

WESTCHESTER TRAILS ASSOC.

SPRING HIKING SCHEDULE APRIL, MAY and JUNE, 2025

Covid-19 Policy: If you have tested positive for Covid-19 within the past 5 days, or if you have symptoms of a respiratory infection or any other contagious illness, <u>do not come on the hike!</u> Stay home, take care of yourself, and keep others safe by not exposing them to a potential infection.

- You must have a mask or other face covering with you at all times, for use in crowded areas. Masks must be worn during carpools.
 - Outings that are limited to those vaccinated against Covid-19 will say so in the description.

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.

<u>Easy</u> - relatively level terrain or a few hills, such as the Old Croton Aqueduct or 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).

Saturday, April 5 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, April 5</u> - **Dunderberg/Bald Mountain/Timp Circular**. 7.5 miles, moderate+ terrain, steady moderate pace. Multiple ups and downs make this a challenging hike, rewarded with beautiful views of the Hudson and surrounding mountains and remnants of the never completed Dunderberg Spiral Railway. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. Leader: Catharine Raffaele, <u>catharineraffaele@gmail.com</u>.

<u>Saturday, April 5</u> - **Hastings-Yonkers Tryptych**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. The Lenoir Nature Preserve, Untermyer Gardens in early spring splendor, and Old Croton Aqueduct, which joins the trio, make up this hike. Varied terrain on mainly tree lined trails with a few ascents on wooded paths. Contact the leader, Debbie Farrell, at debbarrelgemail.com. Phone for day of hike (914) 282-9942. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 8)*.

Sunday, April 6 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, April 6</u> - **Parker Cabin to Black Rock Mountain**. 7 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This hike, with 1759' of elevation gain, uses the White Bar, Ramapo-Dunderberg, Victory and Nurian Trails to do a loop in Harriman State Park that includes Car Pond, Black Ash, Parker Cabin, Tom Jones and Black Rock Mountains, as well as other points of interest. We will meet in 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". Use TC Southern Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails Map 118. Severe inclement weather cancels. Please register by texting the leader your first and last name, phone number, and the name and number of your emergency contact. Leader: Anastasia Tavarez, (646) 207-4136 (texting preferred) or atavare@gmail.com.

<u>Sunday, April 6</u> - **Rockwood Hall Plus**. 6 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. We will do the ever-popular Rockwood Hall loop plus the Old Croton Aqueduct and trails in Rockefeller State Park. Participation in this hike is limited to 15 people. To register, contact leader Debbie Bell at deb2@columbia.edu. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (Nos. 38 and 59)*.

Saturday, April 12 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, April 12 - Fahnestock State Park, Hopewell Junction, NY. 10 miles, moderate terrain, moderate to brisk pace. We will start from the parking lot on Dennytown Road and use the AT, Catfish Loop, Chimney Top Trail, the 3 Lakes Trail and old mine roads to do a hike with 1300' feet of elevation gain and visit quiet areas of the park. We'll also see some mountain and lake views, and explore a mine or two. Inclement weather may cancel or change the route. This hike is limited to 12 people. To register, contact Lauren Linkowski at linkowski@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 12 - **Hudson Highlands Gateway Park, Cortlandt, NY**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This is a pleasant three-plus hour hike with some ups and downs. Directions: take the Bear Mountain Parkway north to Highland Avenue to Sprout Brook Road (street sign may be down – turn at the Gulf Station). The parking lot is on the right designated by a sign for the Gateway Park. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 31).

Sunday, April 13 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, April 13 - **Hyde Park Trails**. 9-11 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Hike five trails and earn a Hyde Park Trails Walkabout patch! We will start with two trails at Eleanor

Roosevelt's Val Kill and continue on trails to the FDR estate. From there we will walk along the Hudson River to the Vanderbilt Mansion. This hike involves a car shuttle (masks required). Please register with the leader, Janice Miller, at madjan11@yahoo.com the week before the hike.

Sunday, April 13 - Buttermilk Ridge and Glenville Woods, Tarrytown, NY. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain. leisurely pace. 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, then return to our starting point. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 10 AM at 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 and ride. For GPS use Hudson River Recreation Tarrytown Lakes, Tarrytown, NY. Leader: Surekha Soni, Surekhasoni1968@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 2).

Saturday, April 19 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, April 19</u> - **Granite Knolls/Sylvan Glen**. 7 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Come explore some of the hidden gems of Westchester County as we visit relics of both geologic history and human endeavors. Nestled in the heart of the Town of Yorktown, our hike begins in Granite Knolls Park where we will view one of the largest glacial erratics in the area. Along the way to Sylvan Glen Park, we will pass evidence of long-gone human industrial activity, dating back to the time when Yorktown was a major supplier of granite. A large quarry and abandoned mining equipment still on site are among the highlights of this hike. We will also visit a large oak tree, several hundred years old. Although much of the hike is level, there are some steep downhill pitches including rock steps. Contact the leader, Aaron Bock, at (914) 646-4056 or acceptage action-color: Bock, at 0.54 (914) 646-4056 or acceptage action-color: Bock, at 0.54 (914) 646-4056 or <a href="majorated-action-color: action-color: action-color

<u>Saturday, April 19</u> - **Ramapo Ramble Trail, Mahwah, NJ**. 4.1 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. This hike, at Ramapo Valley Reservation, is a true "easy to moderate" in that it has some relatively flat sections and a couple of steep hills, especially at the beginning. Along the trail we will enjoy waterfalls, a reservoir, stone ruins and beautiful views. Leader: Carol Pamm, <u>CarolJoyce2@aol.com</u> or (646) 346-0371.

Sunday, April 20 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, April 20</u> - **Pine Meadow Loop**. 8.5 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate to brisk pace. This circular hike from the Harriman State Park Visitor Center uses several trails on a figure eight route which heads along the Stony Brook, ascends Diamond Mountain, takes in the south half of the Seven Hills Trail, explores The Pulpit and the Torne View, and returns by way of the Reeves Brook Trail. Good views and lots of ups and downs. Leader: Kevin McGahren, KMcGC@optonline.net.

Sunday, April 20 - **Nuclear Lake and West Mountain, Pawling, NY**. 6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This out and back hike on the Appalachian Trail features a steady ascent on gentle hills as we wind our way past Nuclear Lake and up to the summit of Pawling's West Mountain. The lake got its name from a rumor that the site was contaminated with radioactive waste at an old military installation. The rumor is probably untrue (no glowing hikers have been seen to date), and it's well worth the risk because the trail leads to a sweeping lunchtime view of pastoral hills and farmland below. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels.

Saturday, April 26 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, April 26</u> - **Minnewaska State Park**. 9 miles, moderately strenuous terrain, moderate pace. 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. Leader: Alice Benash, <u>ajrb3@verizon.net</u>.

Saturday, April 26 - Untermeyer Gardens and the OCA. 4-5 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. We will walk from Hastings on Hudson along the Old Croton Aqueduct, eventually entering Untermeyer Gardens in Yonkers by climbing up 120 steps. Hopefully there will be some blooms to admire. There are always beautiful views of the Hudson River and interesting statues to see in the Persian Garden. This walk will be in memory of Ellie Carren, who loved the gardens and would have turned 103 years old on Earth Day. Her daughter Claire from Colorado may join us. Bring water, lunch or a snack. Rain cancels. Register with the leader, Cynthia Moro, at cynlyn24@gmail.com for time and meeting place.

Sunday, April 27 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, April 27 - Bennetts Pond State Park, Pine Mountain and Hemlock Hills. 6-7 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. Starting at Bennetts Pond Park in Ridgefield, CT, we'll go around the south end of Bennetts Pond and then north along the pond until we head up Pine Mountain for lovely views of the Connecticut hills. From there we'll make a loop on Hemlock Hills before our return south of the ponds. To register, contact leader Jeanne Thomson before 5 PM on Saturday at jeannewthomson@gmail.com (preferred) or (914) 409-3405.

Sunday, April 27 - Angle Fly Preserve. 5 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. We'll reconnoiter at Westchester's only trout spawning brook by traversing county as well as NYC watershed properties using their wonderfully marked trails with lovely vistas. There are also reminders that the property was going to be sacrificed for a development until the local citizenry saved the day and preserved this treasure in northern Westchester. Directions: From I-684, take Exit 6 (Route 35), head west to Route 100 and turn right. In 0.6 mile bear left onto Route 139 (Primrose Street). Go 1.0 mile to the main entrance, on the left. The parking lot is at the end of the entrance road. Bring lunch and water. When registering please include your cell number just in case there is a last minute unforeseen cancellation. Leader: Ann Autieri, (914) 539-1620 or ann@cilia.org. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 53).

Saturday May 3 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday May 3 - **Dunderberg Circular**. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate to brisk pace. Join us for a 4-5 hour hike with about 2500' of elevation gain. Starting at Jones Point, we will take the (B) Timp-Torne to (R) Ramapo-Dunderberg to Bald Mountain, then continue to Timp Mountain and return via (B) Timp-Torne back to the cars. Meet at the Jones Point Trailhead Parking, US-202, Tompkins Cove, NY 10986. GPS: 41.28119, -73.96292. Trail Map: NYNJ Trail Conference Harriman-Bear Mt Northern Map #119 or a digital map of your choice. For starting time or other information, register with the leader Bill Medeot at billwp218@gmail.com or (914) 844-7038.

Saturday, May 3 - **Hike the NCIT. Section 6: Saugatuck Trail**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This hike on the Nearby Connecticut Imaginary Trail (NCIT) starts at the Pinchbeck parking area north of Devil's Den where we ended last time, and returns to the Saugatuck Trail for the rest of the journey. Although rated easy to moderate it does have several short steep climbs. Our reward will be the multiple water views we'll enjoy as we head south parallel to the

reservoir, finishing at the trail's southern terminus. If the weather is warm and Heibeck's Ice Cream Stand is open, we can drive there afterwards for some delicious homemade treats. Short shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels.

Sunday, May 4 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 4 - Silvermine Lake and Stockbridge Mountain. 7.8 miles, moderate terrain, moderate pace. This hike, with about 1500' of elevation gain, starts and ends at the Silvermine Lake parking lot. We will head south on the Menomine Trail, then west to the AT, crossing Seven Lakes Drive to the Long Path, and north to the Menomine Trail returning us to the cars. Use TC Northern Harriman-Bear Mountain Trails Map 119. Severe inclement weather cancels. Please register by texting the leader your first and last name, phone number, and the name and number of your emergency contact. Leader: Anastasia Tavarez, (646) 207-4136 (texting preferred) or atavare@gmail.com.

Sunday, May 4 - **Teatown Reservation**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Let's do a circular hike at Teatown, along two lakes and up and down a few hills. Please note that there is a parking fee of \$7 per car, so you may want to carpool. Due to size limits on group hikes at Teatown, participation is limited to 8 people, including the leader. Leader: Gail Blumenfeld, gailrb@yahoo.com or (914) 673-0886. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 62).

Saturday, May 10 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, May 10 - Sleeping Giant Park, Hamden, CT. 7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. This will be an east-west circuit likely using the White trail with a combination of Violet and Red trails and a detour to the tower. We will try to accommodate anyone needing specific trails for the Sleeping Giant Master goal. There are great views but a lot of ups and downs are required to get them. Carpooling from exit 35 of the Merritt Parkway Park & Ride on High Ridge Road in Stamford is possible (masks required for the carpool). Optional stop at Wentworth's Homemade Ice Cream after the hike. To register email the leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com no earlier than Monday of the hike week and no later than 5 PM on Thursday.

<u>Saturday, May 10</u> - **Peekskill Waterfront PM**. 3 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. We'll start in the afternoon in the town park near the Metro-North station, and take a scenic paved path south along the Hudson River and onto a pier. Return the same way. If group is interested and weather is cooperative, continue north along the River for a short distance. On returning to Peekskill, options include the Peekskill Brewery for snacks or dinner, and Homestyle Desserts for pastry and ice cream (or both). Finally return to the waterfront park to enjoy the sunset. To register, contact leader Bruce Collins, actz1015@gmail.com.

Sunday, May 11 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 11 - Shenandoah Mountain in Fahnestock Park. 6 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This hike is moderate enough to give everyone a good workout. We will pass the RPH Cabin and climb to the open summit of the mountain, have lunch at the top, and then come back down the same route. Directions: Take the Taconic State Parkway to Miller Hill Road (traveling north it is two exits after Fahnestock). Turn north and go down the hill to Hortontown Road; parking is at the "T" intersection. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net.

<u>Sunday, May 11</u> - **Turkey Mountain, Yorktown Heights**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Using the 2.1 mile white/blue loop (moderate terrain), we will climb up Turkey Mountain on the white trail. The trek to the top is worth the effort, as the views are amazing on a clear day. Then

we head back down along the blue trail. The easy part of this hike is at the bottom, where we will explore some of the lower trails. To register, contact Chris Powers at cpower13@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 42).

Saturday, May 17 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, May 17</u> - **Anthony Wayne Circular**. 7 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. Lots of ups and downs on this hike and a visit to the summit of The Timp. Trails to include the old Ramapo-Dunderberg, Timp-Torne, Suffern-Bear Mountain, the AT and the Horn Hill Trail. Rain cancels; no first time hikers please. Leader: Mike Kaplan, kaplanm2001@yahoo.com.

<u>Saturday, May 17</u> - **Old Croton Aqueduct, Part 4: Sleepy Hollow High School (Sleepy Hollow) to Dows Lane (Irvington)**. 4.2 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. Among other landmarks, this section passes beautiful Lyndhurst castle with park-like grounds, historic home of robber baron Jay Gould and his philanthropist daughter, Helen Gould. We'll also pass the home of Madame CJ Walker, self-made Black entrepreneur of the early 1900's, who pioneered hair care products for Black women. For more information about the OCA, see https://aqueduct.org/. Short shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, (914) 420-5778. Qualifies for a portion of No. 74 of the Westchester 100.

Sunday, May 18 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, May 18 - **Storm King and Butter Hill**. 6 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. We will have a wonderful day enjoying the fabulous views on this hike. Prepare for constant uphill hiking all morning, some more hills after lunch, and then a long downhill hike during the afternoon. We will stop for lunch and a shorter lunch (snack). This hike will be led at a pace of about 1.6 mph. Meet at Esty & Hellie Stowell Trailhead, 42 Bayview Avenue (Route 218), Cornwall NY. Leader: Judy Kossover, woodtuxduo@aol.com.

Sunday, May 18 - Cranberry Lake. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Come out and enjoy a hike along Cranberry Lake and in other parts of this County owned preserve through forested areas and past a quarry (the quarry climb is optional). Bring snacks and plenty of water. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, (347) 262-4802 or elspethjkramer@gmail.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 51).

Saturday, May 24 - **Mountain Lakes Park, North Salem**. 6-7 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. Starting at the Tamarack parking lot inside the park, we'll hike around four scenic lakes (Spruce, Hemlock, Pine and Laurel Lakes), and then follow the white trail to Look Out Point with its sweeping views. Bring lunch/snack and water. From I-684 take Exit 6 (Route 35) and drive east on Route 35 for 4.4 miles. Turn left on Route 121 and head north for 4.5 miles. At Hawley Road, turn right and continue for 1.5 miles to the park entrance on the left. Proceed for 0.6 miles to the Tamarack parking lot, in a grassy field on the right. To register, contact Sheila Sarkar at shechris7@yahoo.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 57).

Sunday, May 25 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, May 25</u> - **Garrison Metro North to Sugarloaf and Back**. 5-7 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Join the leader on a hike from the Garrison Metro North station to Sugarloaf and possibly beyond. Expect about 750' of elevation gain, rewarded by a sweeping view from the summit. Bring a lunch and 1.5 liters of water; hiking poles are recommended. Leader Steve Klepner, (845) 297-7066, spk010@yahoo.com. Email preferred with 'hike' in the subject line.

<u>Sunday, May 25</u> - **Muscoot Farm**. 4-5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. We will explore this popular county park, with time at the end to welcome newborns on the farm. Participation is limited to 15 people. To register, contact the leader Debbie Bell at <u>deb2@columbia.edu</u>. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 58)*.

Saturday, May 31 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, May 31 - Black Rock/Mt. Misery Loop. 9-10 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. Starting from the parking area on Reservoir Road, we'll take the Stillman Trail up White Mountain to viewpoints on Mount Misery, the Hill of Pines and Rattlesnake Hill. Continuing on the white trail, we will head over to Eagle Cliff for another view, then back to Continental Road where we'll connect with the yellow trail for one more view, this time from Black Rock. Heading down Black Rock, we'll take the Black Rock Hollow trail to Honey Hill, then return to the parking area on the blue and red trails. Leader: Alice Benash, ajrb3@verizon.net.

<u>Saturday, May 31</u> - **Mianus River Gorge Preserve, Bedford, NY**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. We will hike the red, blue, yellow and green trails. We will have some ascents and descents, and see the Old Growth Forest, Mica Mine, a fern glen, a reservoir, the Mianus River and maybe some deer. This is a lovely preserve! Leader: Janis Biermann. Please email the leader to register at biermannjanis@gmail.com. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No.56)*.

Sunday June 1 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday June 1</u> - **Hudson Highlands**. 5-6 miles, moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Starting from Route 403 we will take the AT and climb steadily climb to the Osborn Loop, then continue to Sugarloaf South. We return via various carriage roads with a stop at Lake Lucretia and then White Rock. Leader: Minu Chaudhuri (914) 391-5918, minuch50@gmail.com.

Sunday, June 1 - NYC Central Park Walk. 8 miles, easy terrain, moderate pace. In 1862, Frederick Law Olmstead and Calvert Vaux designed Central Park. They created a stone wall around the perimeter of the park with twenty entrances. The names of the gate entrances commemorate the occupations, pursuits and attributes of all New Yorkers. From Grand Central Station we'll head to the park and begin to walk in and out of some of the park's twenty gates - i.e. Artists, Artisans, Merchants, Womens....the Gate of the Exonerated. We will stop at the Charles A. Dana Discovery Center and view the exhibition: "Open to All: The Story of Central Park's Gates". Note that the walking plan may change if needed. This hike is limited to 12 people who are vaccinated against Covid-19. For questions and to register, contact the leader, Linda Wildman, at lindawildman88@gmail.com or text/call (914) 316-5674.

Saturday, June 7 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Saturday, June 7</u> - **Pond Mountain Natural Area, Kent CT**. 8 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, moderate pace. Starting from Fuller Mountain Road, we will use the trails at Pond Mountain, the Appalachian Trail and the quiet Skiff Mountain Road on a hike with 1800 feet of elevation gain, all while enjoying views from Fuller Pond, Pond Mountain, Caleb's Peak, and the St. John's Ledges. Inclement weather may cancel or change the route. This hike is limited to 12 people. To register, contact Lauren Linkowski at linkowski@gmail.com.

<u>Saturday</u>, <u>June 7</u> - **Weir Farm and Nod Hill Preserve**, **Wilton**, **CT**. 4-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely to moderate pace. Weir Farm, the only National Historic Site in CT, was the property of Julian Weir, an American Impressionist artist who was struck by nature's beauty. We

will do a 4-mile hike on gently rolling but somewhat rugged trails with rocks, roots and stream crossings, past the stone walls, woodlands, pond and meadow that inspired him as an artist. We will have lunch near the "secret garden" and family home (in sight of the cars in case you need an early out), then hike another 2 miles to and around Weir Pond across the road. Bring your National Park Passport Book if you have one, as those can be stamped on the porch of the visitor center. At the time of this hike write up, Weir Farm was closed. Leader will contact the NHS when it reopens in April to secure parking permits. We may have to meet at a Wilton, CT location to carpool (masks required for the carpool); the leader will know more when it is time to register. Leader: Lisa Weismiller, lisaweismiller@gmail.com.

Sunday, June 8 - WTA Annual Meeting.

Saturday, June 14 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, June 14 - **Stahahe High Peak and Island Pond**. 6.5 miles, moderate+ terrain, steady moderate pace. Leaving from the Elk Pen, we will take various trails including the Nurian up through the Valley of the Boulders and the Dunning, with some challenging, rocky terrain and beautiful views. We will follow unmarked trails to climb to Stahahe High Peak 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.

<u>Saturday, June 14</u> - **Family Friendly Hike in Butler Sanctuary**. 3-4 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. Highlights include skunk cabbage marshes and glacial erratic rocks. Bring snacks, lunch and water. Meet in the parking lot, 265 Chestnut Ridge Road, Mt. Kisco, at 10 AM. Rain cancels. Leader: Kristen Soni, <u>kmjm2000@yahoo.com</u>, "co-leader" Jianna Soni. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 49)*.

Sunday, June 15 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, June 15 - Tallman Mountain Circular (plus Ice Cream). 5-6 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. On this hike we'll explore some of the trails within Tallman Mountain State Park in the morning, then ascend to the summit of the mountain for lunch and sweeping views of the Hudson. Afterwards we'll return to the village of Piermont for a stop at the Piermont Creamery to enjoy their homemade treats. Those who wish can extend the hike by continuing on the pier to an observation platform almost in the midpoint of the river before heading back to the cars. Leader: Eileen West, eileenw1000@gmail.com. Rain cancels.

<u>Sunday, June 15</u> - **Old Croton Aqueduct, Part 5: Dows Lane (Irvington) to Odell Avenue (Yonkers)**. 5 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. This section includes the Keeper's House and Visitors Center for the OCA, and the new park at the site of a marble quarry in Hastings-on-Hudson. For more information about the OCA, see https://aqueduct.org/. Short shuttle involved (masks required). Leader: Carolyn Hoffman, carohof2@gmail.com, (914) 420-5778. Qualifies for a portion of Nos. 74 and 75 of the Westchester 100.

Saturday, June 21 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, June 21 - **Bear Swamp Lake Circuit**. 8.3 miles, moderate+ terrain, moderate to brisk pace. We will do a wide loop on trails within New Jersey's Ringwood/Ramapo State Parks, passing by the Hawk Rock view and continuing through woodlands and valleys to Ilgenstein Rock for

a sweeping lunchtime vista. Our return will be by way of other trails along the ridgeline. Leader: Kevin McGahren, KMcGC@optonline.net.

Saturday, June 21 - Larchmont and Manor Park. 3 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. We will walk the Manor section of Larchmont and see beautiful Victorian Houses and others leading into Manor Park, which overlooks the Long Island Sound and has stunning views of the Sound. We will also see the oldest home in Larchmont built by Founding Father John Jay's nephew. The house dates back to 1797. On the property are Larch trees for which the village was named. Contact leader Cynthia Moro for meeting time and place: Cynlyn24@gmail.com.

Sunday, June 22 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

<u>Sunday, June 22</u> - **Catfish Loop**. 5 miles, moderate terrain, steady moderate pace. Join the leader on a wonderful hike in Fahnestock State Park which we'll do at a comfortable pace. It has something for everyone - varied terrain, some stream crossings, and a few minor rock scrambles. Bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Contact the leader for meeting time or information. Leader: Elspeth Kramer, (347) 262-4802 or <u>elspethjkramer@gmail.com</u>.

Sunday, June 22 - Hilltop Hanover Trails, Yorktown Heights. 3-4 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. We will hike through shady woodland, passing a vernal pond and rock cliffs, and make two very gentle hilltop ascents. Meet in the trailhead parking area on Hanover Street opposite Hilltop Hanover Farm. From the Taconic State Parkway, take the Millwood/Route 100 exit. At the traffic light at Route 100, turn right. Head north for 3.9 miles and then turn left onto Route 118. Take the first right turn onto Hanover St. and proceed 1.4 miles to the trailhead parking area on the right, on the opposite side of the road from Hilltop Hanover Farm. Bring water and a snack. To register, contact Sheila Sarkar at shechris7@yahoo.com. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 6).

Saturday, June 28 - TWO HIKES TODAY:

Saturday, June 28 - Devil's Den Preserve, Weston, CT. 7-8 miles, easy to moderate terrain, moderate pace. We will circumnavigate the park starting from the Pillars trail near the Saugatuck River. There a few very modest climbs and some nice reservoir and other views. Optional stop at Heibeck's Ice Cream Stand after the hike. To register contact leader Jane Restani at irabjanea@aol.com no earlier than Monday of the hike week and no later than 5 PM on Thursday.

Saturday, June 28 - **Tibbetts Brook to Van Cortlandt Park and Back**. 3-4 miles, easy terrain. Starting from Tibbetts Brook Park, we will take the South County Trailway to Van Cortlandt Park, then return the way we came. Meet at Tibbetts Brook in the lot closest to the entrance. Rain may cancel.. Vaccination against Covid-19 is required on this hike. For information and to register contact the leader, Lynn McBride, at almcb@aol.com or (914) 439-0879. Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 41).

Sunday, June 29 - THREE HIKES TODAY:

Sunday, June 29 - **Stillman Trail End to End**. 11 miles, moderate to strenuous terrain, brisk pace This hike, also known as the "Death March Revisited", begins at the western end of the Stillman Trail in Black Rock Forest. Heading east, we will stop for a 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 pace. Short shuttle involved (masks required). No beginners please. Leader: Bob Fiscina, fis6973@tutamail.com. Rain or wet conditions cancel.

<u>Sunday, June 29</u> - **Leatherman's Loop in Ward Pound Ridge Reservation**. 5 miles, easy to moderate terrain, leisurely pace. This is a hike to visit the legendary Leatherman's cave where it is said he spent some time on his 365 mile circuit walking through Connecticut, and Putnam and Westchester Counties. We'll also have a chance to enjoy a sweeping view from high above the cave. Bring lunch and plenty of water. To register, email Carol Harting at c.harting@verizon.net.

Sunday, June 29 - **Baxter Preserve**. 2-3 miles, easy terrain, leisurely pace. We will travel over rolling hills and pastures and along a scenic lake in North Salem. Meet at the trailhead and park along Baxter Road, which is a dirt road, across from No. 67 Baxter Road, a red house with white trim. Call the leader Barry Leibowitz ahead of time to register: cell (914) 774-5321 or home (845) 278- 2479. *Qualifies for the Westchester 100 (No. 46)*.