorating the people who built the railroad track to the top of the mountains.
Topo(s): Old Fort

Sunday No. A2401-209 **Jan. 28**
Buckwheat Knob - Coontree Loop **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 60, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,
P400

Kristen Friedman, 203-253-0813,
Kristenwho62@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. From the trailhead at Coontree Picnic Area, we'll climb along beautiful Coontree Creek through open forest up to Saddle and Bennett Gaps, climb up to Buckwheat Knob for lunch and return via the other segment of the Coontree Loop. This is a moderate woodland hike with exceptional views from the ridgeline. This hike exceeds the requirement for hike #62 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2401-530 **Feb. 4**
Rice Pinnacle P.L. #2 -
Ingles Field Gap **9:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 10, 900 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
P400

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact the leader by email for reservation. This moderate loop hike on the sunny side of Bent Creek features great views of Hominy Valley. We will climb to the eastern part of Stradley Mountain, have lunch at Ingles Field and return on Boyd Branch and Deer Lake Lodge Trails. The exact mileage and route may vary depending on which roads and parking areas are accessible on this winter day.

Topo(s): Skyland

Saturday No. A2401-267 **Feb. 10**
Horsepasture River Waterfalls **8:00 AM**
Hike 8, Drive 60, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
WC100

Thomas Butler, 361-484-3381,
butler.tom3381@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Come to see the Gorges State Park area in the winter. We will hike upstream alongside the Horsepasture River to see the waterfalls – Rainbow, Turtleback, Drift and Stairway. This hike is #13 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Reid

Sunday No. A2401-962 **Feb. 11**
Eastatoo Passage and
Raven Rock Trail **9:00 AM**

Hike 7.8, Drive 130, 1588 ft. ascent, Rated B-A
Norm Sharp, 864-268-9409, cell: 864-609-7182,
norm.sharp@att.net

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Holly Springs Country Store at SC 11/US 178 intersection at 10:15 AM. Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. After meeting at 2nd meeting place, we will drive 6.3 miles to the trailhead on Roy Jones Road off SC 11 to drop off shuttle vehicles, then drive 5.2 miles to the trailhead at the Jocassee Gorges Visitor Center in Keowee-Toxaway State Park. We will first hike the three-mile Raven Rock Trail loop in the State Park. The loop will take us to the scenic shores of Lake Keowee for lunch and on to a rock known as Party Rock with a great view to the west. We will then hike 4.6 miles on the Palmetto Trail crossing two suspension bridges that were rebuilt in late 2020 due to flooding damage. Car shuttle.

Sunday No. A2401-224 **Feb. 18**
Table Rock - Pinnacle Loop **8:00 AM**
Hike 11.2, Drive 110, 3700 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA+
Kelly O'Rourke, 434-249-5176,
kellyleann@comcast.net

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 8:15 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader by email for reservation. This is a great hike with good views and warmer weather in South Carolina. We will start from the Nature Center parking lot at Table Rock State Park. Our first objective will be Bald Rock near Pinnacle Mountain with glorious views. Then after a climb to Pinnacle Mountain for lunch, we'll walk the ridgeline to Table Rock with more great views, then steeply down to our cars. NOTE: \$6 admission fee per person.

Topo(s): Table Rock

Saturday No. A2401-349 **Feb. 24**
Buck Spring Trail to Pisgah Inn **8:00 AM**
Hike 12, Drive 44, 1400 ft. ascent, Rated A-B,
AT-MST, P400

Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leaders at the second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact the leaders by email for reservation. This lovely hike gradually switchbacks up the mountain with a stronger grade at the finale. There are several easy creek crossings. We will have lunch behind the Pisgah Inn to enjoy the winter views. After lunch, we will hike back downhill to our cars.

Topo(s): Cruso, Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2401-532 **Feb. 25**
Sassafras Mountain **8:00 AM**
Hike 9, Drive 85, 2400 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA
Donna Lanning, 828-606-7956,
dblanning@bellsouth.net

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.
Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 8:30 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation. Limit of 12 hikers. This is a pleasant but challenging out and back hike from US 178 up to the highest peak in South Carolina on the Foothills Trail. We will hike through the deep woods which provide a diverse terrain experience and enjoy the view from the observation deck at the summit.

Topo(s): Eastatoo Gap

How to join the CMC

1. Go to www.carolinamountainclub.org
2. Click on **Join** (top left) or **Join CMC!** (right center).

3. You will see instructions
for joining online or via mail.

or ... write to us at
CMC, PO Box 68,
Asheville, NC 28802
and we'll mail you an
application



Sunday No. A2401-511 **March 3**
Florence Nature Preserve **9:00 AM**
Hike 6, Drive 24, 1368 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Claudette Roberge, 860-205-4473,
Croberge0329@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles on US 74-A 225
Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds).

Second Meeting Place: Upper Hickory Nut
Gorge Trailhead by chimney on US 74-A at 9:15
AM - but contact leader first.

Contact the leader by email for reservation.
Limit of 10 hikers. This hike is a loop in the
Florence Nature Preserve, a 600+ acre tract in
the Hickory Nut Gorge. It has easy loops with
moderate climbs. We'll hike on the Yellow,
Blue and Orange Trails to a nice overlook, then
take the Blue, Red and Orange Trails to the
Rattlesnake Knob Overlook. We'll return via the
Red, Blue and Yellow Trails. This is hike #76 of
the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Saturday No. A2401-256 **March 9**
Moore Cove Falls Figure-8 Loop **9:00 AM**
Hike 7, Drive 65, 1050 ft. ascent, Rated B-B,
P400, WC100

Jan Onan, 828-606-5188,
janonan59@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking
lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Form carpools and meet leader at the second
meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart
parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell)
at 9:30 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation.
Limit of 10 hikers. This moderate double-loop
trail follows two overgrown USFS paths. Expect
a lot of scrambling over blowdowns, a couple of
short, steep sections and two minor creek cross-
ings. There is one good view of Looking Glass
Rock, several waterfalls, and other views visible
only when there are no leaves on the trees.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. A2401-164 **March 10**
Hawkbill Creek - Hawkbill Rock -
Little Snowball Loop **8:00 AM**

Hike 8.4, Drive 50, 2800 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,
LTC

Henry Kassell, 845-656-5528,
hkassell@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS
parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Don't forget to
turn your clocks ahead for DST the night before!
Contact the leader by email for reservation.
This exciting early spring trip will bushwhack
up Hawkbill Creek, then up to Hawkbill Rock
and Little Snowball Mtn., the site of an old fire
tower, and then down to the starting point. The
hike will also feature panoramic views from
Hawkbill Rock and Little Snowball and enjoy-
able open-woods, off-trail hiking. A strenuous
climb, but the pace will be moderate. We will

hope to see some early wildflowers.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

Sunday No. A2401-280 **March 17**
North Slope and Art Loeb Trails **8:00 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 1600 ft. ascent, Rated B-A,
P400

Lorraine Bernhardt, 828-699-8857,
lsbernhardt50@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking
lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Form carpools and meet leader at the second
meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart
parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell)
at 8:30 AM.

No reservation needed. We start at the Davidson
River Campground and ascend on the Art Loeb
Trail to the North Slope Connector. We'll eat
lunch at the intersection before we start down
the connector to the North Slope Trail, ending
with a lovely, easy stroll along the river to the
cars. Remember to check Breaking News for
changes or cancellation.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Saturday No. A2401-567 **March 23**
Guion Farm P.L. #2 **8:30 AM**

Hike 10.5, Drive 70, 1850 ft. ascent, Rated A-A
Danny Bernstein, 828-450-0747,
dannyhiker@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking
lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Form carpools and meet leader at the second
meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart
parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell)
at 9:00 AM.

Contact the leader by email for reservation.
Limit of 12 hikers. This moderate low-elevation
"double back in-and-out" hike starts and ends at
the Guion Farm Parking Lot in DuPont Forest.
After a 1200-ft. ascent and descent to enjoy the
views from Stone Mountain, we will hike to
scenic Wintergreen Falls on an easy trail and
return to the cars.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. A2401-066 **March 24**
Garenflo Gap to Bluff Mtn. on A.T. **8:30 AM**

Hike 8.5, Drive 83, 2200 ft. ascent, Rated B-AA,
AT-MST

Tish Desjardins, 828-380-1452,
desraylet@aol.com

First Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS
parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Form carpools
and meet the leader at the second meeting place
Second Meeting Place: Corner of US 25/70 &
NC 208 at 9:15 AM.

No reservation needed. We'll do an in-and-
out hike on the A.T. in hardwood forests from
Garenflo Gap to the summit of 4686-ft. Bluff
Mtn. We will hopefully enjoy many early wild-
flowers that carpet the forest floor. After lunch

on the summit, it will be all downhill back to the
trailhead. This will be a moderate-paced hike.
Remember to check Breaking News for changes
or cancellation.

Topo(s): Lemon Gap

Sunday No. A2401-031 **March 31**
South Mountains Loop **8:00 AM**

Hike 12, Drive 138, 2300 ft. ascent,
Rated A-AA, **WC100**

Karen Schultz, 312-241-3329,
Schultz.KarenJ@GMail.com and
Ken Scharmann, 847-772-4693,
kennethscharmann@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40
(Black Mountain). Contact Karen by email for
reservation. Limit of 10 hikers. South Mountains
State Park, south of Morganton, has outstanding
views, a beautiful waterfall, and a new visitor
center. We'll climb to Jacob Fork River Gorge
Overlook and then continue to Chestnut Knob
Overlook, a rocky outcropping with outstand-
ing views toward the Kings Mountain Range
and on a clear day, Charlotte's skyline. Later,
after another climb, we'll reach the top of High
Shoals Waterfall - truly awesome. Awesome too
are the wooden staircase and platform which
allow a close look at the falls and the jumble of
rocks in Jacob Fork. Since this is a state park, the
trails are meticulously maintained.

Topo(s): Benn Knob

HALF-DAY SUNDAY HIKES

Newcomers are welcome, but non-members
MUST call the leader before the hike to deter-
mine the requirements. Half-day hikes submit-
ted by Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, mhsrunning@
yahoo.com. Driving distance is round trip from
the first meeting place. Hikes assemble at the
location described for that hike. Some hikes will
have second meeting places, and starting times
may vary. **Times listed are departure times –
arrive early.**

Sunday No. H2401-347 **Jan. 7**
Twin Falls **10:00 AM**

Hike 6.7, Drive 40, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
P400, WC100

William Snow, 857-756-3815,
billsnow123@gmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking
lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.
Form carpools and meet hike leader at second
meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart
parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell)
at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation.
Limit of 15 hikers. This is a moderate hike
in the Pisgah National Forest. We will start
from the horse stables and go to the right on

Clawhammer Cove Trail and then Buckhorn Gap Trail to the falls (going counter-clockwise). We may come back on Avery Creek Trail, depending on the state of the bridges. We will view two nice waterfalls.

Topo(s): Pisgah Forest

Sunday No. H2401-182 **Jan. 14**
Green River Cove Trail **10:00 AM**

Hike 5.5, Drive 75, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Marcia Bromberg, 828-505-0471,
cell: 860-798-9905, mwbromberg@yahoo.com
First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Cracker Barrel Restaurant off Exit 53 of I-26 in parking lot close to I-26 at 10:30 AM - but contact leader first.

Please contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This is a moderate in-and-out hike along the scenic Green River to the junction with the Pulliam Creek Trail. Since we're on the south-facing slope and the leaves are off the trees we'll have plenty of winter warmth if it's a sunny day. And if we're lucky, we'll see a few kayakers making their way through the rapids.

Topo(s): Clifffield Mtn.

Sunday No. H2401-172 **Jan. 21**
John Rock Loop **12:00 PM**

Hike 5.7, Drive 60, 1300 ft. ascent, Rated C-B,
P400, WC100

Lee Belknap, 828-674-3631,
rivergypsy@sprintmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet hike leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 12:30 PM - but contact leader first.

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This moderate loop hike, which includes a visit to Cedar Rock Falls, some beaver dams, and good views from John Rock, starts at the Fish Hatchery parking lot.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2401-046 **Jan. 28**
Bent Creek Loop #12 - MST side **12:30 PM**

Hike 5.5, Drive 15, 1050 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Barbara Morgan, 828-460-7066,
barbc129@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. This loop hike will pass by Lake Powhatan and ascend to the Mountains-to-Sea Trail via the Sherman Stambaugh Trail. We will then descend on the Sleepy Gap, Explorer, and Pine Tree Trails back to the start.

Topo(s): Dunsmore Mtn.

Sunday No. H2401-101 **Feb. 4**
Laurel River Trail **10:30 AM**

Hike 7.5, Drive 60, 350 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Daisy Teng Karasek, 828-505-2036,
cell: 408-887-3666, daisytk@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Hike along a beautiful stream with whitewater, big rocks and surrounding high cliffs to the French Broad River. Parts of the trail are rocky - hiking boots/shoes are recommended. This hike is #43 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Hot Springs

Sunday No. H2401-320 **Feb. 11**
Swannanoa River Ramble **1:00 PM**

Hike 6.1, Drive 10, 850 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Bobbi Powers, 828-667-5419,
bobbipowers23@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Charles D. Owen Park on Warren Wilson Road. Contact leader via email for reservation. This is a variation of Hike #320. We will encircle Warren Wilson College while learning some history of the college, following the River Trail from Owen Park along the Swannanoa River to and across Old School House Road and Riceville Road to a high meadow with big views. From there we will continue the circle on various roads and trails, including the Trail of Fortune and Muhl Trail back to the cars.

Topo(s): Oteen

Sunday No. H2401-800 **Feb. 18**
Givens Estate Trails **12:30 PM**

Hike 5, 1200 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Ron Navik, 585-662-8047,
ron.navik@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Givens Estates 2360 Sweeten Creek Rd. Asheville NC. Meet in the parking lot in front of Oxford Commons. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. Limit of 15 hikers. Givens trails are open to the public. We will enjoy 4 miles of largely wooded trails on their property of over 200 acres. Scenic views of Givens, Asheville and Mt. Pisgah areas. We will hike about 5 miles to access all of the trails.

Topo(s): Asheville

Sunday No. H2401-974 **Feb. 25**
Barnard Mountain Trail **11:30 AM**

Hike 6.2, Drive 20, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated B-C
Lee Silver, 828-668-7147, cell: 828-442-6549,
mhsrunning@yahoo.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles off Exit 64 of I-40 (Black Mountain).

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This new trail opened in June 2023. It offers a great new outdoor experience in an area already renowned for its trails. We will start from the Point Lookout Greenway near the Old Fort Picnic Area, hiking up to Bernard Mountain, then returning. We will see rocky features and all-season views while hiking through forests. Topo(s): Old Fort

Sunday No. H2401-062 **March 3**
Daniel Ridge Loop Trail **12:00 PM**

Hike 5, Drive 70, 800 ft. ascent, Rated C-C,
P400, WC100

Karen Lachow, 703-395-5879,
heyk127@hotmail.com

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 12:30 PM.

Contact leader via email for reservation. This shortened version of Hike #62 is a moderate (but not easy) loop hike that has lots of "C": Creeks, Chasms, and a Cool Cascade finale. This hike is #55 of the 100 Favorite Trails.

Topo(s): Shining Rock

Sunday No. H2401-964 **March 10**
Trombatore and

Strawberry Gap Trails **10:30 AM**

Hike 5.7, Drive 25, 950 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Dick Zimmerer, 828-785-9593,
dd1zz@yahoo.com

First Meeting Place: Ingles on US 74-A 225 Charlotte Hwy (Reynolds).



Art Loeb - Black Balsam - Tennant. Photo by Tom Butler.

Second Meeting Place: Trombatore trailhead at 11:00 AM - but contact leader first.

This is the first day of Daylight Savings Time! Don't miss the hike! Contact leader via email for reservation. Limit 12 hikers. Car shuttle — one car will be parked on US 74-A at the end of the hike while the other cars will park at the Trombatore trailhead (gravel road from 74-A). We'll start at the Trombatore trailhead and conclude at the end of the fairly recently re-built Strawberry Gap Trail on US 74-A. This walk is mostly through woods with a spectacular overlook at Ferguson Peak. Things to know: The down portion on Strawberry Gap Trail has lots of steps (in case your knees don't like steps) and there may be several short muddy and slippery places where hiking poles will come in handy. Lunch will be around 12:30 or 1:00.

Sunday No. H2401-403 **March 17**
Fawn Lake P.L. #5 -
Reasonover Creek **12:30 PM**
Hike 6.2, Drive 95, 400 ft. ascent, Rated B-C,
WC100
Bruce Bente, 828-692-0116,
cell: 828-567-9443, bbente@bellsouth.net

First Meeting Place: Asheville Outlets parking lot behind Waffle House off Exit 33 of I-26. Form carpools and meet leader at second meeting place.

Second Meeting Place: Pisgah Forest Walmart parking (back of center aisles close to Taco Bell) at 1:00 PM.

Contact leader by email for reservation. This pleasant loop hike in the DuPont Forest includes the Reasonover Creek, Lake Julia, Camp Summit and Fawn Lake Trails. Near the end of the hike, Fawn Lake has a dock and will be a good place to rest and enjoy the view.

Topo(s): Standingstone Mtn.

Sunday No. H2401-511 **March 24**
Florence Nature Preserve **10:00 AM**
Hike 5, Drive 24, 1000 ft. ascent, Rated C-C
Judy Magura, 828-606-1490,
quilter290@gmail.com and Jim Magura,
828-606-3989, jqs290@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: Ingles on US 74-A 1-1/2 miles south of I-40 Exit 53.

Further information about regulations is available at www.carolinamountainclub.org

Contact hike leader via email for reservation. This hike is a loop in the Florence Nature Preserve, a 600+ acre tract in Hickory Nut Gorge. We'll be hiking part of the hike as described in #511 to keep it to about 5 miles. We'll take the Yellow Diamond Trail, Blue Trail, White Trail and Red Trail to a nice overlook and return via the Blue and Yellow Trails. We will be on the lookout for early spring flowers.

Topo(s): Bat Cave

Sunday No. H2401-164 **March 31**
Hawkbill Creek **11:00 AM**
Hike 4.5, Drive 50, 1150 ft. ascent, Rated C-B
Carroll Koeplinger, 828-231-9444,
cakoep29@gmail.com

Only Meeting Place: 160 Zillicoa St. (USFS parking lot) off Exit 25 of I-26. Contact hike leader via email for reservation. No limit. We will do a shortened version of this flower hike. We will hike along Hawkbill Creek for about 1 mi., then on to an old forest road and loop around to return to the trailhead. Hopefully some early flowers will welcome us.

Topo(s): Craggy Pinnacle

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HIKING INFORMATION: CMC hikes are open to all and we welcome guests. Non-members need to call or email the hike leader to introduce themselves and find out more about the hike. Hikes may be canceled by the leader due to adverse weather or dangerous roads. Minors are welcome on CMC hikes, if accompanied by a responsible adult. Pets are not allowed on CMC hikes.

Hikers will carpool from the meeting places to the trailhead and back. Passengers are expected to contribute 10 cents per mile towards the driver's operating expenses. Some CMC hikes require reservations. Check the hiking schedule to determine whether a reservation is required, and if so, call or e-mail the leader to reserve your space.

Hike leaders have the right to reject participants who are not properly equipped for the hike or who are unlikely to be able to complete the hike. All hikers are expected to follow the leader's instructions. No one should get ahead of the leader, or lag behind the sweep, without specific permission. Hikers should obtain the leader's permission if they wish to leave the hike before its completion.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT: CMC's website (www.carolinamountainclub.org, click on Hiking) has a full list of day hiking needs. Most critical are water, footwear, rain gear and a first aid kit. Carry at least two quarts of liquid (water, Gatorade, juice) for a full day hike, no matter what time of year. Hiking boots are recommended for all hikes. They should be broken in before the hike. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Even if there is no sign of rain in the morning, you need to be prepared for an afternoon shower. Your first aid kit should include any personal medication, including allergy medication, if needed. Wear layered clothing — you'll want to take layers off during a strenuous climb or as the day proceeds, then put them back on in cooler conditions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAFETY: Each CMC member and guest agrees to accept personal responsibility for his or her own safety and for the safety of accompanying minors. The Club cannot ensure the safety of any participant on hikes or trail maintenance activities. Each participant agrees to hold harmless and free from blame event leaders and the CMC, its officers and members, for any accident, injury or illness which might be sustained from participating in Club hikes and other activities.

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CONSERVATION: CMC works with other organizations concerned about the protection of our natural heritage to protect trails and the hiking experience in our hiking area. Phone the Councilor for Conservation for details.

MEMBERSHIP: Everyone is eligible for CMC membership by joining and paying dues. To join online or by paper application, go to www.carolinamountainclub.org and click on the green Join button just below the Member Login. Choose either Join CMC online or CMC application form (pdf). Don't have internet access? Mail a note to the CMC address requesting an application form be mailed to you. Annual dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. Hikers are expected to join CMC after participating in a few hikes. Some trail maintenance activities are only open to members.

CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB OFFICERS

President: Les Love, president@carolinamountainclub.org
Vice-President: Karen Schultz, cmcvp@carolinamountainclub.org
Secretary: Karen Lachow, secretary@carolinamountainclub.org
Treasurer: George Bauernfeind, treasurer@carolinamountainclub.org

Immediate Past President:

Tom Weaver, pastpresident@carolinamountainclub.org
Councilor for Communications:
David Huff, communications@carolinamountainclub.org
Councilor for Conservation:

Steve Law, conservation@carolinamountainclub.org
Councilor for Education and Community Outreach:
Jeff Wilcox, education@carolinamountainclub.org

Councilor for Hiking:

Daisy Teng Karasek, hiking@carolinamountainclub.org

Councilor for Membership:

Jan Onan, membership@carolinamountainclub.org

Councilor for Technology:

Jim Magura, hikingtech@gmail.com

Councilor for Trail Maintenance:

Joe Bange, TrailsMtc@carolinamountainclub.org

Councilor at Large:

Adrienne Chang, counciloratlarge@carolinamountainclub.org

Councilor at Large:

Bill Sanderson, counciloratlarge_2@carolinamountainclub.org