



Second Quarter 2020 BRHC Hike List

Note: *If a scheduled hike requires access to the Parkway, and there is a concern that it might be closed, failing an email before 9:00 a.m. from a hike leader, go to the designated access place and check. If the BRP is open, proceed to the hike start place. If it is closed, go to the Bass Lake parking area and regroup. This is a good central point, and it has toilets.*

Mondays

April

6: Bass Lake to Cone Manor loop. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

13: Trout Lake to Manor House & Figure 8 Trail. Meet in parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road BRP Milepost 294.6.

20: The Maze and Applebarn at Cone Manor. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area off 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

27: Trout Lake to Rich Mountain. Meet in parking area of Trout Lake off Shull's Mill Road BRP Milepost 294.6.

May

4: Flat Top Observation Tower. Meet at Cone Manor House in front of the Carriage Barn BRP Milepost 294.1.

11: Price Lake plus. Meet at Boatramp Parking at Price Lake BRP Milepost 297.

18: Green Knob: Meet at Sims Pond Overlook BRP Milepost 295.9.

25: Old John's River Road to Boone Fork. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook BRP Milepost 295.9.

June

1: Carriage Barn to Blowing Rock Stables. Meet at Cone Manor House in front of the Carriage Barn BRP Milepost 294.1.

8: Tanawha Trail to Holloway Mountain Road. Meet at Boatramp Parking at Price Lake BRP Milepost 297.

15: Old John's River Road to Price Lake. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook BRP Milepost 295.9.

22: **Mountain to Sea Trail Raven Rocks.** Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south, BRP MP 289.5.

29: **Mountain to Sea Trail Raven Rocks.** Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking north, BRP MP 289.5.

Wednesdays

April

1 - **China Creek Loop** Includes easy water crossings and a little rock scrambling. Lunch by a lovely little waterfall before starting back up. Trail back to 221 follows an old logging road above a pretty stream with cascades. Opportunities to stop along the way. Wildflowers already starting to bloom. Moderate to Strenuous. 5-6 miles. elevation change approx 1700 feet. No Dogs. Bring sticks, water and lunch. Contact Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or 828-295-9607. No texts please.

8 - **Lower Profile Trail Wildflower Crawl** We will walk lower trail as it descends to the creek and follow the creek hoping the carpet of wild flowers has had time to start blooming. People can turn back at any time. Those wanting to go a little higher on the trail can go on. 3 moderate miles, some uphill and a few easy water crossings. No Dogs. Bring your wildflower books, sticks, water and picnic lunch. (restaurants will be closed) Contact Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or 828-295-9607. No texts please.

15 - **Mountains to Sea Trail: Aho Gap to Goshen Creek and return.** Park alongside BRP at Aho Gap (MP 288). About 5 miles. Moderate. Hiking sticks helpful at water crossing and in rocky area. We will stop for a snack at the bridge near Goshen Creek. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779 or hoffmanpw@yahoo.com

22 - **AT Watauga dam to visitor center.** ~ 7+ Miles, moderate, no dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell leader. 423-772-4280, texting iffy, camitchell21@gmail.com.

29 - **Mountains to Sea Trail: Elk Mountain Overlook (BRP MP 274.3) to Jeffress Park and return.** 6 miles, or so. Easy to moderate. Snack time at picnic tables, Jeffress Park. Visit Cascades and/or continue MST....depending on group wishes. No dogs. Contact hike leader, Pam Hoffman, 828-262-9779 or hoffmanpw@yahoo.com

May

6 - **Spring Pizza Hike! — AT from Carver's Gap to Grassy Ridge, 36.106329, -82.110229** ([map](#)) **Description** Moderate stroll about 5 miles out and back. Meet either at Carver's Gap parking area at 10:00 or carpool from Banner Elk - parking lot by the park on 194, at 9:15. Optional pizza lunch at the Smoky Mountain Bakers in Roan Mountain on the way home. No dogs. Contact Mike Lobban at mjlobban@bellsouth.net or call/text: 305-905-7000

13 - **Blue Trail to Laurel Fork Falls.** 5 miles, moderate, no dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell leader. 423-772-4280, texting iffy, camitchell21@gmail.com.

20 - **Cold Prong Pond to Storyteller Rock:** This hike will follow the Tanawha Trail from Cold Prong Pond parking area (299 BRP) to the Nuwati Trail and Storyteller Rock. Approximately 7 mi. round trip. Rated easy to moderate. Contact hike leader, Sheryl McNair, sammcnair@yahoo.com

27 - **Tanawha/MST Boone Fork Parking to Rough Ridge** Starting at Boone Fort Parking area mile 299.9 we will walk steadily but gradually uphill for 4.6 miles on the Tanawha trail with a lunch stop at the top of Rough Ridge. The 3/4-mile Rough Ride section up to Ship Rock is steep and rocky. Spot cars for one way or hike back to Boone Fork Parking (9.2 mi. round trip). No Dogs. Bring sticks, water and lunch. Contact Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or 828-295-9607. No texts please.

June

3 - **Glen Burney:** The trail starts at Annie Cannon Gardens parking lot on Laurel Lane in Blowing Rock. The trail meanders down through a gorge past 3 waterfalls on the New Years Creek. It is 3.2 miles total. Easy going down but the 700-foot elevation change is a good workout coming back up. No Dogs, sticks are a good idea. Contact Hike Leader, Sherrey Murray, smpa@att.net, phone (828) 737-0248.

10 - **Boone Fork Trail + Hebron Falls + Picnic Lunch**, 36.137949, -81.727924 ([map](#)) **Description** Meet at the Price Lake picnic ground (by the toilets/bridge) near MP 296 on the BRP. 5-mile loop, approx. 3 1/2 hrs. Hike includes views of rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), rhododendron tunnels - side trip to Hebron Falls. Rated moderately strenuous. Hiking sticks are suggested. No dogs. >> Optional PICNIC LUNCH after hike. Contact Mike Lobban at mjlobban@bellsouth.net, or call / text: 305-905-7000

17 - **Thunderhole/China Creek Loop**, A beautiful hike featuring a wide variety of terrain, near Blowing Rock. We plan to start where the Cone Park carriage trail crosses under 221, walk down past the stables to do Upper Thunderhole, then follow China Creek up to the 221 rest area, and back to the cars. Park across from the Blue Ridge Parkway sign on 221S, 1.2 miles up from Main Street in Blowing Rock. The Hike is 5.8 miles for the full loop. Bring a lunch & water. Poles recommended for the Thunderhole descent. Some rock scrambling and significant elevation gain in the second half of the loop. Contact Hike leader Wes McNair, wesmcnair@charter.net, [443-949-2818](tel:443-949-2818), for more information.

24 - **Hughes Gap to Rhodo Gardens** 8 miles moderate, beautiful views, switchback trails to summit. No dogs. Carol Ann Mitchell lead. 423-772-4280. texting iffy; camitchell21@gmail.com

Saturdays

April

4 **Boone Fork Trl. via Holloway Mtn. Rd./Tanawha Trl.:** Meet at the parking area at the halfway point on Holloway Mtn. Rd. Hike the Tanawha to Boone Fork Trl, loop containing rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), and rhododendron tunnels. Includes 2 trail ladders and back. Moderately strenuous,

8 mi. Hiking sticks strongly recommended for water crossings. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

- 11 **Hughes Gap to Rhodo Gardens**. About 8 miles, moderate, beautiful vistas. No dogs. Contact hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280; camitchell21@gmail.com; texting iffy 423-957-1207.
- 18 **Price Lake plus Boone Fork**: Easy to moderate hike starting at the Price Lake Picnic Area, Boone Fork trailhead. Hike across BRP to the Lake trail, and then back to Boone Fork trailhead start with the possibility of continuing on a bit further on the Boone Fork Trail and then doubling back. Meet at Price Lake Picnic Area at 9:30. Approx. 3.5 mi. and 2 hrs. No dogs. Call Roger Bodo at 828-260-2019.
- 25 **Elk Knob**: 3.8 mi. round trip, with 900 ft. gain in elevation. Spectacular views at the summit. The trails are mostly moderate, but steady incline, steep in some places. 2 ½ - 3 hrs. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.

May

- 2 **Hawksbill Mountain Plus**: Meet at Christa's (Christa's Country Corner, Hwy 181, mile marker 312 off of the Blue Ridge Parkway) Pineola, NC and carpool to Hawksbill (due to limited parking). Moderate to strenuous 1.8 miles up and back, with 670 ft. elevation gain; approximately 2 hrs. Fantastic views of the Gorge. We can add an additional trail or two to spice up the distance. Bring hiking sticks. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath at 828-773-0471.
- 9 **Carvers Gap to Roan High Bluff**, 7+ miles, rated moderate. Meet at Carver's Gap parking area on the NC/TN line at the top of NC 261. No dogs. Contact hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280; camitchell21@gmail.com; texting iffy 423-957-1207.
- 16 **Beacon Heights to Rough Ridge via Tanawha Trail / MST**: 5.1 mi., rated moderate (with some rough, rocky areas). Hike through one of the most spectacular sections of the Tanawha Trail. Stopover at the Viaduct Visitor Center, then on to Rough Ridge for snack/lunch atop the magnificent vista. We will spot cars at the Beacon Heights parking area. Meet at Rough Ridge Parking area. No dogs. Call/text hike leader Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 or mjlobban@bellsouth.net for details.
- 23 **Lost Cove Wilson Creek**, 7 miles, 5 hours. This is a loop trail starting with a moderate climb to the top of the ridge then a steep descent down to Hunt Fish Falls and a large swimming hole. The return has several climbs and follows several tributaries of Lost Creek where there are falls, cascades and swimming holes. 6-8 water crossings (many do not offer rock-hopping options). This beautiful hike is a favorite as it affords lots of variety. Meet at the Grandmother Mtn. parking area at mile marker 307.5 on the BRP and carpool to the trailhead on Roseboro Rd. It will be beautiful in the gorge, and the laurel most likely will be blooming. No dogs. Contact hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280; camitchell21@gmail.com; texting iffy 423-957-1207.

- 30 **Profile Trail to Calloway Peak:** 8.2 miles, 6.5 hrs., rated strenuous. Total elevation gain 2,600 ft. The scenic lower part of the trail is moderate, then there is a steady 3.4-mile uphill climb with rocky terrain near Shanty Springs to Calloway Peak where there are 360-degree vistas at 5,946' elevation. Rocky; rated strenuous - experienced hikers only. 3 ladders. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Hiking sticks are suggested. Along the way you will find: Foscoe View (2.45 mi.), Profile View (3.1 mi.), Shanty Springs (3.45 mi.) and Calloway Peak at 4.2 mi.). No dogs. Contact hike leader Sheryl McNair at 443-306-9933 / sammcnair@yahoo.com.

June

- 6 **Table Rock and Crest Trail:** 5.2 mi., rated moderate to strenuous. The Linville Gorge Wilderness area has Table Rock as a view-filled peak above the gorge. The hike is steep but not too long, 2.2 miles round-trip. Beautiful views all the way up and down. Upon return to the parking lot we will continue (optional) on the MST across the crest and partly down toward Shortoff Mountain which will be about 3.0 miles out and back-lunch at the end of this trail before returning to the parking lot. Great views from both sides of the crest. Meet at Christa's Country Corner on 181 at the Parkway, MP 312 to carpool to the trailhead. Bring snacks or lunch for the full hike, plus >> ICE CREAM at Christa's when we return. No dogs. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 or mjlobban@bellsouth.net for details.
- 13 **Quarterly Meeting Hosts:** Mike and Renet Lobban
- 20 **Calloway Peak via Daniel Boone Scout Trail.** Hike from Boone Fork Parking area on the BRP. 5 - 6 hrs., approximately 7 mi. round trip, rated strenuous. Steady uphill trail with many sections strenuous and rocky with ladders. Hiking sticks are highly recommended. Elevation gain 2,060 ft. Enjoy beautiful long-range views to 3 states from the top of Calloway. No dogs. Contact hike leader Juin Adams at juinadams@yahoo.com or 828-295-9607
- 27 **AT: Pond Mountain to Laurel Fork Falls:** Pond Mountain Trail is 9 miles on the AT from Watauga Lake on 321 where the AT crosses at Shook Branch Rd. (just before Hampton, Tenn.) to Dennis Cove parking lot on Dennis Cove Rd. We will spot cars. Rated moderate to strenuous. No dogs. Call hike leader Carol Ann Mitchell at 423-772-4280; camitchell21@gmail.com; texting iffy 423-957-1207