

**March – May 2023**

Bring water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. Distances are round trip and approximate, as are elevation gains. Hike leader has discretion to refuse anyone who is not adequately prepared. Call the hike leader for meeting place and time, and if you are unable to go, please let the leader know ASAP so that someone else can take your place if space is limited. Leaders may require covid vaccination. If you are sick or have any symptoms, please stay home and join us next time.

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**March 19, Sunday – LOST POND TRAIL, Pharoah Lake Wilderness Area, Chilson, NY**

The trail starts at Putnam Pond Campground and ascends gradually to Lost Pond. We will then hike the one-mile loop around the pond and return the way we came. The loop around the pond has some moderately steep, rocky sections at the far end. Total distance 4 miles, moderate, micro-spikes or snowshoes may be needed. Vaccination required for carpooling. **Allison Henry, 802-779-4404**

**March 25, Saturday – MUD SEASON MAPLE MEANDER, East Poultney**

Please join us for a walk near a local sugarhouse that will include part dirt road with an historic cemetery and old school-house, hemlocks, hardwoods, & cows, and part off-road hiking or snowshoeing (if Mother Nature cooperates). Spikes & hiking sticks may be useful if the back roads are still icy, 2 – 4 miles. We will be closest to Green's Sugar House (located on Finel Hollow Rd.), where they traditionally have sugar-on-snow, maple cotton candy, dressings, spices, and more. Mahar's is not far away with maple cream, maple cream covered pecans, walnuts, and peanuts, and Marshalls & Verlaskas are also nearby so you can buy a pint or two at each place and compare! See how the liquid gold is made! Vaccination including boosters recommended, and required for carpooling as of publication date, check with leader for updated covid protocol. **Diane Bargiel, 413-687-1109**

**April 22, Saturday – KILLINGTON SECTION ANNUAL MEETING, 1 p.m., Godnick Center, Deer St., Rutland**

All are welcome to join us for a short business meeting and election of officers, followed by snacks and socializing out in the yard. It's a great way to meet folks who share an interest in outdoor recreation, and learn about our work protecting and maintaining Vermont's Long Trail. Vaccination recommended. Bring snacks to share if you like. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**

**April 29, Saturday – TUCKER JOHNSON SHELTER, Killington**

We'll follow the Long/Appalachian Trail north from Route 4, climbing steadily to Maine Junction, then take the Long Trail to the shelter. (If the trail is muddy, an alternate destination may be chosen.) 3 miles, moderate, with some steep climbing. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Larry Walter & Vivian Bebee, 802-353-3976**

**May 6, Saturday – LOW ELEVATION LONG TRAIL CLEAN-UP, Shrewsbury/Cuttingsville/Wallingford**

Join us for our annual day of clean-up and maintenance, preparing the trail for the hiking season. We will clear waterbars, trim brush and cut blowdowns on the lower-elevation stretches. Bring work gloves, sturdy shoes and lunch, tools will be provided. **Larry Walter, 802-775-3855 or Dave Coppock, 802-683-1614**

**May 13, Saturday – WILDFLOWER WALK, location to be decided**

An easy-to-moderate hike to admire the woodland flowers of spring. Mother Nature is fickle, so the location will be determined by how the season advances. If spring is very late this year an alternate date may be needed. Spring is also a great time to spot birds, so bring binoculars if you wish. Vaccination recommended for carpooling. **Sue Thomas, 802-773-2185**

**May 20, Saturday – WALLINGFORD POND, Mt. Holly**

Wallingford Pond from the East. 4 miles, 300' climb. Easy, but wear water-resistant shoes in case spring mud puddles persist. We'll hike east from the end of the driveable part of Beaver Meadow Rd. in Mt. Holly, pass the remains of several farms on old roads, and reach the east shore of the east part of Wallingford Pond on an ATV track. We can finish off with a quarter mile hike up to a fine easterly view. Bring lunch and, so that you don't turn into lunch yourself, bring bug repellent. Full COVID vaccination, including boosters recommended by the CDC required. **Herb Ogden, 802-293-2510, [hogden@vermontel.net](mailto:hogden@vermontel.net)**