



BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

10:00 a.m. Microscope Fun– Join a naturalist to explore the world under a microscope. Fun for all ages. This activity qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

1:00 p.m. Fabulous Frogs– Join a naturalist for an introduction to West Virginia frogs and toads. Presentation is about 45 minutes and qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

Thursday, April 10, 2025

9:00 a.m. Beavers– Join the staff for a stroll along Pendleton Lake in search of signs of beavers and other life found around the lake. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Hike is less than one mile and about 45 minutes along a natural trail that may be very wet or muddy.

11:30 a.m. Beaver Film– Join the staff to take a virtual intimate swim with beavers and experience the rich aquatic habitat of one of nature's greatest engineers. This film set in the Canadian Rocky Mountains follows the lives of a family of beavers as they grow, play and transform the world around them. Film is about 70 minutes. NR. Film qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to the viewing of this film.

Friday, April 11, 2025

11:30 a.m. Budding naturalist– Backbones! Join the staff for this presentation that is designed for children to age six. Presentation will use various instruments such as storybooks, videos, crafts, song and more to cover the topic. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

2:30 p.m. Owls of West Virginia– Join the seasonal naturalist for this presentation open to all ages about owls found in the mountain state. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. Presentation is about one hour.

Saturday, April 12, 2025

10:00 a.m. Jewelry Craft– Join the staff to create a work of art you wear such as crystal necklace, friendship bracelet, rock ring, paracord bracelet, etc. Price ranges from FREE to \$4.00 depending on selected craft.

11:30 a.m. Spiders of West Virginia– Join the seasonal naturalist to hear about some spiders found in the mountain state and create a spider craft. FREE. Program is about 45 minutes. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

1:30 p.m. Off the beaten path hike– Join the seasonal naturalist for a loop along some of our cross country trails exploring the early signs of spring. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Trails may be wet/muddy. Expect hike to be less than 1.5 miles and about an hour.

Sunday, April 13, 2025

11:00 a.m. Mountain State Geology– Join the recreation assistant for an introduction to geology with a focus on the local area. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Optional craft activity available for a fee of \$2.00

1:00 p.m. Paint a Souvenir T-shirt– Join the recreation attendant to use fabric paint on a blackwater falls T-shirt. This is the end of the season supply so limited availability of sizes. Sale price is \$5.00 adult sizes and \$3.00 youth sizes.

8:00 p.m. “Peeps and Peents” Pink Full Moon Hike. Join the seasonal naturalist for this hike exploring nighttime sounds and the importance of dark nights to our wildlife. In the Springtime, the nocturnal mating calls of many different animals can be heard. The Full Pink Moon will rise later in the night. Walking will be about ½ a mile along parks roads and last about an hour. Please dress for the weather. You may bring a flashlight for safety, but please keep it off until instructed by naturalist okay or use a red light. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are encouraged to attend.

Monday, April 14, 2025

10:00 a.m. Phenology Stroll– The study of seasons and how things change. Join a naturalist at the overlook as we use our eyes and ears to keep track of birds, mammals, plants and more as they make their appearance throughout the year. Feel free to bring binoculars and a camera. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist program. All ages are welcome to attend this hike. Hike is less than one mile on relatively level ground. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend with their owner.

1:00 p.m. Black Bears– Join a naturalist to hear about our state mammal. Presentation is about one hour. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

Harold Walters Nature Center Open Daily

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Nature Store is 10 am to 3:30 p.m.

(unless otherwise noted)

Hours subject to change at discretion of park naturalist without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances

almost heaven

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

10:00 a.m. Bird Hike– Join staff as we look and listen for birds around the nature center and lake. Binocular are helpful but not required. The naturalist has a couple pair of binoculars for loan during hike. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Hike is less than a mile along natural terrain trails and roadway.

1:00 p.m. The Osprey Film– Join the staff for this hour long film about osprey.

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

8:30 a.m. Bird Hike– Join both naturalist in the bus parking/falls overflow parking area for a hike along park roads as we look and listen for feathered friends and other signs of spring. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Hike is about one mile.

1:00 p.m. White- Tailed Deer– Join a naturalist for brief introduction to white tailed deer and perhaps make a plaster of Paris deer track. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

Thursday, April 17, 2025

10:00 a.m. Spruce Bog Walk– Join a naturalist at the trailhead of Gentle Trail to cross the road and walk a portion of Yellow Birch Trail. About 1 mile with short interpretive stops along the journey. Sturdy shoes and walking stick recommended as we navigate the wet, uneven terrain of a natural forest. About

70 minutes. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to attend with their owner.

1:00 p.m. Youth Wild for Water– a staff member to observe water under a microscope, play a game where you become a droplet of water traveling the water cycle while creating a bracelet. About 1 hour. Presentation qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend.

Friday, April 18, 2025

Nature Center Hours: 11 am– 8 pm

7:30 p.m. Flashlight Egg Hunt- Easter Weekend at Blackwater Falls State Park starts with a fun egg hunt on Friday, April 18. This is a Flashlight Egg Hunt along trails/fields with yes, you guessed it, a flashlight! As dark approaches, children ages 12 and younger will venture out in search of hidden eggs that contain treats and prizes. Hot chocolate and s'mores by bonfire will compliment the evening fun. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate – open to children 12 and younger accompanied by an adult. Please bring a flashlight, a basket for egg collection and be sure to dress for the weather. Leashed and well behaved dogs are welcome to walk the trail with their owner. No registration is required, so you can pay at the door.

Saturday, April 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. Balsam Fir Trail– Join the seasonal naturalist for a hike along Balsam Fir trail exploring the forest and searching removing any litter from yesterday's flashlight egg hunt. Hike qualifies for the Junior Naturalist patch program. All ages are welcome to attend. Leashed and well behaved dogs wel-

• All Programs meet at the Harold Walters Nature Center unless otherwise specified in description.



Plan to arrive five minutes early for programs. A late arrival or no show may result in cancellation of program.

Keep Pets physically leashed while enjoying the park. Activities that are pet friendly indicated in description. See Park Rules and Regulations about length of leash.

Protect the environment and yourself by staying on designated blazed trails. Building or constructing unauthorized trails or simply walking off trail harms the landscape and wildlife that call the area home. Avoid short cuts and social trails that are not on the park map or blazed.

It is suggested to walk with a partner, carry water and perhaps an individually wrapped snack. Carry the 5 c's. Don't know what the 5 c's are then ask at the Nature Center.

Be observant of adjacent private property or Monongahela Forest Property lines while hiking.

Children ages 12 and under need to be accompanied by an adult on programs.

While walking on park roads a person should be facing oncoming traffic. While biking on park roads a person should ride with the flow of traffic and use hand signals. Bikers yield to hikers on trails. All yield to equestrians where they are permitted in some parks.

Nature Center 304-259-5511

YOUR FOOTSTEPS MATTER!

SOCIAL TRAILS ARE HARMFUL! Stay on Existing Blazed Trails. If there is no blaze then it's not a park trail and you should stay off this path to save the environment and it's inhabitants. Use the park trail map

• All Activities meet at Harold Walters Nature Center unless



PAULITA, NAI/CIG

Meet our Staff



VICTOR

BRUCE

DELLA

KENNY

KYRA

Young People for Parks Program (YPP)

Program listed as YPP is *open to all ages* but qualifies to meet the youth requirements to earn the YPP patch: To Earn the patch

(1) you must be age 6-16 years. (2) Attend Three of the Blackwater Falls State Park activities listed as YPP qualified (3) Complete the brochure and Meet with us at the Nature Center to retrieve your patch. *Exclusive at Blackwater Falls State Park*–

The Rattlesnake Pin ask at Harold Walters Nature Center how your child can earn this unique Pin.

Since 1978, the Harold Walters Nature Center has been educating & facilitating environmental education through the park's vast natural resources by offering a variety of free to low cost programs designed to assist visitors to learn more about the natural world.

Naturalist staff may also be available to conduct programs for school groups and organized groups at the park or nearby community Call 304-259-5511 for more information

CHECK OUT OUR KIDS EXPLORATION BACKPACK

The individual borrowing the Exploration Tool kit will be responsible for picking up and dropping off this resource at Harold Walters Nature Center during regular business hours of nature center.