



[Gmail messages are clipped.]

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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!

Summer

The jet stream is not moving; high pressure is holding the hottest air of this summer over South Carolina like a lid on a boiling pot of water. Outside, one of the gray squirrels is spread-eagle on the porch railing, panting in the shade. Birds hide from sun in front yard trees. Weed leaves curl tight,

The line approaching Devils Fork State Park gets ever-longer as the temperature rises, and a steady stream of boats are launched and retrieved throughout the day. Summer. ~K

trying not to transpire. Even the cicadas are quiet in this heat. Humans, though, we humans leave air-conditioned homes to jump in air-conditioned cars and head to Lake Jocassee, seeking the sweet relief of cooling water.



A few of the people enjoying Wright Creek Falls on Saturday.

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

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

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

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

August 8 & 15: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

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

August 8: 7:00-9:00 PM

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

August 10 & 24: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

JOCASSEE WILD NATURALIST
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
[BOOK NOW!](#)

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

'All the Falls' Tour [Book Now!](#)

August 16: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

(864) 280-5501

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)

Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun:

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Devils Fork State Park has free
admission every Tuesday!

Sunset Tours [Book Now!](#)

July 28 & August 2: 6:45-8:45 PM

August 9 & 16: 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

www.jocasseelaketours.com

**CALL OR BOOK ONLINE TO
RESERVE SEATS**

**PRIVATE TOURS
ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE**



The "Swimming Hole" on the
Whitewater River , August 1957,
Shared by Harry McCall



Photo by Tricia Kyzer

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, JULY 28, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park

July 29: 9:00-10:30 AM

Wonders in the Woods

A guided hike along Carrick Creek
Trail will reveal how the geology,

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE JULY 28, 2025

As a blistering heat dome settles over the southeast this weekend, we are in for a string of some of the hottest days of the year thus far. It's a good time to seek out a cool, shady spot and take it easy if you can. The deep mountain valleys that lie beneath Lake Jocassee were once a haven from the summer heat. Young girls from far and wide came to the valley for summer camp at Camp Jocassee for Girls to hike, ride horses, and swim in the Whitewater River. Other visitors stayed in hotels where visitors could fish, swim, and enjoy all the beauty of Jocassee Valley. While the river valleys are now deep beneath the lake surface, Lake Jocassee offers the same respite from the summer heat. Tuck into a shady cove to feel the temperature instantly drop or feel the chilly spray from a waterfall on your face. Take a dip in Jocassee's clean, clear and cool waters. Not cool enough for you? Swim at the foot of a waterfall to bathe in icy mountain spring water. Jocassee Valley has undergone dramatic changes over the years, but it remains one of the best places to "chill." ~Betsy Lewis, JLT guide.

NEW EVENTS COMING IN AUGUST

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee State Park

August 9: 2:00-3:00 PM

plants, and animals all fit into the ecology of this mountain forest.

Gorges State Park

July 29: 10:00-11:30 AM

July 29: 2:00-3:30 PM

Inside the Owl: Pellet Dissection

Learn about the owls that live in GSP, hear their calls, and get an up-close look at what they eat through a real owl pellet dissection.



GSP photo by J Mickey

Table Rock State Park

July 30: 9:00-10:00 AM

Stream Study

Explore a mountain stream to see what creatures live in a cold-water habitat.

Oconee State Park

July 31: 2:00-3:00 PM

Exploring Nature

Designed for elementary age kids, but all are welcome, these interactive programs engage participants in the life and environmental sciences through hands-on activities and games.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

July 29: 9:00-11:00 AM

August 5, 12 & 19: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Art in Nature

Table Rock State Park

August 9: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

Oconee Station State Historic Site

August 17 & 31: 2:00-3:00 PM

Historic Building Tour

Oconee State Park

August 23: 7:00-9:30 PM

Moonlight Paddle

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Highlands Biological Station

August 5: 5:00 AM-1:00 PM

MAPS Bird Banding

Conserving Carolina

August 5, 12 & 19: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

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

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

If you enjoy gardening and want to help create a beautiful, welcoming space for pollinators and people alike along the scenic Oklawaha Greenway, come join us!

NCNPS-Oconee Bell Chapter

July 29: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond!

Bring a friend, your curiosity, and your own lawn chair! We'll hang out lakeside (weather permitting), swap native seeds and plants, and raffle off some green goodies.

Conserving Carolina

July 31: 5:30-7:30 PM

Saluda Grade Trail Celebration

Join us for a festive event overlooking the rail line near the NC/SC border. Learn about the story of the trail so far and the vision looking forward.

Highlands Biological Station

July 31: 6:00-7:00 PM

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

Join Dr. Kelly Oten, a forest entomologist at NC State, to find out when to worry about a tree pest and what to do when things get a little bit bugly.

Friends of Jocassee (FOJ)

July 31: 6:30-8:00 PM

Fireside Chat: Can You Spot the Salamander?

Tricia Kyzer, SC Master Naturalist, will share a short talk in the Pavilion by the day-use area and then we will go for a short walk on the Oconee Bell Trail looking for creatures that go bump in the night!

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

GNHA

August 16: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sloan Bridge Loop to Upper Whitewater Falls

Conserving Carolina

August 16: 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

French Broad River Clean-Up with MountainTrue

Conserving Carolina

August 19: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series: Carolina Wild!

Foothills Trail Conservancy

August 23

FHT Big Bend to Burrell's Ford

GNHA

August 23: 1:00-4:00 PM

GNHA Summer Picnic: Oconee State Park

SC Botanical Garden Events

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

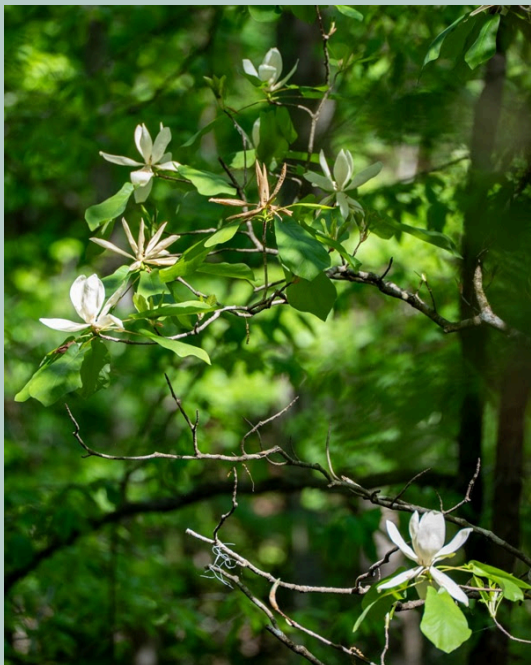
South Carolina Native Plant Elective: Rain Gardens



FOJ photo

SC Botanical Garden Events

More Events Coming Soon!



Magnolia pyramidata
Pyramid magnolia

August 22: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
SCNP Core Class: Basic Botany

August 22: 3:30-5:30 PM
Great Southeastern Pollinator
Census

Borrowed Glimpses



Despite the heat, the Jocassee
Gorges have still seen some
welcome rainfall.



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



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<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?

Water is drawn from the ground by plants, and more than 90% of that water is released into the air through transpiration.

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.



www.JocasseeLakeTours.com

info@jocassee-laketours.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!



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