

TNPS FIELD TRIPS 2006

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. We encourage our more experienced members to share their knowledge with those who are new to the group. 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. Check the website (www.tnps.org) for updates to this schedule. — *Todd Crabtree*

Meeting time and place	Description	Directions	Leader
<p>April 8 Saturday 10 a.m. (Central) Park Headquarters</p>	<p>Big Hill Pond State Park— Pocahontas</p> <p>This seldom visited park offers a variety of habitats and scenic vistas, from lakes and swamps to low woodlands, all of which are overlooked by high bluffs. We expect to see a wide assortment of spring wildflowers and ferns along numerous trails. This may also be a good place and time to search for a rare shrub which has yet to be found in Tennessee.</p>	<p>From I-40 or US Hwy. 64, take US Hwy. 45 south to Hwy. 57. Turn west. The entrance of the park is about 10 miles west of the 45/57 intersection.</p> <p>Walking: Easy to moderate (some steep climbs up bluffs). Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891 bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>
<p>April 15 Saturday 10 a.m. (Central) In front of All Saints Chapel on the Campus of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee</p>	<p>Abbo's Alley and Shakerag Hollow</p> <p>We will hike through a ravine garden established by English professor Abbott Cotten Martin (1899-1974). This garden is a haven for native and cultivated trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants in the center of the University Campus. After lunch at a local restaurant we will meet at 1 p.m. in front of All Saints Chapel to arrange carpools for our hike to Shakerag Hollow. The trail will take us through a cove hardwood forest which harbors a diverse array of flora. Over 60 species of spring-blooming wildflowers have been documented at Shakerag Hollow.</p>	<p>All Saints Chapel is on University Avenue just South of the intersection with Georgia Avenue. If exiting Hwy 41A from the east (from Monteagle), the chapel will be on the left. If exiting Hwy 41A from the West (from Cowan), the chapel will be on the right.</p> <p>Walking: Abbo's Alley is an easy walk. Shakerag is a moderate 2 mile hike with a few steep sections. Lunch: In Sewanee Facilities: At restaurants</p>	<p>Mary Priestley (931) 598-0157 Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>May 5,6, 7 Annual Meeting Montgomery Bell State Park</p>	<p>TNPS ANNUAL MEETING Montgomery Bell State Park</p> <p>We will be taking a historical tour on trails within the park. The iron industry was a large part of the local economy and there are still remains of this activity in the area. Wildflowers should be abundant at this time of year. The Narrows of the Harpeth was also a part of the story of iron production and we will see one of the oldest man-made tunnels in the United States. Species of note that we hope to see here are <i>Valeriana pauciflora</i> and <i>Erythronium albidum</i>. A local native plant nursery is having their open house this weekend and we may have time to stop by and tour their property.</p>		

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<p>May 13</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central)</p> <p>Behind Shell Station south of I-40 Exit 126</p>	<p>Southern Lady's Slipper/ Gumdale Glade— Decatur County</p> <p>We will visit two sites. The first site is one of three Tennessee populations of the state endangered southern lady's slipper (<i>Cypripedium kentuckiense</i>) located along a small stream. Other species found here include New York fern (<i>Dryopteris novaboracensis</i>), royal fern (<i>Osmunda regalis</i>), cinnamon fern (<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>), Indian cucumber root (<i>Medeola virginiana</i>), and jack-in-the-pulpit (<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>). The second location is a glade with a seasonal seep where we should catch the last of the spring flowers. Among the interesting species expected here is the state listed flat-stemmed spike rush (<i>Eleocharis compressa</i>), as well as slender-flowered beardtongue (<i>Penstemon tenuiflorus</i>), smooth beardtongue (<i>Penstemon calycosus</i>), shooting star (<i>Dodecatheon meadia</i>), nettle-leaf sage (<i>Salvia urticifolia</i>), and small skullcap (<i>Scutellaria parvula</i>).</p>	<p>I-40 to Exit 126. Shell station is just south of the exit.</p> <p>Walking: Mostly easy, some moderate uphill areas. Lunch: BBQ lunch provided between site visits. Facilities: At meeting place and at lunch</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891 (on Friday, May 12, 731-847-2585)</p> <p>bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>
<p>June 24</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Eastern)</p> <p>At the Hardee's at Exit 155 off of I-24 on Hwy 28</p>	<p>Dixon Cove</p> <p>The Keeners operate a family farm in Dixon Cove near Sequatchie where they raise chemical-free beef and produce. On their property we will see mountain camelia (<i>Stewartia ovata</i>) in bloom and possibly some black cohosh (<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>). A wide variety of pollinators visit the beautiful flowers of <i>Stewartia</i> so we may get a chance to see some interesting colorful beetles. This will also be an opportunity to explore the cove for more botanical treasures.</p>	<p>Near Jasper, Take Exit 155 from I-24 onto Hwy 28, Hardee's is at this intersection.</p> <p>Walking: Moderate hiking. Some stream crossings on and off trails. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Miriam Keener (423) 942-9201</p> <p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>July 16</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central)</p> <p>At Cedars of Lebanon State Park Nature Center</p>	<p>Vesta Cedar Glade and Cedars of Lebanon</p> <p>Cedar glades are home to some species found only in Tennessee. The plants in them have adapted to the extreme conditions where very few species can survive and reproduce. For those who haven't been to a cedar glade, this area is a very good place to start learning about them. At Vesta we will see <i>Echinacea tennesseensis</i> and <i>Silphium pinnatifidum</i> as well as other glade specialties. In Cedars of Lebanon we will see a hidden gravelly glade with an abundant population of <i>Talinum calcaricum</i>. We may also find time to visit a grassy glade with a nice stand of <i>Liatris spicata</i>.</p>	<p>Turn off of Hwy 231 into park entrance. Go past park headquarters and bear right past parking lot adjacent to road. The Nature Center is just before the baseball field on the right.</p> <p>Walking: Be prepared for typical summertime conditions (water, sunglasses, hat, etc.). Mostly level walking. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>

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<p>July 29 (tentative)</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central)</p> <p>At the Citgo station in Cagle</p>	<p>Plateau Orchids and Wetlands</p> <p>As we caravan to several stops on the plateau a variety of orchids (<i>Platanthera</i> species) will be seen along with other attractive wildflowers (<i>Liatris</i>, <i>Silphium</i>, <i>Aster</i>) and grasses that inhabit these areas. Of particular interest will be a white variety of an uncommon <i>Platanthera</i> species and the globally rare <i>Platanthera integrilabia</i>. If we have time we may visit some other interesting sites off of the plateau. Be prepared for heat and bugs. This is a joint field trip with the Georgia Botanical Society.</p>	<p>Citgo station in Cagle on Hwy 111 north of Dunlap</p> <p>Walking: Wear boots. Possibility of getting wet feet, roadside stops, short walks. Lunch: Bring along with snacks and water. Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Chuck Wilson (423) 875-9265</p>
<p>August 12</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m.. (Eastern) Historic Train Station, Downtown Etowah</p>	<p>Starr Mountain</p> <p>Mark Pistrang, Cherokee National Forest botanist, will tell us about the program to protect the orchids in the extensive Bullet Creek bog. He will show us Monkey Face Orchids (<i>Platanthera integrilabia</i>) which should be in flower. Along the way we will see other summer flowers, possibly including the Carolina Lily (<i>Lilium michauxii</i>).</p>	<p>US 411 Etowah</p> <p>Walking: Roadside botany plus a short hike (1 mile roundtrip) into the bog. Lunch: Bring Facilities: Only in Etowah</p>	<p>Mark Pistrang (423) 338-3326</p> <p>Al Good (423) 886-1777</p>
<p>September 16</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central) At the Loveless Cafe</p>	<p>Kelley Creek Seeps</p> <p>These seeps are a unique ecosystem that contains a wide diversity of plants that favor the moist conditions. Over 248 species of flowering plants have been identified from this site and we hope see some of the fall bloomers including <i>Parnassia grandifolia</i>. Many species of birds and butterflies have also been seen here.</p>	<p>Loveless Cafe is at 8400 Hwy 100, southwest of Nashville and adjacent to the northern terminus of the Natchez Trace.</p> <p>Walking: Wear boots. Possibility of getting wet feet. Moderate hiking. Lunch: At Loveless Cafe Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Bob Meyer (615) 665-1692</p> <p>Bob Brown (615) 352-7474</p> <p>Todd Crabtree (615) 223-0279</p>
<p>September 30</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central)</p> <p>Land Between the Lakes South Welcome Station</p>	<p>Blazing Stars and Butterflies</p> <p>We will follow the Trace road toward the north portion of this splendid national recreation area. There is lots of blazing star and goldenrod blooming along the roadside, making it very attractive to migrating butterflies. Possible species include Cloudless Sulphur, Little Yellow, Pearl Crescent, Painted Lady, Monarch and the rare Leonard's Skipper. Joint field trip with the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association.</p>	<p>From Dover: Take Hwy 79, go 3 miles to the LBL southern entrance (watch for a large brown sign directing you to turn right for LBL—careful, it is easy to miss). Turn right; this road becomes the Trace, which is the main road through LBL. Turn right on this road; in about 4-5 miles it turns into the Trace. You will arrive at the South Welcome Station on the right.</p> <p>Walking: Some driving and light walking. Walking is mostly on the flat but some of the roadside areas are elevated slightly. Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place</p>	<p>Rita Venable (615) 503-9631</p>
<p>October 21</p> <p>Saturday 10 a.m. (Central)</p> <p>Decatur County Riverside High School</p>	<p>Carroll Cabin Barrens—Bath Springs</p> <p>We will see the recently confirmed population of Great Plains ladies' tresses (<i>Spiranthes magnicamporum</i>), the first recorded for Tennessee. These orchids are remarkable for their late bloom season which extends to late November. At this early part of their flowering, we should also see barrens silky aster (<i>Aster pratensis</i>) and blue sage (<i>Salvia azurea</i> var. <i>grandiflora</i>), both state listed rare plants, as well as other fall wildflowers finishing their season.</p>	<p>Exit 126 from I-40. Go south on Hwy. 69 through Parsons, past the middle school and the Beech River. High school is just past caution light on the right.</p> <p>Walking: Easy Lunch: Bring Facilities: At meeting place, if school is open.</p>	<p>Bart Jones (901) 726-6891</p> <p>bjones7777@hotmail.com</p>