



# WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

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## FALL HIKING SCHEDULE AND NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2018

Hikes ratings are based on terrain (mileage is stated separately in the description). An "easy" hike is one with relatively flat terrain while "easy to moderate" adds rolling hills. 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 or turned back by the leader. Well behaved dogs on leashes are welcome if the hike is listed as "dog friendly," but dogs are not allowed on other WTA hikes. New hikers are asked to contact the leader in advance of the hike. In fairness to yourself and others, please choose a hike that is within your abilities - contact the leader if you have any questions about the level of difficulty or experience required. 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.

To become a member, please complete the application at the end of this schedule and mail it, together with a check or money order payable to Westchester Trails Assoc., to the address on the application.

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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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*As the air turns cool and crisp, our fall  
schedule offers a cornucopia of enjoyable hikes,*



*including two with a somewhat spooky theme:*

*Sunday, October 27: Doodletown, Harriman's Ghost Town  
Saturday, November 3: Sleepy Hollow, Following "The Legend"*



Saturday, September 1 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 1 - **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, September 1 - **Twilight in Rio**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. Viva Brazil! A late afternoon jaunt in Untermyer Gardens, Lenoir Nature Preserve and on the Old Croton Aqueduct precedes a "Carnival meets Vegas" spectacle. Brazil recording artist Silvana Magda w/The Katende Band & Viva Brazil Dancers will knock out sparkling Afro-Brazilian sounds in this free Untermyer Performing Arts Council show (attending this 7:30 show is optional). Bring refreshment for pre-music supper. Transport to/from nearby Metro North station can be provided. To register, contact leader Debbie Farrell, [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com) or (914) 282-9942. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 8).*

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

Sunday, September 2 - **Harriman Hike**. 5-6 miles, moderate. We will be looking for fall foliage on this hike, as the blueberry bushes start turning a beautiful dark pink color. Leaving Sebago Boat Launch, we will take various routes to Pine Meadow and Wanoksink Lakes. Rain or substantial threat of rain will cancel. Hiking boots, lunch, snacks and sufficient water are required. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com) or (917) 501-1322. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 2 - **Lake Taghkanic Hike and Swim**. 5 miles, easy to moderate. We'll do a loop around the lake, then enjoy a swim in this Columbia County park in Ancram, NY. There is a bath house for changing, and snacks are available. Expect a parking fee of \$8 per car without an Empire Passport. Exit at the large green sign for the park exit off the Taconic State Parkway, past the Columbia County sign. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Monday, September 3 (Labor Day) - **Hubbard Perkins Round Hill in Fahnestock**. 7.5 miles, moderate. This delightful hike starts at the "Hubbard Lodge", one-third mile north of the intersection of Route 9 and Route 301 in Cold Spring. We will do a circular hike on School Mt. Road, to the East Mt. Loop, to the Perkins Trail, then take the Fahnestock trail back to the cars. Contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) for meeting time and place. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 8 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 8 - **Ledges and Lakes (Harriman Circuit Hike #9)**. 8.85 miles, strenuous. This hike, which begins and ends at the Tuxedo railroad station, has 2,140 feet of elevation gain and includes two lakes, panoramic views, a shelter, and the historic Claudius Smith Den. Leader: Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 8 - **Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway Part 2: Watch Hill Road to New Croton Dam**. 4.8 miles, easy to moderate. This is a re-listing of a hike on the summer schedule that was canceled due to bad weather. There will be shady woods, wetlands and some road walking followed by dramatic views from the dam. Contact leader for meeting place; a shuttle will be involved. 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 the Briarcliff-Peekskill series).*

Sunday, September 9 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 9 - **East Mountain State Forest and Ice Gulch: AT in Sheffield and Great Barrington, MA.** 7.2 miles, moderate. Want to try hiking in a new place? Then join us for a hike in the Southern Berkshires of Massachusetts. This out and back hike on the Appalachian Trail with 680' of elevation gain combines splendid views of the Housatonic Valley and Taconic Range with the cooling breezes emanating from the rocky cleft known as "Ice Gulch". The return offers a second chance to enjoy the stunning vistas and if it's clear enough, views southwestward to the Catskills. To register or for more information, contact Pat Johnston at [patjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:patjohnston@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 9 - **Wappinger Greenway Circular.** 7 miles, easy to moderate. This hike, along Wappinger Creek and its tributaries, also passes through Bowdoin and Reese Parks in Wappingers Falls and continues on some of its local streets. Our lunch stop will be at a park featuring the Mesier Homestead, site of the town's own "tea party revolt" in 1777. Contact leader to register: Eileen West (914) 747-3776; [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 15 - **Orchard Beach, Twin and Hunter Islands.** 3-4 miles, easy. Enjoy ocean breezes, varied terrain and spectacular views of Long Island Sound on this hike. Meet the leader on the right side of the Orchard Beach parking lot at 10 AM. Rain cancels. Leader: Toby Garfinkel (914) 337-6612. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 16 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 16 - **Silvermine Circular.** 8.5 miles, moderate to strenuous. This pleasant fall hike will incorporate sections of the Menomine, Long Path, and a very nice stretch of the A.T. Please email the leader, Judy Hirschman, [hirschmanjudith@gmail.com](mailto:hirschmanjudith@gmail.com) no later than 48 hours prior to confirm and to get exact meeting place and time. Excessive rain/ foul weather cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 16 - **Twin Lakes Loop, Teatown.** 3 miles, moderate. Enjoy a wonderful, almost Fall, hike at Teatown Lake Reservation. This is an invigorating scenic route through one of Teatown's trails. Please bring snacks and water. Beginners are welcome. Contact the leader for meeting time and location. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, [elspethkramer@aol.com](mailto:elspethkramer@aol.com), (347) 262-4802. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, September 22 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 22 - **Pine Swamp Mountain.** 6 miles, moderately strenuous. This is Hike No. 18 in the Harriman Park Circuit Hikes book, with a 1300 ft. elevation gain. These are always lovely interesting ventures. Register by 5 PM Friday evening with leader Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 22 - **Bear Mt. Bridge and Environs.** 5-6 miles, easy. Join the leader on a hike suitable for early Fall weather. We will park on the east side of the Bear Mountain Bridge, walk across and do some combination of the ferry dock (south of the bridge) and Fort Montgomery (north of the bridge). The latter also takes us across a small suspension bridge. Bring a lunch, sunblock and one to two liters of water. A broad brimmed hat would be useful since the walk across the bridge and back is unshaded. Leader Steve Klepner, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com), (845) 297-7066. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 23 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 23 - **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 AM 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, September 23 - **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. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Saturday, September 29 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, September 29 - **NYC and Brooklyn Walk.** 13 miles, easy. From Grand Central Station we will walk south to the Brooklyn Bridge, cross the bridge and walk to Red Hook in Brooklyn, then take the IKEA ferry (\$5) to Wall Street and walk back to Grand Central. Along the way we will stop for lunch (bag it or buy it) and see icons of the city like the Washington Square Arch, public art installations, the newly extended Brooklyn waterfront, the infamous IKEA, and other curiosities. There are options to shorten the walk by taking the subway to Grand Central Station at some point along the way. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at [lindawildman88@verizon.net](mailto:lindawildman88@verizon.net) or text/call (914) 316-5674. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, September 29 - **Pruyn Sanctuary.** 3 miles, easy to moderate. Hike on various trails along a pond, a brook, and a system of boardwalks through Gedney Swamp, a protected wetland, and a small Butterfly and Hummingbird garden. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Woodmill Road "Trails Entrance". For Google map or gps directions, use the address 16 Woodmill Road, Chappaqua, NY; directions for the "Trails Entrance" can also be found at <http://www.sawmillriveraudubon.org/pruyn.html>. Park along Woodmill Road without blocking driveways or the sanctuary entrance. Rain cancels. Leader: Asha Chauhan, (212)730-2351, [a1chauhan@gmail.com](mailto:a1chauhan@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for Westchester 100 (No 15).*

Saturday September 29 - **Canoe / Kayak Croton River.** This is a favorite; an easy and relaxing flatwater paddle on the Croton River. We will launch 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 mid-tide to explore the river, its side channels and estuaries. We will lunch, and swim if warm enough at the gravel beach. Rentals are available: [info@kayakhudson.com](mailto:info@kayakhudson.com). Bring binoculars, lunch, and swimsuit. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [jsmallpt@aol.com](mailto:jsmallpt@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

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

Sunday, September 30 - **Race Brook Falls and Mount Everett (Sheffield, MA).** 6 miles, strenuous. If you are interested in spending the day challenging yourself on a hike of 2,185 feet elevation gain with beautiful waterfalls and tremendous views on a mountain summit, then this is the hike for you. For more information and to register, contact Pat Johnston at [patjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:patjohnston@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, September 30 - **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 cancels.

Saturday, October 6 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, October 6 - **Tuxedo Circular, Southern Harriman.** 7-8 miles, moderate. Starting on the Ramapo-Dunderberg trail, the hike continues towards Parker Cabin Mountain, then descends onto the Triangle trail. We stop at Lake Skenonto for a scenic lunch before returning on a variety of trails. From Rt. 17 in Tuxedo, make a right and meet in the commuter lot on East Village Road just past the tracks. Contact the leader for meeting time and directions. Rain cancels. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, [marvp7025@gmail.com](mailto:marvp7025@gmail.com), (917) 733-2259. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 6 - **Taxter Ridge Park Preserve.** 3-4 miles, easy to moderate. This leisurely walk with some hills will be on the preserve's reopened and rebazed trails, in lovely woods with tall trees high above. Meet 10 a.m. at the newly built parking lot on Taxter Road. From Route 119 go south on Taxter Road for about half a mile - the parking lot entrance is well marked, on the right. If coming from U.S. 9, turn east on Sunnyside Lane. The name of the road changes to Taxter Road when it reaches the Mountain Road fork - stay left (on Taxter) for about a mile. The parking lot will be on your left. We will stop briefly for an early lunch or snack. Rain cancels; prediction of rain does not. Leader: Ellie Carren (914) 591-7038 May call up to 11 p.m. if you have any questions. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 3).*

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

Sunday, October 7 - **Harriman Hike.** 6-7 miles, moderate. Ridge walking all day, after a short walk from the Kanawauke Lake boat launch parking area off of Route 106. We will start on unmarked trails, then to the Dunning and R-D trails, passing through Times Square. Plenty of beautiful views, with fall foliage. Rain or substantial threat of rain will cancel. Hiking boots, lunch, snacks and sufficient water are required. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com) or (917) 501-1322. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 7 - **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. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).*

Monday, October 8 (Columbus Day) - **Osborn Loop in the Hudson Highlands.** 7-8 miles, moderate. We will start from the parking lot for Manitoga (off Route 9D in Garrison) and hike along the Osborn Loop up to the wonderful lunch spot on Sugarloaf South overlooking the Hudson. The hike will be about 4 hours plus lunch. Email Carol Harting to register at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 13 - **A HIKE AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, October 13 - **North South Lake Area Catskill Escarpment Hike.** 10 miles, moderately strenuous. Our goal is to see the vistas painted by the Hudson River School artists of the 19th Century. This will involve some good climbs and a short car shuttle. Not a day to plan evening activities. We will leave our area early and expect to get back in the early evening. Register early in the week if possible but no later than noon on Friday so we can arrange the carpools. Contact leader Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday October 13 - **Canoe / Kayak: Mohansic Lake and Crom Pond.** We will enjoy the fall foliage 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 alongside the pond. Bring own canoe or kayak, lifejacket, and lunch. There are no rentals nearby. 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, October 14 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, October 14 - **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, (914) 260-0343 or [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 14 - **Croton Gorge Park and OCA Fall Foliage Hike.** 5-6 miles, easy. This mainly linear hike starts at the base of Croton Dam, continues south above the Croton river and then along the Old Croton Aqueduct trail to the Ossining border. We will return to our starting point via the OCA, then head to the top of the dam to enjoy the views across the Croton reservoir. Meet in the main parking lot off route 129; bring lunch or a snack. To register, e-mail the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 20 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, October 20 - **Black Rock Forest.** 7-8 miles, moderately strenuous. Enjoy sweeping views of fall foliage from various summits including Mt. Misery and the Hill of Pines on this circular hike in Black Rock Forest. Leader: Alice Benash, [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net) or (914) 723-8722. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 20 - **Mills Mansion and Norrie Point, Staatsburg, NY.** 5-6 miles, easy. This hike will take us along hiking and carriage trails in the Mills/Norrie State Park. We will do a loop hike and have lunch next to the Hudson River. Enjoy fall views of the Hudson and the Catskills. If you are interested in touring the mansion afterwards, the last tour is at 4 PM (\$8 adults/\$6 seniors). To register contact the leader, Janice Miller, at [madjan11@optonline.net](mailto:madjan11@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 20 - **West Side River Walk, Art and Dinner.** 5 miles, easy. River vistas from 14<sup>th</sup> Street to 57<sup>th</sup> Street along the Hudson. At 57<sup>th</sup> Street, 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 a choice of drinks for about \$21-\$25 including tip. Meet at 10 a.m. at the NW corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 14<sup>th</sup> Street (A/C/E trains) in Manhattan. Bring a light lunch/snack and water. Leader: Marvin Malater (718) 376-3608; call for status or information. *Joint with the Shorewalkers.*

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

Sunday, October 21 - **Iron Mines Loop, Harriman State Park.** 9.1 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. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Mike Jablonski, [mjab5749@gmail.com](mailto:mjab5749@gmail.com) or (914) 588-1761. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 21 - **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 Kitchawan Trails. Meet the leader at 10 a.m. at the preserve parking lot (712 Kitchawan Road in Ossining).

Leader: Sue Soni, [surekhasoni1968@gmail.com](mailto:surekhasoni1968@gmail.com) or (914) 747-2452. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 33).*

Saturday, October 27 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday October 27 - **NYC Walk.** 13 miles, easy. From Grand Central Station we will walk east to the United Nations, then alongside the East River to the tip of the island where we will circle around and walk north along the Hudson River. At Gansevoort we'll take the High Line up to 34th Street, and finally wind our way back to Grand Central. Along the way we will stop for lunch (bag it or buy it) and see icons of the city such as the South Street Seaport, Vietnam Memorial, public art installations, and other curiosities. There are options to shorten the walk by taking the subway to Grand Central Station at some point along the way. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at [lindawildman88@verizon.net](mailto:lindawildman88@verizon.net) or text/call (914) 316-5674. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 27 - **Pingyp Mountain.** 7.1 miles, moderate to strenuous. 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. Short shuttle will be required. Leader: Steve Klepner (845) 297-7066, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, October 27 - **Doodletown.** 5 miles, easy to moderate. In honor of Halloween, we will visit this "ghost town" in Harriman State Park. This picturesque valley was inhabited since at least 1762 and was a crossroads for soldiers during the Revolutionary War. At its height in the 1920's, the settlement had about 70 homes plus a school, church, and several businesses. In the 1960's, the last remaining residents were removed to include the property in the state park. Our walk will be at a relaxed pace to view the remains of the vanished hamlet and learn more about its history. Leader: Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

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

Sunday, October 28 - **New Loop Trail at Garrison School Forest.** 5-6 miles, moderate. One of the best East Hudson moderate hikes just got a lot better with the addition of a new shaded, soft earth, pristine trail. Trust me, you're going to love it. Anyway, I think so. The new trail, which appears on the latest NYNJTC maps, has about 1,100' of elevation gain. It starts at the South Redoubt and connects with existing trails to form a loop. So join me on a civilized exploration including a new viewpoint. We will meet on Snake Hill Road in Garrison. The parking area is plainly marked and is about 1/4 mile east of Route 9D or about 2 miles west of Route 9. Leader: Howard Millman (914) 439-8031, [hwarmillman@aol.com](mailto:hwarmillman@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, October 28 - **Silver Lake Preserve, West Harrison, NY.** 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. The route of this 3 hour hike is through woods on varied terrain with some fallen trees to navigate, and along a lovely lake. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 40).*

Saturday, November 3 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 3 - **Post-Halloween Hike: Sleepy Hollow, Following "The Legend".** 12-13 miles, easy to moderate. Every so often we celebrate Halloween with a reading of Washington Irving's "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" as we recreate the path taken by Ichabod Crane on the fateful night when he met the Headless Horseman. This time the hike is on the NY Rambler's schedule so the

route is, naturally, a longer one. In the morning we'll explore different trails in Rockwood Hall and Rockefeller State Parks. Then after lunch we'll read excerpts from the story as we follow Ichabod and the Horseman through the streets of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, and at the conclusion of the tale we'll visit the burying ground of the Old Dutch Church to find the graves of the author and some of the characters in "The Legend". The plan is to leave the cemetery unaccompanied by ghosts or goblins, but there are no guarantees. Drivers, park at the Tarrytown station in Lot A on Depot Plaza across from the train station and board the 9:13 a.m. train to Philipse Manor (get a one way ticket, since the hike will end in Tarrytown). Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Awful weather cancels. *This is a New York Rambler's hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).*

Saturday, November 3 - **Wonder Lake State Park**. 5-7 miles, easy to moderate. This hike of about 3-4 hours is partially level (around the lake) with some hills in other sections of the trail and is not for first-time hikers. Wonder Lake State Park is in Putnam County and was acquired by New York State in 1998 and expanded in 2006. The park covers nearly 1000 acres in both the Towns of Paterson and Kent. To register, call leader Barry Leibowitz by 6 p.m. on the day before the hike at H: (845) 278-2479 or C: (914) 774-5321. Rain cancels. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 3 - **Van Cortlandt Park**. 4-5 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](mailto: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).

#### Sunday, November 4 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, November 4 - **AT from Route 22 to Cat Rocks, Pawling, NY**. 6 miles, moderate. This out and back hike offers a variety of paths. We'll commence at the Metro-North AT Station and travel south; over board walks, up and down hills and through meadows to our destination with a view of where we've traveled. Contact hike leader Rosanne Schepis for departure time and to register: (203) 417-5552 or [rschep@yahoo.com](mailto:rschep@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, November 4 - **Arthur Butler Sanctuary, Mt. Kisco, NY**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. This is a nice mixture of some steep hills in between rolling hills and flat terrain and varying scenery including ferns, large boulders, several streams, and a hawk watch area. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).*

#### Saturday, November 10 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 10 - **Schunemunk Circular**. 6-7 miles, moderate to strenuous. The Schunemunk conglomerate ridge is known for its interesting geology and varied terrain. Morning ascent via the Sweet Clover, lunch at the Megaliths and return on the Jessup trail. Contact leader to register. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, (914) 260-0343 or [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 10 - **Angle Fly Preserve**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate. Come hike this lovely Westchester Preserve in the fall foliage. The network of trails extends about 10 miles and spans the entire preserve property, and we will do about 5-6 miles (3-4 hours, including lunch) within the preserve. Call leader, Jane Smalley, to register at (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [jsmallpt@aol.com](mailto:jsmallpt@aol.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 53).*



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

Sunday, November 11 - **Ward Pound Ridge**. 5-6 miles, moderate. We will hike on parts of the Rocks Trail in the southern part of the Preserve. Appropriate footwear, lunch, snacks and water are required. Carpooling will be from the Cross River Shopping Center. To register contact leader Sarah Davis, [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com) or (917) 501-1322. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No.63).*

Sunday, November 11 - **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, November 17 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 17 - **Forest View Trail/Closter Dock from PIP Headquarters, Alpine NJ**. 6 miles, moderate. Only 20 minutes from the Mario Cuomo Bridge in Tarrytown. Stunning panoramic views up and down the Hudson on this loop hike with a walk atop the Palisades; descend to and stroll along the river, and visit the historic, castle-like Women's Federation Monument. Car pooling from Route 119 in Tarrytown, and/or pickup at a MetroNorth station are available. Contact Debbie Farrell [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com), or (914) 282-9942. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 17 - **FDR State Park**. 3.5 miles, easy. FDR is more than a picnic park. Join Walt and Jane Daniels for an afternoon hike to woodlands and wetlands made accessible by trails, boardwalks and bridges built by the Friends of FDR State Park in 2017. Meet at 2 p.m. at the back of the parking lot at Downing Park on Route 202 just east of the FDR Park entrance. Driving directions: From the Taconic Parkway take the Route 202 exit and head east towards Yorktown. Downing Park is 0.6 mile from the light at the northbound exit from the Taconic Parkway. Do not use the FDR park entrance. For information call (914) 471-5545 or email [jdhikes@gmail.com](mailto:jdhikes@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 24).*

Sunday, November 18 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, November 18 - **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. *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, November 18 - **Teatown Lake Reservation and Cliffdale Loops**. 7 miles, easy to moderate. We'll walk along the east side of the lake, then through Griffin swamp and along the Cliffdale-Teatown trail to Cliffdale farm, continuing on the Cliffdale loop and Catamount hill trails, and returning via the southern shore of the lake. Bring lunch; optional stop at the cider mill after the hike. Meet in the main parking lot of the Nature Center - parking fees may still apply so carpooling is encouraged. To register, e-mail the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, November 24 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, November 24 - **West Mountain (Harriman Circuit Hike #23)**. 6.45 miles, moderate to strenuous. This hike, with 1,810 feet of elevation gain, provides spectacular views of Bear Mountain,

the Hudson River, and other peaks in Harriman Park. A moderate stretch through hardwood forests gives way to a strenuous climb followed by scenic vistas and interesting rock formations. Leader: Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Saturday, November 24 - Leatherstocking Trail in Saxon Woods. 4-5 miles, easy. This area of Saxon Woods Park is east of the Hutchinson River Parkway. We will meet at the Weinberg Nature Center at 9:30 and walk east over a gently rolling trailway. Before coming to Old Post Road we will return on the loop which passes the lake. A pleasant and peaceful hike. To register email the leader, Joe Rodriguez, at [jpr50@optonline.net](mailto:jpr50@optonline.net). For directions call (914) 364-8090. *Joint with ADK Mohican. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 60).*

### Sunday, November 25 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, November 25 - Hook Mountain. 6 miles, moderate. Spectacular views from the top of the Palisades. Starting near Rockland State Park (near the fire house), we will take the aqua-blazed Long Path south and do a counter clockwise circular to the white Upper Nyack Trail, and then return along the shore. Contact leader for meeting information. Leader: Frank Lee, [fleessa@yahoo.com](mailto:fleessa@yahoo.com). *Joint with ADK Mohican.*

Sunday, November 25 - Turkey Mountain Preserve, Yorktown Heights. 3 miles, easy to moderate. (NWP). Walk off some of the Thanksgiving feast, thanking the turkeys, with one of the best viewpoints in Westchester. Meet at NWP at 9:30 a.m., or contact the leader to meet at the trailhead. 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. 42).*

## News and Notices

**Annual Meeting Election Results.** Below are the results from our June 10 election of WTA officers and board members, held at the Westmoreland Sanctuary in Mt. Kisco:

**Officers:** President: Debbie Farrell; Vice President: Minu Chaudhuri; Secretary: Catharine Raffaele; Treasurer: Mike Doehring.

**Board Members** elected for two year terms are: Art Adelman, Alice Benash and Nancy Vincent. Board members who will be serving the second year of their two year term are: Diana Catz, Steve Klepner and Joe Rodriguez.

A heartfelt "thank you" to outgoing board member Carolyn Hoffman for her past service on the board and her continuing service to the club in multiple capacities. Thank you also to our Nominating Committee: Sue Soni (Chair), Asha Chauhan, Toby Garfinkel, Vivian Odorizzi, Sheila Sarkar and Lillian Wolfe-Brown.

**We know you don't need a reminder about hiking group etiquette,** but we had some space available so listed below are a few things to remember:

- We're out here to enjoy the clean, fresh air. Please don't smoke while hiking.
- We want to hear the sounds of nature. Please keep phones on "mute" or "vibrate", use phones only in an emergency, and wear earbuds if you're listening to music.

- We're hiking through a natural environment. Please don't discard trash of any kind: that includes orange peels, eggshells and toilet paper (Baggies were invented for a reason!)

- Group hikes have a different dynamic than going out with a couple of friends. Please keep in sight of the person ahead of you, be sure the person behind you is within sight, and wait at intersections until everyone is together. Please also be honest (with yourself and with the leader) about your hiking experience and ability, and choose an outing within your abilities.

**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.tsm@verizon.net](mailto:sandy.tsm@verizon.net).

**Informal Weekday Hikes at Van Cortlandt Park.** Diana Catz leads short hikes at Van Cortlandt Park on most weekdays. The group meets at the stables parking lot (Broadway and Mosholu Avenue) usually at 3 PM and hikes for 1-2 hours, depending on the participants. Days and times vary so for information and to register, please email Diana at [dscatz@gmail.com](mailto:dscatz@gmail.com).

**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, Steve Klepner, Joe Rodriguez, Nancy Vincent.

**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:** Regina Baldwin, Roberta Billington, Shari Mason, Jody Meyer, Andrea Natalie, Beth Neilsen, Sara Sheer, Anna Treiller, Rochelle Yankwitt.

Have a most enjoyable autumn. 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: \_\_\_\_\_