



[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!

Low Water

Down, down, down she goes; where she stops, nobody knows. Drought is taking its toll on Lake Jocassee. First, small sand beaches reappear, and boaters are happy to commandeer a private space. Rocky points extend further into the lake as water continues to drop. Rock, always lurking beneath the surface, rises from the depths. Propellers suffer the consequences. Five, six, eight feet

down, and stumps cut more than half a century ago emerge, their roots clinging to rock like thick gnarly arms. Ten, twelve feet below full pool. Guests look at favorite jumping rocks, shake their heads, and we move on. The boat ramps get longer. The walkway to the dock is a sharp descent where coolers roll over unsuspecting heels. How low will she go? Nobody knows. ~K



Low water at Wright Creek Falls, 2017. We've been here before!

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

Jocassee (Family) Adventure
Camp [Book Now!](#)
August 14: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

Kayak Tours (waitlist) [Book Now!](#)
August 9 & 23: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

“All the Falls” Tour [Book Now!](#)
August 15: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Wild River Adventure Tour
[Book Now!](#)
August 16: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

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

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!](#)
August 1: 6:45-8:45 PM
August 8 & 15: 6:30-8:30 PM

Sunday Three Hour Tours:
10:00 AM-1:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

August 28: 6:45-8:45 PM (Sturgeon Moon) 2:00-5:00 PM [Book Now!](#)

Snorkel Adventure Tour
[Book Now!](#)

August 30: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM

JOCASSEE WILD NATURALIST
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
Introductory Class [Book Now!](#)
August 25: 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

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

[PRIVATE TOURS ARE ALWAYS
AVAILABLE](#)

[Foothills Trail Hiking Shuttles](#)



Sus scrofa wild boar piglets,
Photo by Ian Gilbert

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, AUGUST 3, 2026

STATE PARK EVENTS

Gorges State Park

August 4-November 3:
9:00-11:00 AM

[Native Plant Gardens Volunteer
Day](#)

Located at the Park's Visitor Center, the newly established Native Landscape Garden's mission is to teach visitors to the park about native plants and their importance as well as the native

THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE AUGUST 3, 2026

Once in a while we luck up and get to see wildlife around the shore and occasionally swimming across the lake. This week Capt. Steve and his crew captured video of a mother black bear with her 3 cubs and me and my crew cautiously followed two wild piglets as they swam across the channel in Laurel Fork Creek. Mama pig was nowhere to be seen. These little pigs were strong swimmers and made it swiftly and safely onto shore before disappearing into the forest, squealing as they went. Even though wild pigs are very destructive animals, it's hard not to admire their strength, intelligence and cuteness. What is it about baby animals (and babies in general) that make us feel so good? Well, it turns out this phenomenon has a name-- *kindchenschema* or baby schema. It's this collection of attributes like chubby cheeks and body, large eyes and wobbly movements that attract our attention. Neural activity triggers a nurturing instinct in our brains that has helped

pollinator species that rely on them.

Table Rock State Park

August 5: 9:00-11:00 AM

Critter Chronicles

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

Oconee Station State Historic Site

August 5: 2:00-3:30 PM

Historic Building Tour

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

Table Rock State Park

August 6: 9:00-10:30 AM

Creek Detectives: Secrets of the Stream

Join us for a hands-on adventure in Carrick Creek as we search for the amazing critters that call this mountain stream home.

Table Rock State Park

August 7: 9:00-11:00 AM

Discover Nature Journaling

Come discover the joy of slowing down, observing closely, and building a deeper connection with nature through journaling.

Table Rock State Park

August 8: 2:00-6:00 PM

Music on the Mountain

Enjoy traditional Blue Grass music as local musicians gather at Table Rock to keep this inspirational talent alive.

species survive for ages. For a deeper understanding of this behavior, check out this interesting article by National Geographic. It may help explain why we ooh and aah over all things' baby'. ~Sheryl White, JLT Naturalist Guide

Why We're Hardwired to Love Baby Animals

NEW EVENTS COMING IN AUGUST

STATE PARK EVENTS

Gorges State Park

August 4-November 3:

9:00-11:00 AM

Native Plant Gardens Volunteer Day

Table Rock State Park

August 12 & 26: 9:00-11:00 AM

Critter Chronicles

Table Rock State Park

August 13, 20 & 27: 9:00-10:30 AM

Creek Detectives: Secrets of the Stream

Table Rock State Park

August 14 & 21: 9:00-11:00 AM

Discover Nature Journaling

Oconee Station State Historic Site

August 14 & 18: 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

August 27: 2:00-3:30 PM

Historic Building Tour

Table Rock State Park

August 15: 9:30-10:30 AM

Scoop on Poop

Table Rock State Park

August 22: 9:30-10:30 AM

Creepy Crawly Quest



The Lodge at Table Rock

Oconee State Park

August 22: 10:00-11:30 AM

CCC History Stroll

Oconee Station State Historic Site

August 22: 8:15-9:15 PM

Candlelight Tour

Table Rock State Park

August 29: 8:30-9:00 PM

Bat Watch

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina

August 4: 9:00-11:00 AM

Pollinator Paradise Partners

If you enjoy gardening (or the idea of gardening), and want to help create a beautiful, welcoming space for pollinators and people alike, come join us!



Bumblebee on Goldenrod,
Conserving Carolina Photo

Highlands Biological Station

August 6: 5:00 AM-1:00 PM

MAPS Bird Banding at HBS

During banding sessions, trained researchers safely capture birds, collect important biological data, and fit each bird with a USGS-issued aluminum band with a unique identification number before release.

Highlands Biological Station, Zahner Conservation Lectures #8

August 6: 6:00-7:00 PM

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

SC Wildlife Federation

August 11: 12:00 PM

Wetlands 101 Webinar

Conserving Carolina

August 11: 2:00-3:00 PM

Saluda Library Speaker Series –
Aerial Insectivores

Highlands Biological Station

August 12: 12:00-1:00 PM

The Flower Hunter's Trail

Oconee History Museum

August 12: 12:00 PM

Lunch and Learn: The Ring Fight

SC Wildlife Federation

August 13: 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Things that Flutter & Gorgeous
Caterpillars at Caesars Head State
Park

Mushroom Mountain

August 13: 2:00-3:30 PM

MM Farm Tour

Conserving Carolina

August 13: 5:30-7:00 PM

Green Drinks: Mushrooms of the
Forest: Ecology, Edibility, and

**Plastic Pollution on the Plateau:
An Overview of Microplastics
Research in the Southern
Appalachians**

This presentation will provide an overview of plastic pollution, including research from the Plateau and surrounding region.

Foothills Trail Conservancy

August 8: 8:30 AM-2:30 PM

Big Bend "Area" Hike

Join former FTC Chairman, Andrew Gleason (aka: "Chainsaw"), on this summertime hike on the Big Bend and Foothills Trail.

GNHA

August 8: 12:00-3:00 PM

**GNHA Summer Picnic: Chau Ram
County Park**

Join us at Chau Ram County Park for our club's 2026 Summer Picnic and Social.

SC Botanical Garden Events

August 7: 3:00-4:30 PM

Introduction to Nature Journaling

From the basic journaling process to materials suggestions and other helpful tips for beginners, this class is designed to help nature journaling novices feel equipped to start their nature journaling practice.



SCBG Photo

Connections

GCBC

August 15: 7:00 AM-12:00 PM

(Longer walk)

August 15: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter walk)

Conestee Nature Preserve

Sierra Club South Carolina

August 15: 8:15-10:45 AM

**Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup
Greenville**

GNHA

August 15: 9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Jones Gap

Conserving Carolina

August 18: 6:00 PM

**Landrum Library Speaker Series:
The Fall Raptor Migration in our
South Carolina Mountains**

Palmetto Trail

August 20: 6:00-8:00 PM

Upstate Trail Talk

SC Wildlife Federation

August 21-22

Great Southeast Pollinator Census

Conestee Nature Preserve

August 22: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

**Drop in for the Great Southeast
Pollinator Census**

NCNPS Oconee Bell Chapter

August 25: 5:00-7:00 PM

Nature Nights by the Pond

SC Botanical Garden Events

August 21-November 13: 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

SCBG Nature Journaling Club, Fall
2026

August 21: 3:30-5:30 PM
Great Southeastern Pollinator
Census 2026

Borrowed Glimpses



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



**Yellow-fringed orchids
in the Jocassee Gorges.
What a treat to see !**



Lake Jocassee Webcam

DID YOU KNOW?

Duke Energy implemented Stage 2 of the Low Inflow Protocol (LIP) in the Keowee-Toxaway River Basin on Feb. 2, 2026. Therefore residents on Lake Keowee and Lake Jocassee who withdraw water for irrigation purposes must limit their water withdrawals to no more than two days a week. In the Savannah River system below Lake Keowee, the Army Corps of Engineers uses the term “Drought Trigger Level 2” to describe its drought management plan. Trigger Level 2 activates specific downstream flow reductions, including a reduction of electricity generation through dams, to conserve stored water and prioritize long-term drinking water supply.

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!

**Camp Glamp
at
Lake Jocassee**



JOCASSEE
— REAL ESTATE —

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