

Green Mountain Club
Worcester Section Outings and Activities
345 Rawson Street, Leicester, MA
May and June 2023
Newsletter

Dear GMC Members:

Please join us to enjoy these outings and activities scheduled for May and June 2023. You can also find these activities listed on our website: www.gmcWoo.org on the *Outings* page.

Saturday, May 13 at 9:00 AM to noon. GMC Worcester Section Camp Clean up Day

Our camp is on Cedar Meadow Pond at 345 Rawson Street in Leicester. We will clean up the grounds, lodge and change house. Donuts and coffee will be served. Bring work gloves, clippers, loppers, shovels, rakes and chain saws. Lunch will be provided after the clean up at noon. For questions contact Ram at shivratri@gmail.com or 508-210-6965.

Saturday and Sunday, May 20 - 21. Paddle on the Deerfield and Connecticut Rivers with overnight camping on an island.

This is a two-day downstream paddle. Saturday will be an 8-mile paddle with some short class one rocky riffles and an occasional fallen tree, which must be avoided. Sunday will be a 12.5-mile paddle with moderate downstream currents. Experience in current and dodging obstacles required. Shuttling cars will be necessary. Participants are responsible for all personal food, boat and camping equipment, and will be required to wear face masks during the shuttle. For more information and to register for the trip, call leader David Miller at 508-853-8964 or email him at sentierdeau@gmail.com.

Friday, May 26. Mountain Bike Ride at Dennison Lake State Park.

We will meet at 12 o'clock noon at the Lake Dennison Recreation area, which is be 6-7 miles on dirt roads and trails over moderate terrain. Bring water, snacks and a rain jacket if rain is predicted. Call leader Gary Brigham at 508-471-7867 for more information or leave a message to register for the ride. You may also email him at gbrighammt@aol.com to register.

Saturday, May 27. Buffumville Lake Hike.

This hike has been rescheduled because of heavy rains on April 1. All Trails describes this area as follows: “Explore this loop trail near Charlton, Massachusetts. Generally considered a moderately challenging route. This is a very popular area for birding, hiking and paddle sports, so you will likely encounter other people while exploring. The trail is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime of year. Dogs are welcome and may off-leash in some areas.”

Participants will meet at the church parking lot at 90 Holden Street in Worcester at 10:30 AM on Saturday morning, May 27, and drive to the Buffumville Lake boat launch for parking at 11:00. We will hike counterclockwise around the lake completing the north loop (about three miles) and look for a scenic lookout by the lakeshore, where we will pause for lunch. We will return to the church parking lot in late afternoon.

Participants are asked to bring their lunch, water bottle, and rain gear in case of a shower. To register for the outing or for more information, contact David Miller at 508-853-8964 or sentierdeau@gmail.com.

Starting Wednesday, May 31, Hump Day Evening Horseshoes and Corn Hole at the camp will resume.

If you are interested in playing Horseshoes and/or Corn Hole, please come to the camp on Wednesday evenings. We will be playing from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Please bring food to share for a cookout before we play. Whether you are a beginner or a long-time player, come join in and have some fun. If enough folks are interested, we will organize a tournament later in the year. Our camp is located at 345 Rawson Street in Leicester. For more information, email Pat Howe at p.howe@wpi.edu or call or text her on her cell phone at 508-868-5949.

Friday, June 9. Hike at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.

We will meet at 9:30 AM at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary Administration Building, 30 Peck Road in Wales, Massachusetts. We will hike 3-4 miles over moderate terrain. Bring bug spray, water, snacks and a rain jacket if rain is forecast. Dogs are not allowed in the sanctuary. Our hike will be led by Eileen Cate, who is a staff member at the sanctuary. The Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary was founded by Arthur Norcross in 1939. The 8000 acre wildlife refuge was established to preserve, protect and propagate native flora and fauna. For more information and to register for the hike, contact Margos Stone at mstone12242@gmail.com or 508-826-6842.

Saturday, June 10. Mountain Bike Ride at West Hill Dam in Uxbridge.

We will meet at 9:30 AM on Saturday morning, June 10, at the West Hill Dam parking area, located at 518 Hartford Ave in Uxbridge. The ride will be 6-8 miles on dirt roads and trails over moderate terrain. West Hill Dam Reserve is a U.S. Corps of Engineers flood control project with a recreation park and wildlife management area located at Uxbridge, Massachusetts. The West Hill Dam was completed in 1961. It is located on the West River, one of the branches of the Blackstone River, which flows from Worcester. Call or email Gary Brigham for more information or to register for the hike. You can leave a message on his cell phone at 508-471-7867 or his email address at gbrighammt@aol.com. Bring bug spray, sunscreen, water, snacks and a rain jacket if rain is forecast.

Saturday & Sunday, June 17 - 18. Ipswich River Overnight Paddle.

Meet at Leader's house on Saturday, June 17 at 8:45 AM, or meet at the put in at 10:30 AM. Camping at Perkins Island. Each camper is responsible for his/her own food, boat and camping gear. There are no shelters or restroom facilities on the island. Camping cost is \$15.00 per person.

Put in: Peabody Street Landing-Parking in Middleton, MA, 0.5 miles west on Peabody Street from East Street. The parking is Essex County Greenbelt's Sawyer Riverfront property.

Take Out Parking: Foote Brothers Canoe and Kayak Rental, 230 Topsfield Road, Ipswich, MA 01938.

Length of Trip: 10 miles/ 2 days (approx. 5 miles/day)

Leaders are David Miller and Pat Howe. Call David Miller for more information and to register for the trip. He can be reached by phone at 508-853-8964 or by email at sentierdeau@gmail.com. Camping sites are limited so call asap.

Saturday, June 17. GMC's 113th Annual Meeting.

This year's meeting will be hosted by the Laraway, Sterling, and Northern Frontier sections of the GMC. The meeting will be held at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. For information on registration, lodging and additional activities, visit: www.greenmountainclub.org/members/annual-meeting

Saturday, June 24, 1:30 PM. Presentation: From Drovers to Trailblazers – The Story of the Creation of the Wapack Trail.

Presented with the New Ipswich Historical Society. The talk will relate how local farmers and former cattle drovers Frank Robbins and Marion (Buck) Davis came to create the Wapack Trail and Wapack Lodge, making them

pioneers in the growing movement to create long distance hiking trails. Presented by Larry Anderson, freelance author, and the biographer of Appalachian Trail creator Benton MacKaye. MacKaye was a frequent visitor at the Wapack Lodge. New Ipswich Congregational Church Hall, 156 Main Street, New Ipswich, NH, 1:30 PM. Contact Rick Blanchette at rick@wapack.org

Saturday, July 1, 9:30 AM. Hike Wachusett Mountain, Echo Lake Loop.

This moderately challenging hike will start at the Mountainside Bakery and Café parking lot, 213 Mountain Road in Princeton, MA, and take the High Meadow Trail to the Bicentennial Trail to the Mountain House Trail to the summit. The route down will take the Harrington Trail to the Link Trail to the Jack Frost Trail to the High Meadow Trail. The hike will cover about 4 miles and climb 800 feet in elevation. The hike will be 2 miles up and 2 miles down the mountain. Participants will meet at the Mountainside Bakery and Café parking lot at 9:30 AM on Saturday, July 1. Bring water, something to eat at the summit, a hiking pole and rain gear if forecast or sun protection if it's nice weather. To sign up for the hike, contact Mike Peckar at fog@fognet.com or call or text Mike at 508-209-1833.