

[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!**

## Canada Goose

**She was born here, but visitors to Lake Jocassee try in vain to chase her away. She is large, beautiful—regal, even—and not easily intimidated. She was a precocious youngster, walking and swimming from the time she hopped out of the nest. Rather than bringing her food, her vegan parents taught her, from day one, to forage for herself. They did their best to protect her, too, as a gosling, as a**



**No one can deny the beauty of the Canada goose!**

fledgling, but first one sibling, then two, then three, disappeared. Owls, bald eagles, coyotes, dogs... plenty of Jocassee predators will take advantage of a tender young snack when opportunity arises. Now a two-year old, she is still part of the family unit and will remain close to her parents for the next couple of years. As locals, they don't migrate far, but the Keowee golf courses are tempting grounds for Canada geese to forage. In a couple of years she will choose her till death-do-they-part mate, and she'll return to Jocassee to raise a family of her own. ~K



**Winter.**  
**Geese have the lake to themselves.**

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### **SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS**

Sun. PM Tour w/ Brooks & Kay!  
Jan. 18: 2:00 PM-5:00 PM  
[Book Now](#)

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

[BOOK ONLINE](#)

### **WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS**

Tues., Thurs., Sat. Lake Tours:  
[Book Now](#)  
11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Sun. Afternoon Tours: [Book Now](#)  
2:00 PM-5:00 PM

[CALL \(864\) 280-5501](#)

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### **THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE JANUARY 12, 2026**

'This week on Lake Jocassee' section of the newsletter is exactly about that... what happened this week. Only, 'this week', we've been on vacation, so it's hard to know for sure. However, after 8 years of Jocassee winters under my belt, I can just imagine. This time of year, mornings are quiet... so grab a cup of coffee, follow along and let me guide you on a typical early winter

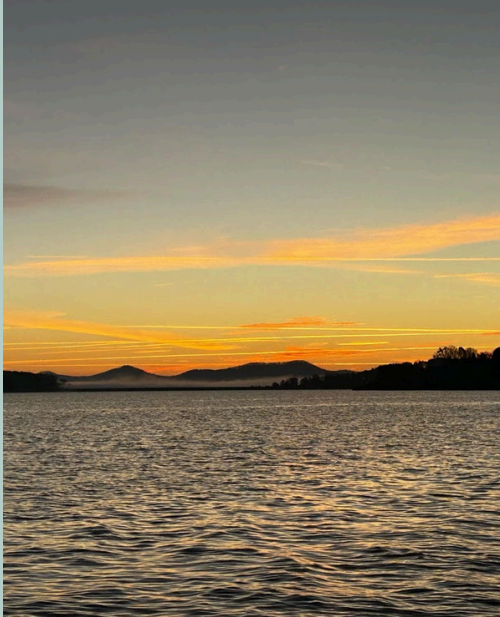


Photo by Zach Maddox

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## OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, JANUARY 12, 2026

### STATE PARK EVENTS

More Events Coming Soon!



A past First Day, 5K Ranger Run  
at Devils Fork State Park,  
January 1, 2014  
Friends of Jocassee Photo

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### OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

January 13: 1:00-3:00 PM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

If you enjoy gardening and want  
to help create a beautiful,

morning on Jocassee. The air is cold; you can see your breath as you exhale. There's usually a breeze coming out of the north, down the Toxaway River channel toward the dock, whipping up white caps in the main basin. The sun rises over Tahiti Beach, casting indescribable colors in the sky. Loons and gulls congregate and fish together just out from the boat ramps. As the sun heats the surface, wisps of vapor lift and float over areas of still water. Soft flutters and chirps break the silence as the birds begin to stir. Sleepy, fat raccoons crawl into their tree hollows after a night of foraging. White-tailed deer rise, stretch and cautiously make their way to the water's edge for that first cold, refreshing sip--ever watchful; while rabbits nibble and squirrels scurry about, chasing each other, occasionally pausing to shake their tails in warning at some perceived threat. Oh, and of course the crows announce themselves... cawing out to each other, heralding the new day and deciding together where the next adventure will take them. On Jocassee, every day is an adventure, but... imagination can only take you so far, so give us a call and come see for yourself ;) ~Sheryl White, JLT naturalist guide

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## NEW EVENTS COMING IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY

### STATE PARK EVENT

More Events Coming Soon!

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### OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina



welcoming space for pollinators and people alike, come join us!

### **Conserving Carolina**

January 13: 2:00-3:30 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series:  
The Snakes of Polk and Henderson Counties

Alan Cameron will discuss the 18 non-venomous and two venomous species of snakes that inhabit Polk and Henderson Counties.



Non-venomous Corn snake,  
Conserving Carolina Photo

### **Highlands Biological Station**

January 16-17: 10:00 AM-3:30 PM

Who's Out There? (Drop-in Station)

Join us at the Nature Center to learn about the winter wildlife found across the Highlands Plateau.

### **Highlands Biological Station**

January 16-17: 10:00 AM-3:30 PM

The Skin You're In (Drop-in Station)

Drop in for a few minutes or stay and pair the 'Who's Out There?' activities with this hands-on opportunity to see and feel a variety of animal skins!

January 20: 2:00-3:30 PM

Landrum Library Speaker Series:  
Moss Magic in Your Landscape

### **SCNPS Upstate**

January 20: 6:30-8:00 PM

Monthly Meeting- "Exploring and Conserving SC's Rare Flora" w/ Adam Black

### **SC Wildlife Federation**

January 22: 12:00-1:00 PM

iNaturalist 101: Documenting South Carolina's Biodiversity

### **Mushroom Mountain**

January 22: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Farm Tour

### **Conestee Nature Preserve**

January 24: 9:30-11:30 AM

Winter Tree ID w/ Dan Whitten

### **Foothills Trail Conservancy**

January 24: 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Round Mtn Views, Whitewater River, & Upper Whitewater Falls

### **GNHA**

January 24: 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

Table Rock Summit--Table Rock State Park

### **Conserving Carolina**

January 27: 1:00-3:00 PM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

### **Highlands Biological Station**

January 30-31: 10:00 AM-3:30 PM

Who's Out There? (Drop-in Station)

### **Highlands Biological Station**

January 30-31: 10:00 AM-3:30 PM

The Skin You're In (Drop-in Station)

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### **SC Botanical Garden Events**

### GCBC

January 17: 8:00-10:30 AM  
(Shorter Walk)

January 17: 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 paved trail. Longer walk- Meet behind the baseball stadium to bird a variety of paved and natural surface trails.

### GNHA

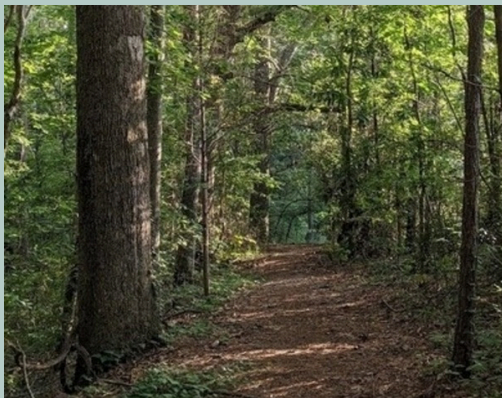
January 17: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM  
Raven Cliff Falls Overlook & Falls Suspension Bridge

A loop hike is not possible as the trail below the falls is closed. We'll hike at a moderate pace around 2.25 mph depending upon the terrain and trail conditions.

### SC Botanical Garden Events

January 16: 10:00-11:30 AM  
Friday Garden Forays, Spring 2026

Explore different areas of the SCBG each month with naturalist, James Wilkins.



SCBG Photo

January 21: 8:30 AM

Winged Wednesdays, Spring 2026

January 23: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Basic Botany, SC Native Plant Core Class, Clemson, SC

January 30: 3:30-5:30 PM

Introduction to Nature Journaling

## THANK YOU!

Help us keep this good work going.



IT'S JUST THE BEGINNING!

Follow

**Jocassee Wild Child Adventures  
on Facebook!**

<https://www.facebook.com/jocasseewild>

Lake Jocassee via Devils Fork  
State Park Webcam

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## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Canada geese molt their flight feathers in summer. They are unable to fly for the 20-40 days it takes to regrow the feathers. They regain their ability to fly at approximately the same time young fledglings of breeding pairs are ready to fly.

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## **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.

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[www.JocasseeLakeTours.com](http://www.JocasseeLakeTours.com)

[info@jocasseelaketours.com](mailto: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!**