

THE BLUE WALL WEEKLY

Your Source for Outdoor Activities

Along the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment

[Gmail messages are clipped.]

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

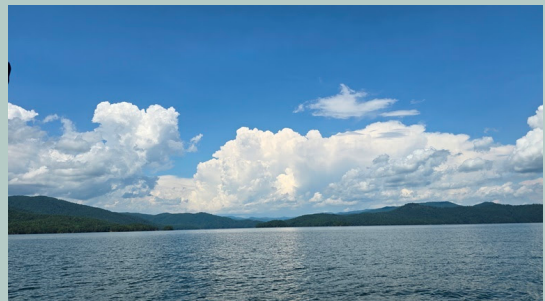
Greetings!



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!

August Clouds

Like magnificent shape-shifting beasts of mythical proportions, the clouds of August split the sky with sharp bolts of lightning and create the deep, resonating music of thunder rolling through the hills. These clouds, they bend us to their will, cancel our golf games, halt our work, ruin our dress



shoes. They inspire great works of art. You can't buy off a cloud, can't tell it what to do, can't fire it. Clouds are visual proof of our connections to air, to water, to other lives, be they plant or animal, and they can grow dark and angry and destructive before dissolving into angelic, ethereal wisps. In August, the very best cloud month, a clear blue sky is laced around the edges with poofs of cumulous cloud, offering promises of rain. Sometimes, clouds offer promises they don't keep. ~K



SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee (Family) Adventure
Camps [Book Now!](#)
August 8 & 15: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Full Moon Rising Tour!
~Sturgeon Moon [Book Now!](#)
August 8: 7:00-9:00 PM

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

**PRIVATE TOURS
ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE**

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun:
10:00 AM-2:00 PM
FREE TUESDAYS at Devils Fork
State Park!

Sunset Tours [Book Now!](#)
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.jocassee-lake-tours.com**](http://www.jocassee-lake-tours.com)
(864) 280-5501

**CALL OR BOOK ONLINE TO
RESERVE SEATS**

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE AUGUST 4, 2025



Hagenius brevistylus
Dragonhunter clubtail dragonfly,
wikipedia

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, AUGUST 4, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park

August 8: 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.

We were all stopped in our tracks by an enormous dragonfly maneuvering like a Blackhawk over the banks of Toxaway Creek. Forward, hover and pivot. Backwards, hover and pivot. Four individually muscled wings steering it in any direction it needs to go. The flight system engineered by nature is so efficient for its purpose, it has been mimicked by humans in the helicopter. The hundreds of lenses on the dragonfly's dome shaped eyes shimmered in the sun. Just seeing this incredible insect would have been enough to keep our simple convex lenses glistening with wonder. But we soon noticed the dragonfly was on a mission. It had a tiger swallowtail on its radar. We all gasped in delight and then horror as we watched it chase and then devour the beautiful yellow and black wings. Dragonflies are among the world's most formidable predators, with an accuracy rate of 95%! Witnessing this hunting prowess was the kind of typical day of astonishment that keeps me coming back to the Jocassee Gorges. We never know what marvels of nature we will encounter. ~Tricia Kyzer, JLT guide

NEW EVENTS COMING IN AUGUST

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park



TRSP photo

Oconee State Park OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

August 9: 2:00-3:00 PM

Art in Nature

Highlands Biological Station
This is a creative program where we explore the beauty of the outdoors and turn it into unique art you can take home! Visitors are invited to observe trained researchers safely

capture, band, and release birds as part of a long-term study monitoring avian health and abundance.
Table Rock State Park
August 9: 2:00-6:00 PM
Music on the Mountain

Enjoy traditional Blue Grass music as local musicians gather at Table Rock to keep this inspirational talent alive.
Conserving Carolina
August 5, 12 & 19: 9:00-11:00 AM
Pollinator Paradise Partners

CC is creating a pollinator garden along the scenic Oklawaha Greenway—and we need your green thumbs! Come be part of something that benefits the whole community—humans, bees, butterflies, and beyond!

Highlands Biological Station

August 7: 6:00-7:00 PM

Zahner Lecture #8: Finding the Fabulous Ordinary

August 12 & 26 9:00-10:30 AM

Wonders in the Woods

Table Rock State Park

August 13 & 27: 9:00-10:00 AM

Stream Study

Table Rock State Park

August 15 & 29: 7:30-8:00 PM

Nature Up Close

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

Oconee Station State Historic Site

August 30: 2:00-3:00 PM

The Green Sisters

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

August 12: 2:00-3:30 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series:

Caring for Trees on Your Property.

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

Nature writer Georgann Eubanks gives us a guidebook to the spectacular seasonal joys of ecosystems in the Southeast.

Conestee Nature Preserve

August 9: 6:00-8:00 AM

Sunrise Hike

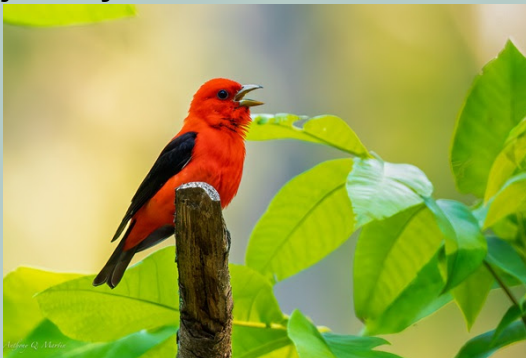
While everyone else is sleeping in on Saturday, you'll be getting a head start on your weekend, in the most healing way, exploring Conestee Nature Preserve!

Conestee Nature Preserve

August 9: 8:00-10:30 AM

Birding 101: Cardinals and Friends

This event is great for those who have never put on a pair of binoculars or for those just getting started with their birding journey.



Scarlet Tanager,
Photo by Anthony Q Martin

GNHA

August 9: 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Clemson Experimental Forest-Fants Grove-Green Triangle Trail

From the Butch Kennedy Trailhead behind T. Ed Garrison Arena, we will hike the green triangle trail through a mixture of stately pines and rolling pastures stopping along the shores of Lake Hartwell for a snack.

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

Upstate Forever

August 19: 5:30-7:30 PM

Community Conversation on the Duke Gas Plant

Conserving Carolina

August 19: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Conserving Carolina

August 19: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series: Carolina Wild!

Highlands Biological Station

August 20: 12:00-1:00 PM

Not From Around Here: Invasive Species on the Highlands Plateau

Foothills Trail Conservancy

August 23

FHT Big Bend to Burrell's Ford

Mushroom Mountain

August 23: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

MINI CLINIC- Medicinal Mushrooms

Upstate Forever

August 23: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Stewardship of the Land: A Faith-Based Advocacy Event

Mushroom Mountain

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

Fall Mushroom Cultivation Workshop

Participants will learn fungal ecology and life cycles, while immersed in hands-on methods to cultivate mushrooms on logs, stumps, wood chips, and straw, designing mushroom gardens, and composting or recycling with fungi.

SC Botanical Garden Events

More Events Coming Soon!



Have you visited the South Carolina Botanical Garden recently?



Current conditions at Lake Jocassee via Devils Fork State Park Webcam

GNHA

August 23: 1:00-4:00 PM

GNHA Summer Picnic: Oconee State Park

Mushroom Mountain

August 23-24

Wild Mushroom Food Safety Certification – Georgia

NCNPS-Oconee Bell Chapter

August 26: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond!

Conserving Carolina

August 28: 2:00-3:30 PM

Green River Library Speaker Series: An Introduction To Western Carolina Butterflies

SC Botanical Garden Events

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

South Carolina Native Plant Elective: Rain Gardens

August 22: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

SCNP Core Class: Basic Botany

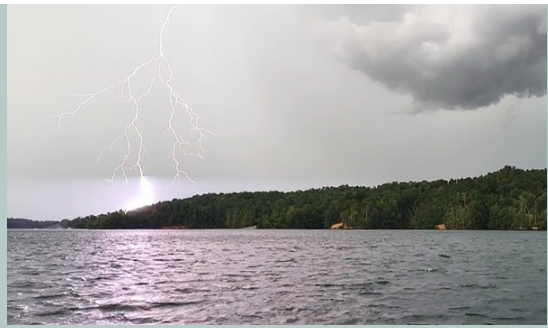
August 22: 3:30-5:30 PM

Great Southeastern Pollinator Census

August 29: 3:30-5:00 PM

Introduction to Nature Journaling

Borrowed Glimpses



**Lightening strike south of the lake,
captured by G. Williams**

**It's Kerry's Birthday Month —
Help Her Get Kids Outside!
Our Jocassee Wild Child director, Kerry McKenzie,
turns another year older
on August 5th.**

**For her birthday, she wants to raise \$5,000
to help more kids from underserved communities
experience the magic of the Jocassee Gorges
through Jocassee Wild Child.**

**With your support,
we can give children unforgettable outdoor adventures —
boating across wild lakes, hiking forest trails, exploring waterfalls,
and learning real science in nature.**

For many, it's their very first time in a wild place.

\$60 = 1 child

\$180 = 3 kids

\$600 = a class of 10

How you can support:

Donate here: <https://square.link/u/PzJ4YOOK>



**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?

Clouds have Latin names, and are grouped into genera, species, and varieties, much like plants and animals.

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@jocasseeelaketours.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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