



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

SCAN

PO Box 24911  
Columbia, SC 29224  
www.scnaturalists.org

October 2023

September had acorns dropping and warm days. Cooler days are on the way along with the leaf change. We continue to lose around two minutes of sunlight with each day. Bird migration is in full swing with many nocturnal fliers.

Last month's soodle was to Pacolet River Heritage Preserve up in Spartanburg County hosted by Rita Zollinger.

This month we will be heading to our Central Region to the Wateree Passage of the Palmetto Trail. Our Regional Guides for the ramble/soodle will be the Kastner clan, Dave and Marty Kastner. Details below.

Also...We have reserved the Saluda Shoals Auditorium in Columbia for our January Annual Meeting. How about a call for speakers? Give us some speaker requests!

We will be having our virtual meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to determine the 2024 outings. Get your ideas ready and join us on Google Meet. Send a message to [scnaturalists76@gmail.com](mailto:scnaturalists76@gmail.com) for details.

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We lack the Secretary position with SCAN to help with some of the tasks that go along with keeping our group organized. We also need someone to step up and help with the Treasurer position. If interested and want to step up...reach out to President Dave Schuetrum or Vice President Gordon Murphy.

That is all...Dave Schuetrum President

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Our trip to Pacolet River Heritage Preserve was well-attended. We saw lots of cool stuff, including two different species of venomous caterpillars.



Here's who attended...in no particular order:

Ron Ahle, Angela Valvasori, Greg Ross, Dave Kastner, Marty Kastner, Tom Austin, Kevin Curtis, Lynda Curtis, Kim McManus, Julianna Nyikos, Rita Zollinger, Jim Boylston, Kate Hartley, Bill Wedding, Marcie Wedding

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From Tom Austin's camera roll...



Shaggy-stalked Bolete (*Aureoboletus betula*)





Rattlesnake Orchid (*Goodyera pubescens*)



Eastern Funnelweb Spider (*Agelenopsis naevia*)





Saddleback Caterpillar (*Acharia stimulea*)



Snakeskin Liverwort (*Conocephalum salebrosum*)





A Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus* sp.)



Some Candlesnuff (*Xylaria* sp.)





A caterpillar (of unknown species) that was parasitized/liquidated by an entomopathogenic fungus. Possibly Icing Sugar Fungus (*Beauveria bassiana*).



A caterpillar (of unknown species) that was parasitized/liquidated by an entomopathogenic fungus. Possibly Icing Sugar Fungus (*Beauveria bassiana*).

## **Wateree Passage of the Palmetto Trail**

Meet at the Campbell Creek Road Parking Area  
Intersection of Campbell Creek Road and Evenwood Lane  
GPS Coordinates: 33.8177, -80.5510  
Saturday, October 28, 2023, 10:30 AM to ~ 4:30 PM

The Wateree Passage is one of the most diverse sections of the Palmetto Trail, traversing a variety of landscapes, from high hills on the east end of the trail down to a magnificent river swamp in the middle section of the trail. Also on the east end, the trail climbs to Molly's Bluff (elevation 260 feet), one of the higher elevations in Sumter County, which, after leaves have fallen off the trees, offers excellent vistas across Wateree Swamp to Richland County. The middle section of the trail passes through part of Manchester State Forest, traveling along and on the remnants of an old SC Railroad line that crosses the Wateree River. The full length of the Wateree Passage is 11.4 miles.

This trip will explore the **eastern section** of the Wateree Passage (which is outlined with a dashed yellow line shown at the right side of the map included below). This section also connects to the river swamp region of Manchester State Forest, but it takes a little more effort to get to the swamp than it would from the western section.

We will meet at the Campbell Creek Road Parking Area (near mile marker 1 on the lower right side of the map included below) where there is **plenty of parking**. All the roads leading to the meeting area are dirt, but the conditions are not too bad if the directions below are followed (which is via Campbell Creek Road by way of Headquarters Road). Access to the meeting area using Evenwood Lane is also possible but it's significantly rougher and a high ground clearance vehicle is recommended.

There are several options for exploration. From our meeting location, attendees can take the Palmetto Trail south for about 1 mile to Poinsett State Park recreation area or north for about 2.0 miles to Molly's Bluff. Beyond Molly's Bluff, the trail continues for about 0.3 miles before reaching a fairly steep descent down to the river swamp area which continues for about 6 more miles to the west side of the Palmetto Trail along US 601. Attendees can also drive up to the Foxville Road parking area (which has very limited parking) that provides access to the river swamp section of the Palmetto Trail via a 1.3 mile walk down the Parking Lot Trail on an old rail bed. Attendees can walk as far as they want but remember that you will need to backtrack along the same route (and distance) you already traveled to return to the starting parking area. There are no loop trails.

### **Trail to Poinsett State Park Recreation Area** (south for 1.0 mile from the meeting area)

This section of the Palmetto Trail passes through Poinsett State Park and the habitat is mostly wooded. About 0.2 miles from the meeting area, there is a low area with a bridge that crosses Campbell Creek. About 1.0 miles from the meeting area is Poinsett State Park recreation area with access to restrooms, picnic tables, a large pond and, if you are so inclined, a playground. If you wish to drive down to this area, follow the directions for "Poinsett State Park Trailhead" on the information page following the map below.

### **Trail to steep descent past Molly's Bluff** (north for 2.3 miles from the meeting area)

This section of the Palmetto Trail starts out as a 2-track dirt road for a distance of about 1.2 miles beyond the gate to a covered waystation. It then transitions into a hiking trail beyond the waystation. The "road" section starts out with about 10 feet of low vegetation bordering both sides of the road with fairly open woods beyond that. After about 0.6 miles, the low vegetation eventually closes in on the road to become more dense woods. Just beyond the waystation, the trail rises about 130 feet to where the habitat is fully wooded but a little more open. The remaining trail to Molly's Bluff and the steep descent is pretty much open woods. For those hearty individuals, the trail continues down a fairly steep slope that will eventually take them to the river swamp area where the habitat is mixed vegetation and stands of trees.

**To Wateree Swamp or Molly's Bluff via Parking Lot Trail** (accessible from Foxville Road)

*This route requires driving to the trailhead at Parking Lot Trail;* the trailhead location is shown in the extreme upper right corner of the map included below. The Palmetto Trail is accessed using an old rail bed (there are no rails or crossties) by walking south for 1.3 miles to meet up with the "official" trail. At an information sign, hikers have the choice of continuing straight ahead to the swamp area (identified on the sign as FARMSTEAD 601 TRAILHEAD 8M) or turning east and ascending a fairly steep incline to get to Molly's Bluff (identified on the sign as MOLLY'S BLUFF TO POINSETT PARK 3.4M). The "rail bed" section has about 15-20 feet of low vegetation bordering both sides of the rail bed with woods beyond that. The river swamp area habitat starts with mixed vegetation and stands of trees and eventually becomes a "swamp environment." The trail habitat to Molly's Bluff and beyond is fully wooded and, for the most part, open woods. If you wish to drive up to this area, follow the directions for "Foxville Rd. Parking Area" on the information page following the map below.

**Directions to:** Campbell Creek Road Parking Area of the Wateree Passage Trail (east side)

The **location to meet** is at the intersection of Campbell Creek Road and Eastwood Lane.

Parking Area GPS Coordinates (meeting location) = Latitude **33.8177**, Longitude **-80.5510**

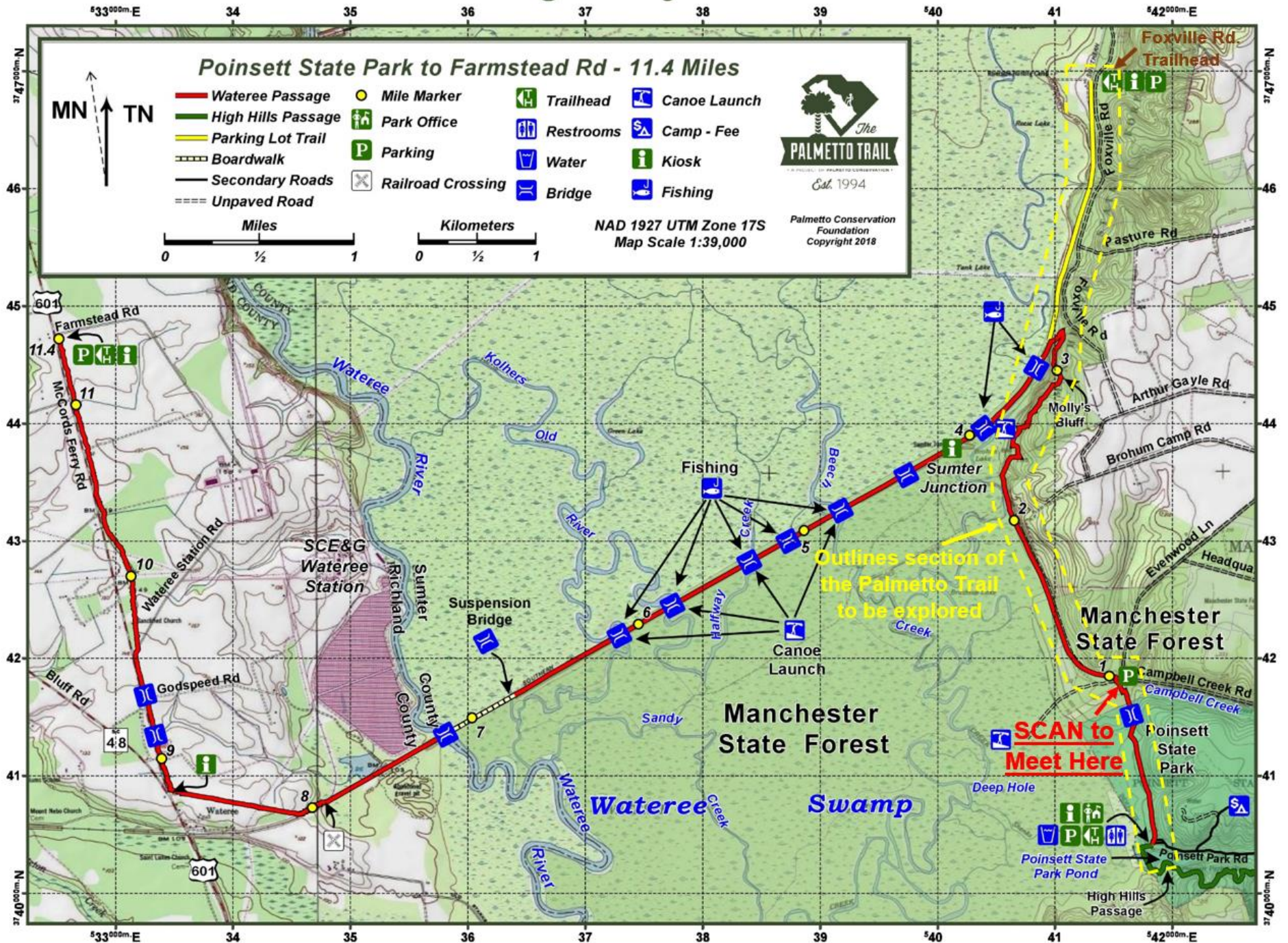
From the **north** – From US 378 near Sumter, take SC 261 (S Kings Hwy) south through Wedgefield for 9.2 miles. At the Manchester State Forest sign on SC 261 (GPS coordinates 33.8201, -80.5123), turn right (to the west) onto Headquarters Road. After 1 mile, turn left (to the south) onto Campbell Creek Road (which is unmarked). There are 2 crossroads on Headquarters Road before reaching Campbell Creek Road. For reference, they are Big Bay Road and River Road; if you get to the Campbell Pond Pier, you have gone too far and missed the turn. After turning onto Campbell Creek Road, travel 1.6 miles to the intersection with Evenwood Lane (which is also unmarked). This wide intersection at the above parking area GPS coordinates is the meeting location.

From the **south** – From Summerton, take US 15 north to Paxville for 9.3 miles. In Paxville, turn left (to the west) onto SC 261 through Pinewood for 13.4 miles. Note that after Pinewood, SC 261 curves around to the north. At the Manchester State Forest sign on SC 261 (GPS coordinates 33.8201, -80.5123), turn left (to the west) onto Headquarters Road. After 1 mile, turn left (to the south) onto Campbell Creek Road (which is unmarked). There are 2 crossroads on Headquarters Road before reaching Campbell Creek Road. For reference, they are Big Bay Road and River Road; if you get to the Campbell Pond Pier, you have gone too far and missed the turn. After turning onto Campbell Creek Road, travel 1.6 miles to the intersection with Evenwood Lane (which is also unmarked). This wide intersection at the above parking area GPS coordinates is the meeting location.

**Dinner:** Unfortunately, we do not know of any "nearby" places to eat. If anyone is familiar with the area and can make a dining location suggestion, please let everyone know when we meet before splitting up to explore.



# The Wateree Passage of the Palmetto Trail





# The WATEREE PASSAGE of the PALMETTO TRAIL

## Waterree Passage Data

**Length:** 11.4 miles  
Poinsett State Park to Farmstead Rd.

**Use:** Hiking, Mountain Biking

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Restrictions:**  
No motor vehicles, no Equestrians

**Trail Marking:**  
Trail Signs, Orange Blazes

## Driving Directions:

**Poinsett State Park Trailhead:** From the junction of US 378 and SC 261 S., travel 10.1 miles south on SC 261 to Poinsett Park Road (S-43-63), turn right (west), travel 2.7 miles to the Poinsett State Park Headquarters.

**SCAN to Meet Here**

**Campbell Creek Rd. Parking Area:** From US 378 near Sumter, take SC 261 south through Wedgefield for 9.2 miles. At the Manchester State Forest sign turn right onto Headquarters Road for 1 mile. Turn left onto Campbell Creek Rd (unmarked), and go 1.6 miles to the intersection with Evenwood Lane (unmarked). This wide intersection is the parking area.

**Foxville Rd. Parking Area:** From US 378 near Sumter, take SC 261 south through Wedgefield for 5.8 turn right onto Middleton Rd. opposite Orangehill Church. Paved road becomes unpaved after 1.4 miles; continue 1.1 miles. Turn left and another immediate left onto Foxville Rd. (unmarked). Travel for .7 miles to a small parking area with a kiosk on the right. Walk pass the kiosk and turn left onto the Parking Lot Trail; it is 1.3 miles down an old rail bed to the Waterree Passage. **Note: Foxville Rd can be difficult to drive on in wet weather for non 4 wheel drive vehicles.**

**Farmstead Road Trailhead:** From the intersection of US 378 and US 601 travel south on US 601 S for 7.3 miles. Turn left onto Farmstead Road, the concrete parking lot and trailhead is on the right.

## Rules & Precautions

Minimum impact use is in everybody's best interest. To achieve this, we recommend the following practices:

- Please practice "Leave No Trace" philosophy, pack out what you pack in.
- Stay on designated trails
- Take only pictures, leave only footprints
- Leave what you find
- Respect private property
- Be considerate of fellow trail users
- Water is not available on the trail. Pack food and water. Water from creeks must be treated or filtered.
- **No Camping or Fires Allowed!**
- Camping for a fee is available by contacting Poinsett State Park.
- Park only in designated areas.
- **Mountain Biking in Manchester State Forest requires a permit, apply at website below.**

## Additional Information

### Manchester State Forest

7640 Headquarters Road  
Wedgefield, SC 29168  
(803) 494-8196

<https://www.state.sc.us/forest/permit.htm>

### Poinsett State Park

6660 Poinsett Park Road  
Wedgefield, SC 29168  
(803) 484-8117

### Palmetto Conservation Foundation

722 King Street  
Columbia, SC 29205  
(803) 771-0870

[www.palmettoconservation.org](http://www.palmettoconservation.org)



**The Edward & Dorothy Kendall Foundation**

**Fastener Supply Company**



Pacolet River Heritage Preserve  
Spartanburg Co., SC  
September 23, 2023

This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (\*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Kim McManus at [scnaturalists76@gmail.com](mailto:scnaturalists76@gmail.com). Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

**LICHENS**

*Cladonia* sp.  
*Usnea strigosa*

**FLORA**

**Haircap Moss**

*Polytrichum* sp.

**Grape Fern**

*Sceptridium* sp.

**Ebony Spleenwort**

*Asplenium platyneuron*

**Southern Lady Fern**

*Athyrium asplenoides*

**Christmas Fern**

*Polystichum acrostichoides*

**Shortleaf Pine**

*Pinus echinata*

**Pitch Pine**

*Pinus rigida*

**Loblolly Pine**

*Pinus taeda*

**Virginia Pine**

*Pinus virginiana*

**Eastern Red Cedar**

*Juniperus virginiana*

**Wild Ginger**

*Asarum* sp.

**Heartleaf**

*Hexastylis* sp.

**Tulip-tree**

*Liriodendron tulipifera*

**Common Pawpaw**

*Asimina triloba*

**Catbrier**

*Smilax bona-nox bona-nox*

**Whiteleaf Greenbrier**

*Smilax glauca*

**Common Greenbrier**

*Smilax rotundifolia*

**Downy Rattlesnake-orchid**

*Goodyera pubescens*

**Oval Ladies'-tresses**

*Spiranthes ovalis erostellata*

**Curlyleaf Yucca**

*Yucca filamentosa*

**Common Dayflower**

*Commelina communis*

**Marsh Dewflower**

*Murdannia keisak*

**Nutrush**

*Scleria* sp.

**Switch Cane**

*Arundinaria tecta*

**River Oats**

*Chasmanthium latifolium*

**Longleaf Spikegrass**

*Chasmanthium sessiliflorum*

**Common Woodreed**

*Cinna arundinacea*

**Beaked Panic Grass**

*Coleataenia anceps*

**Variable Witchgrass**

*Dichanthelium commutatum*

**Open-flower Witchgrass**

*Dichanthelium laxiflorum*

**Witchgrass**

*Dichanthelium* sp.

**Yard Grass**

*Eleusine indica*

**Common Eastern Wild-rye**

*Elymus virginicus*

**Silver Plume Grass**

*Erianthus alopecuroides*

**Japanese Stilt-grass**

*Microstegium vimineum*

**Panic Grass**

*Panicum* sp.

**Slender Indiangrass**

*Sorghastrum elliottii*

**Coralbeads**

*Nephroia carolina*

**Sycamore**

*Platanus occidentalis*

**Muscadine**

*Muscadinia rotundifolia*  
*rotundifolia*

**Virginia-creeper**

*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*

**Mimosa**

*Albizia julibrissin*

**Hog-peanut**

*Amphicarpea bracteata*

**Milkpea**

*Galactia volubilis*

**Naked Tick-trefoil**

*Hylodesmum nudiflorum*

**Sericea Lespedeza**

*Lespedeza cuneata*

**Korean Clover**

*Kummerowia stipulacea*

**Kudzu**

*Pueraria montana lobata*

**Black Locust**

*Robinia pseudoacacia*

**Wild Crabapple**

*Malus angustifolia*

**Cinquefoil**

*Potentilla* sp.

**Eastern Wild Black Cherry**

*Prunus serotina serotina*

**Multiflora Rose**

*Rosa multiflora*

**Common Dewberry**

*Rubus flagellaris*

**Autumn Silverberry**

*Elaeagnus pungens*

**Oriental Silverleaf**

*Elaeagnus umbellata*

**Red Mulberry**

*Morus rubra*

**False-nettle**

*Boehmeria cylindrica*

**American Beech**

*Fagus grandifolia*

**White Oak**

*Quercus alba*

**Southern Red Oak**

*Quercus falcata*

**Water Oak**

*Quercus nigra*

**Shumard Oak**

*Quercus shumardii*

**Post Oak**

*Quercus stellata*

**Black Oak**

*Quercus velutina*

**Mockernut Hickory**

*Carya tomentosa*

**Black Walnut**

*Juglans nigra*

**River Birch**

*Betula nigra*

**American Hornbeam**

*Carpinus caroliniana*

**Hearts-a-burstin'-with-love**

*Euonymus americanus*

**St. Andrew's Cross**

*Hypericum hypericoides*

**Spotted St.-John's-wort**

*Hypericum punctatum*

**Common Blue Violet**

*Viola sororia*

**Violet**

*Viola* sp.

**Yellow Passionflower**

*Passiflora lutea*

**Milk-purslane**

*Euphorbia maculata*

**Winged Sumac**

*Rhus copallinum*



**Eastern Poison Ivy**  
*Toxicodendron radicans radicans*

**Eastern Box Elder**  
*Acer negundo negundo*

**Eastern Red Maple**  
*Acer rubrum rubrum*

**Tree-of-Heaven**  
*Ailanthus altissima*

**Bristly-mallow**  
*Modiola caroliniana*

**Lady's-thumb**  
*Persicaria maculosa*

**Jumpseed**  
*Persicaria virginiana*

**Smartweed**  
*Persicaria sp.*

**Common Pokeweed**  
*Phytolacca americana*

**Blackgum**  
*Nyssa sylvatica*

**Climbing Hydrangea**  
*Hydrangea barbara*

**Flowering Dogwood**  
*Benthamidia florida*

**Spotted Touch-me-not**  
*Impatiens capensis*

**American Persimmon**  
*Diospyros virginiana*

**Pipsissewa**  
*Chimaphila maculata*

**Mountain Laurel**  
*Kalmia latifolia*

**Mountain Doghobble**  
*Leucothoe fontanesiana*

**Sourwood**  
*Oxydendrum arboreum*

**Sparkleberry**  
*Vaccinium arboreum*

**Blueberry**  
*Vaccinium sp.*

**Large Buttonweed**  
*Diodia virginiana*

**Bedstraw**  
*Galium sp.*

**Carolina Jessamine**  
*Gelsemium sempervirens*

**Spinypod**  
*Matelea sp.*

**White Ash**  
*Fraxinus americana*

**Ash**  
*Fraxinus sp.*

**Chinese Privet**  
*Ligustrum sinense*

**Cross-vine**  
*Bignonia capreolata*

**Trumpet-creeper**  
*Campsis radicans*

**Virginia Bugleweed**  
*Lycopus virginicus*

**Perilla**  
*Perilla frutescens*

**Lyreleaf Sage**  
*Salvia lyrata*

**American Holly**  
*Ilex opaca*

**Cardinal Flower**  
*Lobelia cardinalis cardinalis*

**Common White Snakeroot**  
*Ageratina altissima*

**Pale Indian-plantain**  
*Arnoglossum atriplicifolium*

**Mistflower**  
*Conoclinium coelestinum*

**Leafy Elephant's-foot**  
*Elephantopus carolinianus*

**Common Elephant's-foot**  
*Elephantopus tomentosus*

**Fireweed**  
*Erechtites hieraciifolius*

**Common Horseweed**  
*Erigeron canadensis*

**Beaked Hawkweed**  
*Hieracium gronovii*

**Coastal Plain Lettuce**  
*Lactuca graminifolia graminifolia*

**Climbing Hempweed**  
*Mikania scandens*

**Starved Aster**  
*Symphyotrichum lateriflorum*

**Common Wingstem**  
*Verbesina alternifolia*

**Southern Crownbeard**  
*Verbesina occidentalis*

**Wingstem**  
*Verbesina sp.*

**Ironweed**  
*Vernonia sp.*

**Tall Rattlesnake-root**  
*Nabalus altissimus*

**Common Elderberry**  
*Sambucus canadensis*

**Black Haw**  
*Viburnum prunifolium*

**Japanese Honeysuckle**  
*Lonicera japonica*

**Devil's-walking-stick**  
*Aralia spinosa*

**Sanicle**  
*Sanicula canadensis*

**Chanterelle**  
*Cantharellus sp.*

**Bracket Fungus**  
*Fomes sp.*

**Shaggy-stalked Bolete**  
*Heimioporus betula*

**Brittle-gill**  
*Russula sp.*

**Chocolate Tube Slime**  
*Stemonitis sp.*

**Spiny-backed Spider**  
*Micrathena gracilis*

**Hentz Orbweaver**  
*Neoscona crucifera*

**Marbled Orbweaver**  
*Araneus marmoreus*

**Triangulate Orbweaver**  
*Verrucosa arenata*

**Orchard Orbweaver**  
*Leucauge venusta*

**Grass Spider**  
*Agelenopsis naevia*

**Cricket**  
*Miogryllus sp.*

**Water-strider**  
*Gerris sp.*

**Annual Cicada**  
*Tibicen sp.*

**Beech Blight Aphid**  
*Grylloprociphilus imbricator*

**Pigeon Horntail(wasp)**  
*Tremex columba*

**Common Eastern Velvet-ant**  
*Dasymutilla occidentalis occidentalis*

**Eastern Yellowjacket**  
*Vespula maculifrons*

**Spider Wasp**  
*Entypus unifasciatus*

**Pipe-organ Wasp**  
*Trypoxylon politum*

**Bumblebee**  
*Bombus impatiens*

**Western Honey Bee**  
*Apis mellifera*

**Robber Fly**  
*Family Asilidae*

**Common Green Darner**  
*Anax junius*

**Zebra Swallowtail**  
*Eurytides marcellus*

**Eastern Tiger Swallowtail**  
*Pterourus glaucus*

**Red-spotted Purple**  
*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*

**Gemmed Satyr**  
*Cyllopsis gemma*

**Carolina Satyr**  
*Hermeuptychia sosybius*

**Intricate Satyr**  
*Hermeuptychia intricata*

**Carolina/Intricate Satyr**  
*Hermeuptychia sp*

**Clouded Skipper**  
*Lerema accius*

**Octagonal Casebearer Moth**  
*Coleophora octagonella*

**Southern Flannel Moth**  
*Megalopyge opercularis*

**Saddleback Caterpillar Moth**  
*Acharia stimulea*

## FAUNA



**Fall Webworm Moth***Hyphantria cunea***Dusky Salamander***Desmognathus* sp.**Fowler's Toad***Anaxyrus fowleri***Toad***Anaxyrus* sp.**Cope's Gray Treefrog***Hyla chrysoscelis***River Cooter***Pseudemys concinna***Green Anole***Anolis carolinensis***Eastern Ratsnake***Pantherophis alleghaniensis***Wood Duck***Aix sponsa***Red-shouldered Hawk***Buteo lineatus***Belted Kingfisher***Megasceryle alcyon***Red-bellied Woodpecker***Melanerpes carolinus***Northern Flicker***Colaptes auratus***Downy Woodpecker***Dryobates pubescens***Hairy Woodpecker***Dryobates villosus***Pileated Woodpecker***Dryocopus pileatus***Eastern Wood-pewee***Contopus virens***Blue Jay***Cyanocitta cristata***American Crow***Corvus brachyrhynchos***Tufted Titmouse***Baeolophus bicolor***Carolina Chickadee***Poecile carolinensis***White-breasted Nuthatch***Sitta carolinensis***Carolina Wren***Thryothorus ludovicianus***Red-Eyed Vireo***Vireo olivaceus***Northern Cardinal***Cardinalis cardinalis***Summer Tanager***Piranga rubra***American Beaver***Castor canadensis***Raccoon***Procyon lotor***NEW SPECIES****Snakeroots***Ageratina* sp.**Crayfish***Astacoidea* sp.**Lady Ferns***Athyrium* sp.**Icing Sugar Fungus***Beauveria bassiana***Snakewort***Conocephalum* sp.**Snakewort***Conocephalum salebrosum***Cherry Gall Wasp***Cynips quercusfolii***Black Knot***Dibotryon morbosum***Two-marked Treehopper Complex***Enchenopa binotata***Crustose Lichen***Lecanoromycetes* sp.**Minnow***Leuciscinae* sp.**Harvestman***Opiliones* sp.**Broadleaf Plantain***Plantago major***Digger Wasp***Sphex* sp.**Land Snail***Stylommatophora* sp.**Katydid***Tettigoniidae* sp.**Candlesnuff***Xylaria* sp.