



# WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

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## SPRING HIKING SCHEDULE AND NEWSLETTER MARCH, APRIL and MAY 2018

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 sufficient drinking water (1-2 liters) are required on all hikes. A trail lunch should be carried unless otherwise noted. 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.

WTA's schedule is printed four times a year. For further information contact Herb Hochberg at (914) 723-6566 or [h\\_hochberg@hotmail.com](mailto:h_hochberg@hotmail.com), Eileen West at [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com) or Debbie Farrell at [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com)

To become a member, please complete the application at the end of this schedule, or go to the "join" tab on our website.

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**SEE OUR "NEWS AND NOTICES" SECTION (AT THE END OF THE HIKING SCHEDULE)  
FOR CLUB EVENTS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST**  
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### *Save the Dates*



*Annual Dinner at Casa Rina Restaurant in Thornwood, NY: Sunday, April 22*

*Reserve by April 15*

*Hiking Week+ in the Adirondacks: Friday, September 7 - Monday, September 17*

*Reserve by May 31 for Wildwood; Reserve by June 30 for Johns Brook Lodge*

*See "News and Notices" for details.*

Saturday, March 3 - **Saxon Woods**. 3 miles, easy to moderate. We will do a circular hike on the white trail, which goes through surprisingly wooded, shady and serene areas in spite of the park's location near the city of White Plains. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. in the pool parking lot off Mamaroneck Avenue - park in the southern portion of the lot, which is near the trailhead. Leader: Toby Garfinkel, (914) 337-6612. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 60).*

Sunday, March 4 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 4 - **Fishkill Ridge, East Ascent**. 7 miles, moderate to strenuous. Our hike starts with a walk through hushed woodlands, then a single long climb up to the Scofield/Fishkill Ridge. From there we'll walk the ridge line along (mostly) marked trails passing some viewpoints until we complete a loop around the mountaintop. Then it's back down the lollipop stick to the start. Along the way, we'll enjoy the early spring flora and look for signs of indigenous wildlife: zombies, trail wolves and the flightless two-legged chatterbox. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking area on Old Albany Post Road in northern Putnam County. Old Albany Post Road is a left turn (heading north) about 200' past a place called Jaymark Jewelers: 3612 U.S. Route 9. Please let the leader know you're coming, in case of any changes. Intrepid leader: Howard Millman, [howardmillman@aol.com](mailto:howardmillman@aol.com), (914) 439-8031. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, March 4 - **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, March 10 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 10 - **Harriman Circuit Hike # 18, Pine Swamp Mountain**. 6 miles, moderately strenuous. This hike, with 1300 feet of elevation gain, passes Cape Horn, Times Square and the remains of mining operations. The loop traverses the Long Path, and the Bottle Cap, RD and Arden Surebridge trails. We begin at Lake Skannatati. Good footwear required as there are stream crossings. Contact leader Jane Restani by 5:00 PM Friday to register, at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, March 10 - **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, some of which may be rocky, go past various ponds, woods, rock formations, bridges and the foundation of an old quarry building (the quarry climb is optional). Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Sunday, March 11 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 11 - **Ward Pound Ridge Rocks Trail**. 7 miles, moderate. The Rocks Trail was developed to connect six rock features and there are some steep sections with one being an actual rough-hewn rock staircase. Ground conditions may alter the hike somewhat. Foot traction must be carried in case it is needed. This is an all-day hike. We will carpool from Cross River shopping center in order to share the \$10 parking fee charged at Ward Pound Ridge. To register, contact leader Sarah Davis at (212) 873-4018 h, (917) 501-1322 c or [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com). *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*

Sunday March 11 - Afternoon at Oscawana Island State Park and Graff Sanctuary. 4.5 miles, easy. A Victorian estate in ruins forms the core of Oscawana State Park. Join the leaders for this easy hike through woodlands to visit those ruins, a former race track, a building best described as a 1950s comfort station, and river views. Just across the road is Graff, an Audubon sanctuary that features more river views. Meet the leaders at 2 PM. If you are coming on the 12:43 PM train from Grand Central to the Cortlandt Station on the Hudson Line (arrives at 1:43), call the leaders by 8 PM on Friday if you want to be picked up at the station. Driving directions: Take Route 9 to the Route 9A Montrose/Buchanan Exit and turn north onto Route 9A. Turn right onto Furnace Dock Road (west), across from a shopping center and follow it toward the river. At the end of Furnace Dock Road, turn right onto Cortlandt Street. The parking area is 0.4 mile from that turn [41.22732N 73.925721W]. Leaders: Join Walt and Jane Daniels. Cell: (914) 471-5545; [jdhikes@gmail.com](mailto:jdhikes@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 13).*

Saturday, March 17 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, March 17 - Sterling Forest. 8 miles, moderate. Happy St. Patrick's Day! We will start at the Visitor's Center and climb up to the fire tower, then hike along the ridge with spectacular views of the lake. Easy return along the lake shore. Contact the leader to register. Leader: Catharine Raffaele (914) 260-0343 or [raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, March 17 - St. Patrick's Double Header. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. The day begins at Dobbs Ferry's lesser known Juhring Nature Preserve with moderate ups and downs followed by a no-elevation-gain walk about the stunning Great Hunger Memorial and park in Ardsley. Light Irish treats may be enjoyed.. Short shuttle. Contact leader Debbie Farrell at [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com) or (914) 282-9942. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, March 18 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, March 18 - Black Rock Forest. 7 miles, moderate. Starting from the Hudson Highland Nature Museum/Outdoor Discovery Center, we ascend into the Mine Hill Road area of Black Rock Forest. With the leaves down, we should have several nice views. (Route courtesy of Howard Millman.) There is one significant climb at the beginning, which will be done at a compassionate pace with several regroupings. Expect 1800 ft total elevation gain. Leader: Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, March 18 - Rockwood to Rockefeller. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This hike will be approximately four hours through rolling hills and on flat 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, March 24 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, March 24 - Combo Circuit Hikes in Harriman (#14 and 15). Stockbridge Mountain and Lake Nawahunta. 5.2 miles, easy to moderate. We will have good views from the top of Stockbridge Mountain and several other interesting features along the way. **Silvermine Lake and Black Mountain.** 5 miles, moderate to strenuous. We will have spectacular views of Silvermine Lake and the Hudson River as well as visiting the ruins of the Spanish mine. Both hikes start from the same parking area so you may choose to do only one or both. Traction devices may be needed. Please contact leader to register. Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993 (home), (203) 722-56490 (cell), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, March 24 - **Orchard Beach, Twin and Hunter Islands**. 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy the diverse environments of this park (marshlands, woodlands, meadows) with wonderful views of the Long Island Sound. Meet the leader at the Orchard Beach parking lot at 10 AM, on the right side closest to the beach. Leader Diana Catz, [dscatz@gmail.com](mailto:dscatz@gmail.com) or (718) 549-1735. Rain or snow cancels.

Sunday, March 25 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 25 - **Timp-Torne/RD Circular**. 6-7 miles, moderate to strenuous. We will start at the trailhead of the Timp-Torne Trail on Rt. 9W. There is an initial steep ascent and breathtaking views of the Hudson. Once we reach the Timp we will return on the Ramapo-Dunderburg Trail. There will be many spectacular vistas. Leader: Joe Rodriguez. Please email [jpr50@optonline.net](mailto:jpr50@optonline.net) by March 24 for information or to register.

Sunday, March 25 - **Manitou Preserve off 9D**. 3.5 miles, easy to moderate. This hike is perfect for an early spring day since it takes 2-3 hours at the most and 40% of the hike is right along the Hudson River. It is considered an easy hike but the trails are "rugged" meaning there are some branches on the trail and some blowdowns. Good hiking boots and hiking poles are suggested. Bring sufficient water and a snack. To register, contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, March 31 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 31 - **Black Mountain, Letterrock and Treasure Tales**. 7.5 miles, moderate to strenuous. Black Mt. has great Harriman Park, Hudson and NYC views, and the Letterrock area is steeped in tales of silver treasure buried long ago by Spaniards from the West Indies. Initial 800' climb to ridges of both mountains is followed by tamer, less traveled trails. For information and to register, contact leader Debbie Farrell at [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com) or (914) 282-9942. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, March 31 - **Around the County - North Salem to the Bear Mt. Bridge. Part 5: Peekskill and Cortlandt**. 7-8 miles, easy to moderate. This hike is divided into two sections. The first part is easy and flat and goes along the Peekskill Riverwalk past Travis Cove, Riverfront Green, Peekskill Landing Park and Annsville Preserve, ending at the paddlesport center on Annsville Circle. From there we'll take a short drive to the Hudson Highlands Gateway Park, where we'll enjoy a moderate hike on most of the trails in this preserve jointly owned by Scenic Hudson, the Town of Cortlandt and Westchester County. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Leader: Eileen West (914) 747-3776; [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Rain or heavy snow cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 31 and 79).*

Easter Sunday, April 1 - **Harriman Circuit Hike #2, Russian Bear**. 6-7 miles, moderate to strenuous. No joking and I couldn't find a bunny hike. This hike is really a bear with 1800 feet of elevation gain. From the visitor center we follow the Reeves Brook, HTS and Seven Hills trails. Weather permitting the views will be great. Not a good choice for brand new hikers. Others contact leader Jane Restani by 5:00 PM Saturday to register, at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

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

Saturday, April 7 - **Blue and Spitzenberg Mts. (Blue Mt. Reservation)**. (NWP). 7 miles, moderate. From Depew Park in Peekskill, we will hike over the peak of Blue Mountain, then up the Spitzenberg climb, and then return to Depew Park on different trails with lake views. Meet at NWP at

9:30 a.m. Leader: Frank Lee, [fleessa@yahoo.com](mailto:fleessa@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 48).*

Saturday, April 7 - **Turkey Mountain Preserve, Yorktown Heights**. 3 miles, easy to moderate. This is a delightful hike with one short climb, to just get outdoors for a few hours with one of the best viewpoints in Westchester. The entrance is directly across the street from Peter Pratt Restaurant on Route 118. You can Google the Preserve or Peter Pratt for directions. Contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) to register. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 42).*

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

Sunday, April 8 - **Hudson Highlands**. 5-6 miles, moderate. Starting from Garrison we will climb Sugarloaf South and then hike the carriage roads of the Osborne Loop and take various trails to White Rock. Meet at the Castle Rock Unique Area on Route 9D at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri (914) 391-5918 or [minu1@optonline.net](mailto:minu1@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, April 8 - **Baxter Preserve (south)**. 2-3 miles, easy. We will hike for about 1-1/2 to 2 hours in this 167 acre preserve composed of grassy fields and rolling hills, owned by the North Salem Land Foundation. 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).*

Saturday, April 14 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, April 14 - **Sleater Hill and Almost Perpendicular (# 7 Circuit Hikes in Harriman)**. 5.2 miles, moderate to strenuous. This hike in the southwestern corner of Harriman State Park includes Rockland County's Dater Mountain Nature County Park which was expanded in 2005 to preserve the habitat of two endangered species - the Northern Cricket Frog and the Allegany Wood Rat. You'll also have the opportunity to climb Almost Perpendicular with its dramatic viewpoint from the top of a cliff. Please contact leader to register. Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993 (home), (203) 722-56490 (cell), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, April 14 - **Untermeyer Park and Old Croton Aqueduct**. 4-5 miles, easy. This walk, which does have some mild hills and steps, allows us to explore the park, the Persian Garden and the Temple of Love. We will then proceed south on the aqueduct and exit at Shonnard Terrace. Lunch will be at a friend's garden and terrace, with outstanding views of the Hudson River. Our return to Untermeyer Park will have some variations. The park is located at 945 North Broadway (U.S. Rt. 9) in Yonkers, just south of St. John's Hospital. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. just inside the park's entrance, near the Community Center building. There is a small parking lot inside the garden. If it is full, park on the street along Broadway. Leader: Ellie Carren (914) 591-7038). May call up to 11 p.m. Co-leader: Sara Kelsey. *Joint with Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct.*

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

Sunday, April 15 - **Jordan Pond, Fahnestock Loop**. (NWP). 6-7 miles, easy to moderate. This scenic hike in Fahnestock State Park is a perfect spring outing, passing several ponds and winding through fields and a forest. Contact one of the co-leaders for meeting time and information: Alice Benash, [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net) or (914) 723-8722; Lillian Wolfe-Brown, [sunset922@aol.com](mailto:sunset922@aol.com) or (914) 668-3184. Rain cancels.

Sunday, April 15 - **Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway Part 1: Ryder Road in Briarcliff to New Croton Dam**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. This shuttle hike goes through woods, along and over streams, passing a small waterfall and an impressive moss-covered boulder, past Teatown Lake, arriving at New Croton Dam, overlooking reservoir, the spillway waterfall, and Croton Gorge. Contact leader for time and meeting place. Carpools advised due to limited parking. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [earthwormch@aol.com](mailto: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. 67, if done with Part 2 of this series).*

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

Saturday, April 21 - **Around the County - North Salem to the Bear Mt. Bridge. Part 6: Manitou Point Preserve to the Bear Mt. Bridge**. 7-8 miles, moderate. Join us on a hike along and above the Hudson as we celebrate the final segment of our Around the County series. We'll begin with an exploration of the trails at Manitou, just north of the Westchester County border. From there we'll hike up to the wide path that leads to the A.T. and continue on to Anthony's Nose, with its magnificent views of the river. Finally, we descend to Route 9D at the Bear Mt. Bridge, to the same location where this series of hikes began six years ago. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Leader: Eileen West (914) 747-3776; [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, April 21 - **Silver Lake Preserve**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. The route of this 3 hour hike is through woods with fallen trees in some areas, 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).*

Sunday, April 22 - **ANNUAL DINNER** (advance registration required - please see "News and Notices" for details).

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

Sunday, April 22 - **Harriman Hike**. 6-7 miles, moderate. Ridge walking all day. A short road walk from Kanawauke Circle parking area, and then unmarked trails to the Dunning and the RD trails, passing through Times Square. 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](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com). *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, April 22 - **Westchester Wilderness Walk, Pound Ridge NY**. 5-6 miles, moderate. This will be a 3-4 hour hike on exciting trails created from the "back yards" generously donated from the large properties of several landowners whose names are pretty famous. Since there are now so many trails, we can lengthen the hike if there is interest. Contact Carole Ehleben at [ehleben@optonline.net](mailto:ehleben@optonline.net) or call (914) 209-3207 for the meeting time and location. *This is an ADK Mohican hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 64).*

Saturday, April 28 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, April 28 - **Bald Mountain, the Timp, and Doodletown (#24 Circuit Hikes in Harriman)**. 5.9 miles, moderate to strenuous. The panoramic view from the top of Bald Mountain is considered one of the best in the park. There is another great view from the top of the Timp that has been featured in many paintings and photographs. We will follow the woods road known as Pleasant Valley Road through the former settlement of Doodletown to return to our cars. Doodletown thrived for two centuries until it was acquired by the park in 1960. We will see historical markers and some

ruins of the settlement. Please contact leader to register. Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993 (home), (203) 722-56490 (cell), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, April 28 - RiverWalk and the Old Croton Aqueduct. 5 miles, easy. We will walk at a relaxed pace starting from the RiverWalk entrance gate through the Lyndhurst grounds, taking in lovely views of the new Tappan Zee (Cuomo) Bridge and the Hudson River. If the Lyndhurst Visitor Center, former stables, is open we will take a short break to walk inside and look around. We then continue south on the Old Croton Aqueduct to Main Street in Irvington and break for lunch. Eat in town at your choice of one of many restaurants, cafes, or pizza places, or bring your own. After our lunch break we will walk back on the Aqueduct the same way that we came. Directions: from Route 9, turn west on the first street south of the Tappan Zee Bridge (the sign has two names - Paulding and VanWart Avenues). Bear left at the fork and continue down Paulding to Hudson Place (the last street before the dead end sign). Turn right, park on Hudson Place or Van Wart Avenue. Meet the leader at 10:30 a.m. at the Van Wart Avenue RiverWalk entrance gate. Contact leader to register: Nancy Vincent, [nevincent09@gmail.com](mailto:nevincent09@gmail.com) or home (914) 967-8381. Rain cancels.

Saturday, April 28 - Saturday April 28 - Canoe/Kayak - Mohansic Lake and Crom Pond. We will open the season exploring a section of Mohansic lake located in FDR State Park, Yorktown. Once on the lake we will hunt for the tiny connector into Crom Pond, truly a wilderness retreat. At some point we may bring boats ashore and walk a section of the trail along side the pond. Bring own canoe or kayak, lifejacket, and lunch. There may be a \$10.00 charge for boat access. Possible space in leader's canoe. Call Jane Smalley for information and to register. (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [JSmallpt@aol.com](mailto:JSmallpt@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, April 29 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, April 29 - Bear Mountain. 7 miles, moderate plus. We will take about 1000 winding steps up to the summit on the Appalachian Trail, with a return through woods and rocky sections on the 1777 and Suffern Bear Mt. Trails. A beautiful view from the top surrounding Perkins Tower, an historical museum. 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.*

Sunday, April 29 - Eastern Side of Rockefeller State Park. 4-6 miles, easy to moderate. We will explore several trails which will enable us to see views of the Saw Mill River valley. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. in the large free parking lot on route 117 in Mount Pleasant. If you are heading west the lot is on your left, past Route 9A and the North County Trailway parking lot but before Route 448. Please bring lunch and water. Inclement weather may cancel. Leader: Sue Soni, [surekhasoni1968@gmail.com](mailto:surekhasoni1968@gmail.com), (914) 747-2452. No registration needed. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

Saturday, May 5 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, May 5 - Panther Mountain, Lake Wanoksink and Pine Meadow. 9 miles, moderate to strenuous. This loop hike climbs to the summit of Panther Mountain in Harriman State Park with panoramic views and runs along the shores of Lakes Wanoksink and Pine Meadow. For further information or to register contact leader Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). Rain cancels. No beginners please. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, May 5 - 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, May 6 - TWO HIKES TODAY:**

**Sunday, May 6 - Three Lakes/A.T. Loop.** (NWP). 6-7 miles, moderate. This circular hike in Fahnestock Memorial Park passes two lakes and features multiple ups and downs through wooded areas. Meet leader at NWP at 9:00 a.m. or at the large Canopus Lake parking lot on Route 301 at 9:45. Contact the leader, Elena Burova, by phone (914) 837-4235 or e-mail at [elena.burova@gmail.com](mailto:elena.burova@gmail.com) before the hike if you need details. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

**Sunday, May 6 - 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](mailto: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, May 12 - TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

**Saturday, May 12 - Catskills Long Path Hike.** 10-11 miles, moderate to strenuous. Tune up for summer hiking. This hike goes over Cross, Mount Pleasant and Romer Mountains. We will meet at the Lane Street parking area in Phoenicia and shuttle to the start of the hike in the Woodland Valley campground. It is a long but beautiful outing. Contact Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) by noon on Friday to register so that we can arrange carpooling and the shuttle. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

**Saturday, May 12 - 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) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

**Saturday, May 12 - Canoe/Kayak - Harriman State Park.** This has become a favorite early in the season. We will explore Lake Kanawauke and all three of its connecting lakes in Harriman State Park along Seven Lakes Drive. The yearly fee is \$30 registration per boat, good through November 30. It includes several of the lakes in the park plus Rockland Lake. Bring own canoe/kayak, paddle, lifejacket, and lunch. Sorry there are no rentals nearby. May be space in leader's canoe. We'll meet at Tiorati Circle at 10:00. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or [JSmallpt@aol.com](mailto:JSmallpt@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

**Sunday, May 13 - TWO HIKES TODAY:**

**Sunday, May 13 - Silvermine Circular.** 8.75 miles, moderate. Explore some lovely trails including the Menomine, Long Path and the AT on this moderately paced hike. Extremely hot and/or humid weather, or rain, will cancel. Please register with the leader, Judith Hirschman, no later than 48 hours prior. [hirschmanjudith@gmail.com](mailto:hirschmanjudith@gmail.com).

**Sunday, May 13 - Rockefeller Park - Main Entrance.** 5-6 miles, easy to moderate. This is a three to four hour hike along carriage roads with rolling hills (the hike may be longer if we eat at the Blue Stone Café). The peonies should be blooming this time of year. 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, May 19 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, May 19 - **Stonetown Circular**. 10.5 miles, moderate to strenuous. This hike climbs five mountains with over 2500 feet of elevation gain while offering views of the Wanaque and Monksville Reservoirs. For further information or to register, contact leader Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). Rain cancels. No beginners please. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, May 19 - **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. Leader: Alice Benash, [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net) or (914) 723-8722. Rain cancels.

Saturday, May 19 - **Central Park Walk, NYC**. 6 miles, easy to moderate. Wander through this beautiful NYC historic park, ending back at Grand Central Station. We're sure to enjoy the blooming flowers this time of year. Take the Metro North Harlem Line to 125<sup>th</sup> Street - contact leader for details. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, May 20 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, May 20 - **Somers to Goldens Bridge (a Farm, a Garden, a Reservoir)**. 13-14 miles, easy to moderate. Begin with a visit to Westchester County's Muscoot Farm to welcome the lambs, calves, piglets and other farm animals born this spring, then hike on some of Muscoot's perimeter trails and head over to Lasdon Park and Garden. Explore the trails within, passing specimen trees and plants as well as a memorial to fallen soldiers from the Revolutionary War to modern day. Then it's on to Angle Fly Preserve for a hike on many of its trails. Finally reach the Kennedy Trail, which winds its way past the Muscoot Reservoir and into Goldens Bridge. Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Awful weather cancels. *This is a New York Ramblers hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 34, 53 and 58).*

Sunday, May 20 - **Pingyp Mountain**. 7.1 miles, moderate with a strenuous climb. The southern ascent of Pingyp Mountain is widely considered to be the most challenging climb on a marked trail in Harriman. Total elevation gain is 1495 ft. It is slightly more challenging than Popolopen Torne but slightly less difficult than Breakneck Ridge. Not for beginners. Leader: Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, May 20 - **Teatown Lake Reservation**. 3 miles, easy to moderate. Come out on this lovely spring day and enjoy a hike at Teatown which combines several trails and includes a stop at a scenic waterfall. Please bring snacks and water. Contact Leader Elspeth Kramer at (347) 262-4802 or email [elspethkramer@aol.com](mailto:elspethkramer@aol.com) for time and meeting spot. Teatown charges \$5 per car for non-members so carpooling is strongly suggested. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, May 26 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, May 26 - **Popolopen Gorge and Torne**. 6 miles, moderate with a strenuous climb to the top. Challenging up the Torne, easy on the bridge over the Hudson, moderate otherwise. Nice views all around and some revolutionary war history if you want. Leader: Mike Kaplan, [kaplanm2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaplanm2001@yahoo.com). No first time hikers please. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, May 26 - **Fahnestock State Park**. 7 miles, easy to moderate. This scenic hike starts and ends on the A.T. We use several trails including a side trail to Jordan Pond with a view

overlooking the lake. Meet at the roadside parking area on the northern side of NY 301 just west of Canopus Lake at the A.T. trailhead. Contact leader for meeting time and directions. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, [marvp7025@gmail.com](mailto:marvp7025@gmail.com), (917) 733-2259. Rain cancels.

### Sunday, May 27 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, May 27 - **Harriman Hike**. 5-6 miles, moderate. Leaving from Sebago Boat Launch parking lot, we will take various routes to Pine Meadow and Wanoksink Lakes. To register, contact leader Sarah Davis at 212 873-4018 h, 917 501-1322 c or [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com). *This is an ADK Mohican hike.*

Sunday, May 27 - **Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway Part 2: New Croton Dam to Watch Hill Road plus optional Croton Gorge Park**. 4.8 + 1.2 miles, easy to moderate. shuttle. Dramatic views on this shuttle hike from the dam and the gorge, followed by woods and wetlands. Contact leader for time and meeting place. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [earthwormch@aol.com](mailto: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. 67 if done with Part 1 of this series, and No. 99b.)*

Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day) - **Catfish Loop in Fahnestock**. 5 miles, moderate. This will be a circular hike with gentle ups and downs on the Catfish Loop in Fahnestock State Park, starting (and ending) on Dennytown Road. The parking area is 1.2 miles down Dennytown Road coming from Route 301. We will meet at 9:30. To register e-mail Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

## News and Notices

### *You're Invited...*

...to **WTA's Annual Dinner**, to be held on Sunday, April 22. We'll be returning to the Casa Rina Restaurant, 886 Commerce Street in Thornwood where, for a fixed price of \$30 including tax and tip, you can enjoy a complete dinner and choose from: an appetizer, soup or salad; eleven different meat, fish, chicken and vegetarian entrees; four different desserts; and coffee, tea or soda with the meal. The club is paying part of the beverage cost to keep the price at an even \$30, and the only items not included are orders from the bar. To see all the choices available, visit [www.casarinarestaurant.com](http://www.casarinarestaurant.com) and click on their "Sunday thru Wednesday" menu.

This year's featured speaker is Susan Antenen, Manager of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve. She has worked in locations far and near, from Maui to Mongolia, Corvallis to China, and now in our own backyard, and has an impressive 35+ years of conservation experience for non-profit and governmental organizations including the Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club and the Conservation Biology Institute. Ms. Antenen will give us an overview of the Preserve, its conservation goals and its land stewardship strategies.

We've invited our friends from ADK Mohican to dine with us, and have reserved a private room from 5-9 PM. Those wishing to do so can join us for cocktails starting at 5:00. We'll order dinner around 5:30, and should start dining shortly after 6:00 p.m. Please note that **payment for the dinner must be received by April 15** - make your checks or money orders for \$30 payable to Westchester Trails Association, and mail them to P.O. Box 736, White Plains, NY 10602. For questions, please contact Art Adelman at [adelman@optonline.net](mailto:adelman@optonline.net) or (914) 765-0542.

## *Hiking Week+ in the Adirondacks!*

Part 1: Johns Brook Lodge, Keene Valley, NY. September 7-9 (3 nights). **Reserve by June 30**  
Part 2: Wildwood on the Lake, Lake Placid, NY. September 10-17 (7 nights). **Reserve by May 31**

Home to the largest trail system in the nation, the Adirondack Park offers some of the best hiking in the east with over 2,000 miles of marked hiking trails. We've arranged for a hiking adventure that is divided into two parts and gives those who want to climb Mt. Marcy (the highest peak in New York state, at 5344') the chance to do so, while providing an opportunity for hikers (and non-hikers) of all abilities to enjoy the area. As always, your schedule can be flexible: join us for one or both parts of the trip, and for whatever length of stay you prefer.

**Part 1:** 3 nights (Friday September 7 - Sunday September 9) at the Johns Brook Lodge, an ADK backcountry facility in the heart of the Adirondack High Peaks. It's a 3.5 mile hike to the lodge from the road, which shortens the length of the usual hike up and back from Marcy (11.2 miles round trip instead of 14.8 miles). We'll hike in to the lodge on Friday, do the climb up Marcy on Saturday or Sunday (depending on the weather) and another hike on the off-day, then hike out on Monday. Amenities are basic but comfortable: co-ed bunk rooms with pillows and blankets (bring your own sheets or a sleeping bag, and towels), and washrooms with hot and cold running water and indoor toilets (no showers). Although food must be carried in and out, guests have full access to the kitchen (stove, refrigerator, pots, pans, dishes and cutlery). Coffee, tea, and lemonade are provided free by a caretaker. For the 10-person bunk room, the per person rate is \$40 per night on Friday and Saturday, and \$35 on Sunday night (add \$5 per night if you want to stay in a 4-person bunk room). There is a 10% discount for ADK members. Reservations must be made by June 30 and can only be made over the phone - please call (518) 523-3480 and speak with Rachel. For more information about the lodge, visit: <https://www.adk.org/stay/johns-brook-lodge/>.

**Part 2:** 7 nights (arrive Monday September 10 - depart Monday September 17) at Wildwood on the Lake in Lake Placid. All rooms have free wifi, a refrigerator, microwave and coffeemaker, and a balcony or patio facing Lake Placid. Coffee and muffins are served in the morning. The motel has an indoor and outdoor pool; a hot tub and a sauna; a large lakefront area with free use of their paddleboats, rowboats and canoes; a nightly bonfire (weather permitting); and plenty of lakeside chairs and tables for our happy hour. More information about Wildwood can be found on their website at <http://www.wildwoodmotel.com/index.html>. For those staying the full 7 nights, our rate is \$575 plus tax for a standard room with 2 queens or 1 king bed; other rooms are available with more amenities at a higher price. Shorter stays for the standard rooms cost \$88, \$98 or \$108 per night, depending on the number of nights and whether the stay includes a Friday or Saturday. Because of the area's popularity reservations must be made by May 31, so the sooner you make reservations, the better. To reserve, contact Wildwood by email at [wildwoodlp@aol.com](mailto:wildwoodlp@aol.com) or call (518) 523-2624.

When making reservations at either or both locations, please tell them that you're part of the Westchester Trails Association group. Then contact Eileen West at (914)747-3776 or [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com) to let her know you are coming or for questions.

We hope to see you in the Adirondacks in September!



**Dues for 2018** were due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. For those who haven't renewed their membership yet, we've enclosed a reminder - please pay your dues by March 31 at the latest to avoid being dropped from our membership list.



**Bundle Up!** Twenty-two people braved the cold on a 12° New Year's morning with wind chills below zero to join Jane Restani in her annual Walk & Swim at Greenwich Point Park. Full disclosure: the only person who went into the water was Jane, and she didn't stay in there for long. The rest of us enjoyed a brisk walk, hot beverages and other goodies, and a chance to wish each other a Happy New Year.

**Our Around the County series is wrapping up.** The final segment of our "Around the County" series will take place on April 21 with a hike in Manitu Point Preserve and a return to the summit of Anthony's Nose. The series, which began six years ago, explored the parks and preserves near Westchester County's borders, south from Peekskill to Yonkers near the Hudson shoreline, east to New Rochelle by way of the Bronx, north to Bedford and Armonk and then up to North Salem, and finally west near the Putnam County line back into Peekskill. During our journey we hiked to roughly half of the locations on our Westchester 100 list (50-1/2 to be exact), from tiny pocket parks with a few tenths of a mile of trail to areas with hundreds of acres offering a full day of hiking. We'll have one "make-up" hike during the summer because one of the parks (the PepsiCo Sculpture Garden in Purchase) was closed for renovation when we passed through the area. Then, this winter, we'll start a new series called "Within the County", to visit the remaining parks and preserves on our Westchester 100 list.

**The Westchester 100** is a project inspired by Jane and Walt Daniels's *Walkable Westchester* book, and is a list of 91 "regular" hikes plus 18 shorter ones (each equal to half a hike) that must be completed in order to earn the spiffy patch shown here. Only three people have completed the adventure so far - Rev. Jeff Geary in 2014, and Debbie Farrell and Lisa Weismiller in 2016. Several people are



nearing completion, and we're hoping that the new "Within the County" series will inspire others to do the same. For information about the Westchester 100, and to see the complete list of hikes, just go to our website and click on the "News and Notices" tab.

**Explore the Newly Revitalized Briarcliff-Peekskill Trail.** Carolyn Hoffman will be doing a 3 part series of hikes along the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trail this spring and summer. This 12 mile path, originally intended to be a parkway, passes through multiple County-owned properties including Teatown, John Hand Park, Croton Dam Park and Blue Mountain Reservation. The trail was first dedicated to public use in the 1970's, fell into disuse in the 1980's, and was cleared and reblazed in the 1990's by several volunteers including WTA members Dick Redfield and Eileen West. It fell into disuse again several years later, and has now been cleared and reblazed once more by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. When our Westchester 100 list was prepared a portion of the route was impassible, which explains why only one segment was included on the list, but now we can enjoy the entire length of trail: it provides a delightful "walk in the woods" through the center of Westchester County.

**Weekday Morning Hikes at Van Cortlandt Park.** Diana Catz leads short hikes at Van Cortlandt Park on most weekday mornings. The group meets at the stables parking lot (Broadway and Mosholu Avenue) at 10 a.m. and hikes for 1-2 hours, depending on the participants. For information and to register, please email Diana at [dscatz@gmail.com](mailto:dscatz@gmail.com).

**Thursday Morning Hikes.** If you're interested in exploring our local trails during the week, check out the Thursday group, an unofficial gathering of hikers (including many WTA members) who meet every Thursday morning. The hikes usually start at 10:00 a.m. and last about two hours, ending before lunch. For information or to get added to the group's e-mail list, contact Sandy Maguire at [sandy.tsrn@verizon.net](mailto:sandy.tsrn@verizon.net).

**Net Notices:** Sign up for WTA's Yahoo Group emails (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/westhike>) to receive reminders of upcoming hikes, last-minute postings and communications from other WTA members. Visit our website at [www.westhike.org](http://www.westhike.org) and our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/westhike>. Join in the discussion, post photos and descriptions of your WTA hiking adventures on Facebook, or send your photos to Catharine Raffaele at [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com) for posting. All our friends are welcome!

**WTA Officers and Board Members:**

President: Debbie Farrell  
Vice President: Minu Chaudhuri  
Secretary: Catharine Raffaele  
Treasurer: Mike Doehring

Board Members: Art Adelman, Alice Benash, Diana Catz, Carolyn Hoffman, Steve Klepner and Joe Rodriguez.

**Hike Coordinator/Schedule Editor:**  
Eileen West

**An E-mail Option for Your Schedules.** If you prefer to receive your schedule by e-mail instead of regular mail, please contact Catharine Raffaele at [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com) to get added to our e-mail list.

**WTA Welcomes its New Members:** Judy Behrens, Jeff Coren, Evelyn Fenichel, Leighann Ferrara, Peter Franaszek, Scott McGuirk, Anne Mildred Moriarty, Serada Neppala, Diane Silver, Rosemarie Smalheiser, Steve Smalheiser, Fred Stavans and Judyth Stavans.

**And Welcome Back:** Julie DiRaimondo, Philip Harrison and Micky Zucker.

Have a most enjoyable spring. See you on the trail!



**WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.**

**P.O. Box 736  
White Plains, New York 10602**

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES WHO MIGHT HAVE AN INTEREST IN BECOMING A MEMBER**

Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Dues are \$12 per member; couples with the same address can either pay \$22 for one set of mailings or \$24 for two sets of mailings. Membership ends December 31 of each year. New applicants joining between October 1 and December 31 will get the last quarter free and have their dues applied to the following year. Make checks or money orders payable to Westchester Trails Association and send with this form to Westchester Trails Association, P.O. Box 736, White Plains, NY 10602. If you would prefer to pay your dues with PayPal, please use the online application on our website's "Join/Contact" page.

**Please print the following information:**      **Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Phone # (    )** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you would prefer to receive your schedules via e-mail instead of regular mail, please check here \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not want your address, phone/e-mail published in WTA membership lists, indicate here \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about WTA? \_\_\_\_\_

List membership in other hiking/conservation organizations: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the areas that interest you: Hike leading \_\_\_\_\_ Trail maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ Clerical work \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Planning/helping with social events \_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_