

WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

WINTER HIKING SCHEDULE JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH, 2026

Please note: If you have tested positive for Covid-19 within the past 5 days, or if you have symptoms of any respiratory infection or other contagious illness, do not come on the hike! Stay home, take care of yourself, and keep others safe by not exposing them to a potential infection. As a precaution, masks must be worn during carpools.

Hike ratings are based on terrain and pace (mileage is stated separately in the description).

Terrain: These ratings apply during good weather; bad weather can lead to poor footing and increase the difficulty of any hike.

 $\underline{\text{Easy}}$ - relatively level terrain or a few hills, such as the Old Croton Aqueduct or some of the Rockefeller Preserve carriage trails.

<u>Easy to Moderate</u> - these hikes have both easy and moderate components. Expect more ups and downs than on an easy hike. Examples include parts of Teatown Reservation and most of Ward Pound Ridge.

<u>Moderate</u> - steeper grades, possibly going up and down all day; may include some bushwhacking or short rock scrambles, like most of Harriman State Park.

<u>Moderate to Strenuous</u> - combines elements of both moderate and strenuous hikes (e.g., the Hudson Highlands excluding the Breakneck Ridge Trail).

<u>Strenuous</u> - very steep ascents/descents with rough or difficult terrain on much of the hike, such as the Breakneck Ridge Trail and the more challenging Schunemunk trails.

Pace: Leisurely (under 2 mph); Moderate (2 - 2.5 mph); Brisk (over 2.5 mph). These ratings are an average for the entire hike - pace is generally slower on rugged or steep terrain, and then speeds up on easier stretches.

Please do not use mileage + pace to estimate how long a hike will take. Many variables add to that time. In addition to terrain, they include ground conditions; stops for views, water, separations, and adding or removing layers; breaks for lunch or snacks; and unforseen events. If you need to get back by a certain time, forego the hike and wait for another day.

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.

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).

It's Winter - Don't Forget to Put Traction Aids in Your Pack!

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>January 1</u> - **New Year's Day at Greenwich Point Park**, **Greenwich**, **CT**. 3 miles, easy terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Get up late and join us at 10:30 AM for a saunter around this peninsula in Long Island Sound. The "hike" will be followed by a refreshing plunge. If that doesn't appeal you may still enjoy the social gathering that follows. There is no need to register but contact leader Jane Restani at <u>irabjanea@aol.com</u> if your digital device fails to provide comprehensible directions or if the weather is bad but you still want to give it a whirl.

Saturday, January 3 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, January 3 - Harriman State Park. 8.25 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate to brisk pace. Starting from the Tiorati parking area, we will use a mixture of the Long Path, AT, RD, and unmarked woods roads to explore a variety of historical locations including the Bradley Mine (hope for ice!), Paradise Rock, the Greenwood Mine, with a couple of other surprises along the way. Lunch will be at the unmaintained shelter on the Long Path, out of the wind. The leader will call the park in advance - if we are very lucky and it is very cold, we may be able to walk on Lake Tiorati as part of the route. Inclement weather may cancel or change the route. This hike has 1800 feet of elevation change and is limited to 12 people. To register, contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com.

<u>Saturday, January 3</u> - **Rockefeller Preserve**. 5 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. We'll follow a scenic route along the Pocantico River Trail and part of the 13 Bridges Loop, and on Gory Brook Road, mostly on sheltered trails. Bring poles, lunch/snacks and water, and traction devices if conditions are wintry. For meeting time and other information, register with the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at shechris7@yahoo.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59)*.

Sunday, January 4 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 4</u> - **Minnewaska**. 8 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This loop will take us on a mix of hiking trails and carriage roads. We will take Jenny Lane to Lake Awosting and return on the Upper Awosting Carriage Road and Mossy Glen Trail. Come prepared with winter gear. To register contact leader Janice Miller at <a href="mailto:mai

Sunday, January 4 - **Tarrytown Bike Paths**. 6 miles, easy terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. This is an out and back from the Tarrytown Lakes Parking lot (209 Neperan Road, Tarrytown). We walk east on the bike path that runs near the southern shore of the Tarrytown Reservoir, turning north at the intersection with the South County Trail, and reversing our direction after about 3 miles total from our cars. The bike paths are paved and may have bicycle traffic. Contact leader to register: Josh Knight, oldunclejosh@gmail.com.

Saturday, January 10 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, January 10</u> - **Fahnestock Circular**.10-11 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. This loop, which has an elevation gain of about 1800', will take us along a stream with a waterfall and to a view at the top of Round Hill. We will meet at the Trout Brook Trailhead, 38-20 Trout Brook Road, Cold Spring, NY; 41.48030,-73.85858 (41°28'49.1"N 73°51'30.9"W). Contact the leader, Alice Benash, at airb3@verizon.net to register and for information.

Saturday, January 10 - Old Croton Aqueduct, Part 8: Fordham Road to West 125th Street. 4.7 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. This hike, combining parks and street walking, begins on Fordham Road at the Aqueduct Promenade in the Bronx. We then go across the High Bridge where the recently reopened scenic bridge carried the aqueduct across the Harlem River, and end at West 125th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan. For more information about

the OCA, see https://aqueduct.org/. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, (914) 420-5778.

Sunday, January 11 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 11</u> - **Black Rock Forest Circular**. 8 miles, moderate-plus terrain, moderate to brisk pace. Enjoy multiple ups and downs on this loop in Black Rock Forest, with views from Mt. Misery, the Hill of Pines, Rattlesnake Hill and, of course, Black Rock Mountain. Contact the leader, Kevin McGahren, for questions and to register: kmcgc@optonline.net.

Sunday, January 11 - Hardscrabble Wilderness Area (a Hike and Hot Soup). 3-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Let's explore this small but interesting preserve in Mt. Pleasant as we wind our way up, down and around many of its trails, past old stone walls and through deep woodlands. The hike distance will depend on ground conditions and the mood of the leader and the group. A short carpool from the Pleasantville train station is necessary because parking where we enter the preserve is limited, but that gives us a chance to enjoy hot soup and delicious pastry at Jean Jacques when we return. Masks required for the carpool; bring microspikes or stabilicers if conditions warrant. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 29).

<u>Saturday, January 17</u> - **The Eastern Side of Rockefeller**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. We will walk the trails in this State park to the east of Route 448. From the Rockefeller parking lot on Route 117 adjacent to the bike parking lot near Route 9A, we will walk Lucy's Loop and then hike up Buttermilk Hill. From there we will take the Ferguson trail around the lake and cross over to Stone Barns, visiting the indoor vegetables. We may stop for lunch and coffee in the cafe. Then we will cross back over and return to the cars on the other side of Lucy's Loop. Leader: Gail Blumenfeld, <u>gailrb@yahoo.com</u> or (914) 673-0886. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 59)*.

Sunday, January 18 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, January 18</u> - **NYC Walk**. 8 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. From Grand Central Station we will walk towards Lincoln Center and through Central Park, stopping at an MLK memorial, sculpture garden, a large gold-leafed head, a panther, and a women's monument. Participation is limited to 12 people and vaccination against Covid-19 is required. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at <u>lindawildman88@gmail.com</u> or text/call (914) 316-5674.

Sunday, January 18 - **Pound Ridge Reservation**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This is a pleasant "walk in the woods" on the Reservation's red ski trails. We will have a lunch break so bring lunch or a snack and plenty of water. There is an early out if needed. The park charges a \$10 per car parking fee, but carpooling is possible from the Cross River Shopping Center. To register, contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 63).

Saturday, January 24 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, January 24 - Croton Trails. 10 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate to brisk pace. We will hike most of the trails from Croton to Cortlandt, covering Croton Gorge, Jane Lytle Arboretum, Brinton Brook Sanctuary, Graff Sanctuary, Oscawana County Park, Oscawana Island. There will be some road walk in the morning. A short shuttle is involved (masks required). Leader brings brownies. To register, contact the leader, Kay Cynamon, at kcynamon@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 13 and 22).

<u>Saturday, January 24</u> - **Meyer Preserve**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. This small preserve offers a variety of habitats and interesting trails with rocky crags, steep ridges and a ravine. Hikers must be vaccinated against Covid-19. Contact leader Catharine Raffaele to register at <u>catharineraffaele@gmail.com</u>. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 55)*.

<u>Sunday, January 25</u> - **Westmoreland Sanctuary**. 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. We'll do the Grand Tour, a double loop that reaches the outer boundaries of this meticulously tended preserve, and we may add the (relatively) new Raptor Ridge Trail to the second half of the hike. With moderate ups and downs, the sanctuary features forests, ponds and striking rock outcroppings. Bring lunch and water. Hiking poles are recommended; bring traction devices if needed. To register, email the leader Brent Laymon at belaymon@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 65).

Saturday, January 31 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, January 31 - Harriman State Park: Lake Sebago to Jackie Jones Fire Tower. 10 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. Join us for a circuit hike with an elevation gain of approximately 1700'. We will meet at the Lake Sebago Boat Launch, Seven Lakes Drive, Sloatsburg, NY 10970. GPS: 41.19779, -74.12937. The hike will start on the (B) Seven Hills to (Y) Buck to (W) Breakneck Mt to (Y) S-BM to the fire tower. We will return via the Long Path and the unmarked Pine Meadow Cranberry Trail. For a trail map use: NYNJTC Harriman-Bear Mt Southern #118 or the digital map of your choice. To register and for questions, contact the leader, Bill Medeot, at BillWP@gmail.com or (914) 844-7038.

<u>Saturday, January 31</u> - **Mt Holly Sanctuary/Yarrow Preserve**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. We walk through forests with some gentle ups and downs, pass a couple of streams and around a lake before heading back to Mt Holly Road. Then we enter Yarrow Preserve on the yellow trail where we will do two short loops passing by a lake and a waterfall. We will need to carpool to the trailhead as parking is limited (masks required for the carpool). Register with the leader Carol Pamm, <u>CarolJoyce2@aol.com</u> or (646) 346-0371. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 37)*.

Sunday, February 1 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, February 1 - Fahnestock State Park. 8.75 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate to brisk pace. Starting from the Dennytown Road parking, we will use both trails and woods roads to do a "3 beads on a string" shaped hike with 2000 feet of elevation change. We will enjoy views from John Allen Pond, Candlewood Hill and Oscawana Ridge and have lunch at Oscawana Lake. Inclement weather may cancel or change the route. This hike is limited to 12 people. To register, contact Lauren Linkowski at Ilinkowski@gmail.com.

Sunday, February 1 - Marshlands to Edith Read in Rye, NY. 6-7 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. There are plenty of water views to enjoy on this linear hike. We'll begin with a loop in Marshlands Conservancy on a route that passes through the woods and along the shore of Long Island Sound. From there we'll head north on local streets until we reach a pretty path parallel to Blind Brook that goes through the Milton Burying Ground, Rye's oldest cemetery dating back to the 1700's. We shortly meet up with the pedestrian path along Playland Parkway and take that to Rye Playland, where we can observe the amusement rides resting for the winter. We'll find a good spot for lunch (hopefully near the water but away from the wind), then walk near the shore to the Edith Read Sanctuary. Once there we'll do a another loop, this time along Playland Lake and a bamboo forest. Dress warmly as it can be windy by the water. Short shuttle involved (masks required). Contact leader to register: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Steady precipitation cancels. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 9 and 16).

Saturday, February 7- TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, February 7-</u> **Fahnestock-Big Woods Trailhead**. 7 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This loop hike consists of ups and downs throughout the day. We will visit points overlooking Jordan Pond and Hidden Lake. We will travel along parts of the Cabot, Charcoal Burners, Fahnestock, 3 lakes and Appalachian trails to return to our starting place. Microspikes and poles needed. Leader: To register, contact Emily Mines at emily susan@yahoo.com.

Saturday, February 7- Leon Levy Preserve. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This 383 acre former estate in the Town of Lewisboro is divided into two parts and we will explore them both, going up and down gentle hills, visiting the ruins of an old mansion, walking past wetlands and through a hardwood forest, and admiring the view of a gorge from the top of a ravine. We will meet at the preserve's main parking lot, 2-50 Smith Ridge Road, South Salem, NY. For meeting time and to register contact the leader, Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 35).

Sunday, February 8 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 8</u> - **Northern Harriman Circular**. 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate to brisk pace. Starting from the Elk Pen and using the Appalachian Trail, Long Path, White Bar, Dunning and Arden-Surebridge trails, we will do a loop with plenty of views, ups and downs, and a visit to the Lemon Squeezer. Contact the leader, Kevin McGahren, for questions and to register: kmcgc@optonline.net.

<u>Sunday, February 8</u> - **Lasdon Arboretum**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Join the leader on this outing to explore the trail system on the east side of the arboretum. We will hike on trails and on paved surfaces, but hiking boots and poles are suggested. Depending on conditions (think ice), traction devices (e.g. microspikes) may be required. We will walk the Trail of Honor up to the Vietnam Memorial, then walk down to the lake and its surrounding trails. If time and conditions permit, we will cross Wood Road and proceed to the Muscoot River. Bring a lunch/snack and a liter of water. Leader: Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. Email registration preferred; put "HIKE" in the subject line. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 34)*.

Saturday, February 14 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, February 14 - Valentine's Day at Devil's Den Preserve, Redding CT. 7-8 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. Join us for a hike on en<u>dearing</u> trails in this <u>lovely</u> preserve. Unless the fog comes in there will be <u>charming</u> views of woods and a reservoir. All with warm-<u>hearted</u> companionship. Contact leader Jane Restani at <u>irabjanea@aol.com</u> by 5 PM Thursday to register. Please provide a contact number and advise whether you wish to carpool from the Merritt Parkway, High Ridge Road, Stamford park and ride.

Saturday, February 14 - Cranberry Lake Preserve. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Hike around the lake and past a former quarry in this County owned preserve. Depending on ground conditions, those who would like to climb to the top of the quarry can do so. We will meet at the Nature Center, 1609 Old Orchard Street, North White Plains. To register, contact the leader, Hatice Gursoy, at gursoyhc@yahoo.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).

Sunday, February 15 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 15</u> - **Mt. Beacon Loop**. 8-9 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. We will meet at the Mt. Beacon parking lot and head up to the fire tower, then continue on the Wilkinson Trail to Dozer Junction to make a Hudson Highlands Loop hike. There

will several vistas along the way with views in all directions. Come prepared with winter gear. To register contact leader Janice Miller at madjan11@yahoo.com the week before the hike.

Sunday, February 15 - Untermyer Gardens and Environs, Yonkers, NY. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. View the seven new large Hudson River School Artist sculptures in Untermyer Park & Gardens. The bronze pieces overlooking the River and Palisades depict artists including Frederic Church, Thomas Cole and Jasper Cropsey. This generous gift of the Newington Cropsey Foundation has an engraved biography on each piece's back. (There could be a post hike quiz and maybe prizes!) The route is dependent on trail conditions and might include a segue on the Old Croton Aqueduct. Leader: Debbie Farrell, debfarpr@gmail.com. Tel. for last minute changes (914) 282-9942.

Saturday, February 21 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, February 21</u> - **Doris Duke Loop**. 4 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. We hike through a beautiful hardwood forest, and along the way we pass a stream and interesting rock formations. The first half of the hike is a steady ascent to reach the summit, where we are treated to two different viewpoints of the mountains to the northeast. We then make a steady descent where we pass a wide marsh, to an old woods trail and back to the parking lot. Leader: Carol Pamm, CarolJoyce2@aol.com or (646) 346-0371.

<u>Saturday, February 21</u> - **Croton Point**. 4 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. We will explore this scenic peninsula in the Hudson River where eagles are often sighted in winter. Dress very warmly for the winds blowing off the river. Hikers must be vaccinated against Covid-19. Contact leader to register: Catharine Raffaele, <u>catharineraffaele@gmail.com</u>. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 52)*.

Sunday, February 22 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, February 22</u> - **Catfish Loop**. 5 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. Join the leader on a wonderful hike in Fahnestock State Park which we'll do at a steady, comfortable pace. It has something for everyone - varied terrain, some stream crossings, and a few minor rock scrambles. Bring a thermos of something hot, plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Contact the leader for meeting time or information. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, <u>elspethjkramer@gmail.com</u>.

Sunday, February 22 - Croton Dam and the OCA. 4 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. Meeting in the parking lot at the base of Croton Dam, we'll hike south along the OCA, then come back and walk along the top of the dam, with its beautiful views of the reservoir and the Croton River. After that we'll return to the base so we can take in the impressive view of the dam from below. For meeting time and other information, register with the leader, Sheila Sarkar, at shechris7@yahoo.com.

Saturday, February 28 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday</u>, February <u>28</u> - **Rockefeller State Park**. 10 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Starting at the Old Sleepy Hollow Road kiosk, we will do a few climbs to viewpoints throughout the day. Deep snow and/or ice may result in a shorter hike. Contact the leader, Alice Benash, at <u>ajrb3@verizon.net</u> to register and for information. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No.59)*.

<u>Saturday, February 28</u> - **Reservoir Road, Katonah**. 5-6 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. We'll take an afternoon walk from downtown Katonah to Reservoir Road which runs along the Cross River Reservoir. This is road walking but the road is not paved. There are some gentle ups and downs. As we continue we will see a bit of Martha Stewart's estate. When we finish you

will have time to explore the very charming town of Katonah. Contact the leader, Cynthia Moro, for meeting place and time at Cynlyn24@gmail.com. Inclement weather will cancel.

Sunday, March 1 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, March 1</u> - **Red Cross/Beech Trail Loop From Lake Skannatati**. 6 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. This loop starts from Lake Skannatati and takes the ASB and Red Cross trails with panoramic views of Lake Askoti to Hasenclever mine. We then continue on Hasenclever Road to the Beech trail past a cemetery and back to Lake Skannatati via Rockhouse Mountain Road. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri, <u>Minuch50@gmail.com</u> or (914) 391-5918.

Sunday, March 1 - Bear Mountain Bridge and Park, and Fort Montgomery. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Join the the leader on this hike from Route 9D across the Bear Mountain Bridge into Bear Mountain Park. We will either walk through or around the Zoo down to the river, then proceed around Hessian Lake through the Zoo and back to the bridge. An early out is available at this point. We will then descend (rocky path) to Fort Montgomery. Returning, we will cross the bridge to our cars. We will have regroups so that we stay together. Trail surface varies: paved, unpaved but smooth, somewhat steep in sections and rocky (avoided by taking the early out). Bring a lunch/snack and a liter of water. Leader: Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066 or spk010@yahoo.com. Email registration preferred, put "HIKE" in the subject line.

Saturday, March 7 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, March 7 - Tri-Trail Corner to Bald Rocks in Harriman. 8.63 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This loop hike, with about 2000' of elevation gain, goes south on the White Bar, right on Ramapo-Dunderberg, left on Victory, left on the White Bar, right on R-D, left on the Dunning, and left on the White Bar back to the parking lot. Points of Interest: Car Pond and Black Ash Mountains; Tri-Trail Corner; Black Ash Swamp; Parker Cabin Mountain; Tom Jones Shelter; Tom Jones Mountain and Black Rock Mountain. The route is shown on the TC Southern Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails Map #118. Meet at the parking lot on Rt 106 that you can find at "1369 Kanawauke Road, Southfields, NY" or "White Bar Trailhead Parking" or "41.234677, -74.149035". Severe inclement weather cancels. To register and for questions, please text the leader, Anastasia Tavarez, at (646) 207-4136 or email atavare@gmail.com (text preferred).

Saturday, March 7 - Old Croton Aqueduct, Part 9: West 125th Street to the 42nd Street Library. 5 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. This is the last in our OCA series of hikes. Combining parks and street walking, we'll pass historic sites, architectural interest, and especially three reservoir sites that are now the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Reservoir, the Great Lawn of Central Park, and the NY Public Library, with old stone walls visible. For more information about the OCA, see https://aqueduct.org. Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com or (914) 420-5778.

Sunday, March 8 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, March 8</u> - **Camp Smith Trail**. 6-7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. We will do an out and back hike on the Camp Smith Trail, considered to be the most challenging in Westchester County. There are plenty of ups and downs in both directions, rewarded by almost constant Hudson River views. We'll meet at the Tollhouse, have lunch at the summit of Anthony's Nose, and return the way we came. Come prepared with winter gear. To register contact leader Janice Miller at madjan11@yahoo.com the week before the hike. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 50)*.

<u>Sunday, March 8</u> - **Mountain Lakes Park, North Salem**. 3-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. This is the northernmost of Westchester County's parks and is adjacent to Ridgefield,CT. The property was purchased by the County in 1961 and now includes 1,082 acres. It is mostly covered with hardwood forest, has several lakes, and one location affords

a beautiful overlook view. The hike's distance will depend on the weather, the group and the trail conditions. Rain, snow, high wind or unsafe road conditions cancel the hike. Traction aids such as microspikes (snowshoes if deep snow) may be required. To register, contact hike leader Barry Leibowitz no later than 5 PM on March 7 at (914) 774-5321. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57)*.

Saturday, March 14 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, March 14 - Lake Sebago. 4-7 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. We will enjoy hiking on the trails from Lake Sebago. We will probably hike on the Seven Hills Trail, the Buck and the TMI. This hike will be led at a somewhat slower moderate pace (without ice or snow it will be about 1.6 mph), and its length will depend on the weather and ground conditions. To register contact the leader, Judy Kossover, at woodtuxduo@aol.com.

<u>Saturday, March 14</u> - **Family Friendly Hike in Cranberry Lake Preserve**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Beautiful lake, a small waterfall, and steep but short scramble to the top of a quarry. Please bring lunch and/or snacks. The address is 1609 Old Orchard Street in North White Plains - please email the leader for start time and to register. Rain cancels. Leader: Kristen Soni, <u>kmjm2000@yahoo.com</u>, "co-leader" Jianna Soni. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51)*.

Sunday, March 15 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, March 15</u> - **Fahnestock State Park North**. 8 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This hike has 3 climbs to get great views without leaves. We will meet at the Perkins Access parking area on Route 301. Contact leader Jane Restani at <u>irabjanea@aol.com</u> by 5 PM Friday to register; please leave a contact number.

<u>Sunday, March 15</u> - **Sylvan Glen**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Join the leader on a loop hike through this preserve in northern Westchester, where we will find woodland trails, interesting rock formations and interpretive signs describing the quarry operations that took place here and once employed about 250 people. Driving directions: From the Taconic State Parkway, take Route 202 exit 17A and turn west. Continue 1.8 miles to the traffic light at Lexington Avenue and turn right. Drive 0.6 mile to Morris Lane and turn right, The parking lot is at the bottom of the hill. (The preserve does not have a street address; use 1770 Morris Lane, Mohegan Lake, then continue past that house into the parking lot.) To register, contact Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. for meeting time and place. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No.20)*.

Saturday, March 21 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, March 21</u> - **Ramapo Valley County Reservation**. 7 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. We will do a circular hike that traverses lesser-used portions of this nearby New Jersey reservation, passing a scenic reservoir and a waterfall and climbing to an expansive viewpoint. Please register with the leader not later than Thursday, March 19. Leader: Alice Benash, (914) 723-8722 or <u>airb3@verizon.net</u>.

Saturday, March 21 - Saxon Woods Park, Northern and Southern Sections. 6 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. This double loop, although rated easy, does have a few short inclines to make it interesting. We'll start out in the northern section, hiking the White trail which is 3 miles. At some point in the hike, you will note that we cannot hear any traffic noise! We will take a short lunch break and walk to the southern section of the Park. Here we will walk the Yellow trail, which has some massive rock outcroppings. There will probably be a little stream to step through, so wear your waterproof boots and bring your hiking poles. We'll return on the same path back to the

northern section. To register, contact Janis Biermann at <u>biermannjanis@gmail.com</u>. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 60).

Sunday, March 22 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, March 22 - The Quiet Paths of Black Rock Forest. 6 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. Black Rock Forest is known for its challenging trails, but there are also several old roads in this 3,920-acre research and education facility which make for an interesting and relaxing hike, and we will check out some of them today. On our way, we'll walk along Continental Road (built to connect the Continental Army's West Point encampment to the encampment in New Windsor), pass a massive white oak tree dating back to the 1700's, and see the impressive Chatfield Stone House, built in 1833 and still intact. This hike is limited to 12 people; there a parking fee of \$5 per car so you may wish to carpool. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com.

<u>Sunday, March 22</u> - **Hidden Valley Loop and Teatown Lake**. 4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Come out for a nice invigorating hike at Teatown Lake Reservation. Bring plenty of water, a thermos of some hot liquid, and snacks. Rain cancels. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, elspethjkramer@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100(No. 62)*.

Saturday, March 28 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, March 28</u> - **Route 106 Circular**. 7 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. 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. Rain or snowfall cancels; bring traction devices if needed. No first time hikers, please. Email the leader for start time and other information: Mike Kaplan, kaplanm2001@yahoo.com.

Saturday, March 28 - Kensico Cemetery Tour. 3-5 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. There are many points of interest in this 460 acre cemetery including gravesites of celebrities and interesting structures. Although most of the walk is paved, expect some hills and uneven ground. Sturdy shoes, water and lunch recommended. The cemetery's address is 273 Lakeview Avenue, Valhalla, NY 10595; their website is www.kensico.org. We will meet in the upper parking lot. Directions: Take the Taconic Parkway to Lakeview Avenue. Turn west, pass the monument shop, cross the railroad tracks and turn right. Go past the Administration building to the upper lot, which is also accessible through the next street (Commerce St.). To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders, Surekha and Ashok Soni, at www.kensico.org. To register, contact the co-leaders of the co-leaders of

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Sunday, March 29 - Michael Ciaiola Conservation Area and Great Hollow, Patterson, NY. 8 miles, moderate terrain, moderate to brisk pace. We will enter the Michael Ciaiola Conservation Area in Paterson, New York and use the red, yellow, orange, blue, and white trails to make a large loop around the park, including a few views, a waterfall (hope for spring runoff), and perhaps entering Great Hollow Preserve in Connecticut. Inclement weather may cancel or change the route. This hike is limited to 12 people. To register, contact Lauren Linkowski at llinkowski@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 29 - Jane E. Lytle Memorial Arboretum / Brinton Brook Sanctuary. 5 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely pace. We will meet at the Lytle Arboretum (10 Fox Road, Croton on Hudson). There is a steady climb up to a scenic overview. We then take the White Trail into Brinton Brook, and the Yellow, Blue and Green Trails through a variety of habitats. We return on the White Trail back to the Arboretum. Poles recommended. To register please contact Chris Powers at cpowers13@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 22).