



[Gmail messages are clipped.

Click link on bottom left corner to view entire newsletter.]

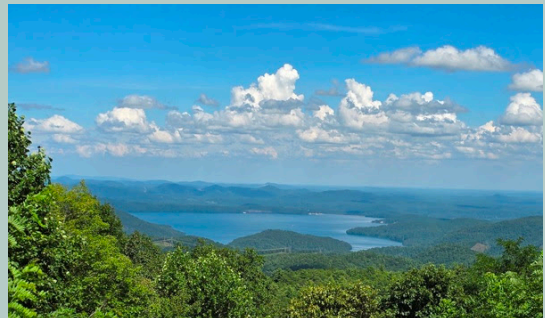
Greetings!



Welcome to the Blue Wall Weekly, your source for what's going on outside along the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment. Feel free to share your own photos, videos, and adventures along the Blue Wall by sending them to the email address at the bottom of the page, and we'll do our best to make you (locally) famous!

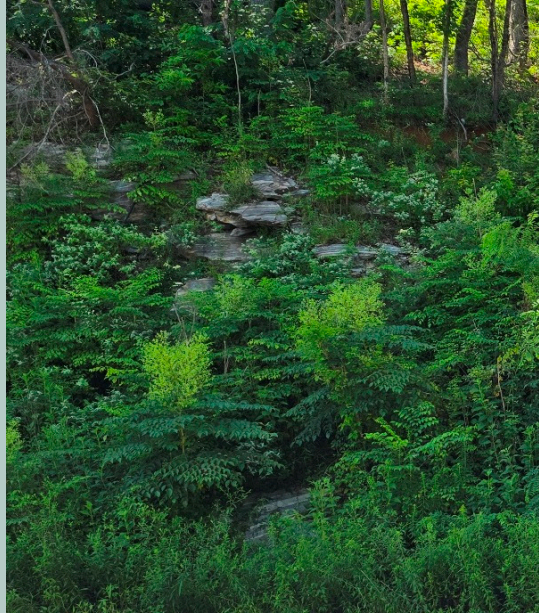
Overlooking beauty

One car after another stops at Wigington Overlook and releases passengers into the hot summer sun. One group of visitors pauses just long enough to chat with the next arrivals, often asking the name of the beautiful lake sparkling in the distance. Blue lake nestled into blue mountains is



Beautiful Lake Jocassee

certainly riveting, but absolutely no one notices the beauty just across the highway: masses of mountain mint, silver against a craggy face of equally silver rock, interspersed with massive flowering panicles of devils walkingstick, and a single, shining sumac, who's long, pinnately compound leaves should be the focal point of a million-dollar garden. Of course Lake Jocassee gets the attention... that's why an overlook is in this particular spot, after all. Focus on the beauty of the view, but don't overlook the special beauty all around you! ~K



Beautiful roadside natives

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Guided Kayak Tours! [Book Now!](#)

July 27: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

August 10: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

**Kids Kayak Class & Fun Adventure
[Book Now!](#)**

July 31: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

**Jocassee (Family) Adventure
Camps [Book Now!](#)**

**August 1, 8 and 15: 10:00 AM-2:00
PM**

**Full 'Sturgeon' Moon Rising Tour
[Book Now!](#)**

August 8: 7:00-9:00 PM

**JOCASSEE WILD NATURALIST
INTRODUCTORY CLASS!**

BOOK NOW!

August 12: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

ALL the Falls Tour! [Book Now!](#)

August 13: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun:

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

**DON'T FORGET--TUES. ARE FREE
AT DEVILS FORK STATE PARK!**

Sunset Tours [Book Now!](#)

July 23: 6:45-8:45 PM

August 9: 6:30-8:30 PM

Friday Private Tours [Book Now!](#)

Every Friday: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sunday Afternoon Tours

[Book Now!](#)

2:30-5:30 PM

(864) 280-5501

www.jocassee-lake-tours.com

**CALL OR BOOK ONLINE TO
RESERVE SEATS**

**PRIVATE TOURS
ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE**



Rain moving across the lake.

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE JULY 21, 2025

**The Mysteries of Jocassee
You just never know...**

There's a special kind of joy that fills me every time I make the drive to Devil's Fork State Park. Each day, each season, offers a new perspective of the clear blue water and the mountains tumbling around it. Who will I meet today? What brings them here? Have they visited before? Is the lake low? What does the weather look like?



15 minutes later.

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, JULY 21, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Gorges State Park

July 23: 9:00-10:30 PM

Mysteries of the Moth -- Night Program

Join a park naturalist to explore the secret world of moths—those fuzzy, fantastic pollinators of the night!

Oconee State Park

July 24: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Kids in Kayaks

During this beginner-friendly program, children will learn basic kayaking skills, water safety, and explore the natural beauty of the lake from a whole new perspective.

Table Rock State Park

July 25: 9:00-10:00 AM

Botany & Birds

Take a stroll to learn some tips for identifying some of our native trees and plants and the feathered friends that they attract.

Gorges State Park

July 25: 10:00-11:00 AM

Which boat am I on? Today's passengers are from Maryland. They're moving to South Carolina to be closer to their children. They are ready for adventure and so am I. From the moment we pull away from the dock, they feel like new old friends, soaking in the majesty of this magical place. They're outdoorsy types—curious about the plants, animals, history, and mysteries of Jocassee. They want to swim, leap from rocks, and splash beneath waterfalls.....And that's exactly what we do! But you just never know... As we begin our fourth hour, a rumble of thunder rolls through the hills. We'd already talked about what to do in case of lightning, and luckily, we find shelter in a protected cove. Rain begins to fall gently, and everyone tucks under the boat's cover. I watch their faces as they gaze out at the mist rising from the lake and the mountain valleys. Like me, they are completely mesmerized by the raw, wild beauty of this place. The skies eventually clear and we make our way back to the dock. That's the beauty of our Jocassee tours: you just never know what's ahead once the boat pulls away from the dock. ~Andy Douglas, JLT guide.

NEW EVENTS COMING IN JULY/AUGUST

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park

July 29: 9:00-10:30 AM

Wonders in the Woods

Gorges State Park

July 25: 2:00-3:00 PM

Birds, Beaks & Backyard Feeders

Join a park naturalist to learn about the birds that call GSP home. Then, create your own pinecone bird feeder to take home and help support your backyard birds. Everyone is welcome!



Brown-headed nuthatch,
GSP photo

Table Rock State Park

July 25: 8:30-9:30 PM

Bat Watch

Join us for Bat Watch and learn all about bats but also help us count the bats as they leave their roost at dusk. Everyone is welcome!

Oconee Station State Historic Site

July 26: 1:00-3:00 PM

Historic Building Tour

Come for a ranger-led tour of the buildings while learning about the history of the site.

Oconee State Park

July 26: 7:00-9:30 PM

Moonlight Paddle

Experience this magical transition from dusk to night as you quietly paddle around the park lake.

Table Rock State Park

July 26: 7:30-8:00PM

Nature, Up Close

Nature has incredible details we miss until we take a closer look.

July 29: 10:00-11:30 AM

July 29: 2:00-3:30 PM

Inside the Owl: Pellet Dissection

Oconee State Park

July 31: 2:00-3:00 PM

Exploring Nature

Oconee State Park

August 9: 2:00-3:00 PM

Art in Nature

Table Rock State Park

August 9: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

NCNPS-Oconee Bell Chapter

July 29: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond!

Conserving Carolina

July 31: 5:30-7:30 PM

Saluda Grade Trail Celebration

Highlands Biological Station

July 31: 6:00-7:00 PM

Zahner Lecture #7: The Good, the Bad & the Bugly.

Friends of Jocassee (FOJ)

July 31: 6:30-8:00 PM

Fireside Chat w/ Tricia Kyzer

Highlands Biological Station

August 7: 6:00-7:00 PM

Zahner Lecture #8: Finding the Fabulous Ordinary.

Conestee Nature Preserve

August 9: 6:00-8:00 AM

Sunrise Hike

Conestee Nature Preserve

August 9: 8:00-10:30 AM

Birding 101: Cardinals and Friends

We will view some of those details of plants and animals through the lens of a video microscope.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Sierra Club SC

July 24: 10:30 AM-2:00 PM

Hike to Get Wet w/ the Foothills Group: Riley Moore Falls

This is a popular trail for birding, hiking and walking. The drop of the Falls is only 12 feet, but it has an almost 100-foot span across the river with a swimming hole at its base.



Riley Moore Falls,

Photo by campingkiddos.com

Conserving Carolina

July 24: 2:00-3:00 PM

Green River Library Speaker Series: Fungal Foundations – How Mushrooms Build the Earth Beneath Our Feet

Join Olga, of Mushroom Mountain, for an engaging journey into the underground world of terrestrial fungi, with a spotlight on *Stropharia rugosoannulata*—the mighty King Stropharia.

Highlands Biological Station

July 24: 6:00-7:00 PM

Zahner Lecture #6: Understanding Helene as a Geologic Event in Southern Appalachia...

Mushroom Mountain

August 9: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Fall Mushroom Cultivation Workshop

Highlands Biological Station

August 12: 8:00-9:00 PM

Salamander Meander

Mushroom Mountain

August 14: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Tour

Highlands Biological Station

August 14: 6:00-7:00 PM

Southern Appalachian Forest Resilience in a Post Hurricane World

Greenville County Bird Club

August 16: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM
(Longer Walk)

August 16: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

SC Botanical Garden Events

August 14: 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

South Carolina Native Plant Elective: Rain Gardens

Borrowed Glimpses

This talk will place the Helene event in a geologic and topographic context, focusing on what the storm did to the landscape and river channels from the perspective of fieldwork and remote sensing.

Conestee Nature Preserve

July 26: 9:00-10:00 AM

Singing in the Bird Bath

Join us to make your own little bird bath and embark with us on a short walk to learn about bird songs.

Greenville County Bird Club

July 26: 10:00 AM

Kites! 10:00 at Jeff Lynch

We will head to southern Greenville/Laurens County and check several locations looking for Swallow-tailed and Mississippi Kites. Registration is required.

Conserving Carolina

July 26: 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Lower Green River Clean-up with MountainTrue

We'll meet at the Green Riverkeeper Office in Saluda, NC at 10 am and carpool down to the river. The exact clean-up location will be announced in an email closer to the event date.

SC Botanical Garden Events

More Events Coming Soon!



**Cradled in a mossy rock chair,
chillin' in the Toxaway River.**

Photo by Tricia Kyzer



**Future Foothills Trail Hikers,
Photo by Tricia Kyzer**



SCBG photo



Swimming into Laurel Fork Falls is the best way to experience it.

Photo by Kerry McKenzie



Current conditions at Lake
Jocassee via Devils Fork State
Park Webcam
Sponsored by Friends of Jocassee



Follow
Jocassee Wild Child Adventures
on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/jocasseewild>

How about a tee shirt featuring the Jocassee Wild Child mascot, Odyssey? Order yours here!

SPONSOR A JOCASSEE WILD CHILD TODAY!



DID YOU KNOW?

The eggs of a carpenter bee are very large relative to the size of the female, and are some of the largest eggs among all insects

ABOUT THE BLUE WALL

Spanning three states (North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia) and encompassing 859,000 acres, the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment, known as the 'Blue Wall' by Native Americans, contains some of the highest natural diversity of rare plants and animals found anywhere in the world.



info@jocasseelaketours.com

Thanks to Sheryl White for compiling the Blue Wall Weekly,
and to all JLT GUIDES for photos and continuous inspiration!

Jocassee Lake Tours Depart from the Main Dock
at Devils Fork State Park, 528 Jocassee Lake Road

**PLEASE CALL 864-280-5501 AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE TO
RESERVE YOUR SEATS!**

SUPPORT OUR JOCASSEE PARTNERS!



Unsubscribe