

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



PRESERVE PROTECT RESTORE

# ForestWatch Outing

Outing Alert

May 8th, 2017

**Chestnut Lead Trail Hike  
with Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle  
on Saturday, May 20, 2017**

### Join Now

Is your membership current? Not a member yet? Join Georgia ForestWatch and help us watch your forests.

[CLICK HERE NOW](#)



Wild Geranium photo by Jess Riddle

### Georgia ForestWatch

81 Crown Mountain Pl  
Building C, Suite 200  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706-867-0051 office

Check us out on the web at [www.gafw.org](http://www.gafw.org)

**Hike Leader:** Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle

**Hike Location:** Chestnut Lead Trail. Cohutta Wilderness, Gilmer and Fannin Counties

**Outing Description:** This hike should be a good opportunity to observe the effects of last fall's wildfires and see some spring wildflowers. We will stop to talk about both as we make our way down the trail. The Rough Ridge fire burned through this area, and we will be there at a good time of year to see the effects on both wildflowers and trees. The trail passes through a variety of forest types including oak-covered ridges, rich coves, and hemlock-rhododendron stream sides. The coves should have a nice variety of wildflowers.

**Hike Date:** Saturday, May 20, 2017

**Meeting Time, Place and Directions:** We will meet at 10am at the Ellijay Ingles (100 Old Orchard Square, Ellijay, GA 30540). We'll gather on the highway side of the parking lot and carpool to the hike location, which is about an hour away.

**Distance and Difficulty:** The basic hike will be about 2.5 miles round trip and moderate to strenuous. The hike will be uphill on the way back and gain about 750 feet elevation. For those who want a longer hike, some of us will stay in the area and continue exploring.

**Duration of Hike:** Five hours for the basic hike (including travel time) and longer for those who choose to stay around afterwards.

**Participant Limit:** 12

**What to Bring and Wear:** Lunch, plenty of water, rain gear, sturdy footwear. If allergic to bees/wasps, remember to bring your meds/epi-pen.

**Cancellation:** Hikers will be notified if hike is cancelled due to forecast of severe weather, etc.

**Pet Policy:** No pets, please

**Family Safe Policy:** Georgia ForestWatch outings are a smoke, alcohol and drug-free setting.

**Sign Up Now!**  
**Reservations Required**

Our outings are free of charge and open to everyone on a first-come, first-served basis, up to the limit. **BUT DON'T FORGET**, Georgia ForestWatch members are given early-bird priority. **\*Non-members**

**may register after May 10 if space is still available.\*** To learn how you can become a member of Georgia ForestWatch, [click here](#).

To Reserve Your Spot: Register [online](#) or call 706-867-0051 with the following information.

1. Name of person(s)
2. Your email address
3. Your phone number (preferably cell if you will be carrying it on the outing day)

For more information on the hike, or if you need directions on the day of the hike, contact Jess Riddle at [jriddle@gafw.org](mailto:jriddle@gafw.org) or 315-350-1179. Please note that the Georgia ForestWatch office is not open on the weekends, so you will need to contact Jess directly.

### **Upcoming Outings & Events - Mark Your Calendars!**

Tuesday, May 9th - Wildflower and Herbal Walk at Hambidge - *with Patricia Kyritsi Howell*

Saturday, May 20th - Post-burn and Wildflower Hike on Chestnut Lead Trail - *with Jess Riddle*

Friday, June 2nd - Sosebee Cove and Jarrard Gap Area Hike - *with Anne Hughes and Maureen Donohue*

Friday, June 16th - South Fork Jack's River - *with Jess Riddle*

