

Green Mountain Club

Worcester Section

345 Rawson Street, Leicester MA 01524 www.greenmountainclub.org

Winter | 2022

President's Message

Dear Members:

Please join us for the hikes, canoeing and other activities listed in this newsletter during the months of March and April 2022.

Starting on the first Thursday evening in March we will resume Game Night at the home of Pat and Stuart Howe in Spencer.

We will continue to follow Covid-19 safety protocols by practicing social distancing and wearing a facemask when appropriate at our activities. We urge all our members to become fully vaccinated against the Covid-19 virus for the safety of themselves and others.

We look forward to seeing you at our activities.

Best regards,

Ram Moennsad, President GMC, Worcester Section

Activities

Game Night will be held on the first Thursday of March (3/3) and April (4/7) from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the home of Pat and Stuart Howe, 33 Pine Acres Road, Spencer, MA. Pat and Stuart have many types of games, but if you have a favorite please bring it. RSVP via text or call Pat on her cell phone (508-868-5949), or email Pat at phowe@wpi.edu. You must be full vaccinated against the Covid-19 to participate in this activity. The speed limit on their dirt road is 10 mph. Please be mindful when crossing the two small bridges.

Saturday, March 12. Hike or snowshoe (depending on conditions) the trails at Patrill Hollow, located at 1015 Hardwick Road in Hardwick. Patrill Hollow is a 136-acre property owned by the East Quabbin Land Trust. The trails meander through mixed oak and pine forest, circle around the vernal pool, and pass near stone walls and old foundations before climbing in elevation. We will meet at 9:30 am at 1015 Hardwick Road. (Google this address in Maps.) Please call Gary Brigham at 508-471-7867 or email him at gbrighammt@aol.com to register for the hike. The hike will be a moderate loop of about 3 miles over hilly terrain. Wear micro spikes for possible icy conditions on the trail, and hiking poles are recommended for stability.



GMC Hikers Enjoy a Hike at Cutthroat Brook Tree Farm in Athol on February 12 led by Gary Brigham.

Saturday, March 19, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. Hike or snowshoe the trails of Nick's Woods in Worcester. We will meet at noon at Smith Lane, which is off Holden Street in Worcester. Nick's Woods is a 65 acre property in Worcester owned by the Greater Worcester Land Trust. The main path runs along Sargent Brook, a healthy cold water stream home to brook trout. An old dam offers a great view looking down the brook. You can also hike through hilly woodlands full of mountain laurel and glacial erratics. The trail offers elevated views of the ravine below. The moderate hike will be a 2-3 mile loop and led by Board members of the Greater Worcester Land Trust. Microspikes are recommended due to possible icy conditions on the trail. Bring hiking poles for stability. For more information, contact lea@gwlt.org. For directions, google maps Smith Lane in Worcester. Parking may also available across the street in the church parking lot.

Saturday, March 26. An exciting trip on the Sevenmile River. A narrow winding stream, more challenging. Call leader David Miller at 508-853-8964 or email him at sentierdeau@gmail.com to register for the trip. Always carry a change of clothes in a waterproof bag, and remember that AMC regulations require us to wear a life jacket (PFD) at all times on the water. Depending on conditions, it may also be advisable to wear your life preserver when you are near the water's edge. You do not have to be a member of the AMC to participate on this trip.

Saturday, April 2 at 9:30 am. Hike or snowshoe the trails of Jacobs Hill and Spirit Falls in Royalston, MA. Jacobs Hill is a 173 acre open space preserve in Royalston acquired in 1975 by the Trustees of Reservations. Jacobs Hill is one of the gems of the Tully Trail, affording magnificent views of the Tully River and Long Pond, as well as of the Tully Mountain, Mt. Grace and the Berkshire Hills to the west. This will be a moderate hike of about 4 miles, which will include viewing Spirit Falls. Call Gary Brigham at 508-471-7867 or email him at gbrighammt@aol.com to register for the hike. We will meet at 9:30 am at Jacobs Hill Parking Lot in Royalston. Directions: From Royalston center, follow Route 68 north 0.5 miles to parking lot and entrance on left, or google maps Jacobs Hill, Royalston, MA. Microspikes and hiking poles are recommended in case of ice on the trail.



Margos Stone examines a gnome at Cutthroat Brook Tree Farm.

Saturday, April 9. Eight miles on the Assabet & Concord rivers, with lunch under the historic Old North Bridge. A good beginners trip. Call leader David Miller at 508-853-8964 or email him at sentierdeau@gmail.com to register for the trip. Always carry a change of clothes in a waterproof bag and remember that AMC regulations require us to wear a life jacket (PFD) at all times on the water. You do not have to be an AMC member to participate.

Saturday, April 16. Sibley Farm. This moderate loop hike of about 3 miles will be led by Mike Peckar and Deb Cary, who are Board members of the Greater Worcester Land Trust. We will meet at 9:30 am at the Sibley Farm on Greenville Street in Spencer. Directions: From Route 9 in Spencer, take Greenville Street about 0.7 miles to parking lot on the left, or google Maps Sibley Farm, Spencer, MA. Microspikes may still be needed if trails are icy in spots. For more infromation, contact lea@gwlt.org.

Saturday, April 23, 9:30 am. Mandell Hill in Hardwick. This will be a moderate hike of about 3 miles along the 200 acres of fields and woods owned and operated by the East Quabbin Land Trust. Enjoy the entensive trail system of EQLT's flagship property. The birding platform offers panoramic views. Beyond the agricultural fields are trails that wind through the woodlands. This is a working farm; please respect rules, close gates and use caution around electric fencing. Call Margos Stone at 508-826-6842 or email him at mstone12242@charter.net to register for the hike. We will meet at Mandell Hill, 660 Barre Road in Hardwick at 9:30 am. For directions, google maps 660 Barre Road, Gilbertsville, MA. Gilbertsville is a village of Hardwick.

Saturday, April 30. God's Acre and Tetasset Ridge Hike. This moderately challenging hike near the Worcester Airport is part of the Greater Worcester Land Trust's (GWLT) Hike Worcester Challenge series. Those who hike 10 properties in this series win a patch from GWLT. This hike is a figure eight loop of about 3 miles, with the option to hike the first loop or both loops. Meet at 9:30 am at the end of Esper Ave. in Worcester. Registration is required. Contact Mike Peckar at 508-835-2959 or email him at fog@fognet.com to sign up. For directions, google maps Esper Avenue, Worcester, MA.

Saturday, April 30. Paddle on the Contoocook River. Cross the border into southern New Hampshire to run the upper reaches of this scenic river. Call leader David Miller at 508-853-8964 or email him at sentierdeau@gmail.com to sign up for the trip. Always carry a change of clothes in a waterproof bag and remember that AMC regulations require us to wear a life jacket (PFD) at all times on the water. Depending on conditions, it may also be advisable to wear your life jacket when you are near the water's edge. You do not have to be a member of the AMC to participate on this trip.

WORCESTER SECTION OFFICERS

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