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ForestWatch Event

Johns Mountain/Blue Spring Branch
Saturday, April 20, 2019

March 27, 2019



A little sweet Betsy trillium that isn't so little grows on the north end of Johns Mountain.
Photo by Jess Riddle

Hike Leader: Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle

Hike Location: Johns Mountain/Blue Spring Branch

Hike Date: Saturday, April 20, 2019

Outing Description: The rich limestone soils on the north end of Johns Mountain support an abundance of wildflowers, large trees, and many species that are unusual for the National Forest. The Pinhoti Trail provides easy access to this area, and we will return by the same route. Those looking for more of an adventure can stay with us as we drive over to the Hidden Creek area, where we will bushwhack down steep slopes to a north-facing bluff along Blue Springs Branch. This later trip is exploratory, but the walking fern and hepaticas we have seen there in winter promise good spring wildflowers and perhaps a few surprises.

Meeting Time, Place and Directions: Meet at 10:00 am at the Flying J/Denny's in Resaca (I-75, exit 320, Google map [here](#)). We will meet at the back of the car parking area next to Denny's.

Distance and Difficulty: The first part of Johns Mountain will be a mostly easy, two-mile round trip. There are a few short uphill, but most of the trail is nearly level. The optional afternoon trip will be very strenuous. It includes bushwhacking up and down extremely steep slopes, and is not recommended if you haven't done much bushwhacking.

Duration: Those who choose the John's Mountain only hike should be back at

their vehicles by 2:00 pm. The Blue Springs Branch group probably won't be back before 6:00 pm.

Participant Limit: 25

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

Cancellation: Hikers will be notified if the hike is canceled 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!
Spaces are limited.
Reservations are 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 always given priority on our hikes** . To learn how you can become a member, [click here](#) .

To Reserve Your Spot: Please register using [this link](#).

PLEASE READ: By registering for this event, you certify that you have read and agreed to the ForestWatch [outing waiver of liability](#) .

For more information on the hike, OR if you need directions on the day of the hike, please contact Jess Riddle at 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
Mark Your Calendar & Watch for Alerts!**

Saturday, April 27 - Ramp Cove Wildflower Hike - *with Jess Riddle*

Friday, May 3 - Wildflowers & Warblers Hike - *with Melanie Vickers*

Saturday, May 4 - Martin Creek Falls Hike - *with Ted Doll*

Tuesday, May 14 - Medicinal Herbs hike - *with Patricia Kyritsi Howell*

Georgia ForestWatch outings are advertised first to members, about three weeks in advance. A few days later, if spaces are still available, a notice goes out to all who are on our alert list.

We do not take reservations in advance of the email alert.



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