



# WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

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

## SPRING HIKING SCHEDULE MARCH, APRIL and MAY, 2019

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.

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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Saturday, March 2 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 2 - **Within the County: Towns of Cortlandt and Ossining. Part 5: Teatown-Kitchawan Trail and John Hand Park.** 7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Now that we've visited the parks and preserves on the western side of Cortlandt and Ossining, let's hike over to Ossining's eastern side via the Teatown-Kitchawan Trail. On the way, we'll take a side trip to the view at the summit of Bald Mountain in John Hand County Park, then walk along the banks of the New Croton Reservoir and into the Kitchawan Preserve, where today's hike, and this year's series, will end.

Contact leader to register: Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com). Shuttle required; rain or heavy snow cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 28).*

Saturday, March 2 - **Turkey Mountain Preserve, Yorktown Heights**. 3 miles, easy terrain. This delightful easy hike with one short climb and descent gets us outdoors for a few hours with one of the best viewpoints in Westchester. The entrance is directly across the street from Peter Pratt Restaurant on Route 118. You can google the Preserve or Peter Pratt for directions. Contact Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net) to register. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 42).*

Sunday, March 3 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 3 - **Silvermine Lake, Black Mountain and the A.T.** 7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. We will do a circular from the Silvermine parking lot, with an option at the end to walk up to the top of the old ski run, if folks want. Rain or snow cancels. Leader Mike Kaplan, [kaplanm2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kaplanm2001@yahoo.com).

Sunday, March 3 - **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. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49).*

Saturday, March 9 - **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, March 10 - **Hillside Park and Woods, the OCA and Lenoir Preserve**. (NWP). 7-8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will use the Old Croton Aqueduct on this shuttle hike to connect three preserves. The warren of trails in Hillside includes the Algonquin Trail, said to be an old Native American trail, with beautiful rock outcroppings. Lenoir Preserve is a birder's heaven with a nature preserve and an old mansion, views of the Hudson, and some stately old trees. Untermyer boasts Persian gardens on an elegant old estate. Meet at NWP at 9:30 AM, or contact leader to meet at trailhead. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [carohof2@gmail.com](mailto:carohof2@gmail.com), (914) 420-5778. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 8 and 30).*

Saturday, March 16 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 16 - **St. Patrick's Special - East Hudson Highlands**. 6-7 miles, moderate terrain. A segue to a mysterious seanchaí (Irish storyteller) site highlights a journey starting at the Appalachian Trail at Route 9 in Garrison. Shuttle required. Contact the leader, Debbie Farrell, for information and to register at [debfarpr@gmail.com](mailto:debfarpr@gmail.com) or (914) 282-9942.

Saturday, March 16 - **Hilltop Hanover Farm, Yorktown Heights**. 3-4 miles, easy terrain. Look for signs of spring as we hike through open fields and then enter the woods passing a vernal pond and rock cliffs, and ascending to a viewpoint. Meet in the parking area outside the farm. From the Taconic State Parkway, take the exit for route 100, head north for 3.9 miles, turn left onto route 118. Take the first right turn onto Hanover St. and proceed 1.4 miles to the farm. Register with the leader, Sheila Sarkar, [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com) or (914) 498 2464. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 6).*

Sunday, March 17 - **TWO HIKES TODAY**

Sunday, March 17 - **Pawling Nature Reserve and the Appalachian Trail**. 5-7 miles, moderate terrain. The Pawling Nature Reserve, in Dutchess County within the towns of Pawling and Dover, is owned by the Nature Conservancy. It includes almost 1,000 acres and contains a Hemlock-lined gorge, swamps, old fields and fern glens which supports populations of deer, amphibians, reptiles, wild turkeys, bobcats and beavers. Several color-coded trails run throughout the Reserve, some connecting to the AT. To register, call leader Barry Leibowitz at cell (914) 774-5321 or home (845) 278-2479 before 6 PM the day before the hike. Snowshoes or traction aids such as Microspikes may be required, depending on trail conditions. Snow on the roads or rain cancels.

Sunday, March 17 - **Teatown Lake Reservation**. 3 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Come out on this St. Patrick's day and enjoy a hike at Teatown. This hike combines several trails and includes a stop at scenic waterfall. Wear something green, bring snacks and water. Contact Leader Elspeth Kramer at (347) 262- 4802 or email [elspethkramer@aol.com](mailto:elspethkramer@aol.com) for time and meeting spot. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, March 23 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 23 - **Cat's Elbow (Harriman Circuit Hike #22)**. 5.8 miles, moderate terrain. This hike, with 1,830' of elevation gain, starts and ends at the Anthony Wayne parking area and contains some of the park's best panoramic views, volcanic rock ledges, and a boulder strewn side trip. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net).

Saturday, March 23 - **Early Spring Walk on the Bronx River Trailway**. 4-5 miles, easy terrain. We will walk on scenic paths along the Bronx River from the Crestwood train station to a waterfall in Scarsdale, pause to refresh, and then head back to Crestwood. Meet the leader, Toby Garfinkel, (914) 337-6612, at 10:30 a.m. on the west side of the Crestwood station, which is just off Exit 8 of the Bronx River Parkway. Rain or snow cancels.

Sunday, March 24 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 24 - **Nelsonville/Taurus**. 8 miles, moderately strenuous terrain. This will be a figure 8 hike from Route 10 over the Taurus summit, down the Undercliff Trail, and back over the shoulder of Taurus. Email leader Jane Restani at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) by 5 PM Saturday to register.

Sunday, March 24 - **Rockwood to Rockefeller**. 7 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 and Hook Mountain in Nyack. Bring lunch, water, snacks. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59).*

Saturday, March 30 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, March 30 - **Popolopen Gorge and Torne, and More**. 5-8 miles, moderately strenuous terrain. The route and distance of this hike will depend on ground conditions and the mood of the group, but no matter what we will do the scramble up Popolopen Torne and a hike along the gorge. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Mike Jablonski, [mjab5749@gmail.com](mailto:mjab5749@gmail.com) or (914) 588-1761.

Saturday, March 30 - **Angle Fly Preserve**. 5-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Come hike this preserve in late winter, early spring. There are more than 10 miles of trails that span the entire Preserve property, and the leader will choose a couple of loops for a hike of about 4 hours including lunch. May need microspikes depending on trail conditions. 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, March 31 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, March 31 - **Hudson Highlands Loop**. 7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. Join the leader for a hike in the Hudson Highlands. The Wilkinson Memorial and Breakneck Bypass trails will be combined for an outing with significant elevation gain (a minimum of 1500' but possibly much more). The pace will be compassionate as we want to stay together and so we don't leave the leader behind. To be clear, we will not be doing the steep Breakneck Ridge ascent. Bring a lunch and two liters of water. Leader: Steve Klepner, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com), (845) 297-7066.

Sunday, March 31 - **Mountain Lakes Camp**. 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is a three to four hour hike through a County park on carriage roads and wooded trails with a few short steep hills and some view areas, plus a partially restored camp from the olden days. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).*

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

Saturday, April 6 - **Sterling Forest**. 8 miles, moderate terrain. 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 surrounding hills. Easy return along the lake shore. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, [Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com](mailto:Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com).

Saturday, April 6 - **Walk to Roosevelt Island in NYC**. 11 miles, easy terrain. From Grand Central Station walk northeast to the Roosevelt Island tram (metrocard). Circle the island from the 19C lighthouse to the Four Freedoms Park. Stop for lunch (bag it or buy it). Depart the island via the Roosevelt Island Bridge to Long Island City and return to Manhattan via the Ed Koch / Queensboro Bridge and back to Grand Central Station. 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.

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

Sunday, April 7 - **Fondly Fahnestock**. 6 miles, moderate terrain. Discover civilized unspoiled picturesque trails in this sensibly paced adventure. Something here for everyone: marked, trails, woods roads, soft earth paths, and...two bushwhacks. One of those is a short intense climb (but not a scramble) up a slope to Bushy Ridge. For your effort you'll be rewarded with multiple views along a scenic, little used, ridge top trail. Along our way we'll briefly explore some small mines and a waterfall. Easy parking in the area just across from the boat launch at Canopus Lake (south side of Route 301). Meet at 10:00 AM. Leader: Howard Millman, [wardmillman@aol.com](mailto:wardmillman@aol.com) or (914) 439-8031.

Sunday, April 7 - **Edith Read Sanctuary, Rye NY**. 2-3 miles, easy terrain. Wooded trails, a marsh, a lake, a rocky beach, and a bamboo forest, plus a newly renovated boardwalk (the old one had been damaged by Hurricane Sandy). Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 16).*

Saturday, April 13 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, April 13 - **Almost Perpendicular through Claudius Smith's Den.** 5-6 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This circular hike starts and ends on Johnstown Road in Harriman. Using the Blue Disc trail we will head up Almost Perpendicular and past Claudius Smith Den to the RD, then around on other trails to finish on the White Bar. The hike will include steep climbs, spectacular views and interesting history. Email Joe Rodriguez, [jpr50@optonline.net](mailto:jpr50@optonline.net) to register or for further information.

Saturday, April 13 - **Orchard Beach, Twin and Hunter Islands.** 3-4 miles, easy terrain. 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, [dscaatz@gmail.com](mailto:dscaatz@gmail.com) or (718) 549-1735. Rain cancels.

Sunday, April 14 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, April 14 - **Silvermine Circular.** 8.5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This pleasant spring 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.

Sunday, April 14 - **Eastern Side of Rockefeller State Park.** 4-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will explore several trails on this less traveled side of the preserve, which will enable us to see views of the Saw Mill River Valley. Meet the leader at 9:45 a.m. in the large parking lot for the North County Trailway on Route 117 in Mt. Pleasant. If you are heading west, the lot is on your left between Routes 9A and 448. Inclement weather may cancel. Leader Sue Soni, [surekhasoni1968@gmail.com](mailto:surekhasoni1968@gmail.com) or (914) 747-2452. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No.59).*

Saturday, April 20 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, April 20 - **Southern Harriman Circular.** 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike will bring us to two scenic lakes, the Dutch Doctor Shelter and Claudius Smith's Den all while providing panoramic views and over 2100 feet of elevation gain. For further information or to register contact Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). Rain cancels. No beginners please.

Saturday, April 20 - **Squantz Pond State Park, Fairfield, CT.** 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This beautiful hike travels through meadows...onto a carriage road...up a trail to an overlook with a view of Candlewood Lake. The hike has some ups and downs, and one short but fairly steep climb. Allow about 3 hours round trip. 10:00 AM departure. Steady rain cancels. To register, contact the hike leader, Rosanne Schepis, at (203) 417-5552 (cell) or [rschep@yahoo.com](mailto:rschep@yahoo.com).

Sunday, April 21 (Easter) - **Ringwood-Ramapo Trails and Gardens.** (NWP). 7-8 miles, moderate terrain. Explore the ridges and valleys of the nearby Ringwood-Ramapo forest, topped off by a stroll through Skylands (the New Jersey Botanical Gardens) to see the spring blooms. No Easter eggs or bunnies, but there will be pretty trails, a nice view at lunch, and maybe an Easter lily or two blooming in the gardens. Contact the leader, Eileen West, at [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com) to register. Rain cancels.

Saturday, April 27 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, April 27 - **Bear Mountain via Major Welch Trail.** 5-6 miles, strenuous terrain. We will have constant views of the Hudson River on this strenuous but rewarding hike. Meet the leader

at 9:30 AM on the east side of the Bear Mountain Bridge. Parking on Route 9D shoulder. Inclement weather cancels. Leader: Steve Singlak, [srshudson@verizon.net](mailto:srshudson@verizon.net).

Saturday, April 27 - **Hudson Highlands Gateway Park**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate. This is a pleasant hike with gentle ups and downs. Take Bear Mountain Parkway north to Highland Avenue to Sprout Brook Road; the parking lot is on the right designated by a sign for the Gateway Park. To register, email Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 31)*.

Saturday, April 27 - **Canoe / Kayak - Harriman State Park**. We will open the season by exploring Lake Kanawauke and all three of its connecting lakes in Harriman State Park along Seven Lakes Drive. The yearly fee is \$30.00 registration per boat, good through November 30. It includes several of the lakes in the park plus Rockland Lake. Bring canoe, paddle, lifejacket, and lunch. We'll meet at Tiorati Circle at 10:00. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [jsmallpt@aol.com](mailto:jsmallpt@aol.com).

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

Sunday, April 28 - **West Mountain, Pawling, NY**. 7.4 miles, moderate terrain. This hike uses the Appalachian Trail, starting out through a marsh area with a wooden pathway, continuing through the woods and farmland to a huge oak tree, and then ascending West Mountain to a viewpoint at 3.7 miles, where we will have lunch and then return the way we came. Parking is at the Appalachian Trail train station, just to the west of Route 22; if crowded, there is a large lot a bit further north, past the Native Landscapes Nursery. Call the leader, Jean Dolen, to register at (914) 522-4310.

Sunday, April 28 - **Irvington Woods Preserve**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. An easy paced hike on various trails in a lovely wooded, 430 acre nature preserve. Meet the leader at 10 AM at the O'Hara Nature Center, 170 Mountain Road, Irvington. Directions: From Route 9 turn east (away from the river) on Sunnyside Lane, then bear right onto Mountain Road. The parking lot is a short distance up the hill. Lunch optional in the garden next to the center after the hike. Leader: Asha Chauhan, [A1chauhan@gmail.com](mailto:A1chauhan@gmail.com), (212) 730-2351. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No 54)*.

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

Saturday, May 4 - **Storm King**. 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. Starting from 9W we will hike down to Cornwall Landing on the Hudson River, then return to the cars climbing Storm King Mountain. For further information or to register contact Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). Rain cancels. No beginners please.

Saturday, May 4 - **Croton Gorge Park and the OCA**. 5-6 miles, easy terrain. 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, please e-mail the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at [shechris6@gmail.com](mailto:shechris6@gmail.com).

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

Sunday, May 5 - **Three Lakes/A.T. Loop**. (NWP). 6-7 miles, moderate terrain. 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.

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

#### Saturday, May 11 - **THREE HIKES TODAY**

Saturday, May 11 - **Pingyp (Harriman Circuit Hike #21)**. 7.1 miles, strenuous terrain. This hike is not for the faint-hearted! Although the elevation gain is "only" 1495 feet, it includes steep climbs up craggy, pitch pine-dotted ledges and a crevice and is considered the most challenging hike in Harriman State Park. Of course you will be rewarded for all your hard work with spectacular views. Contact leader for meeting time and place. Kathie Laug, (203) 348-3993(H), (203) 722-5490(C), [kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net](mailto:kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net).

Saturday, May 11 - **Rockland Lake State Park**. 6 miles, moderate terrain. The hike begins on the Long Path and climbs the ridge of Hook Mountain above the Palisades cliffs. Interesting points include a cemetery from the 1800s, trains tunneling through the mountain, and old stone buildings. Scenic views over the Hudson River include Croton Point Park and the Village of Ossining. The hike returns on the Hook Mountain Bike Path. Directions: Take Route 9W to the entrance of Rockland State Park (Rockland Lake Road). Stay to the right until the end going past a fire station. Park in the spaces before the barricade. Call leader for time and/or directions. Leader: Marvin Pasternak, [marvp7025@gmail.com](mailto:marvp7025@gmail.com) (917) 733-2259. Rain cancels.

Saturday, May 11 - **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 10:00 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, May 12 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, May 12 - **Stonetown Circular**. 10.5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. 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 Bob Fiscina at [fis6973@verizon.net](mailto:fis6973@verizon.net). Rain cancels. No beginners please.

Sunday, May 12 - **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). The peonies should be blooming this time of year. There is a \$6 per car parking fee unless you have an Empire Passport. Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59).*

#### Saturday, May 18 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, May 18 - **Island Pond Circular**. (NWP). 7 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from the Elk Pen, we will hike up to the ridge on various trails leading to expansive views along the RD and Lichen, and then head over to Island Pond for a relaxing break on a rock outcrop overlooking the water. Return is via the A.T. Leader: Alice Benash, [ajrb3@verizon.net](mailto:ajrb3@verizon.net). Rain cancels.

Saturday, May 18 - Untermyer Park and Old Croton Aqueduct. 4 miles, easy terrain. This walk, which does have some hills and steps, allows us to explore the park, the Persian Garden and the Temple of Love. We will then hike south on the Aqueduct, exit at Shonnard Terrace, and proceed to the Hudson River Museum where we will have time to explore the exhibits and/or have lunch indoors or outside the museum, depending on the weather. Our return to Untermyer Park has some variations in the route. The park is located at 945 North Broadway (U.S.9), just south of St. John's Hospital in Yonkers. Meet the leader at 10 A.M. inside the park's entrance, near the Community Center building. There is a small parking lot inside the park; if it is full, park on the street along Broadway. Many beautiful views. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Ellie Carren (914) 591-7038. May call up to 11 p.m..

Saturday May 18 - Canoe / Kayak - Bantam River, Litchfield, CT. We'll explore the Bantam River in Connecticut. The river enters and exits the lake at the north end providing superb quiet water paddling through an extensive tract of land protected by the White Memorial Foundation. We will put in at the inlet and paddle upstream on this gently twisting river for a few miles to Little Pond; then downstream reaching the north end of the lake; and explore along the shoreline and the outlet. Meet at 10:00 at the Bantam Market on the right near the junction of Rt. 202 and Rt. 209. Bring boat, paddle, lifejacket, lunch, and a willingness to explore. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail [jsmallpt@aol.com](mailto:jsmallpt@aol.com).

Sunday, May 19 - THREE HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 19 - Somers to Goldens Bridge (a Farm, a Garden, a Reservoir). 13 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Start with a visit to Muscoot Farm to welcome the baby animals born this spring, then hike through Muscoot to Lasdon Park and Gardens. Explore the trails within, passing specimen trees and plants as well as a memorial to fallen soldiers from the Revolutionary War to modern day. Then it's on to Angle Fly Preserve for a hike on its blue through-trail. Finally reach the Kennedy Trail, which winds its way past the Muscoot Reservoir and into Goldens Bridge. Contact the leader, Eileen West, [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com) to register. Awful weather cancels. *Note: This is a New York Ramblers hike. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 34, 53 and 58).*

Sunday, May 19 - Hudson Highlands. 5-6 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from Garrison we will climb Sugarloaf South and then hike the carriage roads of the Osborne Loop and take various trails to White Rock. Meet at the Castle Rock Unique Area on Route 9D at 9:30. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri, (914) 391-5918 or [minuch50@gmail.com](mailto:minuch50@gmail.com).

Sunday, May 19 - 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). Leader: Jean Dolen, (914) 522-4310. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

Saturday, May 25 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, May 25 - Catskill Escarpment Trail. 9-10 miles, moderately strenuous terrain. Walk in the footsteps of the Hudson River school artists in the North-South Lakes area. There are beautiful and historic outlooks, with a good deal of elevation. Car shuttle required so register at [irabjanea@aol.com](mailto:irabjanea@aol.com) by noon on Friday so transportation can be arranged. With travel and taking time for vistas, this will be an all day venture. Leader: Jane Restani.



Saturday, May 25 - **Gentlemen's Farm**. 7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Join the leader on an outing in Fahnestock Park. While most of the hike is in the woods, a section is across open fields. Modest elevation gain, and a view of two lakes. Bring a lunch. It could be warm and sunny, so two liters of water and a broad brimmed hat for the open areas are a good idea. Leader Steve Klepner, [spk010@yahoo.com](mailto:spk010@yahoo.com), (845) 297-7066.

Sunday, May 26 - **THREE HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, May 26 - **Rocks Trail in Ward Pound Ridge Reservation**. 7 miles, moderate terrain. Hike along this interesting trail at the Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, passing features including Spy Rock, Dancing Rock and an Indian Petroglyph of a bear. Appropriate footwear, lunch and sufficient water are required. If it is very hot, we can always adjust the hike to accommodate the weather as this hike as several ups and downs. To register, contact leader Carol Harting at [c.harting@verizon.net](mailto:c.harting@verizon.net). *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*

Sunday, May 26 - **NYC Walk**. 8 miles, easy terrain. This will be a U-shaped walk around Manhattan. Along the East River pedestrian path, down to Wall Street, west to the West Side pedestrian path, north to 42nd st, then east along 42nd Street back to Grand Central Station. Meet the leader at Grand Central Station, a few feet south of the clock. Contact leader: Frank Lee for meeting time at [fleessa@yahoo.com](mailto:fleessa@yahoo.com).

Sunday, May 26 - **Leatherstocking and Sheldrake River Trails, and optional Larchmont Reservoir**. (NWP). 4 miles (+ optional 2), easy terrain. We will find shade in woodlands and along streams and lakes, and Sheldrake helps conserve native plants and animals. Meet at NWP at 9:30 AM, or contact leader to meet at trailhead. Short shuttle required. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, [carohof2@gmail.com](mailto:carohof2@gmail.com), (914) 420-5778. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 68, optional 99a.)*

Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day) - **Devil's Den Ice Cream Hike**. 8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. What better way to welcome the unofficial start of summer than an outing that tops off the hike with some great homemade ice cream? First we'll do a circuit of the perimeter trails in Devil's Den in Weston, CT, taking in several outlooks and some pretty forest scenery. Then we'll head over to Heibeck's Stand for an ice cream treat - they've been around since 1931 so they must be doing something right. Contact the leader, Eileen West, to register at [eileenw1000@gmail.com](mailto:eileenw1000@gmail.com).