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# ForestWatch Outing

Outing Alert

November 22, 2017

**Smithgall Woods State Park Hike  
with Jess Riddle and Tom Hennigan  
Saturday, December 9th, 2017**



**Hike Leaders:** Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle and Tom Hennigan

**Hike Location:** Smithgall Woods State Park

## Join Now

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## 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)

**Outing Description:** We'll take a leisurely stroll on the Laurel Ridge Trail and in other parts of the park. Along the way we'll take time to look at plants and other forest dwellers and discuss the importance of forests to north Georgia. This is a loop hike.

**Hike Date:** Saturday, December 9, 2017

**Meeting Time, Place and Directions:** 2:00 PM at the Smithgall Woods State Park Visitor Center. From Cleveland, take US 129 North 3.3 miles and turn right onto GA 75 Alternate. Go 5.7 miles and look for the park entrance on the right. Address is 61 Tsalaki Trail, Helen, GA 30545. Google map link [here](#)

**Distance and Difficulty:** About 3 easy to moderate miles. The trail gains about 300 feet elevation, so there will be some moderate ascents and descents.

**Participant Limit:** 20

**What to Bring and Wear:** Raincoat, sturdy footwear and your curiosity. If allergic to bees/wasps, remember to bring your meds/epi-pen.

**Cancellation:** Participants will be notified if outing 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!  
Limited Space  
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 priority on our hikes. To learn how you can become a member, [click here](#).

**To Reserve Your Spot:** Please register online [here](#), or call us at 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 outing, OR if you need directions on the day of the outing, 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!***

Monday, January 1, 2018 - Rabun Bald Climb and Stekoa Creek Park Potluck - *with Sue Harmon and Brenda Smith*

Wednesday-Thursday February 7-8, 2018 - Evening presentation and old growth Hike, Len Foote Hike Inn - *with Forest Ecologist Jess Riddle*. Participants will receive 50% off their reservation at the Inn by using discount code GFW. Call 1-800-581-8032 for more information.

Saturday, February 17, 2018 - Winter Hike, Wagon Train Trail and Brasstown Bald - *with Sue Harmon and Ken Cissna* (Benton-MacKaye Trail Association)

Saturday, April 7, 2018 - Geology and Plant Hike at Davidson Creek - *with Dr. Bill Witherspoon and Ben Cash*

Saturday, May 5, 2018 - Slow Hike, Wildflowers and Conasauga History - *with John Moeller*



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The banner features a light gray background with a stylized starburst icon in the top right and bottom left corners. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold and regular fonts.

