

Hunterdon Hiking Club

Organized 1980

**Affiliate of the Hunterdon County
Department of Parks and Recreation**



**SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER
MARCH, APRIL, MAY**

HHC Web Page: www.HunterdonHikingClub.org

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi everybody:

I have a few things to share with you all and would appreciate it if you took the time to read this letter.

I would like to thank the hike leaders who used very good judgment during the winter. Because of the cold weather and icy conditions, the leaders had to cancel hikes, when necessary, were doing road walks instead, and made sure participants had ice cleats when they were needed. Thank you for keeping all of our members safe. Praying the snow has melted by now!

Just a reminder to our hike leaders to check the wind and the wind velocity. A wind of 10 -15 mph can be accompanied by gusts of 25 - 30 mph. This could cause tree branches to fall very easily. We wouldn't want anyone to get injured by this.

If you are a hike or event leader, there is a potential problem when you enter a hike into Groups.io. If you go back into it to edit something, if you have it locked you can no longer edit it. You must now go in and unlock the hike first. Once you unlock it, you are free to edit it. Don't forget to lock it again!

We are looking to start paying our dues on-line. This is quite a process. If anyone is very good with technology and would like to help us, please let me know.

We always have a table at the Park's Dept Earth Day every year. This year it is on April 18, which is the same day as our Springfest. It is from 9 am to 2 pm at Echo Hill. We need people to work from 9 to 11:30 or from 11:30 to 2. If you can do it, please let me know.

Please remember to wear your orange or green vests when doing a road walk. Also, you should always have the HHC luggage tag with you that contains all of your medical and emergency information. Please put it on your coat, on your backpack, or on your bottle carrier when hiking. If you do not have a tag, I can provide you with one. Some of the hike leaders have them as well. And a new shipment of them have just arrived. The hiking club has purchased the vests for your safety and the tags to help you in an emergency. Please ensure you have them with you.

We are still in need of hike leaders, especially for Tuesdays and the weekends. We have over 450 members. 56 members volunteered to lead hikes this past year. We had 4 leaders who combined to lead 143 hikes. The total number of hikes we had was 427. That's a lot of hikes led by not so many people. So, if you can lead a hike or 2, it would help greatly. Please contact me, Gail Jacobsen (jacobsen@mail.com, 917-939-6391) if you would like a mentor to help you learn how to do this.

Thanks everybody for making this the great club that it truly is.

Hope to see you out on the trails soon! And thanks for listening!

Gail

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HUNTERDON HIKING CLUB

Who we are!

The Hunterdon Hiking Club (HHC) is an affiliated organization of the Hunterdon County Parks System. The purpose of the club is to provide a forum where individuals may join with others for the personal enjoyment of hiking and other outdoor activities.

What do we do?

Hikes are scheduled for almost every Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Bicycle rides are scheduled on Tuesdays and Fridays in season and shorter hikes are scheduled for Tuesdays. Canoe/kayak trips and X-country skiing are often scheduled as the weather permits. Weekday trips combining a city walk plus a visit to a museum are occasionally scheduled.

HHC General Membership Meetings

HHC meetings are the second Thursday of the month.

The meetings start at 7pm.

Hunterdon Hiking Club Officers – June 2025 – May 2026

President: Gail Jacobsen Jacobseng@mail.com 917-939-6391

Secretary: Linda McCarthy

Treasurer: Jack Caffrey:

Website: Mark Hermsmeier:

Indoor Program:

Lori Jo Jamieson:

Anne Zenerovitz:

Outdoor Activities:

Pam Bland:

Pat Hennessy:

New Membership Inquiries:

Jeff Alte:

Membership: Loretta Mizeski: [ljmski64@gmail.com](mailto:ljski64@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Cathrin Bombardier

Hospitality: Joann Pieloch:

Teresa Londino

ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

Tuesday Bike Rides: Pat Hennessy:

Tuesday Hikes: Geoff Nicklen

Wednesday Hikes: Johanna McAteer

Thursday Hikes: Mark Hermsmeier:

Thursday Mindfulness Hikes:

Carolyn Creed:

Doris Spencer:

Friday Hikes, Bike Rides: Pat Hennessy:

Weekends: Pam Bland: Mary Curtis:

Hunterdon Hiking Club Membership Form
Membership Year: August 1st to July 31st

Please check one: New ___Renewal (**Please renew by July**

31) Please Print Neatly:

Name (or names of adults if family membership)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell #(s) (indicate whose if two) _____

Email(s) _____

The HHC Newsletter and updates will be sent to each e-mail address.

Payment Enclosed:

1. Membership: \$_____ **Circle one:** One year Single (\$20) Family (\$30)

2. HHC Club Patch if desired: \$_____ # _____ patches @ \$3 each

3. Total Enclosed: \$ _____ (check payable to **Hunterdon Hiking Club**)

4. Today's Date: _____/_____/_____

New members or members with any info changes, please mail application with check to:
Loretta Mizeski, 130 Philhower Ave., Califon, NJ 07830. CHECK MUST BE PAYABLE TO HUNTERDON HIKING CLUB!

Renewing members with **no changes in info**, please mail check **directly** to treasurer: **Jack Caffrey, 10 Essex Avenue, Maplewood, NJ 07040 (no application needed** but indicate member name if single membership on joint check and one- or two-year membership). **CHECK MUST BE PAYABLE TO HUNTERDON HIKING CLUB!**

New members need to sign the liability waiver (on next page). Please include it with the application and check. **Note** the membership year ends July 31.

New members who join after March 1 do not have to renew until July of the following year. Questions about new memberships contact **Jeff Alte**, ridefreehd@hotmail.com
Current members contact **Loretta Mizeski** at ljmski64@gmail.com

Note: We use emails, sent via HunterdonHikingClub@groups.io, to send out the newsletter and notices for cancellations and last-minute changes. When you join, you will automatically be added to our list to receive these emails.

For Membership Committee use only:

_____Recorded_____Liability Waiver received (new member)

_____Acknowledged_____added to Groups.io (new member)

RV 2/25

HUNTERDON HIKING CLUB MEMBER GUIDELINES AND LIABILITY WAIVER

PURPOSE OF THE CLUB:

To provide an opportunity to explore the outdoors by hiking, biking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, etc. with others who have similar interests.

GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION:

1. Choose an activity that is appropriate for your level of expertise. If you have questions about the degree of difficulty, please call the activity leader.
2. Bring water, appropriate footwear, personal first aid kit and clothing for possible inclement weather.
3. Arrive at the meeting place 5-10 minutes before the departure time listed.
4. Familiarize yourself with the plan of the day.
5. Do not bring pets on hikes unless otherwise indicated.
6. Do not consume alcoholic beverages during the hike itself.
7. During the activity, stay with the group. Don't stop, lag behind, or go ahead without the leader's knowledge.
8. Leave the area as you find it: pack out all trash, do not pick wildflowers, etc.
9. Smokers: Please wait for rest stops and be considerate of others. Make sure your cigarettes are extinguished before continuing the activity. It is preferred that you do not smoke.
10. If reservations are required, call leader by date stated. If a deposit is required, the deposit is your reservation, not the phone call. In most cases, deposits cannot be refunded unless a replacement is found.
11. The activity leader reserves the right to terminate the activity if he/she believes the group or an individual's health or safety is in jeopardy.

HAZARDS AND RISKS:

I understand that during my participation in any Hunterdon Hiking Club activity, I may be exposed to a variety of hazards and risks, foreseen or unforeseen, which may be inherent in each activity and cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the activity. I am personally responsible for all risks associated with travel to/from the starting point of any activity. The leaders of these activities are volunteers, not paid professional guides or leaders. **PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

1. No one but myself is responsible for my safety when I choose to challenge my capabilities or personal health conditions. I take responsibility for having appropriate skills and physical conditioning, equipment and supplies for these activities.
2. I also understand that there may not be immediate rescue or medical facilities or expertise necessary to deal with the injuries and damages to which I may be exposed.

LIABILITY WAIVER:

I understand and agree that I am voluntarily participating in an activity with the Hunterdon Hiking Club and assume all risks and hazards incidental to such participation. I waive and release all rights and claims for damages against the Hunterdon Hiking Club, its officers, volunteers, and other participants for any and all injuries that may be suffered while participating in any of their activities. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Hunterdon Hiking Club and each of its members from any claim for loss or damage or injury to me or any member of my family arising from or in connection with any participation in the program listed. **(All adult members in single or family memberships must sign below when they first join.)**

Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____
Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

INDOOR PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Meetings will be held at South Ridge Community Church (Ridge View Room), 7 Pittstown Rd. (Rt 513), Clinton at 7:00 pm. This is an opportunity to get together with fellow HHC members off trail. There will be refreshments, time to socialize, an interesting program presentation, and the business meeting. You are welcome to arrive at 6:45 pm for refreshments and to socialize. Please RSVP only if attending in person. The Zoom link will be emailed a few days before each meeting.

March Monthly Meeting:

Thursday, March 12, 7:00-8:30 pm

This is a Zoom Only Meeting – the link will be emailed a few days prior.

There will be a business meeting, followed by a very interesting program presentation, "*Chasing the Northern Lights at Yellowknife*," by our longtime member, Pam Bland.

We hope you can join us!

**Organizers: Teresa Londino,
Joann Pieloch,**

May Monthly Meeting:

Thursday, May 14, 2026, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

You are welcome to arrive at 6:45pm for refreshments and to socialize. Please RSVP only if attending in person. Zoom link will be emailed a few days before.

**** The program presentation for the May meeting will be provided in the announcement through Groups.io.**

**Organizers: Teresa Londino,
Joann Pieloch,**

In Memoriam

We are sad to announce that we have recently lost two long-time members of the hiking club.

A former president of our club, Bill Claus passed in January. He was a wonderful president, and an avid hiker and backpacker. A generous donation in his name to the club was recently received. His obituary has not been published yet, but a link will be sent when it is.

An announcement was sent through Groups.io with a link to the obituary for Teri Moorhead who passed in December. If you missed it, here is the link:
www.wrightfamily.com/obituaries/Teresa-Rose-Kozlik-Moorhead?obld=46634720.

UPCOMING EVENTS

New Leader Meeting – Hosted by Lindsay and Dave Dunne
Saturday, April 11, 2026, 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Dunne's house (address will be provided in the RSVP)
Organizers: Lindsay and Dave Dunne,

Have you ever considered leading a hike? If so, please join us for this combination workshop / meet and greet! The workshop part of the meeting will include things like how to set up a hike and send out the invitation, what to say in the circle, and tips on what to do if your hike doesn't go as planned. Other fun topics will include things like how to read trail markers and how to access the basic AllTrails.

The meet and greet part of the meeting is to allow those of you that are attending to meet other like-minded newbies. Our experience has been that having a co-leader on initial hikes makes the entire process much more relaxing.

You will also receive a list of the trails our club has used, along with a list of some current leaders that have volunteered to mentor (and co-lead with) anyone that is interested. If you haven't led hikes before, we'd love to have you come. No obligation!

SPRINGFEST

Springfest – Saturday, April 18th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

The day begins with three hike options which will be posted individually in Groups.io.

Deer Path Park Cedars Pavilion

This information is regarding the gathering from 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm.

Please bring:

A dish or snack to share with the group.

A serving utensil if needed

Your own beverage

The food for this event is entirely Potluck.

We hope you can join us.
Teresa and Joann

UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

BACKPACKING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL IN PA

Thursday to Sunday, April 30th to May 3rd

- Join us as we continue backpacking the AT in PA
- 18.5 miles, Class 3C
- We will hike from the game commission parking lot for Bake Oven Knob to a side trail 1.5 miles south of Eckville Shelter. Highlights of this section will include Bear Rocks with 360-degree views , the Knife Edge known as the " Cliffs " , A possible restaurant stop crossing Rt. 309 (Blue Mountain Summit) , Tri-County Corner , Balanced Rock & Dan's Pulpit.

Meeting place and departure time to be determined – contact leader:
Paul U.

RICKETTS GLEN / WORLDS END / ENDLESS MT PA.

Tuesday to Thursday, May 5th to 7th

- 3-day hike getaway/3+ hour drive from Flemington
- Hikes each day – 21 Waterfalls/Great views
- Shared beds or private accommodations

See details for event on Groups.io calendar

Jeff Alte –

TRIP WILL BE POSTED WEEK OF MARCH 16

ICE CAVES AND MINNEWASKA STATE PARK

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 2nd and 3rd

- Day 1: Ice caves/Sams Point Pine Creek NY
2 hours drive from Flemington
4 Miles 2-B
- Day 2: Minnewaska State Park
5 Miles 3-B
Lodging: American Best Value

See details for event on Groups.io.

Yolanda Elmes/Jeff Alte –

TRIP WILL BE POSTED WEEK OF MARCH 30th

UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)

MOHICAN OUTDOOR CENTER OVERNIGHT TRIP

Friday and Saturday, June 26th and 27th

We are planning an overnight trip to the Mohican Outdoor Center on the Appalachian trail in Blirstown at the Blueberry Hill Lodge. The lodge will have bunk beds, a full kitchen, and 3 bathrooms. The cost will be \$65 P/P.

Tentative Plan

- Day 1: 5-mile 3B hike. After hike kayak rentals and swimming available. Happy hour, dinner & entertainment at dining hall (separate checks)
- Day 2: Hike the AT and Fire Tower tour by Bob our Trail Angels friend TBD.

See details for event on the Groups.io calendar

Jeff Alte/Margart Maniscalki

TRIP WILL BE POSTED WEEK OF MARCH 16th

VERMONT HIKING AND TOURING TRIP

Tuesday to Saturday, August 4th to 8th

Join us as we return to the Mid-Jersey Ski Lodge in Wallingford Vt for 4 days of hiking and touring. This trip will have some new hikes and places to visit as well as some things we have done in the past. An email will be sent out in late May/early June with a detailed itinerary. You will be instructed on how to register at that time.

Trip Leaders: Gail Jacobsen and Jeff Alte

CEDAR RUN / GRAND CANYON HIKING TRIP

Friday to Sunday, September 4th to 6th

Once again, we will be returning to the Cedar Run Inn for a hiking trip in and near the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania. The inn is very quaint and includes breakfast and dinner. An email will be sent out in March with more details and instructions on how to sign up for this trip.

Trip Leaders: Gail Jacobsen and Jeff Alte

OUTDOOR ACTIVITY INFORMATION

Museum Walks

Museum walks will be listed on HHC Groups.io and may be scheduled on the same day as other events. The number of participants will be limited.

Tuesday Short Hikes

1. There are no write -ups in the newsletter. A hike invite will be sent out on Groups.io system to all members on the Saturday prior to the actual Tuesday hike.
2. Should anyone else like to lead a Tuesday hike, please let me know: Geoff Nicklen. This would be most welcome. Folks on the waiting list should also consider this option.
3. The hike meeting place is shown on Groups.io and can be seen if your RSVP is accepted. These places can be the trail head or a central location if the trailhead is hard to find or a distance away. For those wanting to go directly to the trail head, directions are also included in Groups.io.
4. Lunches are a favorite Tuesday option. Details are included in Groups.io.

Tuesday and Friday Bike Rides and Hikes

The Tuesday and Friday bike rides and hikes are not provided in the newsletter but will be scheduled and sent out on Groups.io a few days before the activity, with the meeting place, description, and leader(s) provided.

Special Weekday Hikes

See pages 12 and 13 for the Special Weekday Hike schedule.

Wednesday Hikes

See page 14 for the Wednesday hike schedule.

Thursday “C-Pace” (Energetic) Hikes

See page 15 for the Thursday “C-Pace” hike schedule.

Thursday Short (Mindfulness) Hikes

Mindfulness is the practice of quieting the mind and focusing on the present moment – feel the breeze, hear the birds, watch the water, commune with the trees.

Class: 1- 2; A – C - Self-paced. We will hike at our own pace for 30 to 45 minutes (decided at the start of each hike), then turn around and return to the starting point. We will practice mindfulness for at least 20 minutes, determined individually. We then will have the option of talking for the rest of the hike. Bring a working cell phone.

Details for each upcoming hike will be emailed weekly via HunterdonHikingClub@groups.io. For more information contact Carolyn Creed or Doris Spencer.

Weekend Activities

See pages 16 through 18 for weekend activities.

SPECIAL WEEKDAY HIKES

Mondays

Monday, March 23, Liberty State Park Urban Hike - Jersey City, 5.5 Miles, Class 2B

Margaret Maniscalchi / Jeff A.

~4.5-5 miles, Class 2B flat walk along the Hudson River waterfront of Liberty State Park with a beautiful view of Manhattan, the Verrazano Bridge, Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island. Visit NJ Empty Sky 9/11 Memorial and an old railroad terminal. We will walk back through the internal trails of the park and stop at one of the picnic areas for snack/lunch. *Carpool* * Meet at 9:00 AM at the Bridgewater Mall at the Bloomingdales parking lot facing the entrance to the mall by Season's 52 Restaurant. * Coordinates: 40.588080, -74.619461 * Please indicate in the RSVP section if you would like to carpool, otherwise a stop will not be made for a pick-up. *Starting Location* * Meet 10:00 AM at Parking Lot #4 (Pesin Drive East Lot) - Park Office * 200 Morris Pesin Drive, Jersey City, NJ * Coordinates: 40.693537, -74.057646

Monday, March 30, Palisades Interstate Park, Alpine NJ, 7 Miles, Class 2B

Gail J. / Jeff A.

7 mile, Class 2B+ hike Join us for this hike on the beautiful Palisades. There is a bit of history and some historic structures there and we will see the Penlyn mansion, Kearney house and Women's Federation Monument to name a few. Much of this trail is flat but there are quite a few stairs going up the Palisades from the river. There are beautiful views of the upper New York City skyline. (FYI...The Giant Steps are closed due to a rockslide). We will meet at King's Parking Lot on Rt 22 in Whitehouse at 8:30 to carpool. If you would like to meet at the Palisades Interstate Park Headquarters, please be in that parking lot by 9:45. It is on Hudson Terrace in Alpine NJ. Please bring a packed lunch for the trail. Hiking boots and poles recommended.

Monday, April 13, Cherry Blossoms and The Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, 3-4 Miles, Class 1A

Teresa Londino,

Approximately 3-4 Miles, 1B City Park Hike at Branch Brook Park in Newark, NJ. We are so fortunate to have the largest collection of Cherry Trees in the country, right here in New Jersey. Over 5200 cherry trees will be in various stages of near-peak bloom creating an ethereal feel to the city. Mostly flat and paved, some low hills, muddy spots, open fields and some concrete steps. It's a loop around ponds and ballfields, over bridges, underpasses, up steps, past lions, and a view of the Manhattan skyline. We will then walk through the gorgeous Gothic style Cathedral Basilica to admire the architecture, stained glass, wood carvings, and silence. We will end the outing under a pavilion (or a cherry tree) so bring lunch and a chair. There are porta-potties and restrooms throughout the park. Once you RSVP and are on the attending list, you will receive an email with meeting point information.

SPECIAL WEEKDAY HIKES (continued)

Tuesdays

Tuesday, April 21, Sunfish Pond - Worthington State Forest, Columbia NJ, 5-5 Miles, Class 3B

Margaret Maniscalki / Jeff A.

Description 4.5-5 miles, class 3B hike to Sunfish Pond, a glacial lake at Worthington State Forest at the top of the Kittatinny Ridge by the Delaware Water Gap. This is a challenging hike as it starts with a steep incline that runs for about 1.2 miles, then it joins the AT which is about 1.5 miles and has a section of large rocks to navigate. At the beginning of the trail, we will stop to see Laurel Falls. Sunfish Pond is a spring-fed mountain lake surrounded by a hardwood forest and it is one of seven National Natural Landmark of NJ. The lake has naturally acidic water where only certain types of fish can live. The pond was formed during the end of the last ice age, about 18,000 years ago, when a glacier carved out the spring-fed lake. Poles recommended for the rocky and rooty sections of the trail. Bring snacks/lunch for dining by the pond. Carpool Meet at Spruce Run 8:45 AM. It's the first parking lot off Rt 31 on Van Syckles Road Coordinates: 40.673693, -74.917789

Tuesday, May 5, Ricketts Glen/Worlds End/Endless Mt PA, 4 Miles, Class 2B

Jeff A.

4 Miles Class 2B/3B 3 Day hike getaway/3+ hour drive from Flemington Shared beds or private accommodations at a fully furnished/kitchen Inn or cottage. Hikes each day 21 Waterfalls/Great views Breakfast-Dinner at restaurants in town (separate checks) APPROX COST FOR TWO NIGHTS \$120.P/P DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU CHOOSE FOR ACCOMENDATIONS NO REFUNDS I will be sending out more details once you sign up. Staying in a room alone is twice the cost of sharing a bed, Each room has a Queen size bed/Refrigerator/Keurig coffee maker/full bath

Tuesday, May 26, NYC The Vessel, Highline, Winter Garden, 4 Miles, Class 1A

Yolanda E.

Easy walk near and along the Hudson River About 3-4 Miles Visit Hudson Yards; climb the interactive art installation - *The Vessel.* Walk the Highline, visit Little Island. Continue down the Hudson River Park to The Winter Garden and Battery Park City *Be sure to book an 11:00 entry ticket beforehand *

www.vesselnyc.com (<http://www.vesselnyc.com>). \$12.00

WEDNESDAY HIKES – SPRING 2026

Class: 1B – 4B, Leaders: See individual hikes, Meeting Times: 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

Leaders: Gail J. ; Joann P. and Johanna M.; Margaret Maniscalki; Robert Jacobs; Yvonne De

Note: In case of bad weather call the leader to make sure hike is on or check the Groups.io message.

<p>Mar 18, John M. Mauser Nature Trail Hike Class: 2B Miles: 4 Leader: Joann P. and Johanna M.</p>	<p>April 22, Lewis Morris Park Hike Class 2B Miles 5 Leaders: Lindsay D. and Dave D.</p>
<p>Apr 1, Washington Valley Newmans Lane, Bridgewater Class: 1A Miles: 5 Leader: Robert Jacobs</p>	<p>May 13, Greenwood Garden guided tours/hike Class: 2B Miles: 3 Leader: Joann P. and Johanna M.</p>
<p>Apr 8, Somerville History Walk Class: 1B Miles: 3+ Leaders: Gail J and Jeff A</p>	<p>May 20, Yvonne's Nature/Art/History Tour & Hike Class: 1A Miles: 3 Leader: Yvonne De / Jeff A</p>
<p>Apr 15, Roaring Rocks Park Hike Class: 2B Miles: 3 Leader: Joann P. and Johanna M.</p>	<p>May 27, Ringing Rocks County Park, PA Class: 3B Miles: 5-4 Leader: Margaret Maniscalki</p>

THURSDAY “C PACE” (ENERGETIC) HIKES – SPRING 2026

Class: 1C – 3C, Meeting Times: See listing. Always bring a packed lunch to eat on the trail.

Note: In case of bad weather call leader to make sure hike is on or check the Groups.io message.

<p>Mar 5, Point Mountain Class: 3C Miles: 7 Leader: Mark H.</p>	<p>Apr 23, NJ AT series #4 Sky Line Dr to Sunrise Mountain Rd Class: 3C Miles: 10.9 Leader: Mark H.</p>
<p>Mar 12, High Rocks and Ralph Stover S.P. Class: 2C Miles: 6 Leader: Jackie S.</p>	<p>Apr 30, Harriman - Claudius Smith Den Class: 3C Miles: 7 Leader: Charlie B.</p>
<p>Mar 19, Jenny jump ghost lake. Class: 3C Miles: 6-7 Leader: Michael W.</p>	<p>May 7, 6 of 8 NJ AT series: Rt 519 to Wallkill River (NY) 8.3m Shuttle Hike Class: 3C Miles: 8.3 Leader: Shelley Lee Harvey</p>
<p>Mar 26, High Mountain Park - Wayne, NJ Class: 3C Miles: 7 Leader: Charlie B.</p>	<p>May 14, Gnome Hollow-Frelinghuysen Forest trails Class: 3C Miles: 6.5 Leader: John S.</p>
<p>Apr 2, Paulinskil Trail Lollipop with White Lake Circuit Leader: Shelley Lee Harvey</p>	<p>May 21, Farny State Park to Indian Rocks Class: 3C Miles: 7+ Leader: Charlie B.</p>
<p>Apr 9, Mahlon Dickerson - Beaver Pond Class: 3C Miles: 6-7 Leader: Mark H.</p>	<p>May 28, Musconetcong Gorge Class: 3C Miles: 7 Leader: Jackie S. 908-268-2219 jjstrigl@gmail.com</p>
<p>Apr 16, Baldpate Mountain and Fiddler's Creek Preserve Class: 3C Miles: 7 Leader: Jackie S.</p>	

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES – SPRING 2026

There are still available dates to lead activities on Saturdays and Sundays in March, April and May. You can add an activity to the Groups.io calendar AFTER the newsletter is published. Select your date, complete the requested information, update the calendar, and LOCK the event. Two weeks prior to the event invite the group members to the event. (You have only to have hiked or biked at least 3 times with HHC to lead an activity.) Please contact the weekend coordinators for help with planning and posting your activity.

Sunday, March 8, Mercer Meadows Hike, 3-4 Miles, Class 1B

Mary Curtis

3-4 Miles, Class 1B 10:00 A.M. Meet at the parking lot at Rosedale Park in Mercer Meadows. When you enter the park, you will pass a small lot near the entrance. Continue that road to the parking lot on the right by the lake and restrooms. The address is *424 Federal City Rd, Pennington, NJ.* We'll do a loop through woodland and meadows passing two lakes and the Hunt House. There are bathrooms at the parking lot and the Hunt House.

Sunday, March 15, Voorhees State Park Hike, 3.5 Miles, Class 2B

Pam B.

3.5 miles, Class 2B 10:00 Meet: Hoppock Grove parking lot, Voorhees State Park Loop hike through woods, stream crossing on bridges, continue on Parcourse, gentle ups & downs. Bathroom at office building near end of hiking route.

Sunday, March 22, Stockton Road Walk, 6 Miles, Class 2B

Yolanda E.

Class: 2B Miles: 6 An easy back roads walk starting from Bulls Island. Some steep inclines along the way Lunch at the Lumberville General Store.

Saturday, April 4, Palmer Twp Trail / Dixie Cup Ride Out & Back, 19 Miles, Class 2B

Bill Riley

19 miles Class 2B Paved Trail suitable for road or hybrid bikes; mostly flat except one long gradual hill Our route will be on a paved trail using parts of the D&L towpath and old CNJ RR right of way along the Lehigh River as far as the Rt33 boat launch then headed NE on the old CNJ ROW Easton Branch to as far as 25th St near the old Dixie Cup factory. Directions from the P Burg / Easton free bridge: Upon reaching the PA side of the bridge, turn left. Go to first traffic light and turn left taking you over the Lehigh River 3rd St bridge. At the end of that bridge turn left again. The trail head will be less than 1/4 mile on your left. Ride with GPS Link Dixie Cup RT · Ride with GPS (<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/53684479>)

Saturday, April 18, Springfest short hike along the Raritan S Branch. 11:30 am start, 3 Miles, Class 1A

Geoff N.

A 3 mile class 1A hike along the Raritan R down to opposite the old Tetley tea plant and then back. One stream crossing by plank. Bring your poles. Meet 11-30 am on Deerpath Rd where the road has a 90-degree bend. Google maps say 98-42 Deerpath Rd Flemington NJ 08820. (Why 98-42 I do not know. We will find out on the day) I hope the 11:30 am start ensures we all get to Deerpath in time for the 1pm and start and the eating bit. Also time for those bringing food, time to get it on a table.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES – SPRING 2026 (continued)

Sunday, April 19, Riegelsville on road ride, 14 Miles, Class 2B

Bill Riley

14 miles Class 2B On quiet roads along the Delaware River, suitable for road or hybrid bikes Some easy to moderate short rolling hills We will first travel south on Old River road until it reaches Rt 627, then reverse back past our start point where we ride a few hundred yards north along 627 to Riegelsville. At that point we will ride north along the river for approximately 3 miles, where we'll head inland for a few miles before turning back to follow the river north through Carpentersville to the north end of the quarry. We will then head back to our starting point. Ride with GPS link: Riegelsville Ramble · Ride with GPS (<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/52213787>)

Saturday, April 25, Fort Lee Historic Park and Museum plus Palisades Walk, 3 Miles, Class 2A

Gail J. / Jeff A.

3 miles Class 2A There is a great deal of history in Fort Lee, NJ. Fort Lee Historic Park is a cliff-top park with scenic overlooks, a reconstructed revolutionary war encampment and a visitor center. We will also visit the Fort Lee Historical Museum and take a 3 mile walk along the Palisades near the George Washington Bridge. If time permits, we will visit the state-line overlook. Bring a packed lunch. Hiking boots recommended. We will meet at King's Parking Lot on Rt 22 in Whitehouse to carpool. Otherwise, meet at Fort Lee Historic Park at 9:45.

Sunday, April 26, Round Valley Reservoir, 4 Miles, Class 3B

Mark H.

Class 3B, 4 miles, 430 feet elevation gain. There will be some rocky sections. This will not be a fast hike.

Saturday, May 2, Clinton to Stanton Station out and back ride, 14 Miles, Class 2B

Bill Riley

14 miles Class 2B Using the Lansdown Trail (gravel) & quiet roads (both paved and gravel) Hybrid bike recommended. We will ride to Stanton Station along the South Branch of the Raritan River past farms and picturesque scenery, stopping at Echo Hill Park (indoor toilet facilities) and return to Clinton. Ride with GPS link: Lansdown Trail / Stanton Station · Ride with GPS (<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/53792200>)

Sunday, May 3, NYC Grants Tomb & Riverside Church Carillon Tour, Unknown Miles, Class

Yolanda E.

Meet at Raritan Train Station 8:00 for the 8:14 train A nice City adventure. Tour Grants Tomb, see interesting architectural buildings in the area. Visit Riverside Church and it's *Rockefeller Memorial Carillon* for a tour and concert up in the belfry with a 360 view of the city.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES – SPRING 2026 (continued)

Saturday, May 16, Fleecydale Road walk, 5 Miles, Class 1A

Frank Murray

Class 1A-C about 5 miles. We will cross the pedestrian bridge into Pennsylvania and walk briefly on Rte. 32 until Fleecydale Road. From there we will hike until we reach the village of Carversville and then return via Old Carversville Road. Lunch optional at Lumberville General Store. Please bring a working cellphone. Call leader with any questions.

Sunday, May 17, Ironton Rail Trail Loop ride, 18 Miles, Class 2B

Bill Riley

18 miles Class 2B Paved trail suitable for road or hybrid bikes. Mostly flat with a few easy to moderate short hills. Very picturesque with historical sites including the original Saylor Cement kilns preserved by the Smithsonian. `You may want to bring a sandwich or snack'. We will start at the trailhead on Levans Rd. riding down the spur to the loop portion of the trail. We will ride around the loop twice; once CW and once CCW, then head back up the spur to our starting point. Ride with GPS link: IRONTON RAIL TRAIL 2Xv2 · Ride with GPS (<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/53813777>)

Monday, May 18, The Heritage Museum at Meadow Breeze Park and walk, Unknown Miles, Class 1A

Lynn N.

This museum is only open on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 2-4PM. After visiting the museum, we will walk the park. The museum contains seven rooms of exhibits covering Transportation, Education, Business (Oxford Furnace and Edison Cement), Morris Canal, Native American, Washington Borough and Washington Township (Warren County) history. The Museum is free.

Hike and Bike Ride Classifications

Hikes and bike rides are rated based on type of terrain and pace. It is important that you select physical activities based on your personal abilities.

Terrain Classification	Hikes	Rides
Class 1	Easy, mostly flat.	Easy, flat. Mostly on bike paths, gravel or paved. Occasionally on roads that will have a small amount of traffic
Class 2	Intermediate, rolling hills, some stone or rocks on trail.	Easy, some moderate hills (ascended slowly). Mainly on quiet roads, sometimes on busier county roads. May include some unpaved, gravel sections.
Class 3	More difficult, steep ups and downs, trail rocky but stable.	Intermediate, includes hills. Primarily roads (quiet as well as busier county); but may include some unpaved sections.
Class 4	Most difficult, very steep ups and downs, unstable footing, hand holds may be necessary.	Intermediate, including hills, some steep and long. Primarily roads (quiet as well as busy). Bike paths, if involved, must be paved.
Pace Classifications	Hikes	Rides
Class A	Leisure pace, accommodates the leisure hiker Amble, unhurried, with frequent stops	Leisurely pace, cruise on flat 7 to 12 mph; overall average 7 to 8 mph; frequent stops
Class B	Amble, unhurried, with frequent stops	Steady but leisurely pace. Cruise on flat 9 to 13 mph; overall moving average 9 to 10 mph
Class C	Moderate, energetic to cover a proposed distance.	Moderate. Cruise on flat 11 to 14 mph; overall moving average 10 to 11 mph.
Class D	Brisk, capable of walking at a quick pace for prolonged periods	Cruise on flat 12 to 16 mph; overall moving average 11 to 12 mph.

Hiking Guidelines

1. Questions about a hike should be directed to the hike leader prior to day of the hike.
2. Hiking boots are required for all hikes other than those classified as 1A.
Sneakers may be appropriate for a Class 1A hike. Check with hike leader.
3. Many find that hiking sticks increase stability on steep and/or rocky trails.
Consider bringing one!
4. Remember to contribute towards gas when you are a passenger in a carpool.
5. What to Bring on a Hike:
 - a. adequate drinking water, especially during hot weather.
 - b. your own snacks, as needed. If lunch is planned following the hike, it may be later than a normal lunchtime meal.
 - c. your own basic first-aid kit. Leaders are not trained in first aid and are not expected to provide first-aid supplies.
 - d. weather-appropriate clothing items to layer as conditions change.

Bicycle Ride Guidelines

1. On all rides, leader will wait at intervals for all riders to catch up.
2. Questions about a ride should be directed to the ride leader prior to day of the ride.
3. **A suitable bicycle, helmet, extra inner tube and water are required for ALL rides.**
4. For most HHC rides a hybrid bicycle is very suitable. For longer faster rides a road bicycle might be considered. Note that hybrids with their wider tires excel on all types of surfaces and are sturdy and reliable. Road bikes with their narrow high-pressure tires roll easier but are not good on gravel.
5. Your bicycle must be in good operating condition, especially the brakes and gears.
6. Tires should be fully inflated and wheels securely fastened.
7. A cell phone is recommended. A spare inner tube, levers and a multi-tool are useful items to carry. Also, a small first aid kit for treating cuts, grazes etc. Leaders are not trained in first aid and are not expected to provide first aid supplies.

A Selection of Directions from Flemington to HHC Hike Starting Points

Bulls Island State Park

- Route 202 South to Lambertville exit (last exit in NJ, just before toll bridge)
- Left at end of exit ramp; Right at stop sign onto Route 29 North; continue through Stockton
- Left onto Route 29 North after passing Prallsville Mill; continue three miles to Bulls Island on the left
- Park in first parking on the right

Alternate Route 1:

- Route 12 West to Frenchtown
- Left at blinking light, then first Left onto Route 29 South; continue nine miles to Bulls Island on the right

Alternate Route 2:

- Route 523 to Stockton; Right onto Route 29 North; follow directions above from Stockton

Clinton Commuter Lot, Clinton, NJ

- Route 31 North to intersection with Route 78
- Take the first right, the first right again, and left at the first traffic signal.
- Parking lot is on the right, across from McDonald's
- From Route 78 East: exit 16, right at first light
- From Route 78 West: exit 17 onto Route 31 North

Clinton Wal-Mart from Route 78 West

- Exit 15: Left onto Route 513 South to second traffic light
- Turn Left, go up hill, Right at stop sign into parking lot; park in area farthest from the stores

Deerpath Park

From Flemington:

- Route 31 North, Right onto West Woodschurch Road; continue 0.7 mile to park entrance on right (follow YMCA and Deerpath signs)
- Continue past YMCA and soccer fields to main parking lot at end of driveway near rest rooms

From Clinton:

- Route 31 South 6.5 miles from I-78 to West Woodschurch Road jug handle
- Cross over Route 31 and follow directions above

Frenchtown by Delaware River Bridge

- Route 12 West to traffic light in Frenchtown
- Turn Left and follow road around to the right
- Parking lot is on Left just before bridge, after Bridge Street Café

High Bridge Municipal Lot

- Route 31 North, Right onto Route 513 towards High Bridge
- Right just before train station onto Route 513 and continue under the overpass
- Left onto Main Street; continue a few blocks almost to end, then Left into parking lot just before Route 513 turns right

Holcombe-Jimison Farm, Lambertville, NJ

- Route 202 South to Lambertville exit (last exit in NJ).
- Left at stop sign at bottom of ramp, right at the stop sign onto Route 29 North
- Immediate left into Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead.
- Follow entrance road to the end and park on left just before towpath.

Morales Park, Flemington

- Route 202 to Flemington circle; follow signs for Route 12 West.
- Pass another circle (Hess station), continue on Route 12 past third circle (Dvoor Farm)
- Right onto Old Croton Road; Right at Capner Street; parking lot is on the right.

Pennington Market

- Route 202/31 South six miles; Route 31 South eight miles to Delaware Avenue, Pennington
- Park at south end of lot, away from buildings

Prallsville Mill, Stockton, NJ

- Route 523 South to Stockton.
- Right on Route 29.
- Go 1/2 mile to Mill on left.

Spruce Run

- Route 31 North past Clinton and High Bridge.
- LEFT at Van Syckles Road traffic light (Toyota dealer)
- Park in the first lot on the left by the water.

Taco Bell, Flemington

Route 202, one-fifth mile south of Flemington Circle (Shop-Rite, Marshalls, Dollar Tree)