

Note: Highlighted Events are those needing event leaders
This is an overview of the entire 10 days. See following pages for details of each day/event

Saturday, Oct 1	Peekamoose Valley	BBQ Bushwhack - Friday, Balsam Cap	Hike - Difficult
		Ashokan High Point Loop	Hike - Moderate
		Kanape Brook Stroll	Hike - Easy
		Rock Rift Fire Tower	Hike - Moderate
		Pepacton Paddle and Pedal	Paddling, Cycling
		Finger Lakes Trail Fall Campout Weekend and Hikes	Hike - Various
Sunday, Oct 2	Stewardship Sunday	(On the Water) DEP Reservoir Cleanups	Volunteer Stewardship
		(On the Trails) Peekamoose-Table Trail Maintenance with the Catskill 3500 Club	Volunteer Stewardship
		(On Wheels) Ontario Trails	Volunteer Stewardship
Monday, Oct 3	Black Dome Valley	The Blacks on the Escarpment, featuring Black Dome and Blackhead	Hike - Difficult
		Windham High Peak and Burnt Knob	Hike - Moderate
		Acra Point Loop	Hike - Moderate
Tuesday, Oct 4	Dry Brook	Balsam Lake Fire Tower	Hike - Various
		Convergence	Hike - Moderate
		Balsam Mountain	Volunteer Stewardship
		Trail Maintenance on Dry Brook Ridge	Hike - Difficult
		Three Peak Tuesday: Seager Loop (Doubletop, Big Indian, Eagle)	
Wednesday, Oct 5	Western Catskills	Split Rock	Hike - Moderate
		Mud Pond/Trout Pond	Hike - Moderate
		Cycling on the Catskill Scenic Trail	Cycling
		Palmer Hill	Hike - Easy
Thursday, Oct 6	Platte Clove	Overlook Traverse: Meads to Platte Clove	Hike - Moderate
		Hudson Valley Views at Huckleberry Point	Hike - Moderate
		Scrambling Sugarloaf and Dibbles Quarry	Hike - Difficult
		Twin and Indian Head to Platte Clove Preserve	Hike - Difficult
		Kingston Historical Hike	Hike - Easy
Friday, Oct 7	CMC Trails Day	Bramley Mountain Trails	Hike - Moderate
		Andes Rail Trail	Hike - Easy
		Pepacton Paddle	Paddle
		Delhi Trails	Hike - Moderate
		Shavertown Trail	Hike - Moderate
		Palmer Hill Trails	Hike - Easy
Saturday, Oct 8	Kaaterskill Clove	Hikefest at the Mountaintop Historical Society	Hikes - Various
		Kaaterskill High Peak	Hike - Difficult
		Three Waterfalls and Poet's Ledge	Hike - Moderate
Sunday, Oct 9	Spruceton Valley	Lexington Range Traverse (Packsaddle, Pine Island, Evergreen, Rusk)	Hike - Difficult
		St. Anne's and Westkill	Hike - Moderate
		Hunter/SW Hunter Loop	Hike - Moderate
Monday, Oct 10	Burroughs Range	Burroughs Range (Slide, Cornell, Wittenburg)	Hike - Difficult
		Slide Winnesook Bushwhack Loop	Hike - Difficult
		Winnesook Lake Mountain from Slide PA	Hike - Moderate

Details for individual days/events

Peekamoose Valley

Saturday, October 1, 2016

The Peekamoose Valley is a glorious area of waterfalls and remote trailless peaks that's not too far from the new Catskill Interpretive Center. We'll kickoff the 2016 Lark in the Park by meeting in the Catskill Interpretive Center's large parking lot. From there we'll form carpools and drive to the event locations. As each event ends, participants are invited to return the the Catskill Interpretive Center where a BBQ and bonfire will be provided by the NY/NJ Trail Conference.

BBQ Bushwhack - Friday, Balsam Cap

Hike - Difficult

Leader: Tom Martone/Steve Emanuel

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

From Moon Haw Road we go off trail for a spirited bushwhack to the canisters and views on the trailless peaks of Friday and Balsam Cap. If the group is interested, we'll take a side trip and attempt to locate the wreckage of a plane crash.

8 miles, 3,000' ascent

Ashokan High Point Loop

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

This is a loop hike to Ashokan High Point allowing hikers to take in the lovely views from several spots on this Catskill Hundred Highest peak. This is a beautiful remote area of the Sundown Wild Forest which features views of nearby Ashokan Reservoir. Continuing the loop past the High Point, there's a spot with awesome views of the high peaks to the north. For those pursuing the Catskills All Trails (CATs) challenge, this is the perfect way to complete the entire Ashokan High Point trail.

8.8 miles, 2,000' ascent

Kanape Brook Stroll

Hike - Easy

Leader:

This is a wonderful beginner hike along a woods road which runs along Kanape Brook, a lovely alternative to the Blue Hole further down Peekamoose Road.

3 miles

Events Outside the Area

Rock Rift Fire Tower

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Rick Roberts

hikerrick2000@yahoo.com

A four mile hike to a fire tower.

4 miles

Pepacton Paddle and Pedal

Paddling, Cycling

Leader: Ann Roberti, Tom Miano

A paddle on the Pepacton Reservoir followed by a pedal around it.

Finger Lakes Trail Fall Campout Weekend and Hikes

Hike - Various

Leader:

The Finger Lakes Trail Conference's annual Fall Campout Weekend is being held in Bainbridge, NY (FLT Map M26), from September 3 thru October 2. Guided hikes of varying lengths, led by experienced FLT leaders, will be offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday ranging from Bowman Lake State Park (FLT Map M24 in Chenango County) all the way east to Little Pond Campground (FLT M30 in Delaware County). See <https://sites.google.com/site/fltccampout/> for complete details.

Stewardship Sunday

Sunday, October 2, 2016

A wide range of volunteer stewardship events are occurring throughout the Catskills on Stewardship Sunday. After helping to make the Catskills cleaner, shinier, and safer, please join the Catskill Mountain Club at the CMC Annual Dinner at the Catamount in Mount Tremper.

(On the Water) DEP Reservoir Cleanups

Volunteer Stewardship

Leader:

Events are held at each of the reservoirs in the Catskill watershed.

(On the Trails) Peekamoose-Table Trail Maintenance with the Catskill 3500 Club

Volunteer Stewardship

Leader: David Bunde/Tom Martone

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

It's the Catskill 3500 Club's fall trail day! Please help us keep the Peekamoose-Table Trail clean, clear and safe for the enjoyment of all. Bring work gloves and your favorite trail maintenance tools (the Club will also have tools available). It's fun work and a great way to help the Club and the hiking community. Refreshments will be provided afterward.

(On Wheels) Onteora Trails

Volunteer Stewardship

Leader:

Join in an effort to maintain the multipurpose trails around Onteora Lake with the cycling club which keeps them in tip-top shape.

Black Dome Valley

Monday, October 3, 2016

The Black Dome Valley is an exciting place in the Northern Catskills. Experience an outdoor event and then join others as we end the day at Mama's Boy Burgers in Tannersville. They have outdoor seating, a firepit and they're open 7 days a week.

The Blacks on the Escarpment, featuring Black Dome and Blackhead

Hike - Difficult

Leader: Deanna Felicetta

felicetta.deanna@gmail.com
or 845 216-2021

The wonderful hike begins on a lovely streamside trail coming up a mountain pass between the peaks. We then get to enjoy great scrambles and gorgeous views on these lovely Catskill Escarpment mountains. Come join this day of hiking fun in colorful October. We plan to take the time to enjoy the views and the beauty of nature in fall at moderate pace. Hike is perfect for Peakbaggers and Catskills All Trails (CATs) seekers as well as a fun time those who have done it all and just want that day outdoors in the Catskills!

6.4 miles

Windham High Peak and Burnt Knob

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Ann Roberti

aroberti@catskill.net

This thru hike features a section of the Escarpment Trail which includes a Catskill 3500 Peak, Windham High Peak (3,524') and a Catskill 100 Highest Peak, Burnt Knob (3,180'). We'll soak in the great views to the north and east from the top of Windham High Peak. where on a clear day you can see Albany. We continue on the Escarpment Trail on an up and down journey through interesting terrain and forests passing Burnt Knob on our way to the junction with the Black Dome Trail. We will stop and enjoy multiple view points along the way and there should be lots of opportunities for great photos. The hike is moderately difficult due to its length (6.9 miles) and elevation changes. We'll be on marked trails throughout the day, but the terrain can be rocky and there will be elevation change throughout the day with a few steep pitches. Hiking poles can be helpful. We will hike at a moderate pace, staying together as a group and making sure all hikers are comfortable.

6.9 miles

Acra Point Loop

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

This loop hike along the Escarpment will visit Acra Point (3,100'), a Catskill Hundred Highest peak. There will be beautiful views from the Escarpment to the north and east as well as views of the Blackhead Range and Black Dome Valley along the way. On the way out, the hike will pass the Batavia Kill leanto which will be replaced soon with a brand new leanto currently being constructed at the Catskill Interpretive Center's grounds.

5.2 miles

Dry Brook

Tuesday, October 4, 2016

Dry Brook is where you'll find the westernmost of the Catskill High Peaks. There are trailed and trailless peaks and ridges and streams. Some of the best views to the west are from the top of Dry Brook Ridge. Access to this area from the north is through the villages of Margaretville and Arkville via Dry Brook Road to the trailheads at Seager, Millbrook and Rider Hollow. From the south, Beaverkill Road provides access to this area.

Balsam Lake Fire Tower Convergence

Hike - Various

Leader from from Mill Brook: Laurie Rankin **Leader from Beaverkill:** **Leader from Alder Lake:**

The hike leaders are going to keep this one flexible to meet the needs of the group. Hiking in and out from as many as three different directions, hiking groups will converge on the summit of Balsam Lake Mountain where they will take in views from the fire tower and have a chance to tour the tower keeper's cabin. Depending on the interest of the group, options to continue on to Graham Mountain, or to hike across the Mill Brook Ridge to Alder Lake will be offered. The group starting from the Beaverkill Road approach may even choose to continue the day with a scenic drive to Claryville where they will visit a second fire tower on Red Hill on the same day.

Balsam Mountain

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

Balsam Mountain is one of the High Peaks at 3600' and is one of the nicest hikes in the Catskills. The hike traces the path of a lovely cascading creek, goes over two bridges and several crossings on stepping stones, passes through stands of mighty hemlocks, gives a whiff of balsam, of course, and comes to an outstanding eastward view of the mountains. Though relatively short, it offers a complete Catskills experience.

5 miles

Trail Maintenance on Dry Brook Ridge

Volunteer Stewardship

Leader: Laura Battelani and more

bodyworx@catskill.net or 845-586-3101

Join a team of trail maintainers who work to keep the trails on Dry Brook Ridge in great shape for hikers. The highlight of this trip is a leisurely lunch at a beautiful viewing ledge overlooking the Pepacton from Dry Brook Ridge. This hike will also pass by the old German Hollow leanto which was destroyed in a storm and the site where its replacement is soon to be assembled.

Follow Laura Battelani, CMC Board Member, and David Lucas, volunteers for NY/NJ Trail Conference, as they inspect and clear the trails they adopted for the NY/NJTC. Hike Pakatakan Mountain and follow the ridge, passing by a 700 year old bog, to arrive to a beautiful lookout of the Pepacton Reservoir. The return will be on the German Hollow trail. Wear sturdy hiking boots/shoes, bring water and food and dress in layers for comfort. Bring hand tools, gloves and eye protection if you want to help with the cleaning of the trail. This moderately difficult hike is about 6 miles and will take about 6 hours. Bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water – about 2 quarts. No dogs permitted for safety reasons.

Three Peak Tuesday: Seager Loop (Doubletop, Big Indian, Eagle)

Hike - Difficult

Leader: Tom Martone/Anna Martone

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

This hike offers two options: a single peak option (Doubletop) and an ambitious three peak option (Doubletop, Big Indian, Eagle). Starting and ending at the Seager parking area (PA) at the end of Dry Brook Road, we'll walk the Seager Trail to the black bear and then follow fairly well-established herd paths to the canister on Doubletop. While on Doubletop, we'll experiment with signalling to and from the Balsam Lake fire tower, where the Balsam Lake Fire Tower Convergence is taking place. Those choosing the Doubletop-only option will return following the route already travelled for a total distance of 5.5 miles. Those choosing the three peak option will continue with a rugged and strenuous bushwhack to Big Indian. After signing in at the canister, we'll be on the Pine Hill-West Branch and Seager trails for the rest of the hike, taking an out and back to Eagle mountain for the third peak of the day on the way back to the Seager PA.

5.5 miles, 1,900' ascent
or 15 miles and 4,000' ascent

Split Rock**Hike - Moderate***Leader: Rick Roberts*

An out and back trail hike on the Mary Smith and Pelnor Hollow trails to the view point at Split Rock.

Mud Pond/Trout Pond**Hike - Moderate***Leader: Bob Moses*

Hike will start from a southerly approach convenient to Livingston Manor.

Cycling on the Catskill Scenic Trail**Cycling***Leader:*

A cycling trip on the Catskill Scenic Trail which runs from Bloomville to Roxbury in Delaware County.

Palmer Hill**Hike - Easy***Leader: Erwin Karl*

A hike on one of the trails the Catskill Mountain Club built and maintains on Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) land.

Platte Clove

Thursday, October 6, 2016

Platte Clove is an area filled with natural wonders. There will be many events to choose from to match your sense of adventure. As the sun goes down, groups will converge at the Red Cabin in the Platte Clove Preserve for a bonfire provided by the staff of the Catskill Center. You are invited to bring your own food and drink to enjoy by the fire.

Scrambling Sugarloaf and Dibbles Quarry

Hike - Difficult

Leader: Tom Martone/Laura Sanford

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

Sugarloaf is one of the more challenging peaks to climb on the Devil's Path with scrambles on both the west and east sides of the mountain, but that's what makes it fun and unique. This hike will involve a short car shuttle to cover all the best features along the way (including Dibble's Quarry) in the shortest possible hiking distance. Come prepared for a challenge. Even though the hike is only five miles, there is significant elevation gain along the way over the rugged terrain of the Devil's Path.

5 miles

Twin and Indian Head to Platte Clove Preserve

Hike - Difficult

Leader:

Hiking the Pecoy Notch trail out through Dibble's Quarry and scrambling over Twin and Indian Head on the Devil's Path and then taking the Overlook Trail to the Platte Clove Preserve.

7.55 miles

Overlook Traverse: Meads to Platte Clove

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Rick Roberts

8.9 miles

This 8.9 mile trail hike at the eastern edge of the Catskill Park includes a mix of interesting features to go along with the great views into the Hudson Valley along the way. Starting in Platte Clove, we pass through a portion of an interpretive trail in the Platte Clove Preserve, and soon visit the site of an abandoned quarry and pass by the Devil's Kitchen lean-to. Later we will take some time to explore the views at Codfish Point and relax for a bit on some interesting quarry furniture. Continuing on the Overlook Trail, we will pass Plattekill Mountain (3,100') where, if there is interest, we will bushwhack to the summit of this Catskill 100 Highest Peak. When we reach the junction with the Echo Lake Trail, we will take a side trip to Echo Lake where we will stop and have some lunch, perhaps at the lean-to if it's available. After lunch we'll retrace our steps back to the Overlook Trail and continue on to another Catskill 100 Highest Peak, Overlook Mountain (3,140') where we will take the lesser-used trail around the edge of Overlook Mountain and pass numerous nice viewing areas on open rock ledges. After that we'll visit the fire tower on Overlook to get some 360 degree views of the Hudson Valley, the Ashokan Reservoir and several of the Devil's Path peaks. Then we will walk past the ruins of the Overlook Mountain House to join the Overlook Spur Trail for a descent down to the Parking Area at Meads Mountain Road to complete our hike.

Hudson Valley Views at Huckleberry Point

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

This is a fun out and back hike that's not too difficult but is so rewarding. Hang out on massive rock ledges overlooking the Hudson Valley while having your lunch. Look across Platte Clove at the Devil's Path peaks lined up in front of you.

4.8 miles

Events Outside the Area

Kingston Historical Hike

Hike - Easy

Leader: Craig Nunn

CMC Trails Day

Friday, October 7, 2016

Join the Catskill Mountain Club as they offer several hiking and exploration events on the five trails that they have constructed in the Delaware County towns of Andes, Delhi and Bovina. After the daytime events are completed, feel free to head to Margaretville where there will be a Festival with food and drink from 4pm-7pm.

Bramley Mountain Trails

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Paul Martin

Andes Rail Trail

Hike - Easy

Leader:

Pepacton Paddle

Paddle

Leader: Ann Roberti

Delhi Trails

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

Shavertown Trail

Hike - Moderate

Leader:

Palmer Hill Trails

Hike - Easy

Leader:

Kaaterskill Clove

Saturday, October 8, 2016

The spirit of Rip van Winkle inhabits Kaaterskill Clove. The Mountaintop Historical Society will be organizing its annual Hikefest at their headquarters in Haines Falls. In addition to numerous fun hikes and events, the Mountaintop Historical Society will be offering a BBQ from 1-4pm.

Hikefest at the Mountaintop Historical Society

Hikes - Varied

Leader: Mountaintop Historical Society

A variety of hikes will be presented. Details to come.

Kaaterskill High Peak

Hike - Difficult

Leader: Tom Martone/Anna Martone

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

A special Lark in the Park route to Kaaterskill High Peak from the north side. We'll see nice views to the Blackhead Range on our way up the north side to the summit of Kaaterskill High Peak. We'll take a short walk over to Hurricane Ledge to see awesome views to the south before returning the way we came.

7 miles, 2,500' ascent

Three Waterfalls and Poet's Ledge

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Paul Martin/Jim Gebhard

A special Lark in the Park route hiking the Long Path past three dramatic waterfalls: Buttermilk, Wildcat and Viola. A short out and back to an awesome view from Poet's Ledge before winding our way down to Palenville. Our special Lark in the Park route will ensure that gravity is our friend as we will be hiking downhill throughout most of the hike.

5.9 miles

Lexington Range Traverse (Packsaddle, Pine Island, Evergreen, Rusk, East Rusk)**Hike - Difficult***Leader: Tom Martone/Rick Taylor**tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com*

This hike will be a strenuous bushwhack traverse of the Lexington Range, the ridge on the north side of Spruceton Valley which has two Hundred Highest Peaks (Packsaddle, Pine Island) and a 3500 peak with a canister among the five peaks we'll travel over.

10-12 miles

St. Anne's and Westkill**Hike - Moderate***Leader:*

Starting at the western end of the Devil's Path, we'll stroll along a creek and through a hemlock forest and then turn eastward on more rugged terrain and summit St. Anne's Peak on our way to Westkill Mountain. On top of Westkill are the Buck Ridge Lookouts which provide awesome views to the north and the south. We should be able to see three fire towers (Hunter, Overlook, Mount Tremper) from the view point to the south with binoculars, the trick is knowing where to look. On the way down, we'll pass a nice cave and stop at Buttermilk Falls to cool off before heading to our cars at the parking area at the end of Spruceton Road.

7.75 miles

Hunter/SW Hunter Loop**Hike - Moderate***Leader:*

A trail hike loop on a section of the Devil's Path with a short "bushwhack" side trip. Loop down the Spruceton trail after climbing the Hunter Mountain firetower. See the new roof which was recently added to the Devil's Acre lean-to along the way.

9.45 miles

Burroughs Range

Monday, October 10, 2016

Burroughs Range (Slide, Cornell, Wittenburg)

Hike - Difficult

Leader:

This is a classic Catskill hike, a traverse of the Burroughs Range. Starting in the Slide Mountain parking area, we'll hike west to east to Slide (4,180') the tallest of the Catskills High Peaks, Cornell (3,860'), and Wittenberg (3,780') on our way to the Woodland Valley campground parking area.

9.8 miles

Slide Winnesook Bushwhack Loop

Hike - Difficult

Leader:

Starting at the Slide parking area and taking the well-traveled trail to the Catskills highest peak, but on the way down we'll bushwhack our way down the north ridge to the junction with the Panther-Giant Ledge Trail. From there we'll take the unmarked woods road to the Winnesook property and a short road walk back to our cars.

8 miles, 2,200' ascent

Winnesook Lake Mountain from Slide PA

Hike - Moderate

Leader: Tom Martone/George Kugler

tom.martone.cmc@gmail.com

A short and steep bushwhack to Winnesook Lake Mountain, a Catskill Hundred Highest, following the shortest route described in Alan Via's book, The Catskill 67 - A Hikers Guide to the Catskill 100 Highest Peaks under 3500'. Join the Rip van Winkle Hikers on this bushwhack adventure on the final day of the Lark in the Park.

2.5 miles, 1,000' ascent