

## December

Saturday, December 1

**UHC. Watchung Trail Maintenance, NJ.** Leader: Pre-register by calling Trailside at 908-789-3670, ext. 3420. Meet: 9:30am at old Trailside Museum building. Bring water, gloves, trash bag, and clip-pers if you have them. Have fun while giving back to the trails; we'll work until noon. No experience needed.

**UOC. Birding Walk to Barnegat Lighthouse, NJ.** Leader: George Pitcher, 732-828-1890. Meet: Call leader. Look for Harlequin ducks, Scoters, Horned Larks, Red-throated Loons along the sand and jetty.

**ADK-MH. Gertrude's Nose, Minnewaska State Park, NY.** Leaders: Georgette Weir and Jean-Claude Fouere, 845-462-0142. Meet: Call leaders for meeting info and car pooling arrangements. Moderately difficult 5 miles from Lake Minnewaska to Millbrook Mtn., then to Gertrude's Nose, returning on Millbrook Mtn. carriageway. This is a no-hunting zone. Parking fee. Rain cancels.

**UHC. Van Campens Glen, Blairstown, NJ.** Leader: Tanya McCabe, 908-362-5499 (no calls after 10:30pm). Meet: 10:30am at Millbrook Village, Blairstown; call for directions. Moderate 6 miles. Come enjoy this lovely hike in beautiful Delaware Water Gap.

**WTW. Ringwood/Skylands, NJ.** Leader: Ernest Wagner, 973-694-3194; call to confirm. Meet: 10am at Ringwood Manor front parking lot. Moderate 7 miles.

Sunday, December 2

**AFW. Norvin Green, NJ.** Leader: Call 973-644-3592 for more information and to register.

**IHC. Ramapo Valley County Reservation, Mahwah, NJ.** Leader: Jim McKay, 973-538-0756. Meet: 9:30am at Ramapo Valley County Reservation off Rt. 202. Moderate 8 miles on Schuber Trail to a lookout, then back on Yellow/Silver Trail.

**ADK-MH. Mt. Taurus, Cold Spring, NY.** Leader: Pete McGinnis, pmcgin1@aol.com. Meet: 9am at Fishkill Holiday Inn, or call leader for other possible meeting locations. Moderate pace, hilly terrain with outstanding views. Optional stop for refreshments after hike.

**PMNHA. Singles Hike, NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 for more information. Meet: 1pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Looking for someone to hike with and more? This singles hike may be the answer. Ages 18+.

**UHC. Loantaka Brook Reservation, Morris Twp., NJ.** Leader: Al MacLennan, 973-451-1435. Meet: 10am at South St. parking; call for directions. Moderate 4 miles, level. Lovely walk through woods, duck pond, and one water crossing.

Monday, December 3

**UHC. Locust Grove, South Mtn. Reservation, Millburn, NJ.** Leader: Irv Auerbach, 973-239-4342. Meet: 10am Locust Grove; call for directions. Easy 3 miles. Follow the Rahway River past Diamond Mill Pond.

**RVW. Stissing Mountain, NY.** Info: Call 845-876-3609. Moderate hike: 4 Miles, 4 hours. Meet: 8am. Inclement weather date—following Monday. Note: snowshoes may be necessary.

Tuesday, December 4

**GS. Baby and Me Hike, Morris Co., NJ.** Leader: Call Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center at 973-635-6629 to register and for more information. Meet: 9:30am; call for meeting place. Put your infant in a baby pack and join a naturalist for this 1.5-hour hike at Schiff Natural Lands Trust. \$1 fee.

**UHC. Washington Valley Park, Bridgewater Twp., NJ.** Leader: Steve Gruber, 908-647-3253. Meet: 10am at lot on Newman's Lane; call for directions. Moderate 6-7 miles; for experienced hikers.

Wednesday, December 5

**UHC. Tulip Springs, South Mtn. Reservation, Millburn, NJ.** Leader: Joan Lepseller, 908-273-4188. Meet: 10am at Tulip Springs; call for directions. Moderately easy 4 miles at a fairly brisk pace.

Thursday, December 6

**AFW. Lemon Squeezer, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Call 973-644-3592 for more information and to register. Meet: 10am. Moderate hike; out by 2pm.

**UHC. Johnstown Circle, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Dave Hogenauer, 973-762-1475. Meet: 10am at Johnstown circle; call for directions. Strenuous 8+ miles; for experienced hikers. Marvelous views from Dater Mtn. and "Almost Perpendicular."

**RVW. Omi Art Center and Van Buren Estate, Columbia Co., NY.** Info: Call 845-758-6143. Easy Walk: 4 Miles, 3 Hours. Meet: 9:00.

Saturday, December 8

**AFW. Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Call 973-644-3592 for more information and to register. Meet: 10am. Strenuous hike, route determined by weather and trail conditions; out by 3pm.

**ADK-R. Elk Pen, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Call 201-816-9465 for more information. Moderately strenuous 9 miles.

**WTW. Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ.** Leaders: Hermann and Marlene Memmer, 973-267-0539; call to confirm. Meet: 9:30am at Madison Hotel, Convent Station. Easy 7 miles.

**TLR. Animal Tracking Hike/Snowshoe, NY.** Leader: pre-registration required, call 914-762-2912, ext. 110. Meet: 10am at Teatown Lake Reservation, Ossining, NY. Look for tracks in the snow and learn about other signs like scat, rubbings, and chew marks. Moderate 2-hour hike; children 6 and over with adult welcome. Nonmembers \$5.

**ADK-MH. Harriman's Pretty Little Secret, NY.** Leader: Barry Skura, 914-779-0936. Meet: 9am at Sloatsburg, NY, commuter parking; from Rt. 17N turn right at blinker, turn right again before crossing RR tracks. Strenuous 13 miles with many hills. Fast-paced hike on AT between Bear Mtn. Inn and Lake Tiorati, covering pretty sections seldom day-hiked.

**PMNHA. Pyramid Mtn., NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 for more information. Meet: 1pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Moderate, quiet hike; appropriate for ages 7+.

Sunday, December 9

**IHC. The Escalator and More, Harriman/Bear Mtn. State Park, NY.** Leader: Dave Sutter, dsuttr@aol.com. Meet: 9:30am at Jones Point parking, Rt. 9W, about 4 miles south of Bear Mtn. Bridge Circle. Strenuous hike on less-used trails with some surprises. Steady rain cancels.

**UHC. Pyramid Mtn., Montville, NJ.** Leader: Angela Coble, 908-686-5958. Meet: 10am in Pyramid Mtn. parking lot; call for directions. Brisk 4-5 miles with hills and some rocky trails. Hiking boots required. Rain cancels.

Monday, December 10

**UHC. Cedar Grove Community Park, NJ.** Leader: Roz Bloom, 973-364-0186. Meet: 10am; call for directions. Easy, level 3 miles. A RR bed, hemlock gorge, and the reservoir.

**RVW. Black Dome (3980') and Blackhead (3940'), NY.** Info: Call 845-658-8606. Strenuous hike: 8.4 Miles, 5 hours. Meet: 8am. Inclement weather date, following Monday. Note: snowshoes and crampons may be necessary.

Tuesday, December 11

**GS. Baby and Me Hike, Morris Co., NJ.** Leader: Call Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center at 973-635-6629 to register and for more information. Meet: 9:30am; call for meeting place. Put your infant in a baby pack and join a naturalist for this 1.5-hour hike at Kay Center. \$1 fee.

**PMNHA. Bear Rock, NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 for more information. Meet: 1pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Moderate hike to largest glacial erratic in the park. Adults only.

**UHC. Ramapo Torne, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Dave Hogenauer, 973-762-1475. Meet: 10am at Reeves Meadow, Seven Lakes Dr.; call for directions. Moderate 6-7 miles; for experienced hikers. Hike to spectacular view from the Tourne, back via Reeves Brook Trail; some steep sections.

Thursday, December 13

**UHC. Sterling Ridge and AT, NY.** Leader: Hank Perrine, 212-666-0694. Meet: 9:30am at parking lot on Rt. 17A, Greenwood Lake, NY; call for directions. Strenuous 8+ miles; for experienced hikers. Hike on the AT and Highlands Trail. Shuttle required.

Saturday, December 15

**WTW. Apshawa Preserve, NJ.** Leader: Bob Busha, 973-777-5016; call to confirm. Meet: 10am at Burger King on Rt. 23N. Easy hike.

**ADK-MH. Appalachian Trail, Pawling, NY.** Leader: Russ Faller, 845-297-5126; call before 9:30pm. Meet: Call leader. Moderate 7.5 miles on AT along Hammersly Ridge past several high-elevation swamps; short ups/downs. Rain cancels.

**GS. Winter Wander, Chatham, NJ.** Leader: Call Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center at 973-635-6629 to register and for more information. Meet: 10am at Great Swamp. Easy, guided 1-hour hike to look for early winter changes; appropriate for ages 7+.

**UHC. Pyramid Mtn., Montville, NJ.** Leader: Jay Dibble, 908-289-8813. Meet: 10am at Pyramid Mtn. parking lot; call for directions. Moderate 4-5 miles with some steep sections; not for beginners. See Bear and Tripod rocks and some pretty views; out by about 12:30pm. Rain or snow cover cancels.

Sunday, December 16

**TLR. Winter Animal Signs, NY.** Leader: pre-registration required, call 914-762-2912, ext. 110. Meet: 1pm at Teatown Lake Reservation, Ossining, NY. Search through woods and fields for animal signs and learn about ways animals survive winter. Easy 1.5-hour hike; all ages welcome. Nonmembers \$5.

**ADK-MH. Black Mtn., Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Sue Mackson, 845-471-9892. Meet: Call leader. Moderate 4.5 miles on a mountain along the Hudson River. Moderate pace with lots of park history; suitable for new hikers. Inclement weather cancels.

**UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside, NJ.** Leader: Mae Deas, 908-233-6641. Meet: 10am at Trailside; call for directions. Moderate 4-5 miles with some rough terrain. Steady rain cancels. If enough snow cover, bring X-C skis (or walk).

**PMNHA. Children's Rock Hike, NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 for more information. Meet: 1pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Easy hike to old limestone and serpentine quarry; appropriate for ages 5+.

Monday, December 17

**RVW. Lone (3721') and Rocky (3506'), NY.** Info: Call 607-363-7267 or 845-338-8772. Strenuous bushwhack: 10 miles, 9 hours. Meet: 7am. Inclement weather date, following Monday. Note: snowshoes and crampons may be required

Tuesday, December 18

**GS. Baby and Me Hike, Morris Co., NJ.** Leader: Call Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center at 973-635-6629 to register and for more information. Meet: 9:30am; call for meeting place. Put your infant in a baby pack and join a naturalist for this 1.5-hour hike at Jockey Hollow. \$1 fee.

**UHC. Ramapo Valley Co. Reservation, Mahwah, NJ.** Leader: Carol O'Keefe, 973-328-7395. Meet: 10am; call for directions. Moderate 5-7 miles; for experienced hikers. To Bear Swamp Lake for lunch. Inclement weather may cancel.

Wednesday, December 19

**UHC. Ramapo Lake, Oakland, NJ.** Leader: Micky Siegel, 201-797-7054. Meet: 10am at Skyline Dr.; call for directions. Moderately easy 4 miles. Very scenic, well worth the commute; view beautiful Ramapo Lake. Inclement weather may cancel.

Thursday, December 20

**UHC. Jones Point, Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Dave Sutter, dsuttr@aol.com. Meet: 10am at Jones Pt. parking lot on Rt. 9W, 4 miles south of Bear Mtn. bridge; call for directions. Strenuous 8 miles on forgotten footpaths to rarely seen places; for experienced hikers.

Saturday, December 22

**WTW. Loantaka Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leaders: Hermann and Marlene Memmer, 973-267-0539; call to confirm. Meet: 9:30am at Madison Hotel, Convent Station. Easy 5-6 miles.

**ADK-R. Dunderberg Mtn., Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Call 201-816-9465 for more information. Moderate 7 miles.

**UHC. Jockey Hollow National Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leader: Betty Mills, 973-538-4922. Meet: 10am at visitors center; call for directions. Easy 3 miles; good for beginners. Inclement weather cancels.

Sunday, December 23

**PMNHA. Winter Solstice Hike, NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 to register (required) and for more information. Meet: 3:30pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Moderate hike to watch sunset on one of shortest days of the year and see the rising full moon; appropriate for ages 7+. \$3 fee.

**UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside, NJ.** Leader: Eck Khoon Goh, 908-790-0939. Meet: 10am at Trailside; call for directions. Brisk 4-5 miles. Inclement weather cancels.

## Member Club Profile

The Trail Conference comprises 10,000 individual members and more than 100 member clubs with a combined membership of 150,000 hikers. We invite club representatives to submit photos from hikes or maintenance outings or other events (please set your digital camera for highest resolution). Email your photos, along with complete caption information to: tw@nynjtc.org; put "TW club photo" in the subject line.



A group of AFW hikers enjoys the view from Breakneck Ridge.

## Adventures For Women

www.adventuresforwomen.org  
973-644-3592

Adventures For Women (AFW) is a non-profit organization and one of the few "women only" outdoor groups in the U.S. AFW strives to promote physical and emotional growth through the unpredictable challenges of wilderness adventures. We give a foundation in technical outdoor skills, building self-confidence, increasing decision-making abilities, and providing a forum for adventure and camaraderie with other women.



A group from Adventures For Women gets ready to climb a crevice in the Shawangunks.

Tuesday, December 25

**AMC-NYNJ. Holiday Hike in Harriman State Park, NY.** Leader: Larry Spinner, 845-517-0858. Meet: 10am at Sloatsburg, NY, parking; from Rt. 17N turn right at blinker, right again before RR tracks. Moderate 7 miles; beginners welcome. Join us as we celebrate the season; leader brings cookies and hopes others will bring treats to share. Conditions may require crampons; inclement weather may cancel. If in doubt, call after 7am morning of hike.

Wednesday, December 26

**UHC. Turkey Mtn., Montville, NJ.** Leader: Terry Kulmane, 908-665-2672. Meet: 10am at Pyramid Mtn.; call for directions. Moderate 5 miles. Inclement weather may cancel (call before 8:45am day of hike if in doubt).

Friday, December 28

**GS. Winter Bird Stroll, Chatham, NJ.** Leader: Call Great Swamp Outdoor Education Center at 973-635-6629 to register and for more information. Meet: 10am at Great Swamp. Search for birds that live here year-round; binoculars available. Great for all ages.

Saturday, December 29

**ADK-R. Ladentown Mountain.** Leader: Call 845-354-0738 for more information. Easy to moderate 6 miles.

**WTW. Eagle Rock Reservation, West Orange, NJ.** Leader: Ernest Wagner, 973-694-3194; call to confirm. Meet: 10am at reservation parking lot. Easy 3.5 miles.

AFW was started by one woman, Betsy Thomason, in the spring of 1981. The nascent event was a hike up Popolopen Torne in Harriman Park. The group grew as more and more women asked, "What's next?" AFW is now in its 26th year and has certainly evolved since those early days. The group now offers hikes of various levels of difficulty, bike rides, and paddling day-trips. Year-round, members enjoy weekend trips to the Adirondacks, Shawangunks, and Catskills. Over the last several years, AFW has introduced instructional and practical workshops in paddling, orienteering, firearms handling, auto maintenance, backpacking, and lifelong fitness.

AFW also has a more cosmopolitan and sophisticated side. Many members and friends like to explore New York City attractions and restaurants through "City Paths," the decidedly non-woody branch of the group. AFW does not confine itself only to New York. This year the group is venturing out to Duke Gardens, Philadelphia, The Raptor Trust/Great Swamp, and a Jackals minor league game.

In addition to organizing these activities, AFW gives back to the community by maintaining the MacEvoy Trail in Ramapo Mountain State Forest for the NY-NJ TC. Through this experience, many individual members of AFW have gone on to maintain their own trails for the Trail Conference. Several members have participated in the invasive plant survey that is ongoing in New Jersey.

Adventures For Women has become an eclectic organization that loves to explore and is equally at home in the woods, the suburbs, or the city. We pride ourselves on providing ample opportunities for women to empower, improve, and define themselves. Come join us and find out for yourself.

**PMNHA. Year End Hike, NJ.** Leader: Call Pyramid Mountain Natural Historic Area at 973-334-3130 for more information. Meet: 1pm at Pyramid Mtn. visitors center, 472A Boonton Ave., Montville Twp. Moderate hike; appropriate for ages 7+.

**UHC. Watchung Reservation, Mountainside, NJ.** Leaders: Rick and Ellen Jeydel, 908-232-2413. Meet: 10am at Trailside; call for directions. Very fast paced 5-6 miles on rocky trails; for advanced hikers. Inclement weather may cancel.

Sunday, December 30

**IHC. Pequannock Watershed, NJ.** Leader: James Schlenker, 908-561-0228. Meet: 9am at Burger King/Stop and Shop, Rt. 23N, Butler, NJ. Moderately strenuous 8 miles from Hanks Pond to Buckbear Pond; lovely hike seldom done and not to be missed. Shuttle required.

**UHC. Jockey Hollow National Park, Morristown, NJ.** Leaders: Clotilde Lanig, 732-549-4977. Meet: 10am at visitors center; call for directions. Moderate 4 miles. Inclement weather cancels.

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