



2nd Quarter 2021 Pandemic Hike List

Monday Hikes: May-June 2021

All hikes meet at 9:30 am, are more or less 5 miles in length, offer a relaxed pace and are done by noon, mostly. No dogs, and please be prepared to observe Dave's 4 Covid Rules, at least for now.

Children and grandchildren, guests, visitors, and nonmembers are very welcome.

May 3: Trout Lake to Manor House & Figure 8 Trail: Meet at Trout Lake parking lot (1st exit left off Parkway just south of Cone Manor going to Rt. 221 and then take an immediate right, nearly a U turn, onto Shull's Mill Rd going under parkway), and an immediate angling right onto single lane paved access to parking around the lake.

May 10: The Maze and Apple Barn at Cone Manor. Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221 just south of Blowing Rock.

May 17: Mountain-to-Sea Trail: Meet at the Raven Rock Overlook, hiking south to Thunder Hill. BRP MP 289.5.

May 24: Flat Top Observation Tower + Cone Memorial. Meet in front of the Carriage House by Cone Manor, BRP MP 294.1.

May 31: Price Lake plus. Meet at Boat ramp parking area, BRP MP 297. Since this is a short hike, be prepared to hike over to and up a bit of the Tanawha Trail.

June 7: Green Knob Trail: This is a short trail with a bit of a climb. Meet at Sims Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

June 14: Old John's River Road to Price Lake, and a visit to King's marker (maybe). Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

June 21: Old John's River Road to Boone Fork and the new MST bridge. Meet at Sim's Pond Overlook, BRP MP 295.9.

June 28: Price Lake plus. and on to an older community cemetery. Meet at boat ramp parking at Price Lake, BRP MP 297.

Wednesday Hikes May-June 2021

MAY

5 This hike is in the Pond Mountain Wilderness and Cherokee National Forest and will begin from the trailhead parking area on US 321/TN 67 in Hampton, TN. We will follow the Hampton Blueline trail to its intersection with the Appalachian Trail, then south on the AT, up the high-water route, then down to the falls for a lunch stop. We will then loop back along the low water route. Total distance is about 5 miles. rated moderate. (NC State Park moderate, not National Park moderate) Rendezvous in Boone for carpooling, for those who wish. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Hiking sticks suggested. No dogs. All hikers must be COVID-19 vaccinated, and 2 weeks after last shot. Contact hike leader Sheryl McNair at sammcnair @[yahoo.com](mailto:sammcnair@yahoo.com) or 443-306-9933.

12 Meet at Linville Land Harbor front parking lot at 10:00. Flexible: survey of folks for North Harper Creek Falls first, Harper Creek Falls first, or HuntFish Falls: hikes are easier and shorter from first to last. No masks or requirements: free for all. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heinrich at 828-733-9174.

19 AT from Carver's Gap to Grassy Ridge. Moderate stroll about 5 miles out and back. Meet at Carver's Gap parking area. 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 305-905-7000. COVID requirements: 1. Fully vaccinated two weeks prior; 2. bring mask as a courtesy should we encounter other hikers on narrow parts of the trail.

26 Hughes Gap to Rhodo Gardens and back, 8 miles, moderate, beautiful views, Carol Ann Mitchell leader, 423-772-4280 or text usually goes through 423-957-1207, no dogs. Covid-Dave's 4.

JUNE

2 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. All hikers must be COVID-19 vaccinated, and 2 weeks after last shot. Contact Hike leader Wes McNair, wesmcnair@charter.net, 443-949-2818, for more information.

9 Hughes Gap to Overlook, 6 miles, gradual ascent up ridge, AT running along or below ridge and NC/TN state line, lovely slopes and views, gradual incline, a few steeper short inclines, easy, moderate. At overlook, 240 degree views. Carol Ann Mitchell leader 423-772-4280; text usually goes through 423-957-1207. no dogs. Covid-Dave's 4.

16 At Pond Mountain to Laurel Fork Falls, 10 miles, moderate, spectacular view of Watauga Lake, Carol Ann Mitchell leader, 423-772-4280 or text usually goes through 423-957-1207, no dogs. Covid-Dave's 4.

23 Holloway Mountain Trail. Holloway Road to Cold Prong via the Tanawha Trail or possibly on to Boone Fork bridge if trail conditions permit with return the same way. 4½ - 7 miles; rated moderate. Hike Leader, Sherrey Murray mpa1958@gmail.com (828-737-0248) Covid - Dave's 4.

30 Profile Trail Profile Trail to (possibly) Calloway Peak. 7+ miles, 6 + hours. Total elevation gain 2,300 feet. The scenic lower part of the trail is moderate, then a steady uphill climb with rocky terrain near Shanty Springs. If all interested, continuing on to Calloway Peak, 5,946' elevation. Rocky, rated strenuous--experienced hikers only. 3 ladders. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Hiking sticks suggested. No dogs. All hikers must be COVID-19 vaccinated, and 2 weeks after last shot. Contact Sheryl McNair at sammcnair@yahoo.com or 443-306-9933.

Saturday Hikes 2nd Quarter, 2021

May

- 1 **Wilson Creek:** Meet at Linville Land Harbor front parking lot at 10:00. Flexible: survey of folks for North Harper Creek Falls first, Harper Creek Falls first, or Hunt Fish Falls: hikes are easier and shorter from first to last. No masks or requirements: free for all. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heinrich at 828-733-9174.

- 8 **Boone Fork Trail:** Meet at the Price Lake picnic ground (by the toilets/bridge) near MP 296 on the BRP. 5-mile loop, approx.. 3½ hrs. Hike includes views of rivers, rapids, waterfalls, meadows, water crossings (easy-difficult, depending on water levels), rhododendron tunnels. Possible side trip to Hebron Falls. Rated moderately strenuous. Hiking sticks are suggested. No dogs. >> Optional PICNIC LUNCH / Snack either on a break or after hike (weather permitting). No dogs. Contact hike leader Mike Lobban at 305-905-7000 or mjlobban@bellsouth.net for details.
COVID requirements: 1. Fully vaccinated two weeks prior; 2. bring mask as a courtesy should we encounter other hikers on the narrow trail.

- 15 **Flat Rock and Storyteller Rock:** From Boone Fork Parking area Milepost 299.9 on the BRP the hike will take the Tanawha to Daniel Boone Scout up to Flat Rock and then down the Cragway and the Nuwati Trail to Storyteller Rock. They afford beautiful vistas of the Boone Bowl and beyond. Approx. 7 mi., some parts strenuous and rocky. No dogs. Call hike leader Skip Rackmill at 860-836-5211.

- 22 **Bass Lake to Apple Barn & Cone Manor:** Hike is on Cone Manor carriage trails and is rated moderate. 4.7 mi. with 465' elevation gain. Meet at Bass Lake parking at 9:00. No dogs. Call hike leader Roger Bodo at (828) 260-2019.

- 29 **Hughes Gap to Iron Mountain Gap** part of the AT. Approximately 10 miles, easy to moderate. Gentle ascent, trail running at or below ridge line most of the way, a few moderately steep parts, beautiful slopes down ridges, one excellent outcropping with about a 240 degree view. The trail runs mostly along the NC/TN state line as each state wanted it—compromise. End of trail meanders through old apple orchards. Call Carol Ann Mitchell, hike leader, 423-772-4280 or text (usually goes through) at 423-957-1207. No dogs.

June

- 5 **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. Meet at the Cold Prong parking area on the BRP. No dogs. Call hike leader Sheryl McNair at (443) 306-9933.
- 12 **Quarterly Meeting Hosts:** Arlene Weinsier and Bob Heinrich
- 19 **Table Rock and Shortoff Mountain:** Table Rock is 2 mi. of moderately strenuous hiking round trip. After returning to the parking area, depending on the mood of the group, hike the MST toward Shortoff Mountain which affords many beautiful views of the Linville Gorge. Stop at the Amphitheater for lunch then return. Total hike will be approximately 4-5 mi. No dogs. Call hike leader Bob Heath: 828-773-0471.
- 26 **Wilson Creek, Lost Cove:** 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 the most variety. Meet 9am Beacon Heights parking area, carpool to the trailhead on Roseboro Rd. Call Carol Ann Mitchell, hike leader at 423-772-4280, or text (usually goes through) at 423-957-1207. No dogs.