

[Gmail messages are clipped.

Click link on bottom left corner to view entire newsletter.]

Greetings!

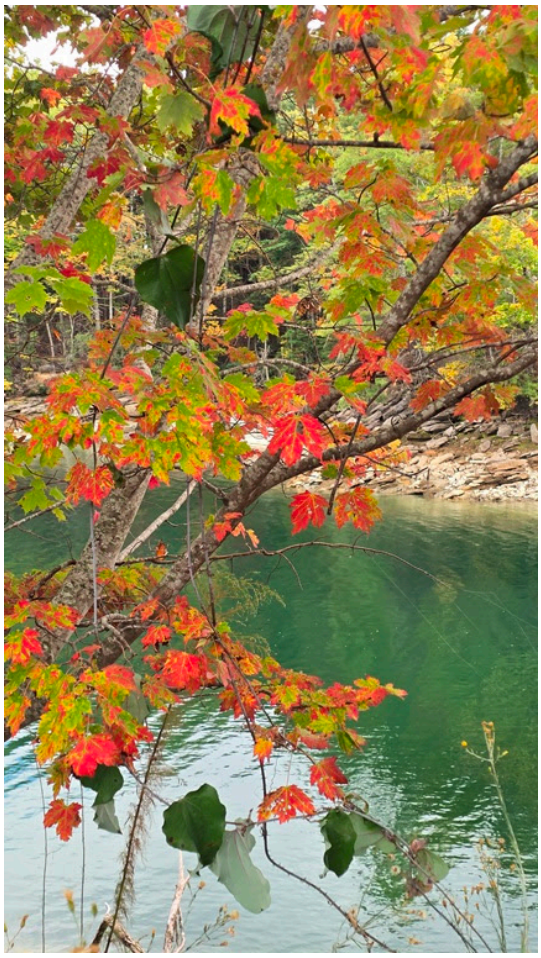
Welcome to the Blue Wall Weekly, your source for what's going on outside along the Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment. Feel free to share your own photos, videos, and adventures along the Blue Wall by sending them to the email address at the bottom of the page, and we'll do our best to make you (locally) famous!



Transition

Now, with the sweep of an Almighty brush, trees shed summer green to reveal their true colors. Now comes lower sun, longer nights, and cooler temperatures, and within a few brief weeks trees trans from a visual green wall into debutantes at their final ball, prettily twirling their diverse and light-filled colors on every stiff breeze.

Humans, hungry for natural beauty, drive miles to view a stretch of country road where nature has been allowed to evolve in its own messy, glorious way. Do these trees and autumn wildflowers feel our collective appreciation when we gaze upon them with such rapturous expressions? I hope so!~K



JOCASSEE WILD CHILD

Our $100,000 matching challenge is underway.
Through BetterWorld.com you can give, share, and
WATCH THE PROGRESS!
Every contribution made between now and December 31,
whether through BetterWorld, GoFundMe, PayPal, Square, Fareharbor,
check, or cash,
counts toward our $100K campaign goal,
giving more children the chance to explore, discover,
and fall in love with wild places
like Lake Jocassee and the Jocassee Gorges.
Please direct checks to: Jocassee Wild Outdoor Education,
PO Box 582, Salem, SC 29676.

SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

****PLEASE NOTE**

WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

NEW WINTER HOURS FOR ALL JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS!**

Giving Thanks Book Now!
November 27: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Foothills Trail Hiking Shuttles -- Book NOW for Autumn Hikes!

BOOK ONLINE

or CALL (864) 280-5501

Private Tours are always available!

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
Jocassee Lake Tours
11:00 AM-3:00 PM Book Now!

Friday Private Tours
4 & 6 hour tours available
Book Now!

Saturday Lake Tours
11:00 AM-3:00 PM Book Now!

Sunday Three Hour Tours
11:00 AM-2:00 PM Book Now!
2:00-5:00 PM Book Now!



Exposed quartz vein on the quarry wall.



THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE NOVEMBER 2, 2026

Even with a couple of recent rains, Jocassee's level has been steadily hovering around 16' below full pool for weeks. Heavy torrents from those rains have carved deep channels around the base of waterfalls and totally changed the landscape. Secrets typically hidden by normal levels are exposed. Submerged mountain tops, a beautifully broken vein of quartz along the quarry wall, & glimmering stretches of sandy beaches rich in quartz, feldspar and mica make exploring Jocassee even more interesting right now. Leaf colors are vibrant; a few small leaf rhododendrons are still blooming; water temps are warmer than air temps most days and wildlife sightings are an almost daily event. Otters, black bears, bald eagles and an occasional loon are just a few of the animals we've seen lately. The rain will come

Wright Creek Falls,
Photos by Sheryl White

OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, NOVEMBER 2, 2026

STATE PARK EVENTS

Oconee Station State Historic Site
November 8: 12:00-3:30 PM
Harvest Picnic and Art Show
Join us for an afternoon of old-fashioned family fun, games, and community celebration.



Come to the Station and celebrate your community,
Photo by UpstateSouthCarolina

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina
November 3: 1:00-3:00 PM
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!

Conestee Nature Preserve
November 5: 3:00-4:30 PM
Elementary Nature Discovery Afterschool Club
Doe, a Deer… The white tail deer is our state mammal, let's celebrate them and some of our other state animals. Where are they in the preserve and what are they doing this time of year?

again, but while we have the chance, come explore with us and discover some of Jocassee's freshly revealed features. ~ Sheryl White, JLT Naturalist Guide

NEW EVENTS COMING IN NOVEMBER

STATE PARK EVENTS

Table Rock State Park
November 14: 2:00-10:00 AM
Sunrise Hike-Bald Knob

Table Rock State Park
November 14: 2:00-6:00 PM
Music on the Mountain

Oconee State Park
November 21: 10:00-11:00 AM
Nature Stroll

Oconee State Park
November 27: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
#OptOutsideSC Ranger-Led Hike

Oconee Station State Historic Site
November 27: 2:00-4:00 PM
#OptOutsideSC Ranger-Led Hike

Oconee Station State Historic Site
November 27: 5:30-6:30 PM
Candlelight Tour

OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

Conserving Carolina
November 12: 2:00-3:30 PM
Etowah Library Speaker Series: Caring for Trees on your Property

Mushroom Mountain
November 12: 2:00-3:30 PM
MM Farm Tour

Friends of Jocassee (FOJ)

GNHA
November 7: 9:15 AM-4:15 PM
Jones Gap
Beginning from the Silver Step Falls trailhead, we will take Jones Gap Trail to Rainbow Falls and return via Coldspring's Branch Trail.

SCNPS Upstate
November 7: 9:30 AM-3:00 PM.
Conestee Nature Preserve 20th Anniversary Volunteer Activity
The SCNPS is assisting with this fun event, helping with activities as needed. You can sign up for a full or partial time slot.

Hagood Mill Historic Site
November 7: 10:00 AM-8:00 PM
Midgard at the Mill: A Viking Invasion
The battle horns are sounding — are you ready? Our annual Viking Fest is coming, and it's packed. Whether you're a shieldmaiden, a skald, or a jarl in spirit, there's something for everyone.

Conestee Nature Preserve
November 7: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM
Celebrate 20 Years of Trail Connections
Join us for a Goose Chase scavenger hunt, live music, and food trucks as we celebrate 20 years of trail connections at CNP!

Hagood Mill Historic Site
November 7: 1:00-4:30 PM
Forage Walks at Hagood Mill
Step back in time on a Forage Walk through the Hagood Mill woods with herbalist and forager, Donna Putney!

November 13: 5:30 PM
Jocassee Fireside Chat: Restoration and Habitat Enhancement for Southern Appalachian Brook Trout

Conestee Nature Preserve
November 14: 9:00-11:00 AM
From Earth to Paper: A Nature Journaling Class

Sierra Club South Carolina
November 14: 9:00-11:30 AM
Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup Greenville

Boomers Connect in Upstate SC
November 14: 9:30 AM-12:00 PM
Fall Hike at Raven Cliff Falls (followed by lunch at nearby venue)

Hagood Mill Historic Site
November 14: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Beginner Foraging Walk with Donna Putney

Holly Springs Center
November 14: 2:00- 4:00 PM
Intro to Bee Keeping

Conestee Nature Preserve
November 15: 10:00-11:30 AM
Mindfulness with the Meadow

Conserving Carolina
November 17: 8:25 AM-2:00 PM
Mushroom Mountain Farm Tour

Conserving Carolina
November 17: 1:00-3:00 PM
Pollinator Paradise Partners

Conserving Carolina
November 17: 6:00 PM
Landrum Library Speaker Series: South Carolina's Botanical

Hagood Mill Historic Site
November 7: 1:00-4:30 PM
Mushroom Walks with Anthony Moricoli
Each class goes on a one-hour foraging walk down a different trail through the woods near the bridge or the Petroglyph building to examine any mushrooms and fungi we find.



HMHS Photo

GNHA
November 8: 8:30 AM-4:00 PM
Sassafras Mountain Up and Back from Hwy. 178
Hike profile is about 5 miles of ascent, break at the top and return to the cars. Pace: About 2.5 mph steady, depending on terrain.

SC Botanical Garden Events
November 6: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Fall Invasive Plant Management Workshop
Participants will receive their own species ID cards to help recognize invasive plants and will get personal guidance in the field on how to safely and effectively remove them.

Treasures: Exploring Our Native and Rare Plants

SCNPS
November 17: 6:30-8:00 PM
Upstate Monthly Meeting

Conestee Nature Preserve
November 19: 3:00-4:30 PM
Elementary Nature Discovery Afterschool Club

Palmetto Trail
November 19-22
Women's Outdoor Weekend

GCBC
November 21: 8:00-10:30 AM (Shorter Walk)
November 21: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM (Longer Walk)
Conestee Nature Preserve

GNHA
November 21: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM
Whitewater Falls via Bad Creek

Friends of Jocassee
November 21: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
Jocassee Santa

Sierra Club South Carolina
November 21: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM
Hike in Ashmore Heritage Preserve

Hagood Mill Historic Site
November 21: 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
Native American Celebration at Hagood Mill

SC Botanical Garden Events

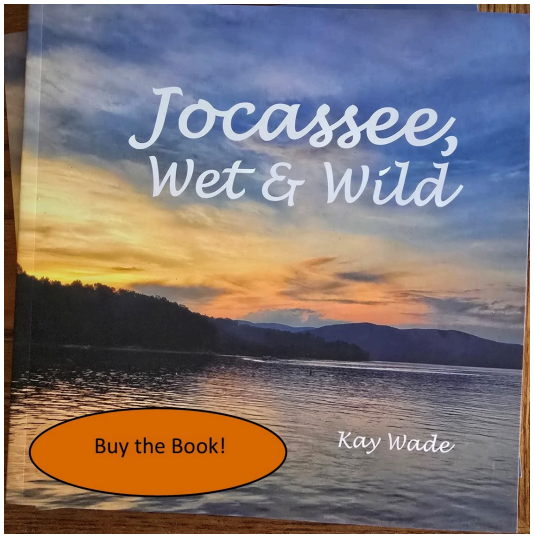
November 11: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Invasive Species Management, SCNP Certificate Elective

November 7: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Sustainable Landscaping, SCNP Certificate 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.

Borrowed Glimpses



***Rhododendron minus* Small leaf rhododendron**



November 17: 7:30-9:30 PM
Herbal Delights Series: Bath Salts and Dream Pillows

November 18: 8:30-9:30 AM
Winged Wednesdays

November 18: 9:30 AM-4:00 PM
Adopt-a-Stream Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Workshop

November 20: 10:00-11:30 AM
Friday Garden Forays

November 21: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Tree Identification, SCNP Certificate Core Class

November 21: 1:00-4:00 PM
Nature Center Open House: Hidden Worlds Beneath Your Feet--Leaf Litter Lab

Lake Jocassee Webcam
Sponsored by Friends of Jocassee

Jocassee Wet and Wild is a week-by-week collection of short nature musings by Kay Wade, written over many years for The Blue Wall Weekly newsletter. Each piece captures a moment in one of the most biologically rich landscapes in North America — the Jocassee Gorges.

Buy the Book!

DID YOU KNOW?

Quartz forms straight or parallel lines in rock—commonly called quartz veins or mineral bands—through geological processes where silica-rich fluids or molten material fill cracks or segregate under intense pressure.

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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Visit Oconee South Carolina

Jocassee Real Estate

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