

NCLT 2022 Hike Schedule

Sun. Mar. 27 - Culver Pond – We will take a 2 1/2 mile loop hike to explore and look for signs of Spring at Culver Pond in Stafford. Culver Pond and Rock of Dundee Brook is one of the origins of the Scantic River. This will be at a leisurely pace. The parking area is on Gilbert Rd., which is a gravel road, left off Mountain Rd. from Somers. For questions call Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

Sat. April 16 - Sunset / Moonlight at Skyline – 6:30 PM sharp - moonrise at 5:23, sunset at 7:32. We will hike around Trust's 65-acre Skyline Scenic Area on Stafford Rd near Somers/Stafford line. We will enjoy the sunset and beautiful view across valley towards Springfield from atop the mountain, have a snack if you would like to bring one, then return by the light of the moon. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83 and carpool to the site. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

Sat., May 7 - Canoe and Kayak Paddle of Upper Bolton Lake in Vernon -Take a leisurely tour of this pristine lake setting, perfect for bird-watching, photo opportunities, or just a quiet morning enjoying the outdoors. Meet at the boat launch area off Hatch Hill Road at 9:00 AM. Must bring your own boat, paddles, and life vests. Call Karl at 860-649-4949 for more information

Sun. May 8 - Mother's Day hike on McCann Family Farm - 10:00 AM. Comfortable trail walk thru field and forest. Good bird-watching habitat. Mothers bring the kids – kids bring your mother! Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487

Sun. May 15 - Nipmuck Woods - Family hike in Stafford - 10:00 AM. Leisurely one mile walk on the newly created Nipmuck Adventure Path. We will be stopping along the way for stories and exploring the natural world including two very impressive glacial erratic boulders. Good event for families with children as well as anyone who enjoys being around children. Meet at the large pull-off on the south side of Rt. 190 a short distance past Rockwell Road, east of the center of Stafford Springs. For questions or additional information, contact trip leader Richard Bailey, 860-749-0061

Sat. June 4 - 10:00 AM - We will follow blazed trails through the Land Trust's premier 200+ acre, Whitaker Woods property, featuring woodland and a cow pasture. This approximately 2 ½ mile hike will be scenic, with bridge crossings and beautifully constructed and well-preserved stone walls. We will discuss the natural and land use history as well as local wildlife along the way. Meet behind the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St., Rt. 190, near the intersection of Rt. 83 in the center of Somers. We will car pool to the trailhead. For questions, contact Albert Grant, 860-623-5487, albert_grant@sbcglobal.net.

Sun. June 19 – Father's Day Hike at Ernie Boothroyd and Bellante Preserve, Ellington - 11:00 AM. The 58-acre Ernie Boothroyd Preserve was acquired by NCLT in 2010. The Bellante Property is 36 acres abutting the Boothroyd Preserve that was recently acquired. The hike will be about 2 miles featuring abundant mountain laurel in bloom. From Stafford, take Tolland Ave south for 1.5 miles. The Boothroyd Preserve is on the right. Coming from the south; from the Tolland Green take Old Stafford Road (becomes Tolland Turnpike) 4.8 miles north to Ernie Boothroyd Preserve on the left. For further information contact leader Albert Grant, 860-623-5487,

Sun Sept 11– Bald Mtn. Preserve, Somers - 10:00 AM – We will hike through two Land Trust properties as well as Town of Somers and State of CT properties. These comprise the Bald Mountain Preserve, which includes the entire summit of the tallest of the surrounding mountains. The trails are steep and rocky in some places but not difficult with good shoes. The distance will be about 2 ½ miles. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St. Rt. 190 near the intersection of Rt. 83. For questions contact Albert Grant 860, 623-5487

Sun., October 2 – Skyline Scenic Area – 10:00 AM - Foliage hike with great views of the valley to the west. The distance will be about 2 1/2 miles, up and downhill. Meet at the rear of the Somers Town Hall, 600 Main St. to car pool. For questions call Albert Grant, 860-623-5487.

Sun., October 16 – Fall foliage along Railroad Brook gorge in Vernon. Hike thru the Trust's Andrew Webster Knapp property to the Rails-to-trails, then up to the ridge overlooking Valley Falls Park and Railroad Brook for some beautiful scenery. Fairly challenging walk with up and down steep slopes, 1 to 1 ½ hours. Meet at the Valley Falls parking lot off Valley Falls Road at 9:00 AM. Call Karl at 860-649-4949 for further information.