



[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!

Happy New Year!

Even as leaves begin to float down and seeds continue to float away; as birds have flown south and your potted annuals are about to turn black from frost; even as we humans look forward to “peak” of leaf color yet dread the darker days of coming winter, a brand-spanking new joyful cycle of life is beginning. Caterpillars disappear into cocoons and morph into an entirely new body. Plant cells are

making important decisions about whether to become bud, stem, or root. Quiet, hidden transformations taking place, silently, in every living thing. And nature doesn't complain. ~K



Beauty is everywhere.

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

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

November 5: 3:30-5:30 PM

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

November 8: 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:

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

COOL SEASON begins Sat. & Sun:

11:00 AM-3:00 PM

FREE TUESDAYS at Devils Fork
State Park!

Friday Private Tours [Book Now!](#)

10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sun. Afternoon Tours [Book Now!](#)

2:30-5:30 PM



Callicarpa americana,
American beautyberry

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE OCTOBER 27, 2025

"Can you eat these"? Six Mile Elementary 4th graders asked me as we walked toward the dock for their Jocassee Wild Child trip on Wednesday. Looking at their teacher, I explained they are edible and told her if she was okay with it, I'd let each one of them taste a



Beautyberry. It definitely would taste better with a little sugar!

WATCH THIS!

See the Jocassee Wild Child program in action!

**The Jocassee Wild Child
FUNDRAISER
is 20.1% of the way
to the**

\$75,000 goal.

**Only 51 days left to unlock the
matching donation!**

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

DONATE TODAY!

Or mail to:

**Jocassee Wild Outdoor Education
PO Box 582
Salem, SC 29676**

Calling Local Artists!

***JWC needs a mural painted on
our new storage unit.***

***Give us a call if you would like to
donate your talent!***

berry if they wanted to. "Absolutely, that's part of the adventure", she smiled and answered. What were they asking about? American beautyberry! This gorgeous native shrub grows all around the Park office and one of the kids had picked up a broken branch which was full of small, glossy, purple berries. The squeals and giggles were contagious as the kids talked and laughed over each other, some excited, some hesitant to try one. Each kid picked a berry off the branch as they passed it around the boat. The expressions and sounds they made were hilarious as they bit into this tiny, mildly astringent fruit. "Eww," "yuck," "hmmm... that's a little bitter but not terrible." Everybody had an opinion. Turns out, the fruit is a valuable resource for birds and wildlife. Squirrels, 'possums and raccoons enjoy the ripe berries, and deer will occasionally browse on the leaves. Humans can use them, too--add a little sugar and cook them to make lavender colored jelly or use the crushed leaves to repel mosquitoes. There are so many uses for this impressive native shrub. It's easy to recognize this time of year. If you happen to find one, be like these curious & brave 4th graders. Taste it, and see what *you* think! ~Sheryl White, JLT guide and JWC instructor.

**NEW EVENTS COMING IN
NOVEMBER**

STATE PARK EVENTS

**OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK,
OCTOBER 27, 2025**

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park

November 1: 2:45-9:45 AM

Sunrise Hike-Bald Knob

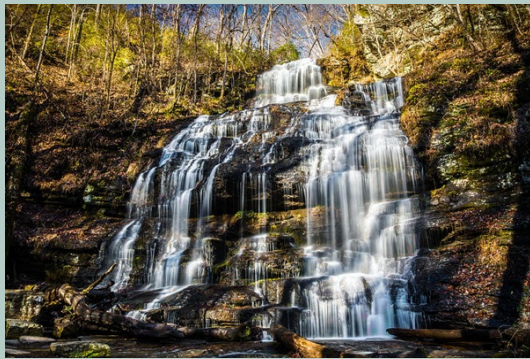
After experiencing the nocturnal aspects of the forest we will enjoy the pre-dawn sky from the outcrop as we anticipate the beauty of a new sunrise.

Oconee Station State Historic Site

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

First Day Hike

Join a ranger at OSSHS and hike one of the park trails.



Station Cove Falls,

Photo by Randy Scherkenbach

Oconee State Park

November 1: 10:30-11:30 AM

Art in Nature

Join us for a creative program where we explore the beauty of the outdoors and turn it into unique art you can take home!

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

October 28: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Come be part of something that benefits the whole community—humans, bees, butterflies, and beyond!

Caesars Head State Park

November 7: 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Fall Color Hike

Table Rock State Park

November 8: 12:00-2:00 PM

Lake Oolenoy Paddle with a Ranger

Table Rock State Park

November 8: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

Oconee State Park

November 15: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

CCC History Stroll

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 15: 12:00-3:30 PM

Harvest Picnic & Early American Pie Contest!

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 18: 4:00-5:00 PM

Hands-On History

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 20: 4:00-5:00 PM

Tales From the American Pen

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

November 4, 11 & 18: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Conserving Carolina

November 4: 5:30-7:00 PM

Stories of Resilience: Films from the Year Since Hurricane Helene

Mushroom Mountain

November 5: 3:30-6:00 PM

Clemson Farmers Market: Harvest Market

NCNPS Oconee Bell Chapter

October 28: 5:30 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond

We'll hang out lakeside (weather permitting), swap native seeds and plants, and raffle off some green goodies.

Friends of Lake Keowee Society (FOLKS)

October 28: 5:30-8:00 PM

Folks Annual Banquet- guest speaker Mac Stone

For more than a decade, Mac has led Naturaland Trust and helped protect tens of thousands of acres of iconic rivers waterfalls, tributaries, and forests; all of which are open to the public.

Conserving Carolina

October 28: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series: Owls of the Carolinas

Pam Torilina's presentation will focus on the several species of owls found in the Carolinas and highlight the special characteristics that make them successful predators of the night.



Strix varia, Barred owl

Hagood Mill Historic Site

November 5: 7:00-9:30 PM

Irish Music & Appalachian Jam

Friends of the Reedy River (FORR)

November 6: 9:00-11:30 AM

Volunteer Workday 6 at Reedy River Meadow - Invasive Plant Pull and Mulching

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 6 & 20: 3:00-4:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club--Elementary School

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 6 & 20: 4:00-5:30 PM

Nature Discovery After School Club--Middle School

Hagood Mill Historic Site

November 6: 7:00 PM

Irish Dance & Square Dance Celebration

Foothills Trail Conservancy

November 7-9

FTC Fall Gathering at Table Rock State Park

Mushroom Mountain

November 8: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

MINI CLINIC--Mushroom Log Gardening

Conserving Carolina

November 12: 10:00-11:00 AM

Etowah Library Speaker Series: The Effects of Light Pollution on Wildlife

Mushroom Mountain

November 13: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Tour

Palmetto Trail

Photo by the Raptor Club

GNHA

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

Walhalla Fish Hatchery to Ellicott Rock- Ron Anderson

This is a great hike to the survey marker from 1811 delineating the point where SC, NC, and GA meet. A more accurate survey later moved the point downstream.

Mushroom Mountain

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

Wild Mushroom Food Safety Certification- South Carolina

This 5-year mushroom foraging permit meets the criteria required by the state health departments and formally approved for the foraging and selling of wild mushrooms in the following states: South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Alabama, Pennsylvania, New York, Rhode Island.

Palmetto Trail

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

Everything Outdoor Fest

We'll be talking about the trail and handing out swag to everyone who stops by our booth. We hope to see you there!

SC Botanical Garden Events

October 30: 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.

November 13-16

Women's Outdoor Weekend

GCBC

November 15: 8:00-10:30 AM

(Shorter Walk)

November 15: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

(Longer Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

Conserving Carolina

November 18: 6:00-7:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series:

Caring for Trees on your Property

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 22: 8:00-10:00 AM

History Hike, Part 2 - A Naturalist-

Led, Walk and Talk About

Conestee's Past

Friends of Jocassee (FOJ)

November 22: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Jocassee Santa

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 22: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Family Friendly Guided Hike

SC Botanical Garden Events

November 13: 4:30-6:00 PM

SCBG Junior Naturalists, Fall 2025

November 15: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sustainable Landscaping, SCNP

Core Class

November 15: 1:00-4:00 PM

Nature Center Open House:

Creatures of the Night

November 18: 3:00-4:30 PM

Gardening for North American

Native Bees

November 21: 10:00-11:00 AM
Friday Garden Forays

BORROWED GLIMPSES



Goldenrod (Solidago sp.)
Current conditions at Lake
Jocassee via Devils Fork State
Park Webcam
Sponsored by
Friends of Jocassee



Autumn on Jocassee



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 longest non-stop bird migration is held by the bar-tailed godwit, with the current record set by a juvenile godwit in October 2022 that flew 8,425 miles (13,560 km) from Alaska to Tasmania. This flight took 11 days and was the longest documented non-stop flight by any animal, as the bird was tracked with a satellite transmitter.

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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