



[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!

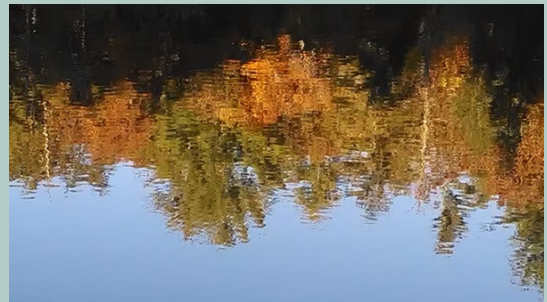
Nuts! (and seeds)

POW!

My eyes fly open. POP! POW!

I wait for a crash that doesn't come. Usually these POPs and POWs—which is the exact sound of wood breaking—are followed by a crash of limb or tree trunk coming down. Ice storms bring that sound. So do hurricanes.

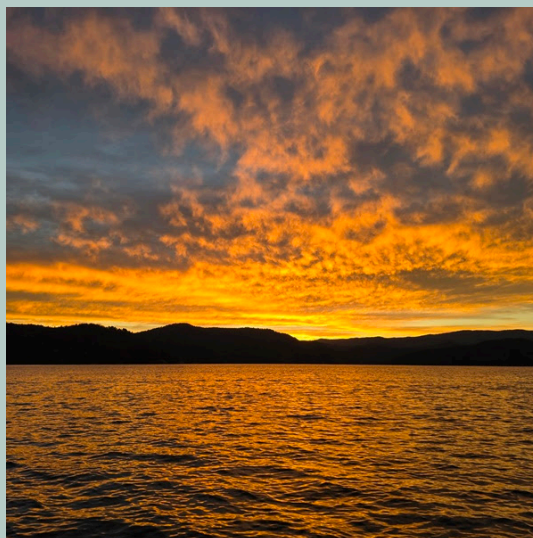
POW! I try to place the sound out of the context of major weather



The slow fade of chlorophyll is apparent around the shores of Lake Jocassee

events. Nuts are falling now, in fall. Could this be the sound of acorns hitting a nearby roof? Maybe, if acorns are the size of golf balls. Hickory nuts. My sleep-addled brain remembers hickory nuts are also falling. So loud, these sounds. It's hard to sleep when my body involuntarily flinches from every POP and POW.

The next morning Dear Husband Brooks mentions the limbs he heard breaking throughout the night. He, too, was waiting for a crash which never came. We concluded that we had been fooled by nuts, and also concluded that we both might suffer a little residual PTSD from Hurricane Helene. ~K



Before long, the hickories will be as vividly gold as Saturday's Jocassee sunset!

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Guided Kayak Tours! [Book Now!](#)
October 19: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

All the Falls Tour [Book Now!](#)
October 25: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

[PRIVATE TOURS](#)
[ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE](#)

CALL (864) 280-5501
or
[BOOK ONLINE](#)

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!

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

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



A rainbow and a full moon.
What a great way to end a day!
10.6.25



The Hunters moon casting its
reflection over Jocassee.

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE OCTOBER 13, 2025

The week started on Monday with 5 boats heading out for the Full 'Hunters' Moon Rising Tour. The forecast called for a slight chance of rain around moonrise, but you wouldn't have known it as we left the dock with sunshine, high clouds and perfect temperatures. About halfway through the trip, someone noticed a rainbow behind us, over the dam area. We spent part of our time checking out the Bad Creek Hydro and the mouth of the Whitewater River where it enters the lake before making our way over to Wright Creek Falls on the Thompson River. We only had about 30 minutes left, and I wrestled with myself about how to best use our remaining time. After 8 years of watching Jocassee in all her moods, I decided to bypass another waterfall and head out to the main basin in hopes of seeing the moon. By this time, the clouds were layering up all around us, darkening the sky. The breeze picked up, causing an occasional splash over the port bow as we headed back toward the dock. A couple of the ladies expressed some doubt about seeing the moon but were content having caught the rainbow earlier. I assured them that it wasn't unusual for Jocassee to surprise us and as luck would have it, that's exactly what she did. Fifteen minutes from the dock, the clouds broke apart, and the moon peeked through. After a few gasps and excited laughter, a hush came over the boat, like it always does, as we

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, OCTOBER 13, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee Station State Historic Site

October 16: 4:00-5:00 PM

Tales from the American Pen

Step into the world of classic American short stories with monthly live readings at Oconee Station.

Oconee State Park

October 18: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

CCC History Stroll

Learn about the vital role the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) played in shaping our state

parks during the Great Depression and discover several historic structures built by the enrollees themselves.



OSP CCC built cabin
Photo by Jody Burtner

Oconee Station State Historic Site

October 18: 7:00-8:30 PM

Legends, Lore & S'mores

Join us for an evening where history meets mystery, and every spark carries a story. Gather around as we share tales of frontier life, tall tales of daring adventures, and a few spine-tingling ghostly whispers from the Station's past.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

October 14: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Conserving Carolina is creating a pollinator garden along the scenic Oklawaha Greenway—and we need your green thumbs!

Conserving Carolina

October 14: 2:00-3:30 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series: Update from the Green Riverkeeper with MountainTrue

You can expect to hear updates about the cleanup process, bank

all sat and experienced the end-of-day magic that is uniquely Jocassee.

~Sheryl White, JLT guide

NEW EVENTS COMING IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee Station State Historic Site

October 21: 4:00-5:00 PM

Hands-on History

Table Rock State Park

October 24: 5:00-6:00 PM

Let's Get Batty

Table Rock State Park

October 24: 6:15-7:45 PM

Bat Watch

Table Rock State Park

November 1: 2:45-9:45 AM

Sunrise Hike-Bald Knob

Oconee Station State Historic Site

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

First Day Hike

Oconee State Park

November 1: 10:30-11:30 AM

Art in Nature

Table Rock State Park

November 8: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

October 21 & 28: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Mushroom Mountain

stabilization ideas and projects moving forward, volunteer opportunities, and what the future of the Green River looks like this season for recreation.

Sierra Club SC

October 14: 6:30-8:30 PM

Sierra Upstate Fall 2025 Social

Come enjoy the ambiance of the patio setting at Southern Growl, with delicious food and refreshing beverages available for purchase. This is a perfect opportunity to meet the new Sierra Upstate community, so be sure to RSVP and secure your spot for a night of fun and fellowship!

Conserving Carolina

October 15: 10:00 AM-11:30 PM

Etowah Library Speaker Series: Renewable Energy 101

In this program, Steve O'Neil, executive director of Earthshine Nature Programs, will be bringing several working examples of his favorite form of renewable energy – solar power.

SCNPS

October 17-19: 7:00 PM-4:00 PM

2025 SCNPS Statewide Symposium

The statewide symposium brings together SCNPS members from all chapters, and this year, the Grand Strand Chapter will be hosting!

GCBC

October 18: 8:00-10:30 AM
(Shorter Walk)

October 18: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM
(Longer Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

Shorter walk- Meet at the Spanco Drive parking area next to the old

October 23: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Tour

Conestee Nature Preserve

October 23: 3:00-4:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club - Elementary School

Conestee Nature Preserve

October 23: 4:00-5:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club - Middle School

Palmetto Trail

October 23: 6:00 PM

Upstate Trail Talks

Oconee History Museum

October 24: 7:00 PM

Intriguing Tales of Crime & Punishment

Hagood Mill Historic Site

October 24-25: 6:00 PM-6:00 PM

3rd Annual Pickens Appalachian Folk Festival

Highlands Biological Foundation

October 25: 8:00-9:00 AM

Morning Bird Walk

GNHA

October 25: 9:00-11:00 AM

Thompson River via Foothills Trail

Mushroom Mountain

October 25: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

MycoBlitz

Hagood Mill Historic Site

October 25: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Native American Plant Medicine Class

Highlands Biological Foundation

October 25: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Conestee Mill and Dam to bird a section of the paved trail. Longer walk- Meet behind the baseball stadium to bird a variety of paved and natural surface trails.

Oconee History Museum

October 18: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

October 18: 2:00-3:00 PM

Walhalla Walking Tour

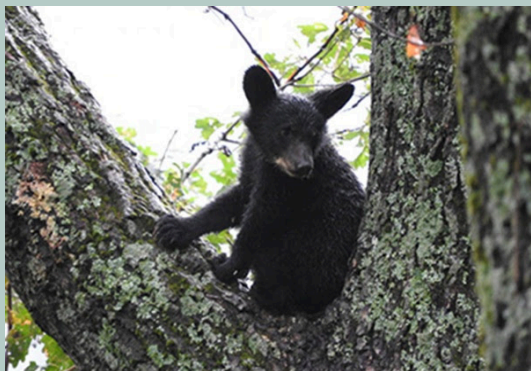
Director/Curator Jennifer Moss will take you around Walhalla and showcase the rich history of the city.

Highlands Biological Foundation

October 18: 2:00-3:30 PM

Black Bear Bonanza

Stop by the Nature Center all day for drop-in activities and learning



American Black Bear cub,
SCDNR photo

SC Botanical Garden Events

October 15: 8:30-9:30 AM

Winged Wednesdays

No experience is required, we will lead you through the best birdwatching spots, sharing tips and tricks along the way.

Black Bear Bonanza! (All Day Drop-In)

GNHA Hiking Club

October 26: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Sassafras Mtn. 12-mile Hike (GNHA Club + Make-A-Wish Training Hike)

NCNPS Oconee Bell Chapter

October 28: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond

Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS)

October 28: 5:30-8:00 PM

Folks Annual Banquet- guest speaker Mac Stone

Conserving Carolina

October 28: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series: Owls of the Carolinas

GNHA

November 1: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Walhalla Fish Hatchery to Ellicott Rock- Ron Anderson

Mushroom Mountain

November 1-2: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Wild Mushroom Food Safety Certification- South Carolina

Palmetto Trail

November 1-2: 11: AM-6:00 PM

Everything Outdoor Fest

Conserving Carolina

November 4: 5:30-7:00 PM

Stories of Resilience: Films from the Year Since Hurricane Helene

Foothills Trail Conservancy

November 7-9

FTC Fall Gathering at Table Rock State Park



**Ruby-throated hummingbird
fueling up for the long flight.
Photo by Gene Rochester**

**October 16: 4:30-6:00 PM
SCBG Junior Naturalists, Fall 2025**

From the mountains to the sea,
participants will learn about the
animals and plants who call this
state home, and the landscapes
that define SC (Ages 6-11).

**October 17: 10:00-11:00 AM
Friday Garden Forays
Explore different areas of the
SCBG each month with naturalist,
James Wilkins.**

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

SC Botanical Garden Events

**October 24: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Wetland Ecology, SCNP Elective**

**October 25: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Tree Identification, SCNP Core
Class**

**October 25: 1:00-4:00 PM
Nature Center Open House:
Nature's Clean-up Crew**

**October 30: 4:30-6:00 PM
SCBG Junior Naturalists, Fall 2025**

**The Jocassee Wild Child
FUNDRAISER**

**is 8.77% of the way
to the
\$75,000 goal.**

**THANK YOU to all who donated
this past week!
DONATE TODAY!**

**Or mail to:
Jocassee Wild Outdoor Education
PO Box 582
Salem, SC 29676**



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Jocassee Wild Child Adventures
on Facebook!**

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

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CHILD TODAY!**



DID YOU KNOW?

With hundreds of thousands of acorns available during a “mast” year, trees ensure that at least some of the seed will escape being eaten by chipmunks, squirrels, turkeys, blue jays, deer and bears and survive until they can sprout and grow. This is known as predator satiation. While teaming up to satiate seed predators is clearly a good strategy for oaks, scientists are not so clear on how the trees coordinate their harvest, sometimes across hundreds of miles. It can't be totally weather or resource driven, since variations in rainfall and temperature don't fluctuate as much as the number of acorns produced. ~Emily Stone, Cable Natural History Museum and Jocassee Loon Researcher extraordinaire!

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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