

55TH ANNUAL SPRING WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE

APRIL 12 - 14, 2024

LAGRANGE – TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA

The 55th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage of the Georgia Botanical Society will be held April 12th – 14th, 2024, and will be headquartered in LaGrange, GA at the Hampton by Hilton.

The pilgrimage will consist of a Friday night social with light hors d'oeuvres, and a Saturday banquet with a special program afterward.

The field trip schedule includes trails and floodplains along the Chattahoochee River, shoals, trails along lakes, a granite outcrop complex with embedded woodlands, montane sites with potential for the American chestnut restoration, a plant museum, the tallest waterfall on Pine Mountain, and much more!

PILGRIMAGE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Field trips will meet at various times and places; please consult the description for your particular trip.
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Registration and social at Eagleview Park, West Point Lake.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

7:30 am - 8:00 am	Early registration at the Hampton at Hilton hotel.
8:00 am	Field trips assemble at the Hampton parking area unless otherwise noted in field trip description.
5:00 pm	Field trips return.
6:00 pm	Abbotts Atrium, La Grange GA doors open for banquet.
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm	Banquet dinner at Abbott Atrium
7:50 pm - 9:30 pm	Evening Program with keynote presentation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:00 am	Field trips will assemble at the Hampton at Hilton parking area unless otherwise noted in the field trip description.
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Note: Friday/Saturday/Sunday Breakfast times for hotel guests

6:30 am – 8:00 am Breakfast – if you are staying at HQ – Hampton by Hilton

7:00 am – 8:00 am Breakfast – if you are staying at the Wingate by Wyndham.

Background

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LaGrange is the seat of Troup County GA, incorporated as a city in 1828. The town is located in Georgia's western Piedmont region, with West Point Lake to the west of town. This area is part of the Chattahoochee River basin - an elongated stretch of land that averages 24 miles wide and about 140 miles long. The region is characterized by rolling hills around the lake. The soil is high in iron-oxides and the rich red clay that Georgia is known so well for.

We will be exploring ecosystems in the Pine Mountain Ridge, the southernmost mountainous area east of the Mississippi River characterized by quartzite rock formations of the Piedmont Plateau. It is where F.D. Roosevelt State Park, the largest GA State Park is located with Dowdell's Knob as its highest point at 1,395 feet.

We will venture as far as Camp Thunder, in Upson County, to the east, and west into the East Gulf Coastal Plain of Alabama in the Tuskegee National Forest.

The city of LaGrange has a history focusing on local investment, as well as industrial diversification going back to the 1880s. Contributions from the Callaway Foundation enhance the city's quality of life with amenities not found in towns of similar size.

We have left the Friday morning field trip schedule light for those who choose to visit the historic venues in LaGrange, such as the Hill and Dales Estate, the historic home and gardens of the Callaway family. The famed Callaway Gardens is less than 20 miles south of LaGrange in Pine Mountain.

Pilgrimage Overview

A total of 16 field trips have been organized for the 2024 LaGrange-centered event. We encourage you to review all the material in the brochure, to choose your field trips of interest, and then submit your registration form. Be sure to include field trip numbers for 1st and 2nd choices for the field trips, as some trips may fill up prior to receiving your registration form. (Some trips have participation limits, and you will be given your second choice if available when your first choice is full.)

As detailed later in this brochure, Friday evening activities will take place at Eagleview Park on West Point Lake while Saturday evening activities will take place at The Abbott Atrium in the heart of downtown LaGrange (<https://abbottatrium.com>)



What to Bring:

As with all BotSoc field trips, please bring enough water for your whole trip, also lunch or snacks, as appropriate. Bug spray, camera, hand lens, binoculars, field guides, comfortable shoes, and sunscreen are suggested. A hiking pole is a good idea. You may also wish to bring a jacket or rain gear, depending on the weather.

Questions?

For any questions, please email Mei Lee Fung (gabotsoc.meilee@gmail.com) with your questions and provide a phone number so she can call you back.

Location:

The Hampton by Hilton will be the pilgrimage headquarters. Arrangements have been made with the Hampton by Hilton to provide blocks of rooms for members during the pilgrimage at negotiated rates of \$109 per night + taxes. The rate includes continental breakfast, continuous coffee/tea service, and wireless internet access.

Hampton by Hilton
100 Willis Circle
La Grange, GA 30240
Reservation Phone: (706) 845-1115

Wingate by Wyndham
103 Wingate Ter
LaGrange GA 30241
Reservation Phone: (706) 845-1115

We encourage you to make your hotel reservations early. The negotiated rates for Hampton by Hilton will be available until March 12th, 2024. The Hampton by Hilton rate is available from Thu April 11th to check out date on Sunday April 14th. Individual reservation cancellation is 48 hours prior to day of arrival. A credit card is required to guarantee rooms until arrival.

Alternative lodging at the Wingate by Wyndham is also available at the same rate of \$109 per night + taxes. The negotiated rates will be available until 11:00pm March 12, 2024.

Reservations can be made via individual call in to the respective hotel phone number provided. Please indicate you are booking rooms for the 2024 Georgia Botanical Society Wildflower Pilgrimage event.

Remember, lodging reservations are separate from pilgrimage registration and must be made directly with the lodging vendor itself.

Friday Night Social

Please join us for the Friday Night Social on Friday, April 12th from 6 PM to 8 PM at Eagleview Park at the shores of West Point Lake. Eagleview Park is located at Resource Management Rd, West Point, GA 31833.

A registration table will be available to get your name tag, registration materials, and any t-shirts that you may have ordered.

Carpooling is not necessary. Parking and facilities are available at the park. If carpooling is preferred, we can arrange volunteers depart from HQ to the Social at 5:30 pm.

If you can bring light hors d'oeuvres or soft drinks for the Friday social, please contact Mei Lee Fung (at gabotsoc.meilee@gmail.com), the designated social chair for this pilgrimage. Speaking of hors d'oeuvres, think LIGHT (not main courses).



Saturday Night Banquet

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The Saturday Pilgrimage Banquet will be held at The Abbott Atrium located at 133 Main Street, LaGrange GA 30240 (<https://abbottatrium.com>). The dinner selections will be prepared by Tulla White Cuisine and Catering. Plated dinner will be served with options (indicate your choice on registration)

Dinner Plate Options (Non-Vegetarian)

- Choice 1: Angel hair encrusted Salmon: salmon with sautéed spinach, mixed vegetables with a lemon butter wine sauce.
- Choice 2: Stuffed Chicken Marsala: chicken breast stuffed with zucchini, provolone cheese, prosciutto ham with marsala wine mushroom sauce.

Vegetarian Option

- Eggplant Ala Rosa: fried eggplant topped with sautéed spinach, sweet roasted peppers & fresh mozzarella cheese with a vodka cream sauce over fettuccini.

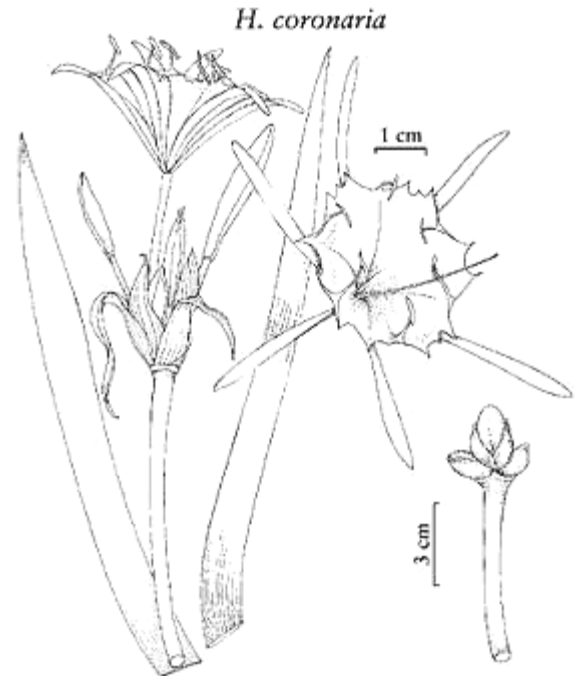
All options will be served with homemade rolls, Venucci Salad with white balsamic dressing, Tableside Coffee, Iced Tea, and Lemonade. Dessert will be house made Tiramisu or cookies (for those with caffeine/alcohol restrictions).

Saturday Night Program

The program “Return of the Shoal Lily” will be presented by Natalie Downey, Interim Executive Director of the Chattahoochee River Conservancy.

The Chattahoochee River once held one of the world's largest populations of the rare, native shoal spider lily (*Hymenocallis coronaria*). Man-made alterations to the river habitat have severely threatened the future of the shoal lily on this watershed, but an environmental organization in Columbus, GA has gone to great lengths to restore the once abundant shoal lily to the place where it belongs.

Chattahoochee River Conservancy's Interim Executive Director Natalie Downey will share with us the plight of the shoal lily on the Chattahoochee River, the efforts that have been taken to see its return, and the ways we can help support the important restoration project.

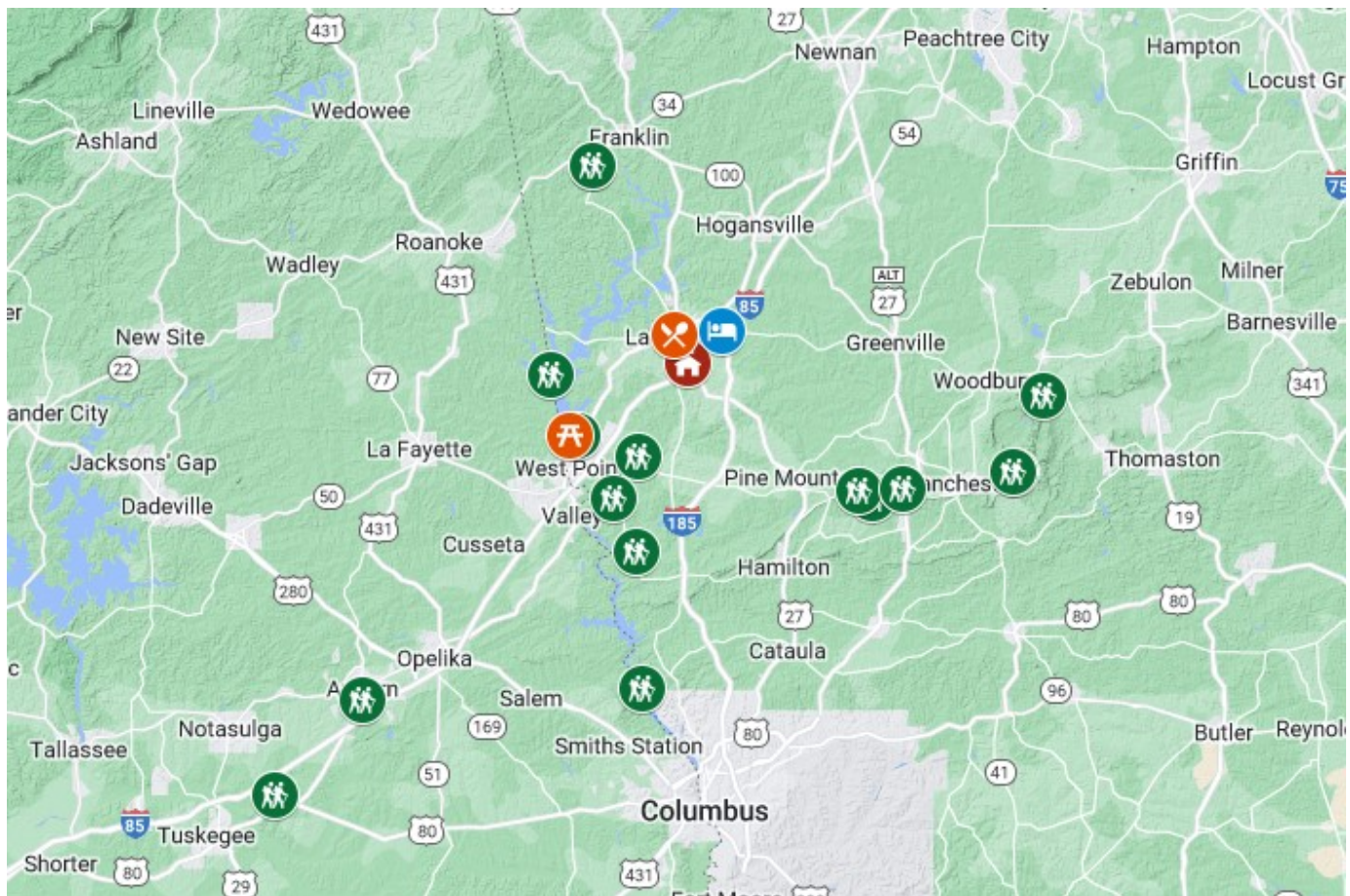


Illustrator: Yevonn Wilson-Ramsey
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Field Trips At A Glance

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Fri AM	Fri PM	Saturday All Day	Sun AM
1. Goat Rock Dam		7. Spirewell Bluff WMA	12. TNC Camp Meeting Rock
2. Spirewell Bluff WMA		8. Flat Shoal Creek	13. Camp Thunder VPA
3. Tuskegee National Forest-Bartram Trail		9. FDR State Park - Dowdell Knob	14. Alligator Creek
	4. TNC Camp Meeting Rock	10. Blanton Creek WMA	15. FDR State Park - The Wolf Den Loop: Pine Mtn
	5. Homestead Farm	11. FDR State Park - Clematis terminalis	16. Donald E. Davis Arboretum at Auburn
	6. Lakeside Trails at West Point		



Click on this hotlink for a [Pilgrimage Interactive Map](#) that lets you navigate to all locations.

As GA Dept. of Natural Resources-Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) is a partner in this event it is not necessary to have a license or pass to visit the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) included in the Pilgrimage.

That said, **please do consider supporting WRD**. A purchase of a Hunting or Fishing License or a Lands Pass provides important funds to the stewardship of Georgia Conservation Lands and will allow access to all WMA locations for a full year.

Trip 1: Goat Rock Dam

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Date: Friday half day, 8 am (Limit 20 and carpooling will be required)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

Description: Our walk will be on a gentle trail that leads to floodplain forest along the Chattahoochee river. Some spring wildflowers are present here and we'll identify them along the way. It should be a botanically interesting hike.

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear if needed, hand lens, note book, camera.

Facilities: None

Leader: Ren Oliver (she/her) 404-960-9523 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Trip 2: Sprewell Bluff WMA

Date: Friday full day, 10 am (Limit 15)
Location: Meet the trip leader at Mitchell Gap on Chalybeate Springs Road in Talbot County at 10:00 AM. Carpooling from the meet location may be necessary.

Directions: From Atlanta, go south on I-85 to Exit 41 and turn south on US 27Alt. Continue south to Warm Springs. At the traffic light in Warm Springs, go straight for one block, then turn right at the stop sign onto GA 41. Follow GA 41 through Manchester and over Pine Mountain. About 5 miles from the top of Pine Mountain, turn left onto Pleasant Valley Road. After a few miles, the road will dead end into Chalybeate Springs Road. Turn left onto Chalybeate Springs Road and go about 2 miles to Mitchell Gap on the right. There is a large brown and white sign for Sprewell Bluff WMA at the gap. GPS: Mitchell Gap.

Description: From Mitchell Gap we will drive a couple of miles into the WMA, then hike in on an old road bed to the Turkeybeard Bluff. Along the way we should see the striking flowers of showy skullcap, *Scutellaria pseudoserrata*, as well as other spring ephemerals. The Turkeybeard Bluff itself is a steep heath bluff overlooking Pigeon Creek. The overstory is old-growth longleaf pine, *Pinus palustris*, with gorge rhododendron, *Rhododendron minus* and mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), both of which should be flowering. The goal of the trip is to see the southernmost population of the rare turkeybeard (*Xerophyllum asphodeloides*).

Conditions: The hike in is fairly easy, with one short hill on the way in. The old road has loose rock and is fairly open. When we reach the Turkeybeard Bluff, we will leave the old road bed and walk a short distance off-trail. Total distance should be about 1 mile.

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, hand lens, a lunch to eat on a beautiful bluff. Dress for the weather.

Facilities: None

Leader: Hal Massie 478-957-6095 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Trip 3: Tuskegee National Forest - Bartram Trail

Date: Friday all day, 8 am
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

Description: The Bartram Trail is a National Recreation Trail located in Tuskegee National Forest. The trail meanders through an interesting array of habitat types typical of the Upper Coastal Plain. Participants can expect to see longleaf pine woodlands, upland pine-hardwood forests, mature bottomland forests, and seepage areas that are home to a rich diversity of plant and animal life.

Conditions: Generally easy.

Leader: Al Schotz 205-299-0627 (Pilgrimage weekend only and coverage is not guaranteed)

Trip 4: TNC Camp Meeting Rock

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Date: Friday half day, 1 pm (Limit 20)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

Description: We will be walking over a fairly isolated, extensive granite flatrock complex with imbedded woodlands and forests. We will see rare black-spored quillwort and pool-sprite in ephemeral pools, and some interesting granite-edge plant communities.

Conditions: Moderate due to rough rock surface and brief bushwhacking between rock areas.

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, clothing layers suitable for predicted weather, hand lens.

Facilities: No facilities at the preserve or anywhere near it.

Leader: Malcolm Hodges 770-776-9194

Trip 5: Homestead Farm

Date: Friday Half day, 1 pm (Limit 20)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA. Carpooling will be recommended.

Description: This is the Adams Family farmhouse built in 1850s. Around it is planted rare trees and shrubs for seed production to support a native nursery in the 1980s. Some of the plants we should see are: *Quercus durandii*, *Quercus austrina*, *Quercus oglethorpensis*, *Croton alabamensis*, *Acer leucoderme*, *Juglans cinerea*, *Castanea* species, etc. In addition, planted for grafting scion wood are deep south antique fruit tree orchard. *Rhododendron canescens* along the branches and large colony of *Illicium floridanum*.

Conditions: Easy to Moderate

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear, hand lens. Anything else? OK

Facilities: None

Leader: Marshall Adams 678-313-1873

Trip 6: Lakeside Trails at West Point

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Date: Friday, half day, 1 pm

Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

Description: This is a rugged biking trail, so we will be courteous and work to stay out of the way of bikers (<https://visitlagrange.com/things-to-do/lakeside-mountain-biking-trails/>). The trail is not an easy walk in the park (but shouldn't be too hard so don't be afraid), rather expect some sloping and dirt. Take precautions for ticks as trail may be bushy in places. We will take the path of least resistance. Expect to see plants typical of the forests of this area. Pines (*Pinus*), hickories (*Carya*), tulip/yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), black tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*), and oaks including Shumard oak (*Quercus shumardii*) are known. Wildflowers in bloom that we may see: red buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*), lyreleaf sage (*Salvia lyrata*), fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*); if fortunate with timing then also woodland pinkroot (*Spigelia marilandica*), striped wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*), and hopefully we don't find the invasive thorny olive (*Elaeagnus pungens*). Other plants include greenbriars (*Smilax glabra*, *S. rotundifolia*, *S. bona-nox*, *S. smallii*), anglepod (*Gonolobus suberosus*), ferns (*Asplenium platyneuron*, and the exotic *Macrothelypteris torresiana*), and more! Restrooms on location.

Bring a snack, sunscreen/hat, water, comfortable shoes that may get dirty, perhaps bug spray. Carpooling will be encouraged.

Leader: Leader: Timothy Estep 912-424-9758

Trip 7: Spirewell Bluff WMA

Date: Saturday, all day, 8 am (Limit 16 participants)

Location: Meet the trip leader at the hotel parking lot. 4 wheel-drive vehicles are required and we will carpool.

Description: Dr. Joyce Klaus will share her research (supported by the Marie Mellinger Grant) on the history and ecology of American Chestnut and its habitats. We will explore areas of Spirewell Bluff WMA where the 1827 land lottery map indicated chestnut trees once stood and discuss the species decline and potential for restoration. We will also botanize around the chestnut tree areas and talk about the Mountain Longleaf plant community, one of many habitats that American Chestnut is part of. Participants will be provided with a copy of the 1827 land lottery map for the area with historic chestnut tree locations and a preview of the habitat map generated by the research project. Nathan Klaus of GA DNR will also be on hand to answer questions about the management and restoration of Spirewell Bluff in general.

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear, hand lens, lunch

Facilities: This is a somewhat remote location. THERE ARE NO FACILITIES. Bodily functions will have to be discreetly attended to in the field, with TP and other personal hygiene products buried or packed out (preferable).

Conditions: This is a remote location and vehicle travel on dirt roads will be necessary (4 WD recommended). We will walk along dirt roads and explore short distances from the road. The ground is rocky, uneven and steep. Walking will be moderate-strenuous, unless some participants wish to just botanize near the roadside while others explore.

Leader: Joyce Klaus 478-538-8495 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Date: Saturday, all day, 8 am (at site)
Location: Meet on site: Take a left from the hotel and then a right on Highway 85 South. Take exit 2 for West Point/Pine Mountain and turn left off the exit ramp. Take a right on Highway 103 and continue for around 3 miles. Turn right onto dirt road just before the bridge over Flat Shoals Creek.

Carpooling: Recommended – due to limited parking on property, carpooling is strongly recommended.

Description: Private property along bustling Flat Shoals Creek offers stunning views of the shoals, pristine hardwood bottomland, and the opportunity to wade or swim with the Shoal Spider Lilies. From the cabin the path is relatively easy and meanders along the creek bank. Several opportunities for views of the Shoal Spider Lilies along the way, but they will not be in bloom. Past the Lilies, the trail becomes more strenuous with very narrow and steep sections along an uphill gradient. From the apex of the trail we will then descend, crossing a small tributary and making our way along a flat ATV trail. The hike will end at “the beach,” a sand bar with an interesting rock outcrop. Notable plants include: Shoal Spider Lily (*Hymenocallis coronaria*), Pussytoes (*Antennaria* sp.), Indian Plantain (*Arnoglossum* sp.), Titi (*Cyrilla racemiflora*), Maple Leaf Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), Farkleberry (*Vaccinium. arboreum*), Goat’s Rue (*Tephrosia virginiana*), Leatherflower (*Clematis* sp.), Silverbell (*Halesia* sp.), Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*), plus numerous hardwood tree species and shrubs.

Conditions: Moderate to Strenuous

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear, hand lens, walking stick, bug spray, water shoes, bathing suit, snacks

Facilities: More than likely no access to cabin restroom but gas station with restroom is located roughly 3 miles (4 minutes by car) away. There is NO CELL SERVICE!!

Leader: Ashley Desensi (she/her) 706-577-7968

Mountain laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)
Drawing: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown, 1913



Trip 9: FDR State Park - Dowdell Knob

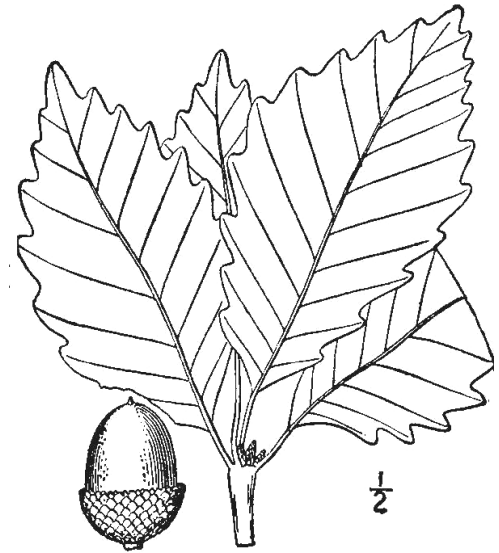
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Date: Saturday all day, 8 am
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

Description: We will hike through a dry montane chestnut oak, shortleaf pine, longleaf pine community, and see what early spring botany is available. This will be an interesting community ecologically, and will have interesting botany, but it will not be rich in spring wildflowers.

Conditions: strenuous

Leader: Ren Oliver (she/her) 404-960-9523 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).



Chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*)

Drawing: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown, 1913

Trip 10: Blanton Creek WMA

Date: Saturday All day, 8 am (at site)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the meet point. Directions: Take I-85 south to Exit 2. Turn left (east) on Hwy 18 and proceed approximately 0.5 mile and turn right (south) on Hwy 103 (WGS 84 datum GPS Coordinates of intersection: 32.875147, -85.144760). Continue for approximately 7.35 miles and turn right (south) on Marsh Road (WGS 84 datum GPS Coordinates of intersection: 32.781300, -85.092503). Follow Marsh Road south and then west for approximately 0.25 mile to the meeting spot (an old logging deck, WGS 84 datum GPS Coordinates: 32.779628, -85.095660). We will caravan from there to our exploration spots.

Description: We will coddwomple along two short trails and then bushwack at the end of each trail. The first bushwacking will be along the Chattahoochee River, the second will be on a slope leading to a wetland area. IN total about 2.5 miles of trail and between 0.5 and 1 mile of bushwacking. We also may explore a couple of other areas, depending on time and weather.

Conditions: Easy to Moderate, old logging roads and limited bushwacking, no large elevation changes.

What to bring: water, lunch/snacks, insect repellent, sturdy footwear, rain gear, camera, hand lens, charming personality.

Facilities: None – There is a new Love's Travel Plaza on the northeast corner of Interstate Exit 2. This is your last chance for facilities.

Leader: Rich Reaves 770-827-5186 – voice only, no internet access on phone (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Trip 11: FDR State Park - *Clematis terminalis*

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Date: Saturday All day, 8 am (Limit 15-20)

Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

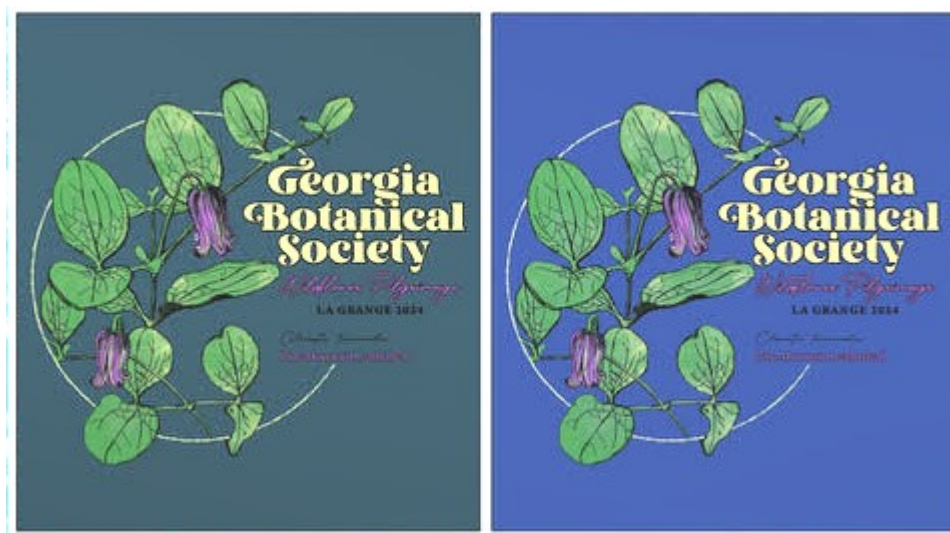
Description: We will walk a short way down the Pine Mountain Trail on the southside of Pine Mountain, then turn onto the Sawtooth Trail. We will find the Pine Mountain leatherflower (*Clematis terminalis*), a recently described, and very rare species, off the trail in this area. We will also see old-growth longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) and old-growth shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*). Creamy wild indigo (*Baptisia bracteata*) should be flowering along the trail, as well as nettle-leaf sage (*Salvia urticifolia*), bluestars (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*), and other spring ephemerals. If we have time, we may drive to another trailhead or two to see what is in flower in other areas of the park.

Conditions: The walk to see the *Clematis* is short and very easy on a rocky trail. Depending on time and conditions, we may do more walking, but it will be no more than a one mile round-trip and won't exceed moderate conditions.

Bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear if needed, hand lens, camera. A Georgia State Parks pass is required to park at the trailheads. You can buy a day pass at the trailheads, or at the park headquarters, or bring your annual pass.

Facilities: Last facilities are at the FDR State Park HQ about three miles from the intersection of GA 190 and US 27.

Leader: Hal Massie 478-957-6095 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).



Trip 12: TNC Camp Meeting Rock

Date: Sunday half day, 8 am (Limit 20)

Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA

See Trip #4.

Leader: Malcolm Hodges 770-776-9194

Date: Sunday Half day, 8:00 am (Limit 20 and carpooling will be required)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA.

Description: This is a beautiful area that is owned by the Boy Scouts of America, but managed by the Georgia DNR as a Voluntary Public Access area. We'll be walking on an old, rocky road for most of the trip, but will also be on a trail for part of the loop. We'll see some lovely old montane longleaf pine along the route, as well as scattered early wildflowers, particularly violets. The highlight will be Moss Falls, the tallest waterfall on Pine Mountain. We'll also walk a short way along the banks for the Flint River.

Conditions: The hike is fairly easy going in, but the walk back up from the river and the waterfall, while not hard, is a long slog uphill. I will reserve the right to change the route depending on the needs and desires of the group. The maximum distance will not exceed 3 miles. If we decide to go straight to the waterfall, the distance will be under 2 miles.

Bring: water, sturdy footwear, hand lens, a lunch to eat. Dress for the weather.

Facilities: None

Leader: Hal Massie 478-957-6095 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Bird's-foot violet (*Viola pedata*)

Drawing: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown, 1913



Trip 14: Alligator Creek Nature Trail

Date: Sunday Half day, 8:00 am (Limit 20 and carpooling may be required)
Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA.

Description: This is an easy-walking hike beneath mature pine/hardwoods. We'll identify plants discovered and discuss the ecology, geology, and natural history of the area as well as cover the impact of land use and human impact on the area.

What to bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear if needed, hand lens, note book, camera.

Facilities: No

Leader: Ren Oliver (she/her) 404-960-9523 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Trip 15: FDR State Park - The Wolf Den Loop: Pine Mountain

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Date: Sunday, full day, 8 am

Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA.

Description: Hike is a 6.7 mile loop. We are shortening hike to 5.0 miles. Habitat and terrain unlike what you expect this far south. We'll see several waterfalls, an old wolf den that has bats, lots of mountain laurel, many crystal clear streams, and one of the largest loblolly pine trees you'll see anywhere. It is 14' in circumference.

Conditions: Moderate hike with some stream crossings and some rocky terrain to manage.

Bring: water, sturdy footwear, rain gear if needed, hand lens. snacks for trail. Hiking poles may be helpful.

Facilities: Only at State Park Visitors Center

Leader: Clayton Webster 678-925-1091 (Pilgrimage Weekend only and coverage not guaranteed).

Trip 16: Donald E. Davis Arboretum at Auburn University

Date: Sunday, half day, 8am

Location: Meet the trip leader at the parking lot in the Hampton by Hilton, LaGrange GA.

Description: This botanical garden functions as a plant museum, a living collection of native plants, a resourcing for teaching and conservation. It hosts 39 species of oaks (*Quercus*), a variety of azaleas (*Rhododendron*), and a pitcher plant (*Sarracenia*) bog. There are hundreds of other plants to see as well, many possibly in bloom (<https://www.auburn.edu/cosam/arboretum/>).

Conditions: Walk should be easy, like a walk in the park.

Bring: Snack, sunscreen/hat, water, comfortable shoes, perhaps bug spray.

Facilities: Restrooms available on site

Leader: Timothy Estep 912-424-9758



Piedmont azalea (*Rhododendron canescens*)

Drawing: Britton, N.L., and A. Brown, 1913

BotSoc Pilgrimage T-shirts

We will have t-shirts for sale once again, with a unique design for the 2024 Pilgrimage. All profits from the sales of the t-shirts are designated for the Marie Mellinger Field Botany Research Grant Fund. This is a special “limited edition” shirt featuring the Pine Mountain leatherleaf (*Clematis terminalis*). **Orders are separate from pilgrimage registration and must be received via the website no later than Sunday, March 17th.** Shirts are produced based on the orders received only. If you will be unable to attend the Pilgrimage, there is a shipping charge. Women’s style is not offered this year. Prices, styles, and sizes are shown below.

Short sleeve T shirt (unisex)

Color - Deep Teal

sizes S, M, L, XL are \$19.00

size XXL is \$21.00

size XXXL is \$22.00

Long sleeve T shirt (unisex)

Color - Atlantic

sizes S, M, L, XL are \$22.00

size XXL is \$23.00

size XXXL is 25.00

Long sleeve Sweatshirt (unisex)

Color - Deep Royal Blue

sizes S, M, L, XL are \$32.00

size XXL is \$34.00

size XXXL is 35.00



Please see [the website](#) to order shirts. This information is provided for reference only.

Georgia Botanical Society — 55th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage

April 12-14, 2024 — LaGrange, GA

Registration **must be postmarked** by March 12, 2024

Pilgrimage Registration: *Ages 12 and under and Scholarship students must register but don't pay fee.*

If scholarship student, give college name: _____

Name(s) of children or scholarship student: _____

Participant Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ email: _____

Participant Name: _____

Cell Phone: _____ email: _____

Number of Botanical Society members attending: _____ x \$20 each \$ _____

Non-members attending**

** You may join on our website at <http://gabotsoc.org> _____ x \$25 each \$ _____

Saturday Evening Banquet

Number of Meals: _____ x \$25 each \$ _____

Indicate Meal choice(s) (see page #4): ___ Chicken ___ Salmon ___ Vegetarian

Total \$ _____

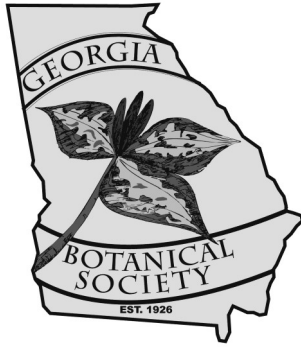
Field Trip Registration: **Earlier postmarks receive priority** on trip choice. Field trips have limits on participants, so pick a 1st and 2nd choice. If you choose a full-day trip as a 1st choice, you may choose another full-day or 2 half-day trips as 2nd choice, and vice versa. Please list choices by **number #** (not name) of trip. If trips are already filled, another will be assigned. By registering for the pilgrimage, you agree to the terms in the [Liability Waiver](#) provided on the website.

	Field Trip Choice (#)	Participant Name(s)
	1st 2nd	
Friday Morning Trip	_____	_____
Friday Afternoon or All-Day Trip	_____	_____
Saturday All-Day Trip	_____	_____
Sunday Trip	_____	_____

Mail form and check (Payable to **Georgia Botanical Society**) **no later than March 12 to:**

Elizabeth King
109 Dilworth St.
St. Marys, GA 31558

** Email spartina@tds.net (if questions)



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For all field trips, please note: Contact the trip leader if you plan to meet onsite instead of at the designated meeting place. Be sure to check times and meeting locations before you register for trips.
