

General Information

PAC is sponsoring a Friday hiking series this fall, free and open to the public. The hikes will meet at various locations (noted for each date) and will leave promptly at 8:45 a.m. Hikers should plan to return to the area in the late afternoon, time varying with group size, distance of hike, and drive time. Car-pooling will be organized at the meeting locations.

Be sure to wear appropriate clothing and sturdy footwear. Bring a bag lunch and/or snack and plenty of water for yourself. In case of inclement weather, call the PAC office before 8:15 a.m. on the date of the hike, and/or check the website and/or Facebook. Please also remember to bring any medication that you may need in the event of an emergency (ie: epinephrine, nitroglycerine, insulin, etc.). Hike leaders will carry a first aid kit; however, it may not contain specific medication for your individual needs.

Before each hike, you will be asked to sign a waiver form. For your safety, do not attempt any hike beyond your ability and experience.

This schedule is subject to change. Up-to-date information on all hikes can be found on PAC's website, www.pacolet.org, PAC's Facebook page, and by calling the PAC office.

**Participate in the "Hiking Challenge"!
Complete five hikes and receive a custom bumper sticker acknowledging your accomplishment!**

For more information call:
(828)859-5060

PAC

The Pacolet Area Conservancy (PAC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit conservation organization (land trust) founded in 1989 to Protect And Conserve our area's natural resources. PAC works with area landowners to ensure the long-term protection of their property through voluntary conservation easements (agreements) which enable landowners to maintain ownership and management of their property, preserving precious natural resources (open lands, forests, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, farmland, stream banks, etc.), and potentially obtain significant federal and local tax benefits.

PAC works diligently to provide leadership to encourage conservation and provide education programs emphasizing responsible land use practices to help-

save the places
you love.

Our Mission: *To protect and conserve natural resources in the Foothills of North Carolina and the Upstate of South Carolina, with emphasis on the lands and waterways with scenic, ecologic or agricultural significance in the North Pacolet and Green River watersheds.*

Our Vision: *A community living and growing in harmony with our natural resources.*

Our Goal: *To provide a legacy that will endure and be valued by generations to come.*



Pacolet Area Conservancy



Spring 2017
Hike
Schedule



Pacolet Area Conservancy
850 North Trade Street
Tryon, NC 28782
(828)859-5060
info@pacolet.org
www.pacolet.org



February

17 DuPont State Forest, Thomas Cemetery loop & Wintergreen Falls

Meet: Columbus BiLo @ 8:30

7-miles, easy; trail type-loop.

The trail will lead hikers along old roadbeds, through a managed pine forest and past Thomas cemetery, named for the family that lived near the site in the 19th century. Hikers will take a short jaunt to view Wintergreen Falls, and then return to the main loop, making their way back to the parking area.

Approximately 45-minute drive, one-way

March

3 Pisgah National Forest, Coontree loop & Bennett Gap

Meet: Columbus BiLo @ 8:30

6.6-miles, moderate; trail type-lollipop

Participants will enjoy terrific views of the surrounding mountains along Bennett Gap before descending and completing the journey with a walk along Coontree Creek.

Approximately 1-hour drive, one-way

17 Mountain Bridge Wilderness Area, Pinnacle Pass & Naturaland Trust trails to Moonshine Falls

Meet: Gowensville Spinx @ 8:30

5.6-miles, moderate; trail type-out & back

The hike will follow the Pinnacle Pass and Naturaland Trust trails to Moonshine Falls. Hikers will enjoy lunch behind the falls!

Approximately 35-minute drive, one-way

March

31 Pisgah National Forest, North Slope Connector to Art Loeb Trail

Meet: Columbus BiLo @ 8:30

8-miles, moderate; trail type-loop

The hike will follow the Davidson River to the North Slope trail through a dense deciduous forest, and then veer onto the Connector trail to the Art Loeb trail which follows Shut-in Ridge before heading back down to the campground and parking area.

Approximately 1 hour drive, one-way

April

14 Great Smoky Mountain National Park, Asbury Trail

Meet: Columbus BiLo @ 8:30

6.8-miles, moderate; trail type-out & back.

This hike follows Asbury Trail which straddles the boundary between the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and the Appalachian Ranger District of Pisgah National Forest.

Approximately 1-hour drive, one-way

PAC Hiking Trail

PAC is pleased to offer a hiking trail, open to the public. The PAC owned **Norman Wilder Forest** is located on NC Hwy 176 between the Town of Tryon and the Town of Saluda and is owned, managed, and protected by a PAC.

This hiking trail has been accepted as a sight along the North Carolina Birding Trail and is a wonderful site for birding in the area. This site is described in detail in the North Carolina Birding Trail-Mountain Trail Guide.

The **Norman Wilder Forest** trails offer several miles of moderate to difficult hiking on the south-facing slope of Warrior Mountain. Hikers will enjoy the mature hardwood forest, rock outcroppings, a drip falls, and an abundance of native flora and fauna.

Trail maps and bird checklists are available at the trail head and on PAC's website, www.pacoleet.org. Please call the PAC for more information.

