



# WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

Join our Yahoo group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/westhike>

## WINTER HIKING SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2019, JANUARY and FEBRUARY 2020

Hikes ratings are based on terrain (mileage is stated separately in the description). An “easy” hike is one with relatively flat terrain. 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 a hike’s difficulty.

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: please contact the leader in advance of the hike; all hikers: please choose a hike that is within your abilities. Check with the leader if you have any questions about the hike. If you register for a hike but cannot attend, please let the leader know before the hike takes place. All who participate in the activities of the Westchester Trails Association 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.

A schedule of WTA activities is printed 4 times a year. If a leader’s contact information is not listed below, please e-mail Eileen West at [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com) for details.

To become a member, please visit the “Join/Contact” page on our website for an application and dues payment options.

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**Our hikes are joint with ADK Mohican unless otherwise noted**

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Sunday, December 1 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, December 1 - **Southern Harriman**. 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. Starting and ending on Route 106, this linear hike uses various trails to go up and around Black Ash, Parker Cabin and Tom Jones Mountains. For further information or to register contact Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). A short shuttle is required. Rain cancels. No beginners please.

Sunday, December 1 - **Butler Sanctuary**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Explore the various trails in this Mt. Kisco preserve owned by the Nature Conservancy, through woods, past streams and a hawk watch area. Leaders: Vipin and Usha Shukla, [shukla\\_vipin@hotmail.com](mailto:shukla_vipin@hotmail.com). Meet the leaders at 10 AM at the trailhead on Chestnut Ridge Road. Rain or snow cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).*

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

Saturday, December 7 - **Overlook Fire Tower, Woodstock, NY**. 5 miles, moderate terrain. This is a pleasant hike to a beautiful view spot in the Catskills. It is mostly up a fire road and can be slippery so bring traction devices if the weather has been wet and frosty. After the hike we will check out the local Woodstock shops and get some refreshment at Bread Alone. Get ready for the holidays. Register with leader Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) by 5 PM on Friday.

Saturday, December 7 - **Brinton Brook Sanctuary and Lytle Arboretum**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We'll first hike along the Highland Trail, passing two massive glacial erratics, and continue to the Lytle arboretum where there is a boardwalk and a gazebo; then we'll return along the same trail to Brinton Brook sanctuary and red maple swamp. The route may be modified depending on trail conditions. Since parking is limited, please consider carpooling to the trailhead. To register contact leader Sheila Sarkar, [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com) or (914) 498 2464. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 22).*

Sunday, December 8 - **WTA Holiday Party, Plus Morning and Afternoon Hikes**. Start the day with a 3 mile morning hike at the Glazier Arboretum in Chappaqua, followed by our Holiday Party and Buffet at Westmoreland Sanctuary in Mt. Kisco. In the afternoon we'll do another 3 mile hike, this time on the trails at Westmoreland. For those joining us on the morning hike, meet at Westmoreland at 9:15 and we'll shuttle to Glazier; if attending the Holiday Party only, meet at Westmoreland at noon. We invite everyone to contribute food for our potluck luncheon. There is no fee. Bring a favorite dish. The food should be ready to serve, and please remember to bring serving utensils, if needed. Suggestions include: casserole, pasta, quiche, roasted veggies, salad (greens, legumes or grains), cold cuts, bread, fruit, cheese or dessert. Hot dishes should be brought near the noontime hour. The club will provide tea and coffee, paper plates, cups, etc. Please contact our hospitality committee co-chair, Nancy Vincent at [nevincent09@gmail.com](mailto:nevincent09@gmail.com) to let her know what you are bringing so that we have an appealing variety of food. *Both hikes qualify for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 4 and 65).*

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

Saturday, December 14 - **West Mountain in Harriman**. (NWP). 4-6 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This circular hike, which climbs West Mountain and uses the S-BM, Timp-Torne and Appalachian Trails, includes some steep sections rewarded by wonderful views. The length of the hike will depend on ground conditions and the mood of the group. Email the leader, Alice Benash. for NWP and trailhead meeting times at [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net).

Saturday, December 14 - **Irvington Woods Preserve**. 3-4 miles, easy terrain. This is a pleasant and peaceful hike on various trails in a local nature preserve. Meet the leader at 9:30 AM at the O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road Irvington. Directions: From Route 9 turn east on Sunnyside Lane, then make a right onto Mountain Road. The parking lot is a short distance up the hill, on the right. To register email the leader, Joe Rodriguez, at [jpr50@optonline.net](mailto:jpr50@optonline.net). For directions call (914) 364-8090. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 54).*

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

Sunday, December 15 - **Bear Mountain, Mt. Riga State Park, CT.** 6 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. We will be hiking up Bear Mountain - the highest peak in CT, yet not the highest spot in the state - on the Under Mountain Trail to a small piece of the AT and then will meet up with Paradise Lane Trail and loop back to the Under Mountain trail. The hike has a 1676' elevation gain, and the trails have equal parts strenuous climbing and incredible views. To register or for more information, contact Pat Johnston at [patcjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:patcjohnston@gmail.com) or call (832) 649-0372.

Sunday, December 15 - **Kensico Cemetery Tour.** 3-5 miles. Easy terrain. There are many points of interest in this 460 acre cemetery including gravesites of celebrities, structures with architectural interest and special landscape features. Although most of the walk is paved, expect a few hills. Sturdy shoes, water and lunch recommended. Meet at 10 AM in the parking lot of the Administration Building, 273 Lakeview Avenue, Valhalla. Directions: Taconic Parkway to Lakeview Avenue. Turn west, pass the monument shop, cross the railroad tracks and turn right into the parking lot. More information about the cemetery is available at [www.kensico.org](http://www.kensico.org). Leader: Sue Soni, [surekhasoni1968@gmail.com](mailto:surekhasoni1968@gmail.com) or (914) 747-2452.

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

Saturday, December 21 - **Black Rock Forest.** 6 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from the Hudson Highland Nature Museum/Outdoor Discovery Center, we ascend into the Mine Hill area of Black Rock Forest (route courtesy of Howard Millman). This hike has a significant climb at the beginning but with otherwise rolling terrain and a total of 1100' elevation gain, and will be done at a compassionate pace with several regroupings. With the leaves down, we should have several nice views. Leader: Steve Klepner, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com) (preferred) or (845) 297-7066.

Saturday, December 21 - **Sunny Ridge Preserve.** 3 miles, easy. Hike in this beautiful preserve in Ossining with two ponds and views of the Hudson River. Mostly level with some short uphill. Contact leader to register: Minu Chaudhuri (914) 391-5918 or [minuch50@gmail.com](mailto:minuch50@gmail.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 19).*

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

Sunday, December 22 - **Anthony's Nose the Easy Way.** 4 miles, moderate terrain. This will be a 3+ hour hike at a relaxed pace to a beautiful view of the Hudson River, Bear Mountain and the Bear Mountain Bridge. We will start the hike on South Mountain Pass Road and hike on the AT for a short time before getting to Anthony's Nose and its magnificent view. Contact the leader, Carol Harting, at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) to register.

Sunday, December 22 - **Eastern Side of Rockefeller.** 9 miles, easy to moderate terrain. From the main parking lot of Rockefeller (by the administrative office), we will go up David's Loop to the summit of Buttermilk Hill (the highest point in the Rockefeller Preserve). Then we head south along the Goat Trail, and back north to visit the famous Raven's Rock. Views should be terrific, due to lack of foliage. Then we head to the three lakes and on to Stone Barns where, at the café, we can buy hot soup and food. After that we will return to the cars. To register, contact leader Frank Lee at [fleessa@yahoo.com](mailto:fleessa@yahoo.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day) - **Caroling with Carolyn in Saxon Woods Park.** 3-5 miles, easy terrain. We'll sing seasonal songs (no singing ability needed) as we hike the varied woodland trails, with an early out option about midway through the hike. Contact leader for meeting

time. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [carohof2@gmail.com](mailto:carohof2@gmail.com), home (914) 948- 0608, cell (914) 420-5778. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 60).*

Saturday, December 28 - **A HIKE AND A SNOWSHOE (OR TWO HIKES) TODAY:**

Saturday, December 28 - **NYC Walk.** 9 miles, easy terrain. On this mostly flat walk we will take in the holiday atmosphere with snowflakes, menorahs, trees, Santas, windows, and unexpected sightings. The route has not been set yet, but we will meander from the meeting place (either Grand Central or the 125th Street Metro-North station) and explore December in New York City. There will be options to shorten the walk. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at [lindawildman88@verizon.net](mailto:lindawildman88@verizon.net) or text/call (914) 316-5674.

Saturday, December 28 - **Snow Shoe at Richter Park, Danbury CT.** Snow shoe (conditions permitting) on a beautiful golf course with ups and downs. If there's no snow, there is the option of a beginner hike (on a wooded trail with a hill) of about 2 hours. Will start at 10:30 AM. Please call or email the leader, Rosanne Schepis, to register or for more information: (203) 417-5552 or [rschep@yahoo.com](mailto:rschep@yahoo.com).

Sunday, December 29 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, December 29 - **Within the County: NCT and Nearby Parks. Part 2: Yorktown Heights to Millwood, and Kitchawan Preserve.** 9 miles, easy on the bike path, easy to moderate terrain in Kitchawan. Today's hike begins in Yorktown Heights along a scenic part of the NCT that goes past extensive wetlands and continues into Millwood. Along the way, we'll diverge into Kitchawan Preserve for lunch and explore many of the trails in this County-owned property. Hiking boots are not necessary but are suggested because, while the North County Trailway is paved, the trails in Kitchawan may be muddy and rocky. Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Short shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 33 and 77).*

Sunday, December 29 - **Harts Brook Preserve.** 3 miles, easy terrain. Stately woodlands, open fields and a secluded pond are all part of this hidden gem in the heart of Westchester County. Meet the leader at 10:00 a.m. at the preserve's parking area, located at 156 Ridge Road in Hartsdale. You can also find GPS and map directions on the New York New Jersey Trail Conference website at: <https://www.nynjtc.org/park/harts-brook-park>. Leader: Toby Garfinkel (914) 337-6612. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 5).*

Tuesday, December 31 - **Early New Year's Eve.** Meet at 2:30 p.m. at NWP, or 3 o'clock at the Rockwood Hall State Park trailhead on Rockwood Road, just west of Route 117. We'll do a two mile, mostly level walk around the former Pocantico Hills estate of William Rockefeller (now part of the State Park Preserve) and then offer our traditional sundown toast to the old year within sight of the Hudson River. Alcohol-free beverages will be served, and afterwards we'll continue the celebration with an optional dinner beginning at 5:15 PM at The Cabin in Valhalla. If you would like to join us for the dinner, please notify Carolyn Hoffman at [carhof123@aol.com](mailto:carhof123@aol.com) or (914) 948-0608 as soon as possible, but no later than December 27<sup>th</sup>. Inclement weather postpones the hike - but not the dinner - for 365 days. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 38).*

Wednesday, January 1 - **New Year's Day at Greenwich Point Park.** 3 miles, easy terrain. The big question is who will join the leader for a New Year's Day dip in the Sound. To warm up before the swim we will walk around the park. After we "all" swim (which never has happened) we will rewarm with refreshments. Come walk or swim as you choose. No need to register. Meet at 10:30 AM at the

concession stand. Contact leader Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) if you need specific directions, or try Todd's Driftway, Greenwich on your device.

Saturday, January 4 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, January 4 - **Saugatuck Trail.** 7 miles, moderate. This trail straddles the towns of Weston and Redding in Connecticut closely paralleling its namesake, the Saugatuck Reservoir. We will pass through a variety of terrain including rock outcroppings, streams, hemlock and hardwood forests, and spectacular reservoir views. Traction devices may be needed. Leader: Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net).

Saturday, January 4 - **Ward Pound Ridge.** 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. A brisk hike in Ward Pound Ridge. If there is snow on the ground, we will snowshoe in the Northern section and if there is no snow, we will do a hike in the Southern part. Traction devices may be needed. Bring lunch, snacks and water. We will carpool from the Cross River Shopping Center. To register contact leader Sarah Davis at (917) 501-1322 or [sewdavis@gmail.com](mailto:sewdavis@gmail.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*

Sunday, January 5 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, January 5 - **Hook Mountain to the Summit and Back.** 5-6 miles, moderate terrain. This hike, near Rockland Lake State Park, is steep at the beginning offering rewarding views of the Hudson about 15-20 minutes into the hike. We then continue on well-marked trails to the summit of Hook Mountain with nice views, have something to eat, and return the way we came. To register and for questions email the leader, Angela Devlen, at [adevlen@wakefieldbrunswick.com](mailto:adevlen@wakefieldbrunswick.com). Phone for urgent issues only: (617) 710-4439.

Sunday, January 5 - **Cranberry Lake Preserve.** 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. 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). Call or text the leader, Jean Dolen, at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Saturday, January 11 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, January 11 - **Hike or Snowshoe: Fahnestock Trails Less Traveled.** 5-6 miles, moderate terrain. This lollipop route mostly meanders along soft earth, civilized trails past a lake and small waterfall. Midway we'll climb to Bushy Ridge by following a marked trail but one that's not well traveled. For our effort, we get some great winter views. Depending on the weather and ground conditions, we may take some detours on the way back or shorten the hike. Meet on the Route 301 parking area towards the west end of Canopus Lake (we begin on the Blue 3 Lakes Trail). According to Google Maps the trailhead's address is: 1072 Cold Spring Turnpike, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533. How cool is that: a trail with a street address! Leader: Howard Millman, [hwardmillman@aol.com](mailto:hwardmillman@aol.com).

Saturday, January 11 - **Muscoot Farm.** 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Join the leader on a two to three hour walk in a Westchester County owned preserve/farm. Afterward the farm animals and exhibits can be visited. There is also the possibility of an art exhibit in the main house (check on their website). Hiking boots are suggested as we will be on trails. Bring a liter of water and a snack/lunch. Whether we have a real lunch break depends on the pace of the group. Leader: Steve Klepner, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com) (preferred) or (845) 297-7066. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 58).*

Sunday, January 12 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, January 12 - **North Point**. 4 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This loop hike up to North Point just south of Storm King has a steep initial ascent rewarded with wonderful views of the Hudson Highlands. Contact the leader, Minu Chaudhuri, to register by email at [minuch50@gmail.com](mailto:minuch50@gmail.com) or call (914) 391-5918.

Sunday, January 12 - **Rockwood to Rockefeller**. 6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This hike will be approximately four hours through rolling hills and on flat carriage roads with views of the Hudson River. Bring lunch, water and snacks. To register, call or text the leader, Jean Dolen, at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).*

Saturday, January 18 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, January 18 - **Pine Meadow Lake**. 7-8 miles, moderate terrain. Hike or snowshoe around Pine Meadow Lake in Harriman. Bring stabilizers if needed. Starting from the Visitor's Center on Seven Lakes Drive, we will go to the Lake and then hike around it, adjusting for conditions. Leader: Mike Kaplan, [kaplanm2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaplanm2001@yahoo.com). No first time hikers please.

Saturday, January 18 - **Croton Point Park**. 4 miles. easy terrain. We'll meet in the main parking lot of Croton Point Park, opposite the bathroom facilities (closed in winter) and walk through the woods and past a campground to Tellers Point, with views south to the Tappan Zee bridge. We'll return by the marshes and then ascend the former landfill - now a bird sanctuary - enjoying panoramic views of the Hudson River. Although most of the walking is on gravel roads, traction devices may be needed. To register contact leader Sheila Sarkar, [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com) or (914) 498 2464. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (52).*

Sunday, January 19 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, January 19 - **Bottle Cap Trail in Harriman**. 7.2 miles, moderate terrain. This is a fun hike as you need to help the leader find the bottle caps. We will park at Tiorati Circle and travel on various trails - Long Path, Hurst Trail, the RD and yes, the Bottle Cap Trail. Traction devices must be carried. Contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) to register.

Sunday, January 19 - **Arthur Butler Sanctuary, Mt. Kisco, NY**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. 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. To register, call or text the leader, Jean Dolen, at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).*

Saturday, January 25 - **Within the County: NCT and Nearby Parks. Part 3: Warburg Park, Pruyn Sanctuary and Gedney Park**. 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Today we'll check out three hiking areas in Millwood on both sides of the North County Trailway. First we'll do a circular hike in Warburg Park (to the west of the NCT); then we'll drive to the eastern side of the Trailway where our linear hike begins. We will explore many of the trails in Pruyn Sanctuary, the headquarters of the Saw Mill Audubon Society, and then walk over to Gedney Park, owned by the Town of New Castle. There we can visit the park's 9/11 memorial and enjoy its wooded paths. Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Short shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 15, 21 and 25).*

Sunday, January 26 - **A HIKE AND A CROSS COUNTRY SKI (OR TWO HIKES) TODAY:**

Sunday, January 26 - **Blue Mountain Reservation, Peekskill.** 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Scenic trails with massive rock formations. Trails are mostly easy with rolling hills, but there is a steep ascent to the summit of Blue Mountain. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 48).*

Sunday, January 26 - **Cross Country Ski, or Hike if no Snow.** Ski location TBA, at the closest site with sufficient snow. Don't give up if snow is feeble nearby: conditions may be glorious at Minnewaska or High Point. If there is no snow, we will do an easy 3-4 mile hike at Teatown. RSVP to leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [carohof2@gmail.com](mailto:carohof2@gmail.com), home (914) 948-0608, cell on day of hike only (914) 420-5778.

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

Saturday, February 1 - **The Catfish Loop, and More.** 7-8 miles, moderate terrain. This is a figure eight hike incorporating the Catfish Loop at Fahnestock State Park in the morning and a loop around John Allen Pond in the afternoon, with plenty of rolling hills and water views to enjoy. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Mike Jablonski, [mjab5749@gmail.com](mailto:mjab5749@gmail.com).

Saturday, February 1 - **Marshlands Conservancy.** 3-4 miles, easy terrain. 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 10:30 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. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 9).*

Sunday, February 2 - **Rockefeller Park - Main Entrance.** 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. 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, and the route and distance may vary if there is enough snow in the park to snowshoe. There is a \$6 per car parking fee unless you have an Empire Passport. To register, call or text the leader, Jean Dolen, at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

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

Saturday, February 8 - **Shenandoah Mountain on the AT.** 6 miles, moderate terrain. This hike, with 1,282' of elevation gain, should give everyone a good workout with hiking time of about 3 or 3-1/2 hours. Traction devices must be carried. Directions: take the Taconic Parkway to Miller Hill Road. Turn north on Miller Hill to Hortontown Road and park near the "T" intersection of Hortontown and Shenandoah Roads. We will pass the RPH Shelter and climb to the open summit on the mountain, then return on the same route. Contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) to register.

Saturday, February 8 - **Baxter Preserve.** 3 miles, easy terrain. This will be a relatively easy and short hike (or cross country ski or snowshoe, if there is snow) over fields and gentle hills of North Salem in the horse country of northern Westchester. To find out the exact location and starting time, contact the leader Barry Leibowitz during the week before the hike: cell (914) 774-5321 or home (845) 278- 2479. Rain or snow-covered roads cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 46).*

Sunday, February 9 - **Mountain Lakes Camp, North Salem NY.** 6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is a three to four hour hike through a County park with carriage roads, wooded trails and a few

short steep hills. Bring lunch and water. To register, call or text the leader, Jean Dolen, at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).*

Saturday, February 15 - **A HIKE AND A SNOWSHOE (OR TWO HIKES) TODAY:**

Saturday, February 15 - **Within the County: NCT and Nearby Parks. Part 4: Millwood to Briarcliff Manor, plus Law Park, Hardscrabble Wilderness and the Pace-Briarcliff Woods.** 8-9 miles, easy on the bike path, easy to moderate terrain after that. The North County Trailway from Millwood to Briarcliff Manor alternates between a path along the shoulder of Route 100 and protected tree-lined areas before entering Law Park near the Briarcliff Library. We'll stop for a mid-morning break, then head over to Hardscrabble Wilderness to explore the trails within. The hike will end with a walk along the paths of the Pace-Briarcliff Woods and on the grounds of Pace University. Leader: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Short shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 29 and 78 (if done with part 5 of this series)).*

Saturday, February 15 - **Snow Shoe at Richter Park, Danbury CT.** Snow shoe (conditions permitting) on a beautiful golf course with ups and downs. If there's no snow, there is the option of a beginner hike (on a wooded trail with a hill) of about 2 hours. Will start at 10:30 AM. Please call or email the leader, Rosanne Schepis, to register or for more information: (203) 417-5552 or [rschep@yahoo.com](mailto:rschep@yahoo.com).

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

Sunday, February 16 - **Camp Smith Trail.** 6.5+ miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike in the East Hudson Highlands has a lot of elevation gain because we start at the Tollhouse and go up and down until we get to Anthony's Nose overlooking the Bear Mountain Bridge. Then we turn around and go up and down to get to our starting point. The out and back hike is about 6.5 miles, which is all we will do if the conditions are wintry, but if it is dry we may add some distance on the A.T. depending on group wishes. Be sure to bring snowshoes or traction devices if needed. Register with the leader, Jane Restani, at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) by 5 PM Saturday. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 50).*

Sunday, February 16 - **Cliffdale-Teatown Trail and Teatown Lake.** 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Bring a thermos of hot chocolate and enjoy a hike from the Visitor's Center to the Cliffdale Education Center, using part of the Teatown Lake and other trails. We'll have a snack on the benches at Cliffdale, and then return to the Visitor's Center on the other side of the lake. Contact the leader for meeting time or information. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, [elspethkramer@aol.com](mailto:elspethkramer@aol.com), (347) 262-4802. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

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

Saturday, February 22 - **Rocks Trail, Ward Pound Ridge Reservation.** 7 miles, moderate terrain. This is a moderate hike with a few steep areas that incorporates six scenic and historic points in the park. Snowshoes or traction devices may be needed. Leader: Kathie Laug (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*

Saturday, February 22 - **Angle Fly Preserve.** 4 miles, easy terrain. Come hike this preserve in winter. Leader will choose a couple of loops for an easy hike of about 3 hours including lunch. Dress in layers for winter weather. Bring traction devices and poles. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [jsmallpt@aol.com](mailto:jsmallpt@aol.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 53).*

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

Sunday, February 23 - **Balsam Lake Fire Tower in the Catskills.** 5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This Catskill 3500 peak with less than 1500 feet of elevation gain makes it a perfect winter hike. If there is snow, it is a wonderful snowshoe hike especially for beginners. If no snow, we will hike up to the fire tower and let's hope the sun is shining on the trees at the top for a wonderful sight. Snowshoes or traction devices are a must. We will carpool from the Route 84 Park & Ride off Exit 65 (formerly Exit 19) in Brewster, or we could also meet at the Park & Ride in New Paltz off the Thruway. Register with leader Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) so we can arrange carpools.

Sunday, February 23 - **Croton Point Park.** 4 miles, easy terrain. We will explore this small scenic peninsula, where eagles are often sighted in winter. Dress very warmly for the winds blowing off the Hudson. Optional lunch afterwards at the Croton Diner. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, [raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:raffaele.catharine@yahoo.com). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (52).*

Saturday, February 29 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, February 29 - **Ramapo Valley County Reservation.** (NWP). 4-7 miles, moderate terrain. This circular hike traverses lesser-used portions of this nearby New Jersey reservation, passing a scenic reservoir and a waterfall and climbing to an expansive viewpoint. The length of the hike will depend on ground conditions and the mood of the group. Email the leader, Alice Benash. for NWP and trailhead meeting times at [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net).

Saturday, February 29 - **RiverWalk and the OCA - Tarrytown to Irvington.** 5+ miles, easy terrain. This is an easy-paced walk with some mild hills. We will walk south stopping at Lyndhurst, have a snack (bring your own) and continue on the Aqueduct to Irvington where we will stop for an optional lunch at any of the fine restaurants on Main Street. Return is via the same route with a few variations. There will be lovely views of the Hudson River and the new Cuomo Bridge. Meet at 11 AM at the RiverWalk gate on VanWart Avenue. Directions: take U.S. Route 9 to the double-named street (VanWart and Paulding Avenues), just south of Route 119. Turn west (towards the river) and continue to the bottom of VanWart. Parking is available on either side of the street. Leader: Ellie Carren (914) 591-7038.