



The Kentucky Native Plant Society's  
**WILDFLOWER  
WEEKEND**

**Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
& Saturday,  
April 4<sup>th</sup> 2020**

This event is open to the public and kid-friendly. Registration is on-site in the Hemlock Lodge lobby. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$3 for ages 13-17, and free for ages 12 & under. Cash or credit accepted. **All registered hike participants will meet with hike leaders in the Hemlock Lodge lobby for their hike. Hikes typically last 1.5-2.5 hours unless specified otherwise.**

### Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Afternoon Walks

**12:45 Wildflower Walk, Rock Bridge Loop Trail:** 1.25 mile loop, moderately difficult hike. Join Kentucky Nature Preserves Botanist Heidi Braunreiter on a trail that descends into a deep ravine with towering hemlock trees and a dense rhododendron understory. Scenic views of Creation Falls and Rock Bridge.

**1:00 Woody Plants Walk, Boardwalk:** easy, accessible walk. Join U.S. Forest Service Botanist David Taylor around the Hemlock Lodge and Woodland Center to learn about trees and shrubs.

**1:15 Wildflower Walk, Rock Garden Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Walk with Bob VanHoff, retired from ACOE, on the forested slope above the Hemlock Lodge.

**2:30 Ecology Walk, Original Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Join Kentucky Nature Preserves Executive Director Zeb Weese to learn about habitat management and invasive species.

**3:00 Wildflower Walk, Rock Garden Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Walk with Danny Barret, retired from ACOE, on the forested slope above the Hemlock Lodge.

**6:00-7:30 Membership Social, Trail's End Tavern:** Join us in the tavern off of the Hemlock Lodge lobby to gather with fellow native plant enthusiasts. Meet the KNPS board members & officers and hear updates about the society.

### Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Morning Walks

**8:15 Bryophyte Walk, Boardwalk:** easy, accessible walk. Walk with U.S. Forest Service Botanist David Taylor around the Hemlock Lodge to learn about these interesting seedless plants including mosses, liverworts, and hornworts that have considerable diversity in form and ecology.

**8:30 Wildflowers and Ferns Walk, Whittleton Branch Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy walk. Walk with ECU Professor & Herbarium Curator Dr. Melanie Link-Perez to learn about ferns and wildflowers along this botanically diverse trail north of Whittleton Campground.

**9:00-9:30 'Wake Up, Woods' kid's book signing with author Mike Homoya:** Newly released kid's book will be available for sale at the registration table with the author present for signing.

**9:30 Kid's Creek Walk, Whittleton Branch Trail:** Join Kentucky Nature Preserves Zeb Weese to splash around the creek, particularly for kids under 10!

**10:00 Search for Sweet Pinesap, Tunnel Ridge Road area:** arduous, some off-trail hiking. Join Kentucky Nature Preserves Botanist Tara Littlefield on a search for the rare and elusive sweet pinesap (*Monotropis odorata*). Wildflowers, shrubs, trees, and general ecology will also be discussed.

**10:15 Woody Plants Walk, Original Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Learn how to identify woody plants in a variety of habitats with UK Arboretum Curator and Native Plants Collection Manager Emily Ellingson on this trail from the Hemlock Lodge to the Natural Bridge Arch.

(See reverse side for Saturday afternoon and evening schedule)

## Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> – Afternoon Walks

**1:00 Wildflower Walk, Whittleton Branch Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy walk. Join U.S. Forest Service Botanist David Taylor along this botanically diverse trail north of Whittleton Campground to see a dazzling display of spring ephemerals!

**1:15 Fire Ecology of the Red River Gorge:** short, easy walk (approx. 1 mile), two stops. Walk with Dr. Mary Arthur, Professor of Forest Ecology at UK, through forests burned by wildfire and prescribed fire. Learn about the role of fire in an ecosystem and its ecological effects on the forest. Time duration of this walk may last longer than typical as there are two locations to visit.

**1:30 Wildflowers and Ferns Walk, Koomer Ridge/Buck Trail to Chimney Top Creek:** approx. 2.5 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Walk with UK Herbarium Curator Rob Paratley to learn about the ferns, wildflowers, woody plants, and forest ecology of the Red River Gorge.

**2:30 Plant Ecology Hike, Hood's Branch Trail:** 1-2 miles, easy to moderately difficult walk. Join Kentucky Nature Preserves Ecologist Martina Hines to learn about plant ecology and natural communities along this botanically diverse trail. Also, take a stop at the creek to look for salamanders!

**2:45 Plant ID 101 & Intro to iNaturalist Workshop, Boardwalk & Woodland Center:** easy, accessible. Join ECU student Nick Koenig to learn how to use the smartphone app iNaturalist to help you identify unknown plants, as well as how to identify plants using a key. Please bring a copy of Plant Life of Kentucky (if possible) and have iNaturalist downloaded onto your phone prior to this workshop. However, neither are mandatory to join, teaming up on a key and/or phone is encouraged!

**3:00 Yoga Outdoors:** Join Kendall McDonald (certified yoga instructor) in the fresh outdoors to relieve those sore muscles after a day of hiking. All levels welcome, including beginners! Bring a mat, towel or blanket for practicing yoga on, and water.

## Saturday Evening Talks at the Woodland Center

**6:00 Welcome/Introductions**

**6:15 iNaturalist Project: Kentucky Botanists Big Year 2019 Awards Ceremony**

**6:30 Hemispherical Photography for Measuring Light Available to an Endangered Forb,** 2019 KNPS grant recipient and ECU grad student Bailey King.

**6:45 Oak Woodland Restoration via Fire and Mid-story Mastication on the Cumberland Plateau, KY,** 2019 KNPS grant recipient and UK grad student Jordan Winkenbach.

**7:00 Forage Approaches to Native Clover Conservation,** 2019 KNPS grant recipient and UT grad student Jonathan Kubesch.

**Break** (ten minutes)

**7:25 Rare Plants and Natural Communities along the Ohio River, from Cincinnati to the Mississippi River;** Mike Homoya is a recently retired botanist and plant ecologist who worked for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Program since 1982. He discovered, inventoried, and assessed natural communities and surveyed for rare species. He shared his knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm about plants by authoring several books, teaching at the collegiate level, and serving as president of professional science associations.

**8:25 Raffle**