


**[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!**

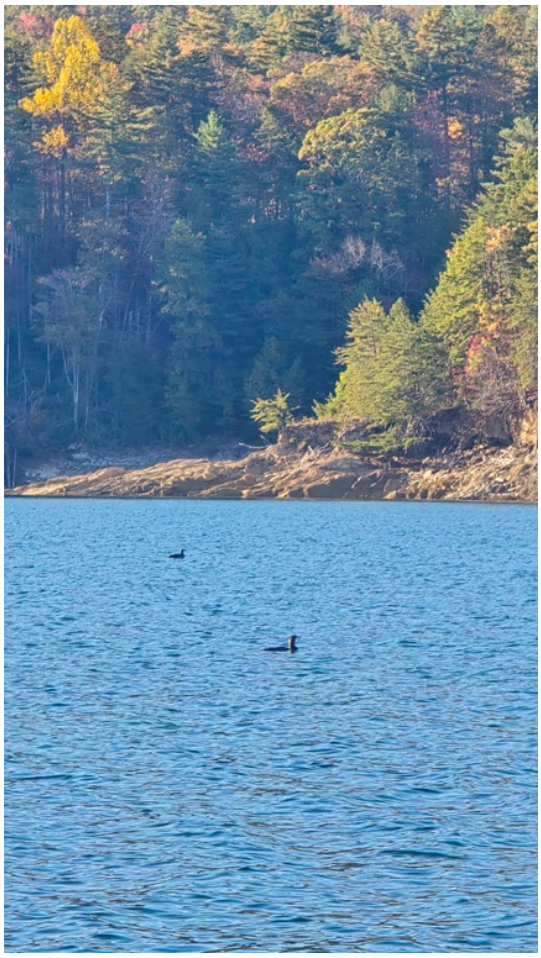


## Loons

**Leaving just ahead of imminent ice across their summer residence, our Jocassee loons are arriving daily, no flights cancelled, everyone right on schedule. Like the seasoned travelers they are they arrive dressed in their brand-new, travel-friendly, gray-brown featheration, hungry, in need of a bath. They find their own kind out here on this big lake, grouping in favored locations where lunch is**

known to be quick and plentiful. Our boat drifts into their midst, pushed across Lake Jocassee by northerly wind, and one loon after another pops up close to the boat.

We get but a cursory glance before they dive again, and again, into rippled blue water. At ease with our presence. Oblivious to our admiration. We don't expect to see leg bands, but… Bob? Is that you, Bob? ~K



**At last, loons!**







[jwoe.betterworld.org](jwoe.betterworld.org)

## SPECIAL EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

**COLD SEASON TOUR SCHEDULE**

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

**Jocassee Wild Child Fun-draiser at Jocassee Valley Brewing!**
**Music-Crafts-Food-Kid stuff=FUN!**
**November 22: 1:00-6:00 PM**

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

**Private Tours are always available!**

## WEEKLY EVENTS WITH JOCASSEE LAKE TOURS

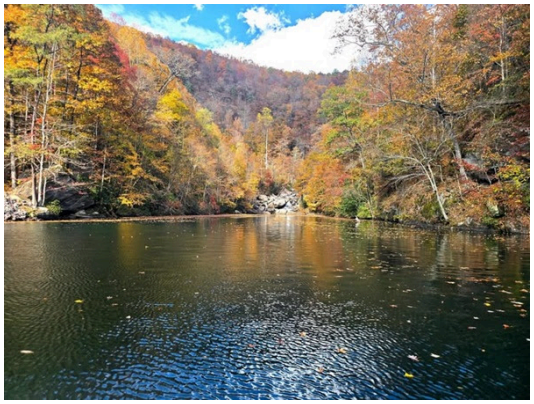
**Tuesday & Thursday Jocassee Lake Tours**
**11:00 AM-2:00 PM Book Now!**

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

**Saturday Lake Tours**
**11:00 AM-2:00 PM Book Now!**

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

**Book Online**
**or CALL (864) 280-5501**



**FOJ Photo, October 2025**



## THIS WEEK ON LAKE JOCASSEE NOVEMBER 16, 2026

**Ooh ooh, that smell...**

**As we gently glided into a sun-warmed cove this week to check out the fall colors, a breeze sent the leaves swirling and dancing into the water. Relaxing in the warmth, we sat there exclaiming over the beauty of the trees and talking about the low lake levels when I caught that heady scent of decaying leaves. I didn't think a lot about it until it happened again a few minutes later. I began to wonder if there is an actual name for this smell. The smell of rain has its own word, (petrichor) so I thought why not the smell of decaying leaves. What I found when I googled it was a whole list**

11/14/2026

## OUTDOOR EVENTS THIS WEEK, NOVEMBER 16, 2026

### STATE PARK EVENTS

**Oconee State Park**

**November 21: 10:00-11:00 AM**

**Nature Stroll**

**Join a Ranger-Led Nature Stroll and explore the outdoors through the eyes of a park ranger.**



**Photo by @tenmanphotography**

### OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

**Conserving Carolina**

**November 17: 8:25 AM-2:00 PM**

**Mushroom Mountain Farm Tour**

**Join us for a behind-the-scenes visit to Mushroom Mountain and discover the fascinating world of fungi!**



***Hericium erinaceus* Lion's mane,**

**of adjectives but no specific word. However, there was a scientific explanation for it. Why does this time of year evoke such feelings and memories? A hike through the woods, a cup of hot apple cider, or a whiff of woodsmoke, coupled with the feel of sharp, crisp air on my face brings about pleasant memories and often, an involuntary longing for bygone days. We all have memories like this. To better understand these "sensory experiences" check out the article below and then put it to the test…layer up, bring your favorite hot drink, drape a cozy lap blanket over your knees and come prepared for Jocassee to assault all your senses and leave you with an experience that'll likely become one of your all-time favorites to reminisce about.**

**~Sheryl White, JLT Naturalist Guide**

**What Do You Smell in the Fall? The Science of Autumn Aromas**

## NEW EVENTS COMING IN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

### STATE PARK EVENTS

**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**

Mushroom Mountain Photo

**Conserving Carolina**
**November 17: 6:00 PM**
**Landrum Library Speaker Series: South Carolina's Botanical Treasures: Exploring Our Native and Rare Plants**
**SCDNR Upstate Botanist Samantha Tessel will introduce participants to the fascinating world of SC's native flora and the work being done to understand and conserve our state's botanical diversity.**

**SCNPS**
**November 17: 6:30-8:00 PM**
**Upstate Monthly Meeting**
**Join us at the Hughes Main Library in downtown Greenville (and via Zoom), where we welcome Clark Williams, owner of Greenville Gardenscapes.**

**SC Wildlife Federation**
**November 18: 12:00 PM**
**Deer and Deer Hunting in SC and Beyond--History, Tradition and Controversy**
**Lee Kennamer, Wildlife Biologist and Big Game Coordinator for the SCDNR, will discuss the history of conservation and how hunting helped to facilitate and fund the restoration of deer, a species once on the brink of extinction.**

**Palmetto Trail**
**November 19-22**
**Women's Outdoor Weekend**
**Experience the PT like never before during an unforgettable weekend packed with thrilling activities, inspiring learning opportunities, and vibrant conversations.**

**Oconee Station State Historic Site**
**November 28 & 30: 1:00-2:30 PM**
**Historic Building Tour**

**Oconee Station State Historic Site**
**December 5: 10:00 AM-12:30 PM**
**Phone Photography Workshop**

**Table Rock State Park**
**December 12: 2:00-6:00 PM**
**Music on the Mountain**

**Oconee Station State Historic Site**
**December 12: 3:00-5:00 PM**
**Frontier Fields & Festivities**

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## OTHER OUTDOOR EVENTS

**Conserving Carolina**
**December 1: 1:00-3:00 PM**
**Pollinator Paradise Partners**

**Hagood Mill Historic Site**
**December 5 & 12: 10:00 AM-12:30 PM**
**Woodland Foraging Walk**

**Hagood Mill Historic Site**
**December 5: 1:00-4:00 PM**
**Mushrooms 101**

**Chattooga Belle Farm**
**December 12: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM**
**Christmas on the Farm**

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**SC Botanical Garden Events**
**December 12: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**
**Evergreens, SCNP Certificate Elective**

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## Borrowed Glimpses

## Highlands Biological Station

**November 20: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

**Rapid Raptors**

**Learn how birds of prey adapt to hunt in winter. Join us for an introduction to raptor biology, then take a short walk to explore seasonal changes.**

## Hagood Mill Historic Site

**November 20-21: 6:00 PM-4:00 PM**

**Native American Celebration**

**In honor of Native American Heritage Month, HMHS hosts a remarkable two-day event!**

## 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**

**This hike will take in views of both Lower Whitewater Falls in South Carolina and Upper White Water Falls in North Carolina.**

## Friends of Jocassee

**November 21: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**Jocassee Santa and Annual Meeting**

**Get your photo with Santa at DFSP from 10:00-12:00 followed by the FOJ annual meeting from 12:00-1:00! Event is free and included with park admission.**

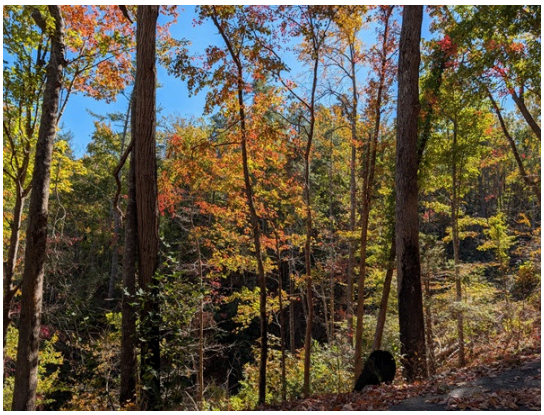
## GNHA

**November 21: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**Eastatoee Passage of Palmetto Trail--Ron Anderson**



**Photo by Collin Woods**



**Autumn's tapestry**



**Rosebay rhododendron, blooming in November!**

Once inside the park, we'll do the McKinney Mountain loop by the lake and return the way we came.

## Sierra Club South Carolina

**November 21: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**Hike in Ashmore Heritage Preserve**

We'll hike down to Wattacoo Lake and return--approximately 2 miles round trip.

## SC Botanical Garden Events

**November 18: 8:30-9:30 AM**

**Winged Wednesdays**

This guided walk offers a chance to see a variety of bird species in their natural habitat.

**November 18: 9:30 AM-4:00 PM**

**Adopt-a-Stream Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Workshop**

You will learn how to: select a monitoring site, identify 20 macroinvertebrates, use collection equipment, enter data, assess stream conditions, and practice safety in the field.



In search of stream critters, SCBG Photo

**November 21: 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**

**Tree Identification, SCNP Certificate Core Class with Dan Whitten**

Become familiar with our native trees, shrubs and woody vines by learning to recognize their bark, leaves, twigs, fruit, and form.

**November 21: 1:00-4:00 PM**



A temporary look at the mountainside that's usually covered by Lake Jocassee's water.



It takes a special person to get excited about a stinkhorn! And Olga Katic of Mushroom Mtn. is just that kind of special person! (and she's decorated with pokeberry juice.)

**JOCASSEE WILD CHILD**

**Nature Center Open House: Hidden Worlds Beneath Your Feet- Leaf Litter Lab**

**Discover cyanide spraying millipedes, bouncy springtails, solitary salamanders and more!**

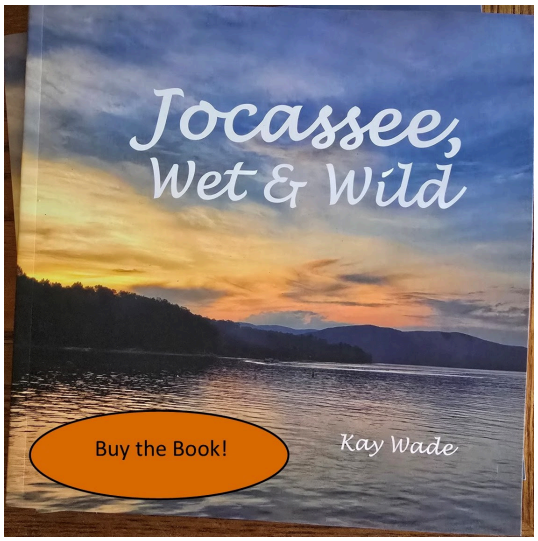
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**Lake Jocassee Webcam**
**Sponsored by Friends of Jocassee**

**Halfway to our fundraising deadline, and not quite half way to our goal of matching the $100,000 Challenge. At jwoe.BetterWorld.org 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 giving local 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.**

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## This year, give the gift of Jocassee!




BUY THE BOOK!




**Give them an experience to remember with Jocassee Lake Tours!**

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## DID YOU KNOW?

**The Leonid meteor shower has been quiet these past many years and it remains a modest event despite several historical outbursts. The shower occurs as the Earth passes through the path of the periodic Comet 55/P Tempel-Tuttle. A peak of 15 meteors per hour is typical for the Leonids theses days. But nothing's assured and a few extras may arrive, especially this year as the Earth passes through clumps in the comet's debris stream. Leonids can appear anywhere in the sky but appear to trace their paths back to a radiant in the 'Sickle' of Leo. This year, the moon is at first quarter, so we have a chance to see both bright and faint meteors in the sky, especially on the early morning of Nov. 17. ~cosmicpursuits.com**

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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.**

**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

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