



WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

SUMMER HIKING SCHEDULE JULY, AUGUST and SEPTEMBER, 2022

Covid-19 Policy

You must be vaccinated in order to participate in WTA outings and events.

Hikers must have their own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) with them at all times. This includes a mask or other face covering, which should be worn in crowded areas and when indoors or sharing vehicles. Those who are not from the same household should maintain at least 6' of social distance.

For the safety of all concerned, anyone who answers "yes" to any of these questions cannot be allowed on the hike:

1. Do you currently have any symptoms of a respiratory infection (including cough, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, or loss of taste/smell)?
2. Have you had any of the above symptoms in the past 10 days?
3. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days?
4. As far as you know, have you had contact with any confirmed or suspect COVID-19 case within the last 10 days?
5. Have you traveled outside of the U.S. in the last 5 days?



Hiking boots and sufficient water (1-2 liters) are required on all hikes. A trail lunch should be carried unless otherwise noted. Hikers with improper footwear, without enough water, or who are otherwise unprepared, may be refused or turned back by the leader. In fairness to yourself and others, please be honest about your hiking experience and choose a hike within your abilities. Check with the leader if you have any questions about pace, terrain, or any other aspect of the hike.

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.

Carpooling arrangements are entirely voluntary and entail 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.

Unless otherwise noted, all of our hikes are joint with ADK Mohican

Saturday, July 2 - Garrison Metro North to Sugarloaf (and Beyond?). 5-7 miles, moderate terrain. Join the leader in a hike from the Garrison Metro North station to Sugarloaf Hill and possibly beyond. We'll have at least 750 ft. of elevation gain and plenty of views. Bring a lunch and 1.5 liters of water. Hiking boots and poles are recommended. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. Email preferred with 'hike' in the subject line.

Saturday, July 2 - **Twin Lakes/Nature Study Woods (Eastchester to New Rochelle loop)**. 4.6 miles, easy terrain. Enjoy shady woodlands, waterfalls and a walk around Twin Lakes. This is a circular hike with gentle ups and downs. While it is a mostly smooth hike, stretches on the Nature Study path can be rocky. The entrance to the parking area is at 960 California Road, at the Twin Lakes Farm Stable northern entrance. Park in the lot to the left, available to hikers. There is also street parking off California Road. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Rain cancels. Leader: Lynn McBride, almcb@aol.com or (914)439-0879. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 43).*

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

Sunday, July 3 - **Within the County Grand Finale, Part 1: Lasdon and Muscoot Parks**. 7-8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Today's hike, which is the first in our final "Within the County" series, is in two preserves within the Town of Somers. We'll start at Lasdon Park and explore trails through woodlands and gardens, along a path honoring veterans of past wars, and near a lake and the Chinese Friendship Pavillion. Then we'll walk down a local road to Muscoot Farm, stopping along the way to view a small spillway on the Muscoot River. While at the Farm we'll hike along many of its trails through forest and field, and at the conclusion of the hike we'll take a quick drive to King Kone for some well-earned treats. This hike involves a short shuttle; participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 34 and 58).*

Sunday, July 3 - **North Fahnestock Park**. 5.3 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Appropriate for the summer, this is a fairly easy hike with some rolling hills. We will leave from the Round Hill/Perkins Access trailhead on Route 301, proceed north to the Fahnestock Trail, take the Cabot trail to Jordan Pond, and end at the Big Woods trailhead. From there we can drive over to the Homestyle Creamery in Nelsonville. This hike involves a short car shuttle. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy; . Register with leader Jane Restani by 5 PM on the Friday before the hike at irabjanea@aol.com..

Monday, July 4 - **Manitou Point Preserve**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Even though this is only a 3 hour hike or less, it is one of the best. They have done a great deal of work in this preserve off Route 9D in Garrison - redesigning and blazing trails, addition of a stone stream crossing, and construction of a riverfront cantilevered bridge on the river trail. 40% of the route is right along the Hudson River. It is considered a relatively easy hike but the trails are "rugged" meaning that they are narrow and rocky, but we will take our time. Good hiking boots and hiking poles are suggested. Bring sufficient water and a snack. The parking lot can be easily passed as the sign is not that great. The actual address is 411 Route 9D, Garrison, NY. There is a small wooden sign which has numbers "411" at the parking lot and a small white sign which says Manitou Point Preserve. It is 1.7 miles as you get on 9D from the bridge. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net to register.

Saturday, July 9 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, July 9 - **Black Rock Forest Loop**. 9-10 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. Starting from the parking area on Reservoir Road, we'll take the Stillman Trail up White Mountain to viewpoints at Mount Misery, the Hill of Pines, and Rattlesnake Hill. Continuing on the white trail, we will head over to Eagle Cliff for another viewpoint and back to Continental Road where we'll connect to the yellow trail to yet another viewpoint at Black Rock. Heading down from Black Rock, we then connect with the Black Rock Hollow trail to the water filtration station and head back to the parking area on the blue and red trails. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net.

Saturday, July 9 - Piermont Exploratory. 6-7 miles , easy to moderate terrain. Rails to Trails with great views of the Mario Cuomo Bridge, then walk to Sparkill with its war memorials and interesting town. Return to Piermont to explore the pier and hopefully visit the fabulous farmers market. Moderate pace, photos encouraged. We will meet in Parking Lot D in Piermont. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Margo Moss (201) 568-5325 landline, or acephoto@verizon.net. Please register by 4 PM on Friday, July 8.

Saturday July 9 - Canoe / Kayak, Bantam River, Litchfield, CT. This is a favorite. The Bantam River in Connecticut enters and exits the lake at the north end providing superb quiet water paddling through an extensive and protective tract of land. We will put in on the inlet paddling downstream reaching the lake, explore along the shoreline and then look for the outlet paddling upstream a short distance. Our lunch stop will be at a beach with a swim. Meet at 10:00 at the Bantam Market on the right near the junction of Rt. 202 and Rt. 209. Participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Bring boat, paddle, lifejacket, and lunch. Call leader to register Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail jsmallpt@aol.com.

Sunday, July 10 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, July 10 - Shady Side of the Hook. 6 miles, moderate terrain. We will climb north on the Long Path, which offers Hudson River views filtered by foliage and ample shade. The ridge provides many ups and downs, and then a steep, rocky descent to walk south for an easy return on the lower path, which is shared with bicycles. We will get an early start to do most of our climbing before the heat of the day, but we will climb back at the end to return to our cars. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com.

Sunday, July 10 - Muscoot Farm. 3-4 miles, easy terrain. This hike, on the yellow trail, will take us past fields and through the woods along the perimeter of this County owned preserve in Somers. Participation is limited to 12 people, including the leaders. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leaders: Vipin and Usha Shukla, shukla_vipin@hotmail.com. Rain or bad weather cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 58).*

Saturday, July 16 - Castle Rock. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is an interesting variant of a hike from Route 403 south of Garrison up to a junction where we hike on a woods road over to Lake Lucretia. Then back down and up where we'll hike to an overlook on the relatively new Green Trail. Down again onto the AT and back to the cars. Trail conditions may modify the hike, and mileage and time will vary. Relaxed pace. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida at (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com.

Sunday, July 17 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, July 17 - Mines and Candlewood Hill Loop. 8 miles, moderate terrain. This hike will begin at the new AT lot near Canopus Lake, go out to the summit of Candlewood Hill with some nice ponds along the way, and return via old mining roads and the AT. Extreme heat or heavy rain may cancel or change the route. The leader will be taking a short detour on her way home at Scoops N More in Carmel; all are welcome to join her. Contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com or text (914) 907-6764.

Sunday, July 17 - Cranberry Lake Preserve. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Hike on various trails around the lake, a marsh, an old quarry and woods. One short, steep climb to the quarry top offers splendid views of the surrounding trees. Bring lunch and water, and meet the leader at the Nature Center at 10 a.m. The Preserve's address is 1609 Old Orchard Street in North White Plains;

their phone number is (914) 428-1005. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Sue Soni, surekhasoni1968@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).*

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

Saturday, July 23 - **Seven Hills Circular**. 9-10 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. We will do a circular using the Seven Hills, Hillburn-Torne-Sebago (HTS) and Tuxedo-Mt. Ivy (TMI) trails. Lots of ups and downs and plenty of views on this hike. For more info or to register, contact Bob Fiscina at fis6973@tutamail.com. Rain cancels. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. No beginners please.

Saturday, July 23 - **Westmoreland Sanctuary**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is an old favorite with lots of wonderful stone walls and sweeping topography. There are a fair amount of ups and downs, and some of those are long, but nothing we can't handle. Relaxed pace. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida, (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 65).*

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

Sunday, July 24- **Within the County Grand Finale, Part 2: Mt. Kisco Trails**. 7-8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. The Village of Mt. Kisco has several well known parks and preserves, and lesser known paths with historical significance, and this hike will visit many of them. Closer to easy than moderate, we'll be doing a few out-and-back walks and some loop trails with connections via local streets. Our Mt. Kisco tour will begin, of course, with an exploration of Kisco Mountain. From there we'll drive to the Peninsula Wetlands Trail where our linear hike begins. We'll check out this peaceful trail along the Kisco River, then head over to the Early Settlements Trail (also along the river), continue through tiny Kirbyville Park into Leonard Park, and then on to the Marsh Memorial Sanctuary. After hiking on most of the Sanctuary's trails we'll return to Leonard Park with a diversion to do a loop on the Woodlands Wetland Trail (an oasis in the middle of a condominium development). Finally, we'll take a different route back to Kirbyville Park, and walk a tenth of a mile to...Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, where our hike will end. This hike involves a short shuttle; participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 36).*

Sunday, July 24 - **A Most Unusual Lollipop**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Staying aware of the temperature and humidity, this "mostly" flat hike meanders along shaded trails that border Stillwater Lake in Fahnestock State Park - with one exception. We'll meet at the Pelton Pond parking lot (east end) and follow the yellow to blue to white trails. After 1.5 miles (here's the exception) we'll do a moderately steep 200' bushwhack to the Bushy Ridge trail for a cooling breeze and scenic views. From there we loop back to the southern end of the white trail and return. The pace will be civilized and weather dependent. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Howard Millman, isayso@runbox.com. Cell on the day of the hike only: (914) 439-8031.

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

Saturday, July 30 - **Route 106 Circular**. 6-8 miles, moderate terrain. Using the SBM, Long Path and other trails, we will hike past the ORAK ruins and up to the fire tower, then head over to the second and third reservoirs and other scenic spots. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Email the leader for start time and other information: Mike Kaplan, kaplanm2001@yahoo.com. No first time hikers, please. Rain cancels.

Saturday, July 30 - **Oscawana Island Park and Graff Sanctuary**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We'll start on a trail alongside Furnace Brook, cross over Furnace Dock Rd. to Graff Sanctuary and do a loop there, then cross back and explore the ruins of the McAndrews estate and racecourse. We'll then continue to Oscawana Island and have lunch by the Hudson River. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register contact Sheila Sarkar, shechris6@gmail.com or (914) 498 2464. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 13)*.

Sunday, July 31 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, July 31 - **Storm King and Pitching Point**. 8 miles, strenuous terrain. The route of this hike is an elongated figure 8 with two clockwise circulars that incorporate the scramble up Butter Hill, views from Storm King Mountain, views from Pitching Point, and views in between. It's a difficult hike but well worth the effort, and can be shortened in the event of extreme heat or other adverse weather conditions. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Kevin McGahren, kmcgc@optonline.net or (914) 772-0600.

Sunday, July 31 - **Cliffdale -Teatown Trail and Teatown Lake**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Bring plenty of water 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. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Contact the leader for meeting time or information. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, elspethjkramer@gmail.com or (347) 262-4802. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62)*.

Saturday, August 6 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, August 6 - **Popolopen Gorge and Torne**. 6 miles, moderately strenuous terrain. We will hike along the gorge and do the scramble up Popolopen Torne for sweeping views from the summit. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Rain cancels; contact leader for meeting time and other information. Leader: Mike Jablonski, mjab5749@gmail.com.

Saturday, August 6 - **Montrose State Forest, Seward Estate and Georges Island**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Ample woods and water; the home site of Frederick Seward, who saved his father Treasury Secretary William H. Seward's life amid the Lincoln Assassination conspiracy; NYS's second largest shell midden, and much more. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Debbie Farrell, debarpr@gmail.com or (914) 282-9942. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 26 and 80)*.

Saturday August 6 - **Canoe / Kayak Chodikee Lake, Highland, NY**. About 5 or 6 miles of lake and stream paddling. We will explore the meandering streams at both ends of the lake. They provide wildlife habitat with extensive wooded swamps plus stands of cattails and other marsh vegetation. Directions: New York State Thruway to Exit 18, New Paltz. We'll meet at 10:00 at the Mall. Turn left onto 299 and then a right into the mall. Participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Call or email leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or jsmallpt@aol.com.

Sunday, August 7 - **Garrison/Arden Point Circular**. 4-5 miles, easy-to-moderate terrain. Starting from the Garrison train station, we'll walk around woods roads and trails with great views of the Hudson. Interesting structures--some abandoned-bamboo groves. Nice way to spend an enjoyable day at a relaxed pace. Maybe a bushwack - short but could be challenging. Lunch across 9D and up to the Gazebo. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida, (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com.

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

Saturday, August 13 - **Black Rock Forest Hike and Swim.** 5-7 miles, moderate terrain. Great views, "Jupiter's boulder," (hopefully) a waterfall, a swim at Sutherland Pond, and possibly wild blueberries. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Contact leader for time and place. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, cell (914) 420-5778.

Saturday, August 13 - **Tarrywile Park, Danbury, CT.** 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Once an active dairy farm and fruit orchard, the park encompasses more than 720 acres of woodlands, fields, ponds and 21 miles of hiking trails. The Tarrywile mansion is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a prime example of New England shingle-style architecture. Our hike includes one long, moderately steep ascent. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, email the leader, Brent Laymon, at belaymon@gmail.com or call (475) 206-7599.

Sunday, August 14 - **Three Lakes/AT Loop.** 6.5 miles, moderate terrain. Enjoy a circular hike through the woods of Fahenstock State Park with some ups and downs on the Appalachian and Three Lakes Trails. Afterwards, we can take a short drive over to Nelsonville and visit its popular roadside ice cream stand. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader Minu Chaudhuri, (914) 391-5918 or minuch50@gmail.com.

Saturday, August 20 - **Tallman Mountain, Piermont Pier, and Ice Cream.** 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. On this circular hike we'll explore some of the trails within Tallman Mountain State Park in the morning, have lunch at the summit of the mountain with sweeping views of the Hudson, and then descend into the village of Piermont. We'll take a detour to the Piermont Creamery for some homemade treats, and then continue on the Pier walkway out to an observation platform almost in the midpoint of the River before retracing our steps to the cars. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Rain cancels. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com.

Sunday, August 21 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, August 21 - **NYC Walk.** 9 miles, easy terrain. We will begin our walk at Grand Central Station and amble south along the west side of Manhattan. We will stop at a new Hudson River Park and more (to be decided). Never know what you will see because the city always has surprises. Options to shorten the walk are available. Participation is limited to 12 people. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at lindawildman88@gmail.com or text/call (914) 316-5674.

Sunday, August 21 - **Dog Days of Summer at Baxter Preserve.** 3 miles, easy terrain. During one of the hottest months of the year, come join us for a short easy hike in North Salem over pastures and gentle rolling hills. Call leader, Barry Leibowitz at (914)774-5321 to register up until 6 PM the evening before the hike. Rain cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 46).*

Saturday, August 27 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, August 27 - **AT to Fitzgerald Falls and Back.** 8 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike will begin at the Mt. Peter parking area and go north on the AT to take in Cat Rocks and the Eastern Pinnacles; the turnaround point is Fitzgerald Falls. The parking area is next to the fabulous Bellvale Creamery, for ice cream after the hike. Extreme heat or heavy rain may cancel or change the route. Contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com or text (914) 907-6764.

Saturday, August 27 - Muscoot Farm. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. The leader tried this twice before - snowed out and rained out. Third time is a charm! This is a nice hike in the summer lineup. A little steep at the beginning and easy-to-moderate (mostly farmland) for the rest of the way. Stone walls abound (there's a stone wall song we can sing along the way...short and sweet). Relaxed pace. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida, (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 58).*

Sunday, August 28 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, August 28 - SBM North to the TMI. 9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. From the start of the SBM on Route 59, we will do a linear hike on this long-distance Harriman trail to the TMI at Diltz Road, passing views and several landmarks along the way. For more information or to register, contact Bob Fiscina at fis6973@tutamail.com. Rain cancels. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. No beginners please. A shuttle is required.

Sunday, August 28 - Mountain Lakes Park. 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We'll visit the highest point of the park, Mt. Bailey, descend and hike around Spruce Lake and Hemlock Lake, and then take the white trail to Lookout Point, with its sweeping views. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register contact Sheila Sarkar, shechris6@gmail.com or (914) 498 2464. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).*

Saturday, September 3 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, September 3 - Within the County Grand Finale, Part 3: Katonah Exploration. 9 miles, easy terrain. Our day begins with a visit to the Hunt Parker Sanctuary, with a steady up (and down) through woods and past some wetlands. The rest of the hike is on dirt roads and trails with gentle terrain. We'll head over to the Cross River Reservoir and have lunch near its spectacular spillway, then continue on an unpaved road that parallels the reservoir and later passes a few horse farms. When we come to a fork in the road we'll take it to the John Jay Homestead. This former residence of the first Chief Justice of the United States has a short trail which will get us to a bustling Farmers Market, where we might be able to find that perfect dessert. Finally, we'll head down to the Beaver Dam Sanctuary and stroll through its mowed fields and on paths along the Beaver Dam River. This hike involves a short shuttle; participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 32 and 47).*

Saturday, September 3 - Blue Mountain Reservation, Peekskill. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This park has granite boulders, glacial erratics, rock outcroppings, creeks, bridges, fallen trees, ferns and mosses making it a great place to hike. There are going to be ups, downs and some level trails. Ice cream at the Hudson Creamery is an option after the hike. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register or for questions, please contact the leader Linda Wildman at lindawildman88@gmail.com or text (914) 316-5674. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 48).*

Sunday, September 4 - Brinton Brook Sanctuary, Croton on Hudson. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Another delight. Lots of ups and downs, some steep but nothing long, all at a relaxed pace. Extra bonus: a wonderful vista. Some sections can be quite gnarly. Participation is limited to 11 people; hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida, (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com. Parking is limited at the trailhead so a short shuttle may be required. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 22).*

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day) - Mt. Taurus via Nelsonville. 5 miles, moderate terrain. We'll take the less rocky, less crowded route up Mt. Taurus and do a loop down the back side. Or, with sufficient drivers, we'll do a car shuttle so that we can include a seldom-hiked section of the Highlands Trail. Meet at the Undercliff Trailhead, 18A Secor St., Nelsonville, NY 10516. From the traffic light at the intersection of Routes 9D and 301 in Cold Spring, go approx. ½ mile east and turn left onto Pearl St. (If you see Juanita's Kitchen, you've gone too far.) Pearl St. ends and the parking lot is directly across Secor St. Park carefully, not on the Masonic side, or find parking on the streets. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Note: Cold Spring and Nelsonville are ice cream-friendly areas and we'll pick a place to go at the end of the hike. To register, call or email leader Bruce Collins, (646) 584-1227 or actz1015@gmail.com.

Saturday September 10 - TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:

Saturday September 10 - Minnewaska State Park. 9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. From the lower lot, we'll hike on the Mossy Glen trail alongside Peter's Kill stream. Next, we'll make our way to Rainbow Falls, where we'll stop for lunch. An ascent after lunch will take us to views from Castle Point, and from there we'll take the Blueberry Trail and the Awosting Carriage road back to our cars. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net.

Saturday, September 10 - AT from Route 22 to Cat Rocks, Pawling NY. 6 miles, moderate terrain. This out-and-back hike offers a variety of paths. We'll travel south over boardwalks, up and down hills and through meadows and woods to our destination with a view of where we've traveled. We'll commence at the AT train stop (there is plenty of parking along Route 22 just north of the AT). Rain or excessive heat cancels at the leader's discretion. This hike is limited to ten participants. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Contact hike leader Rosanne Schepis for departure time and meeting location at (203) 417-5552 or rschep@yahoo.com.

Saturday September 10 - Canoe / Kayak Croton River. This is a favorite: an easy and relaxing flatwater paddle on the Croton River. We will meet at 10:00 at the Croton RR station and paddle under 9A heading into the river on the incoming tide as this is a tidal river. Taking advantage of high tide we'll explore the river, its side channels and estuaries. Lunch and swimming at the gravel beach. Rentals at the launch site are available through www.kayakhudson.com. Participants must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Call leader to register. Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413 or e-mail jsmallpt@aol.com.

Sunday, September 11 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, September 11 - Black Rock Forest. 6 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum/Outdoor Discovery Center, we ascend into the Mine Hill Road area of Black Rock Forest. This is a moderate hike with a significant climb at the beginning and a total elevation gain of approximately 1100 ft. It will be done at a compassionate pace with regroupings as needed. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. Email preferred with 'hike' in the subject line.

Sunday, September 11 - Briarcliff Peekskill Trail, Part 1: Watch Hill Road to New Croton Dam, plus an Option. 4.8 (+1.2) miles, easy to moderate terrain. The Trail Tramps have recently reconstructed much of Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway, which now has less road walking and better conditions. We will do a shuttle hike from Watch Hill Road to the New Croton Dam, with an option to add the Croton Gorge Trail for those who wish. Shady woods and wetlands followed by dramatic views from the dam and the gorge. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Contact leader for

time and meeting place. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, cell (914) 420-5778. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 67 if done with Part 2 of this series, and No. 99b if the option is added).*

Saturday, September 17 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 17 - **Stahahe High Point and Island Pond**. 6.5 miles, moderate terrain. Leaving from the Elk Pen, we will take various trails, including the Nurian through the Valley of the Boulders and the Dunning with some challenging, moderate plus rocky terrain and beautiful views. We will follow unmarked trails to Stahahe High Point with more great views and then visit the southern point of Island Pond. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, Raffaele.Catharine@yahoo.com.

Saturday, September 17 - **Mianus River Gorge, Bedford, NY**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is an easy paced hike in a Nature Conservancy property. Bring a snack and plenty of water if it is a hot day. And then we will proceed to Havermeyer Falls which may or may not be flowing. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 56).*

Sunday, September 18 - **North and South Redoubts in Garrison**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Fantastic views!! Lots of History!! Plus other lesser hiked trails. Good amount of heavy breathing. Relaxed pace. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact leader Art Almeida, (914) 319-4701 or arta@croton10520.com.

Saturday, September 24 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Saturday, September 24 - **Hogencamp Mountain Loop, Harriman Park**. 6.5 miles, moderate terrain. This hike has 1200 feet of elevation gain with good views, and we will also pass several mines and interesting rock formations. We can do a bit of exploring of the mine entrances. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Register with leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com by 5:00 PM on the Thursday before the hike.

Saturday, September 24 - **Larchmont and Manor Park Walk**. 3-5 miles, easy terrain. We will walk a section of Larchmont on the Long Island Sound and see many amazing houses. We will walk through the beautiful Manor Park which has stunning views of the Long Island Sound, and then make a stop at a small beach (bring lunch). Following lunch we can walk to downtown Larchmont and have dessert at the Longfords Ice Cream shop. Our walk will begin at 10:30 AM; contact leader for the meeting place. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Cynthia Moro, Cynlyn24@gmail.com.

Sunday, September 25 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, September 25 - **Agony Grind and Indian Hill "Lollipop" Hike**. 7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. Enjoy multiple views on this traverse of rarely visited portions of Harriman and Sterling Forest. We'll do a strenuous ascent to the ridge on Agony Grind, a moderate loop around Indian Hill, and then return to Agony Grind for our descent. Be warned - whoever named this short but challenging trail knew what they were talking about! There is plenty of scrambling and the descent is not for the height-averse. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. Leader: Kevin McGahren, kmcgc@optonline.net or (914) 772-0600.

Sunday, September 25 - **Ward Pound Ridge Reservation**. 5.6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is a pleasant “walk in the woods” on gentle terrain on the Reservation’s red ski trails. Bring lunch or a snack and plenty of water, especially if it is a hot day. For those interested, we can carpool from the Greenway Shopping Center, 20 North Salem Road, Cross River, New York. Hikers must be vaccinated and follow Covid policy. To register, contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).*