

# 2005 TNPS Field Trips

Field trips are designed to promote informed interest in Tennessee's native plants. They are led by persons familiar with native plants of the area and are open to nonmembers as well as members. Since conservation is a primary objective of our society, plant collecting is not allowed. The physical nature of the trip is described to the extent known at publication time. Attendees are responsible for judging whether the trip

is suitable for their particular abilities. All participants will be asked to sign a liability waiver as a condition of attending. Trips are rarely cancelled, but sometimes changes are unavoidable. Contact the trip leader a day or two before attending to get an updated status and to let them know who is coming. Keep the schedule and attend as many trips as you can. —*Todd Crabtree*

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<b>April 10</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>10 a.m. Central time</b> <b>Cumberland Homesteads Tower and Museum ,</b> <b>Junction of 68 and 127</b>	<b>Hinch Mountain</b> One of the best wildflower areas in the Sequatchie Valley. We should see over 40 different species blooming including least trillium ( <i>Trillium pusillum</i> ) as we drive and hike our way along the side of the mountain.	From I-40, take the US-127 exit—Exit 317—toward Crossville/Jamestown. Take the ramp toward Crossville/Pikeville. Turn south onto US-127 S/TN-28 S. Travel 7.6 miles to junction of 68/127. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate hiking, some wet areas <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None	Margret Rhinehart (931) 946-2381
<b>April 16</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>9 a.m. CDT—Program: State Parks All Taxa Biological Inventory</b> <b>10:00 a.m.—Hike</b> <b>Standing Stone State Park Office</b>	<b>Standing Stone State Park</b> This is one of our state's premier wildflower sites and we will see a variety of spring woodland flowers. Join us for abundant displays of trilliums, violets, bloodroot, shooting star, phlox, toothwort, foam flower, bluets, etc. Up to 50 species may be seen in flower. This hike coincides with the Standing Stone State Park Spring Naturalist Rally. A variety of activities will be taking place within the park this weekend (April 15-17).	Take exit 288 off I-40, (Livingston/Sparta exit) Hwy. 111 N to Livingston. Hwy 52 West to the entrance of the park. Hwy. 136 is the main park road. <b>Walking:</b> Easy to moderate hiking along narrow trails, steep slopes to the side <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> At the meeting place	David Lincicome (615) 532-0439
<b>April 23</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 a.m. CDT</b> <b>McDonald's in Sparta</b>	<b>Camps Gulf—Fall Creek Falls State Park and Natural Area</b> If you missed the previous two hikes or just can't get enough spring ephemerals, this trip is for you. Four species of trillium are found here, along with the usual list for a cove hardwood forest on the Cumberland Plateau. A few early <i>Synandra</i> ( <i>Synandra hispidula</i> ) and goldenseal ( <i>Hydrastis canadensis</i> ) should be in bloom. In addition to the numerous species of wildflowers we will see a very impressive cave entrance. Not far away is the largest cave room in the country.	From I-40 Take the TN-hwy 111 exit- EXIT number 288- toward LIVINGSTON/ SPARTA. Turn south onto TN-111 S. Travel 13.8 miles then turn left on Roosevelt St. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate hiking, stream crossing <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> At the meeting place	Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279
<b>May 7</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 a.m. CDT</b> <b>Cogbill's Store intersection of Hwy 57 and LaGrange/ Yager Rd Caution light; 2 miles west of Hwy 18</b>	<b>Ghost River State Natural Area/Wolf River WMA</b> With the Division of Natural Heritage, Natural Areas Program we will be visiting the only recorded location in Tennessee for the sand post oak ( <i>Quercus margaretta</i> ) and its associated community. The second stop will be a wet field converted from agriculture to warm season grasses and managed with prescribed fire. Lastly, we will visit the boardwalk crossing a cypress-tupelo gum slough and emergent marsh.	From Memphis * follow Poplar (Highway 57) east through Collierville, Rossville, Moscow to LaGrange From Jackson take Highway 18 south through Bolivar and Hickory Valley; turn right on Highway 57; go west 2 miles to LaGrange. <b>Walking:</b> Easy walking, some wet/muddy ground <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None	Bart Jones (901) 726-6891
<b>May 14</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 a.m. CDT</b> <b>Hardee's in Monteagle</b>	<b>Marion/Franklin State Forest</b> The mountain laurel should be at peak bloom and we will be walking through corridors of laurel well above our heads. Catesby's trillium ( <i>Trillium catesbaei</i> ) and cow wheat ( <i>Melampyrum lineare</i> ) will be seen along with a few wetland plants around a small lake.	From I-24 take 64 towards Sewanee. Hardee's will be on immediate left. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate hiking, some wet areas <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> At the meeting place	Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279

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<p>May 21 Saturday 10:00 a.m. CDT Fort Bragg Headquarters</p>	<p><b>Stones River Greenway</b> Join us for an informal survey of plants along the Stones River Greenway in Murfreesboro. We plan to visit different areas of the greenway to find and document plants of interest.</p>	<p>From TN-96 E/Old Fort Pkwy via Exit 78B toward Murfreesboro. At 1st traffic light turn left onto N Thompson Ln. Travel 1.8 miles. After church turn right to Old Nashville Hwy. Turn right again on Old Nashville Hwy. Travel .7 miles under railroad to turn left carefully into trail head parking area on left immediately after railroad. <b>Walking:</b> Easy walking on paved trail <b>Lunch:</b> Local restaurant <b>Facilities:</b> None</p>	<p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>June 4 Saturday 10:00 a.m. CDT Walker Branch State Natural Area Entrance</p>	<p><b>Walker Branch State Natural Area—Pittsburg Landing</b> This state natural area protects an unusual bluffsides seep and cypress swamp that is home to an astounding 37 species of dragonflies and damselflies. It is also home to a rich assortment of plants including the rare Lamance iris (<i>Iris brevicaulis</i>), big-leaf snowbell (<i>Styrax grandifolia</i>), and many rushes, sedges, and ferns.</p>	<p>Take US 64 to Savannah. Turn south on Highway 128, go 2.5 miles. Turn right on Diamond Island Rd. Stay left as the road splits at McGinley Loop. After road turns to gravel, turn left on Pittsburg Landing Rd. Natural Area entrance is approximately 0.4 miles. <b>Walking:</b> Easy hiking, some wet areas <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891</p>
<p>June 11 Saturday 10:00 a.m. EST Frozen Head State Natural Area Public Visitor Center on Flat Rock Road</p>	<p><b>Frozen Head State Natural Area</b> A pair of bonafide botanists will take us on a late spring tour of this floristically diverse area. Joey and Ed have promised to take it easier on us this year though this will be a strenuous hike. We start at the bottom of Old Mac Mountain, and by way of the Panther Branch and North Old Mac trails, climb to the top of the mountain. A loop of approximately 5 miles will bring us back to our cars.</p>	<p>From Harriman take Hwy. 27 North to Wartburg. Turn right (East) on Hwy. 62. Travel 2 miles and turn left on Flat Fork Road. Travel 4 miles to the park entrance. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate to strenuous hiking <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> At the meeting place</p>	<p>Joey Shaw and Ed Lickey with the UT Botany Dept. Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627</p>
<p>June 18 and 19 Saturday and Sunday <i>The details for this trip will depend on the actual bloom dates of the plants. Check with the leader, the TNPS and GABOTSOC websites for updates</i></p>	<p><b>Rare Orchids</b> <b>Shady Valley, Johnson and Carter County area</b> Joint hike with Georgia Botanical Society to see some of Tennessee's rarest orchids with an avid orchid enthusiast. <i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>, <i>Platanthera grandiflora</i> and <i>Listera smallii</i> will be the feature plants. Other orchids that should be seen are <i>Platanthera lacera</i>, <i>Liparis looselii</i> and <i>Liparis liliifolia</i>.</p>	<p>Logistics for this trip will be detailed later as determined by the trip leader.</p>	<p>Chuck Wilson (423) 874-9625</p>
<p>July 9 Saturday 9:00 a.m. EST Hampton Creek Cove State Natural Area parking area</p>	<p><b>Hampton Creek Cove State Natural Area</b> We will hike the new Overmountain Victory Trail in Hampton Creek Cove looking for rare plants, beautiful wildflowers, and high mountain birds. We'll learn about the incredible Revolutionary War history of this trail. We will scale the mountain via the Birchfield Trail. Most recently identified plants from the trail are ramps (<i>Allium tricoccum</i>), American chestnut (<i>Castanea dentata</i>), rough avens (<i>Geum laciniatum</i>), roan sedge (<i>Carex roanensis</i>), roan rattlesnake root (<i>Prenanthes roanensis</i>) and rosy twisted-stalk (<i>Streptopus roseus v. r.</i>). This trail is steep, but only about 1 mile long. This area is known for its incredible biological diversity of plant and animal life. So far, we've documented 225 native plant species in the cove and 78 bird species, including the golden-winged warbler. We will not go if it is raining or is predicted to rain. Consult the weather reports before the trip. Dress warmly in layers and bring plenty of water.</p>	<p>From Elizabethton take US 321/19E through Hampton. Continue on 19E to town of Roan Mountain. Take State Route 143 South; turn left on Stratton Street. Turn right at first stop sign; bear left on West Street. Take first right on Old Hwy 143, then left on the bridge that crosses the creek (across from the old school building), and follow it to Hampton Creek Cove. Parking area is on left just past Gray's Chapel about 3 miles from the Town of Roan Mountain. <b>Walking:</b> Strenuous. Steep trail. <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None</p>	<p>Lisa Huff RSVP by July 1 (865) 594-5601 or lisa.huff@state.tn.us. Please leave your name and a telephone number.</p>

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<b>August 6</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 a.m. CDT</b> <b>Church parking lot at intersection of US 412 and Brush Creek Road</b>	<b>Dry Branch</b> Once again we'll be joining our friends at the Swan Conservation Trust to visit one of the sites of the federally endangered Tennessee yellow-eyed grass ( <i>Xyris tennesseensis</i> ). Dry Branch is a small creek which flows through rich woodlands and even a small wet, glade-like area. Other interesting plants expected to be in flower include twisted yellow-eyed grass ( <i>Xyris torta</i> ), featherbells ( <i>Stenanthium gramineum</i> ), and southern rosinweed ( <i>Silphium asteriscus</i> ), as well as some interesting grasses and grass-like species.	US 412, approximately 5 miles west of Hohenwald, or just east of the Perry/Lewis County line. <b>Walking:</b> Easy walking, some wading <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None	Bart Jones (901) 726-6891
<b>August 13</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 a.m. EST</b> <b>Newfound Gap near the Rockefeller Memorial</b>	<b>Kanati Fork Trail via Thomas Divide Trail GSMNP</b> This will be a moderate 4.7 mile total walk, mostly downhill. We will drop 2,200 feet in elevation, starting around 5,000 feet and ending at 2,800 feet. A short easy car shuttle will start and end this trip. Should be a cool spot on an August day! Rhododendron, laurel, hemlock, grasses, and birch trees will surround us at first along the high ridge. Our descent will be among mixed hardwoods with tons of wildflowers such as trilliums, wild oats, wild hydrangea, showy orchis, galax, Turk's cap lilies, Monardas, etc. We'll pass through several plant communities; lush cove forests, second-growth forests, grassy and forested ridge lines, hemlock forests, maple and oak forests, and heath thickets.	From Gatlinburg, travel 21.5 miles south on US-441 to Newfound Gap. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate hiking, Be prepared for changing weather <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> None	Allen and Susan Sweetser (865) 938-7627
<b>August 20</b> <b>Saturday</b> <b>10:00 AM CDT</b> <b>Park Welcome Center</b>	<b>Meeman-Shelby State Park—Memphis</b> Meeman-Shelby is a wonderful example of the wooded bluffs bordering the Mississippi River in many locations in Tennessee. Small streams cut deep ravines in the bluff where we hope to see three birds orchid ( <i>Triphora trianthophora</i> ), spikenard ( <i>Aralia racemosa</i> ), bay starvine ( <i>Schisandra glabra</i> ), and snowy squarestem ( <i>Melanthera nivea</i> ). We will also visit the headwaters of one of the lakes at the park where we should encounter cup plant ( <i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> ), mad-dog skullcap ( <i>Scutellaria lateriflora</i> ), monkeyflower ( <i>Mimulus alatus</i> ), and creeping water primrose ( <i>Ludwigia peploides</i> ).	I-40 to Memphis. Follow I-40 W (Little Rock) to exit 2A. Turn right and go 6 stop lights to Watkins Rd. (Highway 388). Turn left and continue until road ends. Turn left, go one mile to a four-way stop (Shelby Forest General Store), turn right. Go one mile, turn left into park. Follow signs to Welcome Center. <b>Walking:</b> Moderate hiking, some wet areas <b>Lunch:</b> Bring <b>Facilities:</b> At meeting place	Bart Jones (901) 726-6891
<b>Details in June</b>	Butterfly Hike		
<b>September 16-17</b> <b>Friday and Saturday</b>	TNPS Annual Meeting	Methodist Assembly at Beersheba Springs	
<b>Details in June</b>	Fall Hike with Ed Clebsch		

## Thank You, Barfield-Crescent!

**T**NPS board members are very grateful to Murfreesboro's Barfield-Crescent Park, recent host of TNPS board meetings. Barfield-Crescent's Wilderness Station is a full-service facility that hosts nature-themed birthday parties, retreat room rentals, and programs for all ages. The 300-acre park also features walking trails, a wilderness area, picnic shelters, a baseball/softball complex, and a disc golf course. A special thanks to Program Coordinator Deborah Paschall for making TNPS members feel so welcome!

To learn more about Barfield-Crescent Park, visit [www.murfreesborotn.gov/government/parks\\_rec/parks.htm](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/government/parks_rec/parks.htm). —Ashley Crownover

The TNPS website has been updated! Check it out at [www.tnps.org](http://www.tnps.org).