



[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!

Wild Life

Slow-as-we-can-go, we paddle the shoreline of a lake that is not Jocassee. One single spotted sandpiper leads our way, jumping from rock to rock just ahead of our quiet canoe. The bird hops past puddling butterflies, bobs under webs of spiny orb weavers, dances around a whole village of

unidentified spiders who have colonized a single branch of pine tree hanging over rippling green water. Occasionally the bird darts down the rock to capture some tiny insect with that long, narrow beak. The air is mild and gentle on our skin, and heavy with the scent of mushrooms emerging on the backside of recent rain. Dragonflies of every imaginable size and pattern zip across this narrow arm of lake and flit through branches of fallen trees. Sandpiper pauses, as if watching them, and then, with a loud, clear, “peep peep peep,” leaves us to try his luck on the other side of the lake. ~K



Spotted sandpiper,
aka "teeter-peep"

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

(FINAL) Jocassee (Family)
Adventure Camp [Book Now!](#)
August 29: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Labor Day Tour [Book Now!](#)
September 1: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Guided Kayak Tours! [Book Now!](#)
September 5: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Nature-based Stress Management
for the Tired, Stressed, and
Burned Out [Book Now!](#)
September 7: 2:30-6:30 PM

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 30: 6:15-8:15 PM

Friday Private Tours [Book Now!](#)
Every Friday: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sunday Afternoon Tours
[Book Now!](#)
2:30-5:30 PM

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

September 7: 6:00-8:00 PM

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

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

**PRIVATE TOURS
ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE**

**CALL (864) 280-5501 OR BOOK
ONLINE TO RESERVE SEATS**



Betsy Lewis, JWC instructor



Steve Lewis, JWC instructor

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE AUGUST 25, 2025

Jocassee Wild Child Guides Are Gearing Up!

Long before the first school bus arrives, JWC guides are out scouting trails, checking caves and coves, exploring waterfalls, and dreaming up fresh adventures for local school children. This year brings creek critter safaris, geology hunts, and hands-on climate lessons—designed to spark curiosity while meeting South Carolina state standards. Every trip transforms the outdoors into a living classroom where kids learn by doing—a little dirty, a bit wet, and filled with bright-eyed discovery. But here's the catch: not every child can afford to come. JWC is committed to making sure every student can explore, learn, and grow in the wild—no matter the cost. That's why we're working hard to grow our scholarship fund. With dedicated guides, curious kids, and generous supporters, this school year will be our wildest yet—and we wouldn't have it any other way. ~Kerry McKenzie, JWC Program Coordinator, JLT Guide

**OPEN A CHILD'S HEART TO THE
WONDER OF THE WILD - CLICK**

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, AUGUST 25, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee State Park

August 26: 4:00-5:00 PM

Exploring Nature

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

Table Rock State Park

August 27: 9:00-10:00 AM

Stream Study

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

Gorges State Park

August 27: 10:00-11:00 AM

August 27: 2:00-3:00 PM

Terrific Turtles

Join a park naturalist to learn all about the eastern box turtle—where they live, what they eat, and how to help protect them!

Table Rock State Park

August 29: 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

August 29: 10:00-10:30 AM

August 29: 2:00-2:45 PM

Bobcat Basics

Discover where these wild cats live, what they eat, and how they survive in the forests of GSP.

HERE: www.jocasseewild.org

NEW EVENTS COMING IN SEPTEMBER

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee Station State Historic Site

September 1: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

First Day Hike

Oconee State Park

September 6: 10:30-11:30 AM

Art in Nature

Table Rock State Park

September 13: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

Oconee Station State Historic Site

September 16: 4:00-5:00 PM

Hands-On History

Oconee Station State Historic Site

September 18: 4:00-5:00 PM

Tales from the American Pen

Oconee State Park

September 20: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

CCC History Stroll

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

September 2, 9 & 16: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

NCNPS-Oconee Bell Chapter

September 2 (with Dr. Jim Costa):
5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond!

SC Wildlife Federation

September 4: 9:00 AM



Photo by Don Debold,
via wikipedia

Table Rock State Park

August 29: 7:30-8:00 PM

Nature Up Close

Nature has incredible details we miss until we take a closer look. We will view some of those details of plants and animals through the lens of a video microscope.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

August 26: 9:00-11:00 AM

September 2 & 9: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

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

NCNPS-Oconee Bell Chapter

August 26: 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

August 28: 2:00-3:30 PM

Things that Flitter & Gorgeous Caterpillars at SC Botanical Garden

Conserving Carolina

September 9: 2:00-3:00 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series -- Freshwater Mussels of the Western Carolinas

Highlands Biological Station

September 10: 1:00-5:00 PM

Bartram's "Rare and Elegant Flowering Shrub"

Conestee Nature Preserve

September 11: 3:00-4:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club--Elementary School

Conestee Nature Preserve

September 11: 4:00-5:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club--Middle School

Conserving Carolina

September 11: 5:30-7:00 PM

Green Drinks: The Future of the Toilet: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.

Hagood Mill Historic Site

September 12: 6:30-8:00 PM

Heritage Pavilion Ribbon Cutting & Celebration

Conestee Nature Preserve

September 13: 8:00-10:00 AM

History Hike Part 1: Naturalist Led Walk and Talk About Conestee's Past

Friends of Jocassee

September 13: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

V.I.P Day--Volunteer, Improve, Protect

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

This presentation is an introduction to the butterflies occurring in the fields, forests and lawns of WNC and it includes ways to use backyard plants to attract and support them.



Conserving Carolina photo

SC Botanical Garden Events

Introduction to Nature Journaling

August 29: 3:30-5:00 PM

Join SCBG educator and naturalist, Allison Jones, for an introduction to the world of nature journaling.



Corylus americana American hazelnut

Mushroom Mountain

September 13-14: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Wild Mushroom Food Safety Certification--South Carolina

Highlands Biological Station

September 13: 2:00-8:00 PM
2025 Celebration of Place

SCNPS

September 15: 10:00 AM-2:30 PM
Seed Collecting Field Trip 1

Upstate Forever

September 16: 5:30-7:00 PM
Brews & Big Ideas

SCNPS

September 16: 6:30-8:00 PM
Upstate Monthly Meeting: September

Conserving Carolina

September 17: 10:00-11:30 AM
Etowah Library Speaker Series: Renewed Hope for Hemlocks

Mushroom Mountain

September 18: 2:00-3:30 PM
MM Tour

Sierra Club South Carolina

September 18: 7:00-9:00 PM
Foraging for Fun and Food

Jeanne Malmgren

September 20
Silent Hikes--Green Bird Haven, Pickens County, SC

Greenville County Bird Club

September 20: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM
(Longer Walk)
September 20: :00-10:30 AM
(Shorter Walk)
Conestee Nature Preserve

**Sue Watts, SCBG Education
Program Coordinator**



**Current conditions at Lake
Jocassee via Devils Fork State
Park Webcam**

**Sponsored by Friends of
Jocassee**

Friends of the Reedy River
September 20; 8:30-11:30 AM
2025 Fall River Sweep

SC Botanical Garden Events
September 4: 4:30-6:00 PM
Junior Naturalists

September 5: 3:30-5:30 PM
**SCBG Nature Journaling Club, Fall
2025**

September 13: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
**Natural Plant Communities, SCNP
Core Class**

September 19: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Basic Botany, SCNP Core Class



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

**SPONSOR A JOCASSEE WILD
CHILD TODAY!**

Follow
Jocassee Wild Child Adventures
on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/jocasseewild>



DID YOU KNOW?

The spotted sandpiper is among the very few bird species that exhibits polyandry, a pattern in which a female mates with multiple males during a breeding season, while a male mates with only one female. The female spotted sandpiper has the unusual capability of storing sperm in her body. After a female has mated, she may help build a nest, but as more males arrive, she moves on, even before laying a clutch. Domestic duties typically are left to the abandoned male, who may be brooding chicks that are not genetically his own.

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@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!



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