



[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!

Noticing November

Float around a bend of mountain dipping into the clear waters of beautiful Lake Jocassee. Witness beech, birch, and sourwood—cadmium yellow, raw sienna, and Indian red—dancing a sexy tango. Here, Breeze is light, blocked by Mountain, and ki carries wood smoke fragrance from a nearby campfire. Round a point towards Horsepasture Valley and the movement of air picks up,

funneled through deep and narrow gorges. Watch the graceful waltz of swaying oak trees, dressed in seasonal burnt umber and raw ochre. A flash of brilliant white circles above the lake: gulls are here; loons are arriving. Taste this sweet ephemeral autumn in the gooey persimmons that linger on our lips and fingertips. The Jocassee Gorges are as beautiful now as they ever will be (until next season) and if you haven't witnessed this for yourself, come. ~K



SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

*What kind of special event would
you like to participate in?
Let us know!*

**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:
11:00 AM-3:00 PM

FREE TUESDAYS at Devils Fork
State Park!

Friday Private Tours **Book Now!**
11:00 AM - 3,4,6 hour options

Sun. Afternoon Tours **Book Now!**
2:30-5:30 PM



From this in May...



...to this in November
Diospyros virginiana American persimmon

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, NOVEMBER 10, 2025

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee State Park

November 15: 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.

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 15: 12:00-3:30 PM

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Chances are if you've been out with us, we've given you something seasonal to taste while you're on the boat. It's very common for us to offer guests a sour apple flavored leaf from a sourwood tree, a wintergreen twig from a sweet birch, or a sun-warmed muscadine grape. Right now, American persimmons are ripe and dropping onto the forest floor, providing much needed nutrients for bears, foxes, and deer. These animals are building their fat reserves for the coming winter. According to the Old Farmers Almanac, you can even predict how severe winter will be by cutting open a persimmon seed and looking at the shape of the seed embryo. If you see a fork, winter will be mild, a knife means sharp cold that cuts right through you and a spoon, well, you guessed it... you'll be shoveling some snow this year. We've been tasting the ones we can reach and so far, each seed we've opened has a spoon. Personally, I'd love to see a good snow. And like these animals, I hope to be curled up in my den, snug, warm and watching it as it peacefully falls on the Jocassee Gorges. Fingers crossed the predictions are true! ~ Sheryl White, JLT guide

NEW EVENTS COMING IN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

STATE PARK EVENT

Oconee Station State Historic Site

**Harvest Picnic & Early American
Pie Contest!**

Join us for an afternoon of old-fashioned family fun and games.

Gorges State Park

November 16: 10:00-10:30 AM

Animal Tracks!

Come and help identify the wildlife around the park using only their tracks to find them!



American Black Bear,
GSP photo

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

November 12: 10:00-11:00 AM

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

This presentation will focus on the negative effects of light pollution on amphibians, birds, mammals and insects.

Mushroom Mountain

November 13: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Tour

During your visit, you will learn about mushroom biology and ecology- how mushrooms work in and for our environment- as well as how they can be used for medicinal uses and many other innovations.

Palmetto Trail

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

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 22: 1:00-2:30 PM

Historic Building Tour

Oconee Station State Historic Site

November 28: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

#OptOutsideSC Ranger-Led Hike

Oconee State Park

November 28: 2:00-3:00 PM

#OptOutsideSC Ranger-Led Hike

Gorges State Park

November 30: 10:00-10:30 AM

Upper Bearwallow Falls Hike

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

November 18 & 25: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

Conserving Carolina

November 18: 6:00-7:30 PM

**Landrum Library Speaker Series:
Caring for Trees on your Property.**

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 20: 3:00-4:30 PM

**Nature Discovery After School
Club--Elementary School**

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 20: 4:00-5:30 PM

**Nature Discovery After School
Club--Middle School**

Conestee Nature Preserve

November 22: 8:00-10:00 AM

November 13-16

Women's Outdoor Weekend

This special weekend is all about empowering women, inspiring outdoor exploration, and building a strong sense of community.

Highlands Biological Station

November 15: 8:00-9:00 AM

Morning Bird Walk

Birders of all skill levels are welcome to join us as we take an easy walk around the garden to find our feathered friends.

GCBC

November 15: 8:00-10:30 AM

(Shorter Walk)

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

(Longer Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

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

GNHA

November 15: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Conestee Nature Park - Brushy Creek Trails

This hike also features a tour through Rewa Wastewater facility along the Swamp Rabbit trail.

Hagood Mill Historic Site

November 15: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Native American Celebration

This signature event celebrates the rich traditions, music, and artistry of Indigenous peoples across the Southeast.

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

Hagood Mill Historic Site

November 22: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

December 6: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Plant Medicine 102a: Let's Make Ointments, Salves, and Lotions

Conestee Nature Preserve

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

Family Friendly Guided Hike

Palmetto Trail Foundation

November 28

How Will You #OptOutside?

SC Botanical Garden Events

November 18: 8:30-9:30 AM

Winged Wednesdays

November 18: 3:00-4:30 PM

Gardening for North American Native Bees

November 21: 10:00-11:00 AM

Friday Garden Forays

December 6: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Evergreens, SCNP Elective

Borrowed Glimpses



Museum of the Cherokee photo

SC Botanical Garden Events

November 13: 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 15: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

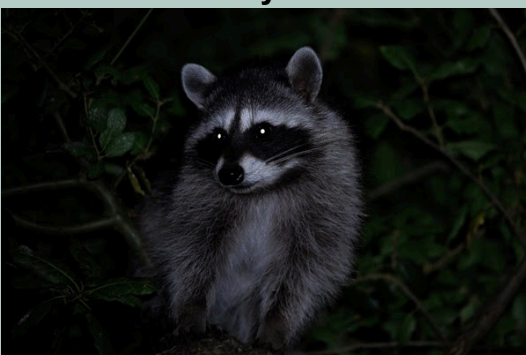
Sustainable Landscaping, SCNP Core Class

Join instructor Rick Huffman, ASLA, Earth Design, SCNPS, to explore how to design with nature and how native plants are essential characters in functioning ecological landscapes.

November 15: 1:00-4:00 PM

Nature Center Open House: Creatures of the Night

In this open house, we'll learn who is active under the cover of darkness and why?



Insects and animals alike are foraging and prepping for the cooler months ahead.



Will there be snow? Time will tell.



Current conditions at Lake Jocassee via Devils Fork State Park Webcam

Flickr photo

Sponsored by
Friends of Jocassee

**WATCH THE JOCASSEE WILD
CHILD PROGRAM IN ACTION!**

**The Jocassee Wild Child
FUNDRAISER**

**is 40.27% of the way
to the
\$75,000 goal.**

**Only 36 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**

gofundme



Scan to donate to Jay's fundraiser
"Help Jocassee Wild Child Unlock Our \$75K
Match Grant!"

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Jocassee Wild Child Adventures
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the Jocassee Wild Child mascot,
Odyssey? Order yours here!**

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CHILD TODAY!**



DID YOU KNOW?

"Objectification of the natural world reinforces the notion that our species is somehow more deserving of the gifts of the world than the other 8.7 million species with whom we share the planet. Using "it" absolves us of moral responsibility and opens the door to exploitation. When Sugar Maple is an "it" we give ourselves permission to pick up the saw. "It" means it doesn't matter. (Instead, try using) "ki" to signify a being of the living Earth. Not "he" or "she," but "ki." So that when we speak of Sugar Maple, we say, "Oh that beautiful tree, ki is giving us sap again this spring." And we'll need a plural pronoun, too, for those Earth beings." Let's make that new pronoun "kin." From *The Serviceberry*
~Robin Wall Kimmerer

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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