



WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

Join our Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/westhike>

FALL HIKING SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER and NOVEMBER, 2017

Hikes ratings are based on terrain (mileage is stated separately in the description). An "easy" hike is one with relatively flat terrain or gentle, rolling hills (for example, Rockefeller Preserve). A "moderate" hike has steeper grades, possibly going up and down all day, and may involve some bushwhacking or short rock scrambles (like much of Harriman Park). A "strenuous" hike has steep ascents, often with rough or difficult terrain on much of the hike (like most Schunemunk trails, Breakneck Ridge, etc.). These ratings apply during good weather. Bad weather may lead to poor footing and increase the difficulty of any hike.

Hiking boots and drinking water are required on all hikes. A trail lunch should be carried unless otherwise indicated. Hikers with improper footwear, without sufficient water, or who are otherwise unprepared, may be refused by the leader. Well behaved dogs on leashes are welcome on hikes listed as "dog friendly," but please do not bring your dog on hikes that do not have this listing. New hikers are asked to contact leaders in advance of hikes. All hikers should choose a hike within his or her abilities - contact the leader if you have any questions. All who participate in the activities of Westchester Trails Association (WTA) do so at their own risk.

A hike listing with an "NWP" designation means that the group meets in the parking lot of the North White Plains train station at the stated time for a carpool to the trailhead. (Otherwise, please contact the leader for information about the meeting time and place and whether public transportation is available.) To reach the NWP lot, take the Bronx River Parkway to Fisher Lane in North White Plains and follow the train station sign. The parking lot is half a block from the turn, on the right hand side, before the underpass. There is no charge in this lot on Saturdays or Sundays. If coming by train please notify the leader. Walk down the stairs from the train platform to the parking lot on the NYC bound side, then walk north toward the toll booth.

We encourage carpooling to the hike site. This arrangement is entirely voluntary and entails no obligation on the part of the drivers. Passengers should reimburse the driver for a share of the expenses. We suggest that you multiply the miles driven round trip (to and from the trailhead) by 30¢ per mile, add tolls and parking fees if applicable, and divide the total by the number of people in the car (including the driver). You may wish to round these amounts up or down to the nearest dollar, to make things easier.

A schedule of WTA activities is printed 4 times a year. If a leader's contact information is not listed below, please e-mail Eileen West at eileenw1000@gmail.com for details.

To become a member, please print out and complete the application on our website. Make checks or money orders payable to Westchester Trails Association, and mail to the address on the application.

Saturday, September 2 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 2 - **Housatonic River Walk on Appalachian Trail in Connecticut.** 8-10 miles, easy. This section of the AT meanders along the Housatonic River and is peaceful and beautiful. Proper hiking attire and at least 2 liters of water required. Bring lunch and snacks. To register contact leader: Sarah Davis at 917 501-1322 (c), 212 873-4018 (h) or sewdavis@gmail.com. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Saturday, September 2 - **Baxter Preserve (south).** 2-4 miles, easy. We will spend about 2 hours hiking in this 167 acre preserve owned by the North Salem Land Foundation. Composed of grassy fields and rolling hills, the trails are shared by equestrians and hikers. Call leader Barry Leibowitz by 6:00 PM the night before the hike at home (845) 278-2479 or cell phone (914) 774-5321 to register. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 46).*

Sunday, September 3 - **Pound Ridge Reservation**. 5 miles, easy to moderate. The route of this hike is not precisely determined but will hopefully include a walk along the river that flows through the area. Bring a lunch/snack and a liter of water. We will car pool to the Reservation from the Cross River Shopping Center so the entry charge can be divided. To register contact Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*

Monday, September 4 (Labor Day) - **Hudson Highlands Gateway Park**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. This is a pleasant hike with gentle ups and downs. Take Bear Mountain Parkway north to Highland Avenue to Sprout Brook Road and the parking lot is on the right designated by a sign for the Gateway Park. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 31).*

Saturday September 9 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday September 9 - **Island Pond and the Lemon Squeezer (Harriman Circuit Hike #13)**. 8 miles, moderate (strenuous through the Lemon Squeezer). We will start from Elk Pen and visit two of Harriman State Park's most well known features in this double loop hike with almost 2,000 feet of elevation gain. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Leader: Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993, kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday September 9 - **Leon Levy Preserve**. 3 miles, easy to moderate. A ruined mansion, carriage roads and stone work grace the grounds of the Leon Levy Preserve in the Town of Lewisboro. This hike has elevation gains and losses on rocky trails and wide carriage roads. Meet at the preserve parking lot at 10:20 a.m. From I-684, take Exit 6 (Route 35) east, continue 9.1 miles and turn right at the traffic light onto Route 123. The preserve is 0.3 miles from the turn, on the right. If coming by train, contact the leaders in advance to arrange for a pickup at the Katonah station. Leaders: Jane and Walt Daniels (914) 245-1250, jdhikes@gmail.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 35).*

Sunday, September 10 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 10 - **Silvermine Circular**. (NWP). 8 miles, moderate. We will do an elongated figure 8 on the Long Path and Menomine trails in Harriman as we climb Stockbridge Mountain, visit the Torrey Memorial, and relax near the shore of Lake Nawahunta. Contact one of the co-leaders for meeting time and information. Co-leaders: Lillian Wolfe-Brown, sunset922@aol.com or (914) 668-3184 and Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net. Rain cancels.

Sunday, September 10 - **Rockefeller Park - Main Entrance**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate. This is a three to four hour hike which may be longer if we eat at the Blue Stone Café. Bring lunch or buy lunch. There are picnic tables indoors and outdoors. There is a \$6 per car parking fee unless you have an Empire Passport. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

Saturday, September 16 - **Eastern Side of Rockefeller**. (NWP) 9 miles, moderate. This hike visits three lakes. From Route 448 we will go to the summit of Buttermilk Hill (the highest point in the Rockefeller Preserve). Then we head south along the Goat Trail, and back north to visit the famous Raven's Rock. We then hike south again, to the southernmost tip of Rockefeller Preserve (opposite Hawthorne), and complete the entire Ferguson's loop, back to the cars. Meet at North White Plains at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Frank Lee, fleessa@yahoo.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

Sunday, September 17 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 17 - **Storm King**. 5-6 miles, moderate to strenuous. Good elevation gain and great Hudson River views. Meet the leader at the Esty & Hellie Stowell Trailhead (Route 218 Cornwall-on-Hudson). For meeting time or other information and to register, contact Steve Singlak at srshudson@verizon.net. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 17 - **Butler Sanctuary in Bedford/Mt. Kisco area**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. This lovely hike is perfect for those who want to graduate from easy hikes to moderate hikes. One trail is fairly level and the other trail we take is moderate as there is some elevation. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).*

Saturday, September 23 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, September 23 - **Hudson Highlands**. 9-10 miles, moderate to strenuous. Starting at Pocket Road we will climb Lambs Hill, go along Fishkill Ridge and over Bald Hill, then out along Scofield Ridge before descending to 9D. For further information or to register contact the leader Bob Fiscina at fis6973@verizon.net. A shuttle is required. Rain cancels. No beginners please. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 23 - **Mianus River Gorge, Bedford, NY**. 5 miles, easy to moderate. This is an easy-paced hike in a Nature Conservancy property. Bring a snack to have at a "viewpoint." And then we will proceed to Havermeyer Falls which may or may not be flowing. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 56).*

Saturday, September 23 - **Canoe / Kayak Croton River**. This is a favorite; an easy and relaxing flatwater paddle on the Croton River. We will meet at 11:00 at the Croton RR station and paddle under 9A heading into the river on the incoming tide as this is a tidal river. We will take advantage of high tide to explore the river, its side channels and estuaries. Lunch at the gravel beach. Rentals at the launch site will be available through www.kayakhudson.com. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail jsmallpt@aol.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 24 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 24 - **Seven Hills End to End (Almost)**. 8 miles, moderately strenuous. Enjoy some gorgeous viewpoints and a few nice scrambles on the Seven Hills trail in Harriman. We will be doing all but the last half mile which leads to Seven Lakes Drive, then looping back on the Stony Brook and Pine Meadow trails. Excessive rain/foul weather cancels. In case of extreme heat, the route will be modified. Please email the leader, Judy Hirschman, hirschmanjudith@gmail.com no later than Friday evening to confirm attendance and receive details as to meeting place and time.

Sunday, September 24 - **Silver Lake Preserve**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. The route of this 3 hour hike is through woods, on some hilly terrain and along a lake in this West Harrison, NY preserve. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 40).*

Saturday, September 30 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 30 - **Catskill Escarpment**. 9 miles, moderate. This hike will start from the North South Lake Campground near Palenville. Distance will be less than 9 miles if we have

enough participants to spot a car; otherwise, it's about a mile more. The hike includes many iconic views that inspired the artists of the Hudson River School. We will try to match up the works with the views. Because this hike is viewpoint focused bad weather will postpone it. Carpooling is preferred so try to contact the leader Jane Restani by Thursday evening and no later than 5:00 PM Friday at irabjanea@aol.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 30 - **Sterling Forest**. 8 miles moderate. We will start at the Visitors' Center and climb up to the fire tower, then hike along the ridge with spectacular views of the lake and foliage. Easy return along the lake shore. Contact leader to register. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 1 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 1 - **Island Pond Circular**. (NWP). 6-7 miles, moderate. We'll start on the A-SB, hike up to the ridge for expansive views along the RD and Lichen trails, and then head over to Island Pond for a relaxing break on a rock outcrop overlooking the water. Return is via the A.T. Co-leaders: Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net and Lillian Wolfe-Brown, sunset922@aol.com or (914) 668-3184. Rain cancels.

Sunday, October 1 - **Mountain Lakes Camp**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This is a three to four hour hike through a County park with a partially restored camp from the olden days. Yurts and log cabins, bonfire pit, bathrooms, dining hall, etc. Trails are beautifully marked through the camp, with some view areas. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).*

Saturday, October 7 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, October 7 - **Pine Meadow Circular**. 7-8 miles moderate. Starting at the Reeves Meadow Visitors Center, we use a combination of trails including Pine Meadow, Reeves Brook, Seven Hills, and Raccoon Brook Hills. Meet in Sloatsburg at the Municipal Building parking lot off Route 17. Contact leader for meeting time or directions. Rain cancels. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, hikermarv@aol.com (917) 733-2259.

Saturday, October 7 - **Dover Stone Church**. 4-6 miles, easy to moderate. This historic site in Dover Plains, NY features an easy trail to the Stone Church, a cave-like natural formation with a 30-foot waterfall, as well as other trails with moderate hills. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 552-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, October 8 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 8 - **Harriman Hike**. 6-7 miles, moderate. After a short road walk from Kanawauke Circle parking area, we will hike on ridges mainly on the Dunning and RD trails. There will be plenty of beautiful views. To register contact leader Sarah Davis at 917 501-1322 (c), 212 873-4018 (h) or sewdavis@gmail.com. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, October 8 - **Irvington Woods Preserve**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. This is an easy-paced hike on various trails in this lovely, wooded, 40 acre nature preserve. Meet the leader at 10:00 a.m. at the O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road in Irvington. Directions: From Route 9 traveling south, turn left on Sunnyside Lane, then right onto Mountain Road. The parking lot is a short distance up the hill, on the right. Lunch will be optional in a garden next to the center at the end of the hike. Rain cancels. Leader: Asha Chauhan, (212) 730-2351, a1chauhan@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 54).*

Saturday, October 14 - **THREE HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, October 14 - **Minnewaska - Castle Point.** 8 miles, moderate. Scenic hike to Castle Point via Mossy Glen, Long Path and Blueberry trails. Enjoy views of Catskills, Rainbow Falls and Lake Awosting. Call leader for carpool information or meet at lower parking lot at 9:30. Parking fee \$10.00 without Empire Passport. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri (914) 391-5918) or email minu1@optonline.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 14 - **Rockwood to Rockefeller.** 6 miles, easy to moderate. This hike will be approximately four hours through rolling hills and carriage roads with views of the Hudson River. Bring lunch, water, snacks. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).*

Saturday, October 14 - **West Side River Walk, Art and Dinner.** 5 miles, easy. River vistas from 14th to 57th Streets along the Hudson River. At 57th St. a tour of some selected art galleries and a finish at Parnell's for an optional early dinner. Excellent fare and generous servings, inclusive of choice of drink, under \$25. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the NW corner of 8th Ave. and 14th St. (A, C and E trains). Bring a light lunch/snack and water. Contact leader, Marvin Malater (718) 376-3608, for hike status or information. *Joint with the Shorewalkers.*

Saturday, October 14 - **Canoe / Kayak - Mohansic Lake and CromPond.** This will be a new pond for us to visit, located in FDR State Park, Yorktown. The fall foliage should be at its peak. After exploring a small portion of the lake we will look for the tiny connector into Crom Pond: truly a wilderness retreat. Bring own canoe or kayak, lifejacket, and lunch. There may be a \$10.00 charge for boat access. There are no rentals nearby. Call Jane Smalley for information and to register. (914) 276-0413 or e-mail jsmallpt@aol.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 15 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 15 - **Iron Mines Loop, Harriman State Park.** 9 miles, moderate. This loop hike will traverse the ridge of Black Rock Mountain and pass the remnants of four iron mines along the Dunning and A-SB trails. Leader: Mike Jablonski, mjab5749@gmail.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 15 - **Cranberry Lake.** 10:00 - 2:00 (NWP). 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. We will carpool to the preserve from NWP and do a loop using the yellow and red trails, with a visit to the quarry. Leader: Toby Garfinkel, (914) 337-6612. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Saturday, October 21 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, October 21 - **West Mountain, Pawling, NY.** 7.4 miles, moderate. This hike uses the Appalachian Trail, starting out through a marsh area with a wooden pathway, continuing through the woods and farmland to a huge oak tree, and then ascending West Mountain to a viewpoint at 3.7 miles, where we will have lunch and then return the way we came. Parking is at the Appalachian Trail train station, just to the west of Route 22; if crowded, there is a large lot a bit further north, past the Native Landscapes Nursery. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Saturday, October 21 - **Twin Lakes Loop, Teatown.** 3 miles, moderate. Enjoy a lovely Fall hike at Teatown Lake Reservation on this new and scenic route through Teatown. Beginners are welcome. Contact the leader for meeting time and location. Leader Elspeth Kramer, elspethkramer@aol.com, (347) 262-4802. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (62).*

Sunday, October 22 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 22 - **East Central Harriman**. 7 miles, moderate. Starting near Route 106 in the Lake Welch area, we will use the SBM and other trails, see a ruin, a fire tower, a beach, a shelter, 3 reservoirs, and get at least a couple of nice views as well. Email the leader for start time and other information. Leader: Mike Kaplan, kaplanm2001@yahoo.com. No first time hikers, please. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday October 22 - **Kitchawan Preserve**. 4-6 miles, easy to moderate. We will come across fields, forests, streams and views of the new Croton Reservoir while exploring various trails. Meet at 10 a.m. at the preserve parking lot, 712 Kichawan Road in Ossining. The preserve is just off Route 134 between the Taconic Parkway and Route 100. If you need a ride or more information, please contact the leader in advance. Leader: Sue Soni, surekhasoni1968@gmail.com or (914) 747-2452. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 33).*

Saturday, October 28 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, October 28 - **West to West (with West) on the A.T. Hike # 5: Miller Hill Road to Depot Hill Road**. 9.8 miles, moderate. On this lesser-used section of the Appalachian Trail, the fifth in our series of six hikes, we'll ascend Hosner Mountain with its panoramic views of the Shawangunks and Catskills, then continue along the ridge as the trail crosses I-84 on an overpass and heads up Mt. Egbert, before ending at Depot Hill Road. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 28 - **Central Park Walk, NYC**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. Explore Central Park from the north end to midtown, see the historic monuments along the way and the chrysanthemums in bloom, and enjoy optional sightseeing afterwards. Take the Metro North Harlem Line to 125th Street - contact leader for details. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 552-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, October 29 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 29 - **Dunderberg Circular**. 8 miles moderate to strenuous. We will climb up to the ridge on the RD and return on the Timp Torne. Lots of ups and downs all day rewarded by spectacular views in all directions. Contact leader to register. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 29 - **RiverWalk and the Old Croton Aqueduct**. 5 miles, easy. We will walk at a relaxed pace through Lyndhurst, where we will visit the Greehouse, the Rose Garden, and the just restored Bowling Alley. Then we continue south on the Old Croton Aqueduct to Irvington, with a stop at the Farmer's Market where you can buy lunch or bring your own. Lovely views along the walk. There will be two short hills to ascend, and a slight variation in the return route. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. at the Van Wart Avenue RiverWalk gate. Directions: from Route 9, turn west on the first street south of the Tappan Zee Bridge (it has two names - Paulding and Van Wart Avenues). Bear left at the fork and continue down Paulding to Hudson Place (the last street before the dead end). Turn right, park on Hudson Place, and walk to the RiverWalk gate. Leader: Ellie Carren, (914) 591-7038; co-leader Sara Kelsey. *Joint with Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct.*

Saturday, November 4 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 4 - **Storm King Mountain**. 6-7 miles, moderate to strenuous. On this circular hike we will start at the base of Storm King at the Esty & Hellie Stowell trailhead and ascend

the mountain on the Highlands Trail. There are two steep ascents before the incline becomes more gradual. Reaching the top we will be rewarded with spectacular views of the Hudson and a brief stop for lunch. Then we descend on the Bluebird Trail to where it intersects with the Highlands Trail for our return to the trailhead. Leader: Joe Rodriguez. Please email jpr50@optonline.net by November 3 for information or to register.

Saturday, November 4 - **Edith Read Sanctuary, Rye NY**. 2-3 miles, easy. Wooded trails, a marsh, a lake, a rocky beach, and a bamboo forest. The planned hike is 2-3 hours, but we can add more walking on the boardwalk for another hour or two. There is a parking fee of \$10 per car. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 16).*

Sunday, November 5 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, November 5 - **Black Rock Mountain High**. 6 miles, moderate. Completed just last year, these trails start in Cornwall and wind two miles thru unspoiled woodlands to connect with the Sackett Trail near Mine Hill. The first part of the hike is a continual, moderate climb on smooth trails through lightly wooded forests. Very civilized, perfect for a November day. And, with the leaves off the trees, we'll see some sweeping vistas of distant mountains. After the initial climb, we reach the ridge and it's mostly rolling hills through autumn foliage after that. No scrambles, no exposures, no zombies. No (sigh) bushwhacks. Lunch at a mountaintop with an awesome view of the valley below. Meet at 10 a.m. in the parking lot at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum's Outdoor Discovery Center, 120 Muser Drive in Cornwall (zip: 12518) off Angola Road, about 1/4 mile west of Route 9W. Please remember to bring snacks for the leader. Leader: Howard Millman, wardmillman@aol.com, (914) 439-8031. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, November 5 - **Van Cortlandt and Tibbetts Brooks Parks**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate. We will walk along several trails, including John Muir, John Kieran, Cass Gallagher, the Old Croton Aqueduct and the Putnam Trail. Forests are diverse here, and we will see many birds, weather permitting. Leader: Diana Catz (718) 549-1735; dscatz@gmail.com. Meet 10 AM at the Van Cortlandt Stables parking lot: Broadway and Mosholu Avenue (please contact the leader for directions and to confirm attendance).

Saturday, November 11 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 11 - **Bear Mountain**. 7 miles, moderate plus. We will take winding steps (800 or more) to the midway point, then a trail with minor scrambling to the top. A beautiful view from the top surrounding Perkins Tower, an historical museum. Return will be by way of the 1777 and SBM trails. There is a parking fee of \$10 per car without an Empire Passport. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Saturday, November 11 - **Orchard Beach and Hunter Island**. 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy a stroll along the beach and then around Hunter Island now that the summer crowds are long gone. Meet the leader on the right side of the parking lot at 11:00 a.m. Rain cancels. Leader: Josephine Pierri.

Sunday, November 12 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, November 12 - **West to West (with West) on the A.T. Hike # 6: Depot Hill Road to County Rt. 20**. 7.4 miles, moderate. This is the last in our series of six hikes on the Appalachian Trail from West Mountain in Harriman to West Mountain in Pawling. The A.T. here stays in wooded areas until it reaches Nuclear Lake, then hugs the shore for almost a mile before ascending to the summit of West Mountain, with its pastoral views of Dutchess County farmland. The hike ends at the Dover Oak, which at 20 feet in diameter is the largest tree on the Appalachian Trail. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 12 - Marshlands Conservancy. 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy a two hour hike in this Rye preserve on a network of trails through a field, a deciduous forest and a salt marsh. Meet at 10 AM at the Conservancy parking lot, located at 220 Boston Post Road near the Rye Golf Course. Leader: Leslie Millman. Contact leader by e-mail at oooleslie@aol.com. Cell number is for day of hike changes only: (914) 552-7720. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 9).*

Saturday, November 18 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, November 18 - Harriman Circuit Hike # 5 - Pine Meadow Lake and the Ramapo Escarpment. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous. This hike begins near the Town of Ramapo Equestrian Center off Route 202. The route has over 1600 feet of elevation gain rewarded by panoramas, ruins, natural features and remnants of CCC work. Expect rough footing. Contact leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com by 5:00 PM Friday. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 18 - Morning Hike & Lunch at the Monastery. 4 miles, moderate. We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Pelton Pond Picnic parking lot on Route 301 just off the Taconic Parkway. After a 2-3 hour hike around Canopus Lake on the AT, we will go to the Buddhist Monastery in Kent, NY for a vegetarian lunch (\$6) and a tour of the grounds and buildings. The largest statue of the Buddha in the Western hemisphere is located there. Contact Carole Ehleben, ehleben@optonline.net or (914) 205-3207 for information and to register. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, November 19 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, November 19 - Black and Letterrock Mountains. 7.5 miles, moderate to strenuous. From the Anthony Wayne parking lot in Harriman, our route initially climbs 800' to ridges of both mountains before continuing on gentler, less frequently traversed trails. Hudson views, Spanish mine, historic "Burnt House" site, etc. Contact the leader, Debbie Farrell, for information and to register at debfarpr@gmail.com or (914) 282-9942. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, November 19 - Cranberry Lake Preserve. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. This is a two to three hour hike through a North White Plains preserve in an area of quarry used to build the Kensico Dam a century ago. Trails go past various ponds, woods, rock formations, bridges and the foundation of an old quarry building. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 552-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Saturday, November 25 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, November 25 - Long Mountain and Turkey Hill Lake (Harriman Circuit Hike #20). 6 miles, moderate. An appropriate hike for the weekend after Thanksgiving, this hike with about 1,300 feet of elevation gain will include panoramic views from Torrey Memorial as well as scenic lakes and brooks. Raymond H. Torrey, who is memorialized on this trail, was a leader of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and contributed to the development of the Long Path and the Appalachian Trail, both of which travel through Harriman State Park. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Leader: Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993, kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 25 - Turkey Mountain Preserve, Yorktown Heights. 3 miles, easy to moderate. (NWP, 9:30 a.m., contact leader to meet at trailhead.) Walk off some of the Thanksgiving feast, thanking the turkeys, with one of the best viewpoints in Westchester. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, earthwormch@aol.com, home (914) 948-0608, cell on day of hike only (914) 420-5778. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 42).*

Sunday, November 26 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, November 26 - **Mount Taurus**. 6 miles, moderate. Enjoy views of the Hudson River and a lunch break overlooking West Point. We will commence on Route 9D and go up the Brook trail to the Notch trail, then over and down the Washburn trail to the Undercliff trail and back down the Brook trail to our vehicles. We will make a stop at the dairy farm ruins with beautiful old stone work. Vertical rise of 1,400 feet. Meeting time is 9:30 with the meeting location to be determined. Steady rain cancels. Bring plenty of water and food. No beginners, please. To register, contact the leader, Rosanne Schepis, at 203-417-5552 or rschep@yahoo.com. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, November 26 - **James Baird State Park**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. This state park in Pleasant Valley, NY (Dutchess County) is situated on farmland once owned by James Baird, a contractor and engineer whose company built the Lincoln Memorial. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 552-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*