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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!

Kids

Squeals of laughter ripple across this narrow cove. Carefree children, sandy, sunburnt, hair wild and wind-tangled, chasing each other down the edge of the lake like puppies let loose into a yard of fresh snow. Three centuries back these might have been sons and daughters of

Cherokee people, playing their games, slipping like sleek brown otters around boulders in the wild river that once was, the river that today flows at the bottom of this very lake. ~K



Low water at Lake Jocassee leaves lots of room for playing, and the kids are loving it!

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee (Family) Adventure Camp [Book Now!](#)

June 5, 12, 19 & 26: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Kayak Tours [Book Now!](#)

June 7 & 28: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

“All the Falls” Tour [Book Now!](#)

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

Wild River Adventure Tour [Book Now!](#)

June 21: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Full ‘Strawberry’ Moon Rising Tour [Book Now!](#)

June 28: 6:45-8:45 PM

[PRIVATE TOURS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE !](#)

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Tues., Wed., & Thurs. Lake Tours 10:00 AM-2:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

Friday Private Tours

4 & 6 hour tours available

[Book Now!](#)

Saturday Lake Tours

10:00 AM-2:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

Sunset Lake Tours [Book Now!](#)

June 6: 6:45-8:45 PM

Sunday Tours:

10:00 AM-1:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

2:00-5:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

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

[Foothills Trail Hiking Shuttles](#)



Tilia americana Basswood
blooms, Getty Images Photo

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE JUNE 1, 2026

Thankfully, as forecasted, close to 6" of rain fell over the past week in the Jocassee Gorges; replenishing streams, recharging groundwater and slightly improving the drought conditions we're experiencing. This much needed relief raised lake levels slightly, but Jocassee is still about 10' below full pond. According to experts, most of SC is still abnormally dry as we head into the warmer months. Across the JG's and around the lake shore, the plants are lush and healthy. Rosebay rhododendrons are beginning to bloom along with sourwoods, basswood and silver leaf hydrangeas. A healthy ecosystem is what we love to see... it benefits us all. As we head into the summer months, let's do our part to conserve and protect this amazing place we love so much. Click this link to find out current rainfall amounts across the state. [USGS South Carolina Water Science Center](#) ~Sheryl White, JLT naturalist guide

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, JUNE 1, 2026

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee State Park

June 1: 10:30-11:00 AM

Read with a Ranger

This family-friendly program invites kids to enjoy story time with a ranger while exploring the outdoors and building a love of reading.

Table Rock State Park

June 3: 9:00-11:00 AM

Critter Chronicles

Join us as we uncover the secrets of nature, meet the creatures that call South Carolina home, and learn how we can help protect the habitats around us.

Gorges State Park

June 3: 10:00-11:00 AM

Upper Bearwallow Falls--Guided Hike

Why are there so many waterfalls in the Jocassee Gorges area and

NEW EVENTS COMING IN JUNE

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park

June 10, 17 & 24: 9:00-11:00 AM

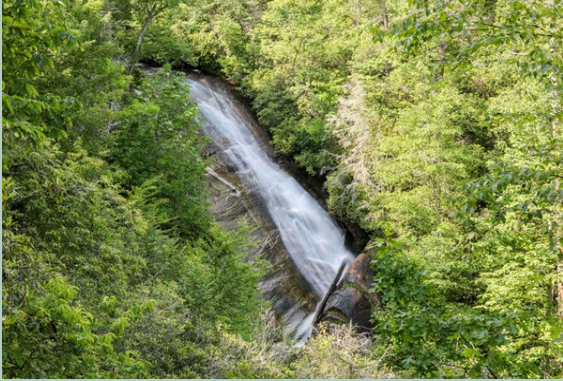
Critter Chronicles

Oconee Station State Historic Site

June 11: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Quill and Ink

how did they form? Join a Ranger on this guided hike to learn the answer to these questions and more!



Upper Bearwallow Falls,
hdcarolina.com photo

Table Rock State Park

June 6: 9:00-11:00 AM

Wilderness Walk

From towering trees and tiny wildflowers to animal tracks, bird calls, and unexpected wildlife sightings, we'll uncover the fascinating flora and fauna that call the park home.

Oconee Station State Historic Site

June 6: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Historic Building Tour

Come for a ranger-led tour of the buildings while learning about the history of the site.

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Highlands Biological Station

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

Botany Bootcamp

Botany Bootcamp is an engaging, hands-on workshop designed to introduce participants to the remarkable diversity of plant life found on the Highlands Plateau.

Oconee Station State Historic Site

June 11: 2:00-3:00 PM

Historic Building Tour

Table Rock State Park

June 13: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

Oconee Station State Historic Site

June 13: 8:45-9:45 PM

Candlelight Tour

Gorges State Park

June 16: 10:00-10:30 AM

10 Essentials

Table Rock State Park

June 18: 9:00-10:30 AM

Creek Detectives: Secrets of the Stream

Table Rock State Park

June 27: 8:30-9:30 PM

Bat Watch

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

South Carolina Wildlife Federation

June 8: 7:00 AM-1:00 PM

Palmetto Pro Birders: Blue Ridge Parkway

Highlands Biological Station

June 8-12

Rock Outcrop and Cliff Ecology

Conserving Carolina

June 9: 2:00-3:30 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series-- Animals We Love to Hate

Conserving Carolina

Highlands Biological Station

June 1-June 5: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
True Sedge Workshop: A Weeklong Dive into the Genus Carex

This workshop is designed to strengthen identification skills and build confidence in working with this large and intricate group of plants.

GNHA

June 3: 8:30 AM-3:30 PM
Raven Cliff Falls to Suspension Bridge and Back

We'll take Raven Cliff Falls Trail, to Gum Gap Trail, to the Natureland Trust Trail to the Bridge, have lunch and return by the same route.

Conestee Nature Preserve

June 3: 5:30-6:30 PM
Mindful Walk and Talk for Women

Our Mindful Walk & Talk is an intentional, in-person gathering designed to help you process the day, lower your cortisol, and reconnect with your body as the sun begins to set.

Highlands Biological Station

June 5: 5:00 AM-1:00 PM
MAPS Bird Banding at HBS
Join HBS and the Blue Ridge Bird Observatory for a morning of bird banding as part of the MAPS, or Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship, program.

Foothills Trail Conservancy

June 6: 9:00 AM
(National Trails Day)--The Stool Trail

June 11: 5:30-7:00 PM

Green Drinks: Restoration of the Green and Broad Rivers... with a little Trash Trivia!

SCNPS Upstate

June 13: 8:30 AM-1:30 PM
Upstate Summer 2026 Native Plant Sale

Oconee History Museum

June 13: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
Flag Day Festivities

Sierra Club SC

June 13: 4:00-6:00 PM
Sierra Upstate Spring Picnic at Cleveland Park

Foothills Trail Conservancy

June 13
Bats @ Night Outing

Highlands Biological Station

June 15: 5:00 AM-1:00 PM
MAPS Bird Banding at HBS

Highlands Biological Station

June 15-26
The Biology and Conservation of Birds

Conserving Carolina

June 16: 6:00-7:00 PM
Landrum Library Speaker Series: Fungal Foundations – How Mushrooms Build the Earth Beneath Our Feet

SCNPS Upstate

June 16: 6:30-8:00 PM
Upstate Monthly Meeting w/ Carson Barefoot--"Conservation

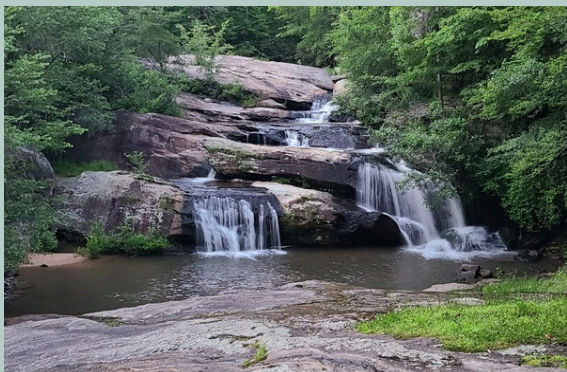
Join Table Rock State Park Interpreter, Ashley Audette, on a scenic hike up the new trail to the summit of the Stool.

Sierra Club SC

June 6: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Annual Trail Maintenance-ChauRam County Park with the Foothills Group

For many years, the Foothills Group has honored National Trails Day through providing trail service at Chau Ram County Park. Join us to continue this tradition.



Chau Ram County Park Facebook Photo

Upstate Forever

June 6: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Land Trust Day at Mast General Store

For one day only, Mast General is donating 20% of the Greenville store's sales to support our land conservation work—plus, you can chat with members of our Land Conservation team in the store.

SC Botanical Garden Events

More Events Coming Soon!

Programs at the Greenville Watershed

Mushroom Mountain

June 18: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Farm Tour

Jeanne Malmgren

June 20

Silent Hikes: St. John in the Wilderness, Flat Rock, NC

GCBC

June 20: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM (Longer Walk)

June 20: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter Walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

GNHA

June 20: 9:55 AM-2:00 PM

Yellow Branch Falls, Rail Trail, Issaqueena Falls, and Stumphouse Tunnel

Chattooga Belle Farm

June 20: 10:00 AM

Summer Solstice Festival

Hagood Mill Historic Site

June 20: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Americana Folk Festival

Highlands Biological Station

June 21-July 2

Southern Appalachian Mayflies, Stoneflies, and Caddisflies: Session

Conserving Carolina

June 25: 2:00-3:30 PM

Green River Library Speaker Series: Southern Appalachians During the Ice Age



Rhododendron maximum aka
Great Laurel, Rosebay.



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

Upstate Forever

June 25: 6:00-8:00 PM

Inside the Process: Local Planning
& State Advocacy Mixer

GNHA

June 27: 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Chattooga River Trail--Licklog and
Pigpen Falls--A Key Swap

Conestee Nature Preserve

June 27: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Opossums and Popsicles

SC Botanical Garden Events

June 11: 9:30 AM-4:30 PM

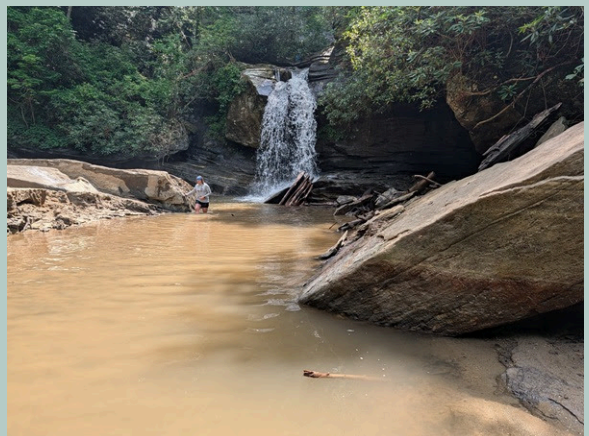
Fanning Endowment Teacher

Workshop at SC Botanical Garden

June 26: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

SCNP Certificate Elective: Invasive
Plants & Pests/Diseases

Borrowed Glimpses



Wright Creek Falls cove, reshaped
by recent rains.



Lake Jocassee Webcam

DID YOU KNOW?

The foliage and flowers of *Tillia americana*, or basswood, are edible. Bees produce excellent honey with a mildly spicy flavor from basswood blossoms, as it is a beneficial species for attracting pollinators. The inner bark was used historically as a fiber source for making baskets, rope, and fishing nets. Basswood is a northern tree species which migrated south during long-ago ice ages, and the mountains of South Carolina represent its southernmost reach.

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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