



WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

SPRING HIKING SCHEDULE
APRIL, MAY and JUNE, 2024

Covid-19 Policy

**Outings limited to those vaccinated against Covid-19 will say so in the description.
The restrictions below apply regardless of vaccination status.**

You must have a mask or other face covering with you at all times, which must be worn in crowded outdoor areas, when indoors, and during carpools. 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 5 days?
3. Have you tested positive for Covid-19 in the past 5 days?
4. As far as you know, have you had contact with any confirmed or suspect Covid-19 case within 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.

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

Saturday, April 6 - **Storm King and North Point.** 8-9 miles, strenuous terrain. This hike has two steep climbs and ups and downs throughout, which we will do at a moderate pace. Views of the Hudson River from different perspectives will be enjoyed by all. Leader: Alice Benash, airb3@verizon.net.

Saturday, April 6 - **Onatru Farm Park and Preserve**. 2-3 miles, easy terrain. This working farm and trails are owned by the Town of Lewisboro. It will be an easy hike on trails that lead through hardwood forests and a strand of Scotch pine. The loop across the street consists of marsh and a small pond. Bring water and lunch or snack as there are picnic tables. The latest vaccination for Covid-19 is required on this hike. To register call or email Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413, jsmallpt@aol.com.

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

Sunday, April 7 - **Stahahe High Point and Island Pond**. 6.5 miles, moderate+ terrain. Steady, moderate pace. 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, 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. Climb up and over Green Pond Mountain on the ASB to return to the Elk Pen. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, catharineraffaele@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 7 - **Mianus River Gorge, Bedford, NY**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This hike is at an easy pace in a Nature Conservancy property. Bring a snack to have at a "viewpoint." And then we will proceed to Havermeyer Falls (which may or may not be flowing) for lunch. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 56)*.

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

Saturday, April 13 - **Sleeping Giant State Park, Hamden CT**. 6-7 miles, moderate terrain. We will use a mix of east/west trails with a lot of ups and downs at a moderate pace, skipping the scarier parts of the Blue Trail while still getting nice views by joining it after we warm up on the Tower Trail. We will return on the violet and/or white trail. Carpooling from the Park & Ride at exit 35 of the Merritt is possible. Register with leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com between Monday and 5 PM Thursday the week of the hike.

Saturday, April 13 - **Westmoreland Sanctuary**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We'll do a loop, starting with a steady climb on the yellow trail. Then we continue to the Lost Pond, where we'll pause to contemplate its lovely spillway before heading back on different trails. Bring water and a snack; hiking poles recommended. To register, email the leader Brent Laymon at belaymon@gmail.com or call (475) 206-7599. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 65)*.

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

Sunday, April 14 - **Victory Hike in Harriman State Park**. 5 miles, moderate terrain. Join the leader for a hike that includes the Victory, White Cross and Ramapo-Dunderberg Trails. Each has a variety of terrain from rocks, earth trails and some paved road. We will do this hike at a steady pace and climb Parker Cabin and Tom Jones Mountains, both of which have beautiful views. Bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Rain cancels. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, (347) 262-4802 or elspethkramer@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 14 - **On the Yonkers Waterfront: H2O, Art and Eels**. 4 miles, easy terrain. The internationally recognized Saw Mill River Daylighting Park, a distinctive eel ladder, the sculpture-punctuated Hudson esplanade, murals and much more art, river and history highlight this eclectic exploration. To register contact Debbie Farrell at debfarpr@gmail.com. Telephone on the morning of the hike only (914) 282-9942.

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

Saturday, April 20 - **Teatown Lake Reservation**. 5-6 miles, moderate terrain. We will do a combination of the Three Lakes Loop, Hidden Valley Loop, and Overlook Loop on varied terrain at a moderate pace, and hopefully see some wildflowers in bloom. Participation is limited to 12 people. Leader: Kathie Laug, kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net, (203) 722-5490. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, April 20 - **Old Croton Aqueduct Walk**. 4-6 miles, easy terrain. We will begin our walk in Hastings on Hudson and walk south towards Yonkers. We will pass the lower entrance to Untermyer Gardens and see the lion and the unicorn guarding the entrance. We will also see an area often visited by the Son of Sam, and don't forget several Hudson River views. We will also admire the spring blooms at Untermyer gardens - we can decide by group consensus whether to take the graded path up and a series of 120 steps down, or the reverse. Bring water, and lunch or a snack. We will eat at the gardens. Rain cancels. Leader: Cynthia Moro cynlyn24@gmail.com

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

Sunday, April 21 - **Hike the NCIT. Section 4: Trout Brook Preserve and the Saugatuck Trail**. 8 miles, moderate terrain. Today's Nearby Connecticut Imaginary Trail (NCIT) hike is on the easier side of moderate, and will be done at a leisurely pace. We'll return to the Trout Brook Preserve but begin at the north end, allowing us to explore different trails from the ones we visited before. Our route will be along a ridge and past some interesting rock formations, eventually reconnecting with the unmarked path that parallels the Reservoir and continues to the Saugatuck Trail where we left it last time. We'll remain on the Saugatuck Trail for the rest of the hike, passing frequent water views, and end near the Reservoir's western side. Short shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels.

Sunday, April 21 - **Buttermilk Ridge and Glenville Woods, Tarrytown**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This is an out and back hike with a mix of easy sections and hills to climb. We will enter the preserve from the Tarrytown Lakes eastern end, take a white trail to reach Glenville Woods where we will break for lunch, and then return on the Blue and White trails. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 9:45 a.m. the Eastview Commuter Parking lot off Neperan Road. Directions: From the Saw Mill River Parkway, take the Eastview exit and turn west towards the Park & Ride. For GPS use Hudson River Recreation, Tarrytown Lakes, Tarrytown, N.Y. Leader: Surekha Soni, surekhasoni1968@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 2).*

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

Saturday, April 27 - **Garrison Metro North to Sugar Loaf**. 5-6 miles, moderate terrain. Join the leader in a hike from the Garrison Metro North station to Sugar Loaf and possibly beyond. There is an elevation gain of 750' (which is the reason for the moderate designation). Bring a lunch and 1.5 liters of water. Hiking boots and poles are recommended. Leader Steve Klepner (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com . Email preferred with 'hike' in the subject line.

Saturday, April 27 - **Manitou Point Preserve**. 3-4 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. Contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net to register.

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

Sunday, April 28 - **Stonetown Circular.** 11 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. The Stonetown Circular Trail is one of the most rugged in the area, going over five peaks and offering multiple views of the Wanaque Reservoir to the east and the surrounding valleys to the west. We will do the route at a moderate-plus pace, hopefully on a cool spring day. Leader: Kevin McGahren, kmcgc@optonline.net or (914) 772-0600.

Sunday, April 28 - **Family Friendly Hike in Butler Sanctuary.** 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Highlights include pretty streams to cross, glacially deposited rocks and skunk cabbage marshes. Bring snacks, lunch and water. The sanctuary's address 265 Chestnut Ridge Road, Mt. Kisco, NY. To register please email the leader, Kristen Soni, at kmjm2000@yahoo.com. "Co-leader" Jianna Soni. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49)*

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

Saturday, May 4 - **Sterling Forest and Greenwood Lake.** 9 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from the visitor center, we will head to Bare Rock for a beautiful view of Greenwood Lake. From there, we'll loop back to the Sterling Forest fire tower. The hike will be done at a moderate pace. It has about 1800' of elevation gain with some ups and downs throughout the day, a steep ascent up boulders, and some stream crossings. Leader: Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net.

Saturday, May 4 - **Irvington to Dobbs Ferry on the OCA.** 5 miles, easy terrain. Approximately two years ago Ellie Carren led this walk on her 100th birthday. In her memory we will recreate part of the walk, which started in Irvington and ended at the Gatekeeper's house in Dobbs Ferry, but we will go a bit further to see the giraffes. Ellie's daughter Claire will be coming from Colorado to join us. Bring lunch or a snack; after the walk we will take an optional drive to the Scenic Park in Irvington on the Hudson River to see the tree and plaque in Ellie's memory. If you did not know Ellie come anyway - you'll be inspired by stories of her intellect, level of activity and joy of life. Plus, it's a lovely walk with much to see. Contact the leader for time and meeting place. Leader: Cynthia Moro, cynlyn24@gmail.com.

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

Sunday, May 5 - **Fishkill Ridge.** 9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This is a lollipop hike with about 2,000' of elevation gain which we will do at a moderately fast pace, going over Lambs Hill to Fishkill Ridge in the Hudson Highlands. For a change of scenery we will take the Overlook Trail from Sunnyside Road. Along the way there are many beautiful views in all directions. No beginners please. To register contact leader Janice Miller at madjan11@yahoo.com.

Sunday, May 5 - **Cold Spring: History and River Views.** 8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This hike begins and ends with an exploration of local preserves along and near the Hudson River that feature the diverse history of this region, with a walk in between through the village of Cold Spring. First we'll visit Little Stony Point. Once used for mining operations and then destined to be a factory site, it was saved from development when it became part of the Hudson Highlands State Park. Across

the road is the primary State Park area, where we will access several trails through the ruins of Northgate (the former Cornish Estate built ca. 1910), past a waterfall and along a dam. We'll visit the estate's former dairy farm, a sprawling and remarkably well preserved complex, and then head into town, stopping along the way for a trail lunch. Finally, we'll explore the West Point Foundry Preserve, where we'll find paths along the river that lead to the remnants of ironworks which made some of America's first steam engines and Civil War cannons. Rain cancels; short shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com.

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

Saturday, May 11 - **Southern Harriman Circular**. 9-10 miles, moderate terrain. There are plenty of ups and downs on this hike rewarded by views on several ridges as we do a wide loop at a steady, brisk pace from the Visitor's Center. We will head east on the Reeves Brook and Kakiat Trails, north on the SBM, back along Pine Meadow Lake, up Diamond Mountain, and down on the HTS and Pine Meadow Trails to our starting point. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. Leader brings brownies. Leader: Kay Cynamon, kcynamon@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 11 - **Fahnestock Park - Charcoal Burners**. 5.2 miles, moderate terrain. This hike, with 572' of elevation gain, traverses parts of Fahnestock Park on both the North and South sides of Route 301. Beginning on the Appalachian Trail, the hike proceeds over an old railroad bed which was used to bring out iron mined in the area, and passes several lakes before crossing to the north side of Route 301 to begin our return. There will be a lunch break. The leader has deliberately chosen to lead these types of hikes to reach less experienced or even new hikers, to expose them to the beauty of the woods and the pleasures of hiking, giving back something from his own years of hiking and backpacking. His hikes are not designed for speed but for enjoyment along the way. To register, contact the leader, Aaron Bock, at acbock52@gmail.com.

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

Sunday, May 12 - **Macedonia Brook State Park, Kent CT**. 7 miles, moderate terrain. This park has great views from its summits and as the name indicates a lovely brook. There are also remains of CCC work. Among others we will traverse the Cobble Hill Trail and parts of the Ridge Trail. We will do this hike at a moderate pace and skip the difficult ascent of Cobble Hill from the north. The leader estimates that there will be about 1000' of elevation gain. Carpooling is possible but if you want to explore the quaint town of Kent or Kent Falls after the hike that is a possibility. Register with leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com between Monday and 5 PM Friday the week of the hike.

Sunday, May 12 - **Hart's Brook Preserve and Optional Ridge Road Park**. 3-5 miles, easy terrain. On Mother's Day enjoy an 3 mile walk in the Hart's Brook Preserve, described in Walkable Westchester as "stately woodlands, flowing streams, and flowering trees." Perhaps the abundant rhododendrons will be in bloom. There is an option to do another 2 miles across the street on the trails and walks at Ridge Road Park. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, cell (914) 420-5778. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No 5)*.

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

Saturday, May 18 - **Mt. Taurus via Nelsonville**. 5 miles, moderate terrain. We'll take the less crowded (but rocky) route up Mt. Taurus at a brisk (but not killer), pace, and do a loop down the back side. 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 in this lot or on the street, but not in the Masonic lot. Vaccination is required on this hike. To register, call or email leader Bruce Collins, (646) 584-1227 or actz1015@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 18 - Twin Lakes/Nature Study Woods (Eastchester to New Rochelle Loop). 4.6 miles, easy terrain. Enjoy 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. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. Rain cancels. Leader: Lynn McBride, almcb@aol.com or (914)439-0879. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 43).*

Sunday, May 19 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 19 - Storm King and Butter Hill. 5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. All morning we'll be climbing on the Stillman Trail with views of the Hudson River and surrounding mountains to our spectacular lunch spot. After lunch, we continue hiking on the scenic Stillman Trail to beautiful Butter Hill. Our return will be on the Bluebird and Stillman Trails. This very hilly hike will be led at a relaxed moderate pace. Use the West Hudson Trails Map #113 and meet the leader at 42 Bayview Ave. (Route 218) Esty and Hellie Stowell Trailhead, Cornwall Landing, NY. To register and for meeting time or other information email the leader, Judy Kossover, at woodtuxduo@aol.com.

Sunday, May 19 - Hidden Valley Loop and Teatown Lake. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Come out on this spring day for a nice invigorating hike at Teatown Lake Reservation. Bring plenty of water and snacks. Rain cancels. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, elspethjkramer@gmail.com or (347) 262-4802. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).*

Saturday, May 25 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, May 25 - Terrace Pond. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike, in West Milford, NJ, features rugged terrain, several rock scrambles and lots of rhododendron tunnels. We'll see plenty of views as we wind up, down and around the trails at a moderate-plus pace to access this remote and scenic pond. A recent reroute by the NY-NJ Trail Conference and some engineering knowhow has resulted in an interesting way to cross an area that is almost always wet from beaver activity: a floating bridge reached via a descent on a long wooden ladder, which we'll try out on today's hike. Leader: Kevin McGahren, kmcgc@optonline.net or (914) 772-0600.

Saturday, May 25 - Oscawana Island Park. 3 miles, easy terrain. We'll follow the blue trail alongside Furnace Brook, then take the white trail to see the ruins of the McAndrews estate and circle the former racetrack. We'll then return to our starting point and continue along to the Hudson river, where we'll have lunch on the river bank. To register, contact the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at shechris6@gmail.com.

Sunday, May 26 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 26 - Millionaire's Row. Closter, NJ. 9.5 miles, moderate terrain. This hike utilizes the Long Path, Huyler's Landing Trail, Shore Path, and Forest View Trail to make a loop that passes several points of interest including river views, the ruins of mansions, and the Women's Federation Monument. While parts of the hike are easy, particularly along the shoreline, there is a steep climb to get onto the palisade, and a steep climb down. The leader moves at a moderate-plus pace. Extreme heat or heavy rain may cancel or change the route. Contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com. Vaccination is required on this hike, and participation is limited to 15 people.

Sunday, May 26 - Silver Lake Preserve. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will depart from the West Harrison parking lot and follow the blue, yellow and white trails, circling around the lake and returning via the historic site of Merritt Hill which marks one of the actions of the Battle of White Plains in the Revolutionary War. Bring water and a snack. To register, contact the leader, Sheila Klatzky, at srklatzky@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 40).*

Saturday, June 1 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, June 1 - Black Rock Forest. 6 miles, moderate terrain. Starting from the Hudson Highland Nature Museum/Outdoor Discovery Center, we ascend into the Mine Hill Road area of Black Rock Forest. We should have a nice view or two. Although this hike is moderate, we do have a significant climb at the beginning and a total of approximately 1100' of elevation gain, which will be done at a compassionate pace with regroupings as needed. Leader Steve Klepner (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. Email preferred with 'hike' in the subject line.

Saturday, June 1 - Appalachian Trail at a Gentle Pace: Route 301 to Dennytown Road in Fahnestock State Park. 3.7 miles, moderate terrain. Beautiful woodlands and wetlands, ridges, one waterfall/cascade, and hopefully mountain laurel in bloom. Shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, cell (914) 420-5778.

Sunday, June 2 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, June 2 - Sterling Forest. 7 miles, moderate terrain. Steady, moderate pace. We will ascend the Bare Rock Trail and stop at Bare Rock with its scenic view of Greenwood Lake. Return on the Sterling Ridge Trail with a stop at the Fire Tower. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, catharineraffaele@gmail.com.

Sunday, June 2 - Manitoga. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will meet at Manitoga off Route 9D in Garrison (584 Route 9D, Garrison) and explore the trails within Manitoga for a hike at an easy pace with some ups and down for about two-three hours. This historic property was once owned by Russel Wright, an industrial designer. Contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net to register.

Saturday, June 8 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, June 8 - Stillman Trail End to End. 11 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike was on the schedule last fall but was cancelled due to bad weather, so we will try again. We access the western end of the Stillman Trail from Mine Hill Road in Black Rock Forest (now at a viewpoint in the middle of nowhere). Heading east, we stop for another view at Split Rock, continue over the summits of Black Rock Mountain and Mt. Misery, up to the rocky top of Butter Hill, over Storm King Mountain, and out to our cars. There is plenty of elevation change on this hike, which will be done at a steady, brisk pace. Short shuttle involved (masks required). No beginners please. Leader: Bob Fiscina, fis6973@tutamail.com. Rain or wet conditions cancel.

Saturday, June 8 - Mountain Lakes Park. 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will do a circuit of the park on varied terrain at a moderate pace, utilizing several different trails including some that go alongside roads and including climbs of Bailey Mountain (the highest point in Westchester County) and Look Out Point. Participation is limited to 12 people. Leader: Kathie Laug, kfriedmanlaug@optonline.net, (203) 722-5490. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).*

Sunday, June 9 - WTA Annual Meeting.

Saturday, June 15 - **TWO HIKES AND A CANOE/KAYAK TODAY:**

Saturday, June 15 - **Norvin Green State Forest, Ringwood, NJ.** 6 miles, moderate terrain. This route of this hike is mostly moderate with one steep climb, which we will do at a moderate pace. We'll hike along the Otter Hole to the Mine Trail and climb Carris Hill with views of the Wanaque Reservoir. Then we continue on the Hewitt-Butler Trail to Yoo-Hoo Point and Wyanokie High Point with views of the NYC skyline before returning to our cars. Leader Minu Chaudhuri, minuch50@gmail.com or (914) 391-5918.

Saturday, June 15 - **Weir Farm National Historic Site.** 4-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain. This hike, in the only NHS in Connecticut, is on the property of Julian Weir (1852-1919), an American Impressionist artist who was struck by nature's beauty. Come see the stone walls, woodlands, pond and meadow that inspired him as an artist. We will hike 4 miles in the Preserve on gently rolling trails that have rocks, roots and stream crossings, doing an out and back on the Blue and Yellow trails. We will have lunch near the Secret Garden, Studio and home. (We will be near the cars if you need an early out at this point.) Then we will hike 2 miles out to and around Weir Pond on the other side of Nod Hill Road. Restrooms are available and open on the property. So Westchester folks - venture across the border to this lovely spot. Bring your National Park Passport Book if you have one, as those can be stamped at the Visitor Center. Contact lisaweismiller@gmail.com to register, and for start time and directions.

Saturday, June 15 - **Canoe / Kayak - Basha Kill Wildlife Management Area.** This is the largest freshwater wetland in southeastern New York which protects acres of habitat for all kinds of wildlife. The leader will set up a short shuttle for a one way paddle through the entire wetlands. Bring lunch, own boat, and lifejacket, as there are no rentals nearby. We will meet at 10:00 at the first put in above Haven Road. The latest vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this outing. To register call or email Jane Smalley (914) 276-0413, jsmallpt@aol.com.

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

Sunday, June 16 - **Minnewaska State Park.** 9 miles, moderate terrain. Minnewaska has an abundance of mountain laurels, and hopefully they will be in bloom. The majority of this hike will be on hiking trails and not carriage roads. We will take the Mossy Glen, Blueberry Run, and Rainbow Falls trails, moving at a moderately fast pace, and have nice views from Castle Point. To register contact leader Janice Miller at madjan11@yahoo.com.

Sunday, June 16 - **Fahnestock Perambulation.** 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. A Zen-like stroll, minor ups/downs around the Fahenstock Winter Park trails to Stillwater Lake, and maybe even a short lunch break. Meeting place and time TBA. Leader: Howard Millman, (914) 439-8031 (day of hike), hwardmillman@runbox.com (any time).

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

Saturday, June 22 - **Scenery, History, Bamboo, Cactus, "Forbidden Castle".** 6.5 miles, moderate terrain. We'll hike at a "moderate plus" pace, enjoy some of the best Hudson River scenery, and see where the Revolutionary War was almost lost! Meet at the Garrison Metro-North RR Station (free parking on weekends). We'll pass through the bamboo jungles on the Glenclyffe Loop, then cross Route 9D, view (but not go too near!) the "Forbidden Castle," tackle the short steep trail up Sugarloaf Hill, and possibly see cacti blooming at the summit. Vaccination is required on this hike. To register, call or email leader Bruce Collins, (646) 584-1227 or actz1015@gmail.com.

Saturday, June 22 - **Westmoreland Sanctuary**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Join the leader on a hike on lovely and varied terrain featuring the new Raptor Ridge Trail. There is a wonderful nature center and historic museum that we can visit after the hike. The Sanctuary's address is 260 Chestnut Ridge Road, Mt. Kisco. To register, contact leader Ann Autieri at ann@cilia.org or (914) 539-1620. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 65).*

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

Sunday, June 23 - **Tuxedo Circular**. 7-8 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This loop hike starts from the commuter lot in Tuxedo and continues on the RD to Parker Cabin Mountain. We will have lunch with a view on the mountain, and return via the Triangle Trail. Participation is limited to 12 people. Bring sufficient water, snacks and lunch. No runners, please - this is a hike to enjoy our surroundings on an early summer day. To register contact the leader, Carol Ann Benton, via email aquariuscab@gmail.com or text (914) 960-3317.

Sunday, June 23 - **Three Bridges and One Ferry**. 7-8 miles, easy terrain. Walk New York's BMW (Brooklyn, Manhattan, Williamsburg) bridges and explore what's on each side of the BMW. Participation is limited to 12 people, and vaccination against Covid-19 is required. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at lindawildman88@gmail.com or text/call (914) 316-5674.

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

Saturday, June 29 - **The Quiet Side of Sterling Forest, Tuxedo, NY**. 9.5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain. This hike will utilize trails in Sterling Forest, unmarked woods roads, and a bit of the Appalachian Trail to make a figure 8 that takes in several nice views, the ruins of the Southfield furnace, and a lovely pond. The route has lots of rolling ups and downs, and the leader moves at a moderate-plus pace. Extreme heat or heavy rain may cancel or change the route. Contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com. Vaccination is required on this hike, and participation is limited to 15 people.

Saturday, June 29 - **Mianus River Gorge Preserve**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. Hike in a scenic old growth forest. We follow the red trail for the length of the preserve. We will take side trails to view a Mica mine and waterfall ending at the Bargh Reservoir. The trail includes a series of ups and downs. We make our way back to the parking lot along the blue and green trails. Leader: Carol Pamm (646) 346-0371 or CarolJoyce2@aol.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 56).*

Sunday, June 30 - **TWO HIKES TODAY:**

Sunday, June 30 - **A.T. from Route 22 to Cat Rocks, Pawling NY**. 6 miles, moderate terrain. This out-and-back hike offers a variety of terrain at a pace of about 1-1/2 to 2 mph. We'll travel south over boardwalks, up and down hills and through meadows and woods and climb steeply to our destination with a view of where we've traveled. We'll start 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. Limit 10 hikers. Contact Brent Laymon at belaymon@gmail.com to register.

Sunday, June 30 - **Ward Pound Ridge**. 3.8 miles, easy to moderate terrain. We will hike most of the Blue Trail loop at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, which takes us to the old fire tower, the highest point in the park. We begin the hike with a moderate climb to the top, then a moderate descent by way of a detour on the White Trail. When we return to the Blue Trail, the remainder of the hike is flat and easy. Hiking poles suggested. The park is located at Reservation Rd, Pound Ridge, NY

10576. Parking is \$5 with a Park Pass, \$10 without the pass. Carpooling from the Orchard Square Shopping Center in Cross River is a possibility. To register and for information contact the leader, Gail Blumenfeld, at gailrb@yahoo.com.