



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

SCAN

PO Box 24911
Columbia, SC 29224
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December 2025

LAST MONTH: Meggett County Park

November's trip to Meggett County Park was on a gorgeous, warm fall day. Dead fallen leaves covered the trails, rustling with every step and releasing that autumn leaf odor. The sunny day included sightings of insects, birds, and a few herps.

Interesting insects included Phantom Darner Dragonflies (*Triacanthagyna trifida*) flitting around sun-speckled glades and Giant Leaf-footed Bugs (*Acanthocephala declivis*) buzzing loudly from place to place. We watched an interesting black wasp with a red abdomen that was ovipositing through bark of a tree. Research suggests that it is a species of *Atanycolus*, which is a parasitoid of the wood-boring larvae of several types of beetles, sawing through the bark to lay an egg on a beetle larva. One species of *Atanycolus* is being investigated by researchers to try to control the emerald ash borer beetle. Tiny, iridescent, caterpillar-like Groundsel Bush Beetle larvae were found on (surprise!) a Groundsel bush.

Woodpeckers and mixed flocks of songbirds were in the forest near the marsh; the obligatory Wood Stork soared overhead over the marsh. Herons, an Osprey and a Northern Harrier also patrolled the marsh.

At the end of the day, a few of us returning late to the cars saw two Bald Eagles flying powerfully through the air at some height. While two of us were distracted by a squirrel in the bushes, the other two of us observed the two eagles meet mid-air, grab each other's talons, and perform the eagle "death-spiral" for four to five rotations before releasing and flying off in a different direction. The "death-spiral" is an amazing eagle behavior that's either courtship- or territorial-related; the eagles hold on to each other with both feet and literally start falling from the sky while spinning around each other.

We are now at the end of 2025 and will be starting our 50th year of SCAN! Our annual meeting will be at Goodale State Park in Camden, SC, on January 24th, 2026. Our scheduled trips will reflect some of the trips taken that first year (1976!!) including favorites Forty-Acre Rock and Carolina Sandhills NWR. We will have a special 50th Anniversary Gala on July 25th at the SC State Museum to honor the founder Rudy Mancke and SCAN's 50 amazing years of looking at nature and marveling at it, so save the date! If you would like to be involved in organizing the festivities, please let me know at scnaturalists76@gmail.com.

Lee Morris, President

THIS MONTH: Barnwell State Park

Join us at [Barnwell State Park](#) in Barnwell County on December 13th. With ponds, mesic slopes, mature hardwoods, and pine forests, we should find a wide variety of species. Ron Ahle recently documented 31 bird species in 1.5 hours. Remember to bring your [Ultimate Outsider Official Guide](#) and collect a stamp!

Kim McManus, Secretary and Web Keeper

NEXT MONTH: Annual Meeting at Goodale State Park

Get ready for another terrific day of learning at the annual meeting. We've reserved the Community Center Building at Goodale State Park. There's a kitchen onsite, so be thinking what you'd like to bring for lunch. Add another stamp to your [Ultimate Outsider Official Guide](#) while you're there.

Kim McManus, Secretary and Web Keeper

Photos from Meggett County Park



November Attendees: Kim McManus, Tom Austin, Debbie Seabrook, Lee Morris, Bill Twomey, Diane Kinkaid, Chris Hayden, Larry Hayden, Claudia Stratmann, Johannes Stratmann, Alison Smith, Ron Ahle, Dave Kastner, Marty Kastner



Giant Leaf-footed Bugs (*Acanthocephala declivis*)
Kim McManus

Carolina Chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*)
Kim McManus



Emetic Russula (*Russula emetica*)
Ron Ahle

American Bird Grasshopper (*Schistocerca americana*)
Ron Ahle



Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*)
Ron Ahle

Braconid Wasp (*Atanycolus sp.*)
Ron Ahle

Barnwell State Park

Barnwell County, SC

223 State Park Road, Blackville, SC 29817

GPS Coordinates: 33.331251, -81.303754

Saturday, December 13, 2025, 10:30 AM to ~4:30 PM

Barnwell State Park is one of 16 State Parks established by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression. With approximately 307 acres, the park contains two ponds, a campground, a large picnic and recreation area, five cabins and a meeting center. It also protects many acres of forest and wetlands that provide folks with an excellent escape to nature. The park is located in the Sandhills Ecoregion, and the ponds are impoundments of Toby Creek. The park is in the Savannah River Watershed and should have very interesting biota, both aquatic and terrestrial.

The park contains two 1.5-mile nature trails. The Dogwood Nature Trail winds around one of the lakes and cuts through sandhill wetlands and seeps that deliver water to the ponds, and by steep mesic slopes dominated by mature hardwoods. There is a pier that is accessed from the trail that provides good views of the pond. The pond has been drained for months, creating a wetland meadow effect. If you feel like a little extra walking, the Fern Hill Trail connects to the Dogwood Trail and will take you through a xeric upland forested area that crosses through a mature longleaf pine/oak forest that contains impressive longleaf pine trees that provide excellent habitat for woodpeckers, warblers and all three of the nuthatches that occur in South Carolina. Further down the trail is a drop in elevation where longleaf pines are replaced by loblolly pines and hardwood trees dominate canopy species. This area was heavily impacted by a tornado in 2017 that created large openings in the canopy, resulting in thickets with a good diversity of plant species. The photos below were taken while investigating the Fern Hill Trail in early November. There is potential for going off-trail to investigate the nearshore habitats of the second pond which is used as a fishing pond.

Barnwell State Park offers above-average camping facilities if you are interested in an overnight stay. There are other recreation opportunities in the area for wildlife and plant viewing, including Edisto State Park and the Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve. There are several good restaurants in Barnwell where folks can have an early dinner and discuss the sightings of the day. If you plan to extend your trip to two or more days and prefer not to camp, you may be able to find accommodation in Barnwell.

~Ron Ahle

DIRECTIONS:

To get to Barnwell State Park, drive approximately 2.7 miles south of Blackville, SC on SC-Hwy 3 to the entrance into the park on the right side of the road. The address is 223 State Park Road. The meeting place will be the main parking lot which is reached by going right at the first fork in the road (the fork is marked by the red flag in Map 1). There are amenities such as water and bathrooms offered at this location.



Map 1: Barnwell State Park roads and trails.



Map 2: Satellite imagery of Barnwell State Park



Roseate Skimmer *Orthemis ferruginea* photographed at Barnwell SP (Photo by Ron Ahle)



Tropical Checkered Skipper *Pyrgus oileus* photographed at Barnwell SP (photo by Ron Ahle)



White-breasted Nuthatch in longleaf pine photographed at Barnwell SP (photo by Ron Ahle)

**Meggett County Park
Charleston Co., SC
November 22, 2025**

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 Tom Austin at scnaturalists76@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring to in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

BACTERIA

Bacterial Crown Gall

Agrobacterium radiobacter

LICHENS

Cryptothecia rubrocincta

Cladonia subtenuis

Cladonia sp.

Parmotrema sp.

Usnea strigosa

Usnea sp.

Chrysothrix sp.

FLORA

Liverwort

Frullania eboracensis

Juniper Haircap Moss

Polytrichum juniperinum

Smoothcap Moss

Atrichum sp.

Cinnamon Fern

Osmundastrum cinnamomeum

Japanese Climbing Fern

Lygodium japonicum

Bracken

Pteridium aquilinum

Ebony Spleenwort

Asplenium platyneuron

Netted Chain Fern

Woodwardia areolata

Virginia Chain Fern

Woodwardia virginica

Southern Lady Fern

Athyrium asplenioides

Deparia

Deparia petersenii

Christmas Fern

Polystichum acrostichoides

Resurrection Fern

Pleopeltis michauxiana

Shortleaf Pine

Pinus echinata

Spruce Pine

Pinus glabra

Longleaf Pine

Pinus palustris

Loblolly Pine

Pinus taeda

Southern Red Cedar

Juniperus silicicola

Eastern Red Cedar

Juniperus virginiana

Water-shield

Brasenia schreberi

Tulip-tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

Southern Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Sweetbay

Magnolia virginiana

Swamp Bay

Persea palustris

Sawtooth Greenbrier

Smilax bona-nox

Whiteleaf Greenbrier

Smilax glauca

Bamboo-vine

Smilax laurifolia

Sarsaparilla-vine

Smilax pumila

Common Greenbrier

Smilax rotundifolia

Jackson-brier

Smilax smallii

Spanish Dagger

Yucca aloifolia

Curlyleaf Yucca

Yucca filamentosa

Dwarf Palmetto

Sabal minor

Cabbage Palmetto

Sabal palmetto

Common Cattail

Typha latifolia

Spanish-moss

Tillandsia usneoides

Pineland Yellow-eyed Grass

Xyris caroliniana

Black Needle Rush

Juncus roemerianus

Toadrush

Bulbostylis sp.

Umbrella Sedge

Cyperus sp.

Marsh Fimbray

Fimbristylis castanea

Woolly Bulrush

Scirpus cyperinus

Nutrush

Scleria sp.

Maritime Bushy Bluestem

Andropogon tenuispatheus

Old-field Broomstraw

Andropogon virginicus

Slim-spike Threeawn

Aristida longespica

Switch Cane

Arundinaria tecta

Slender Spikegrass

Chasmanthium laxum

Longleaf Spikegrass

Chasmanthium sessiliflorum

Beaked Panic Grass

Coleataenia anceps

Bermuda Grass

Cynodon dactylon

Hairy Rosette-Grass

Dichanthelium acuminatum

Needle-leaf Witchgrass

Dichanthelium aciculare

Variable Witchgrass

Dichanthelium commutatum

Witchgrass

Dichanthelium dichotomum

Open-flower Witchgrass

Dichanthelium laxiflorum

Velvet Witchgrass

Dichanthelium scoparium

Saltgrass

Distichlis spicata

Sweet Grass

Muhlenbergia sericea

Woods-grass

Oplismenus setarius

Switchgrass

Panicum virgatum

Bahia Grass

Paspalum notatum

Paspalum

Paspalum setaceum

Silver Plume Grass
Saccharum alopecuroides

Giant Plume Grass
Saccharum giganteum

Little Bluestem
Schizachyrium scoparium

Saltmarsh Cordgrass
Spartina alterniflora

Sand Cordgrass
Spartina bakeri

Small Saltmeadow Cordgrass
Spartina patens

Redtop
Tridens flavus

Sweet Gum
Liquidambar styraciflua

Witch-hazel
Hamamelis virginiana

Common Mermaid-weed
Proserpinaca palustris

Muscadine
Vitis rotundifolia

Virginia-creeper
Parthenocissus quinquefolia

Spurred Butterfly Pea
Centrosema virginianum

Carolina Indigo
Indigofera caroliniana

Sericea Lespedeza
Lespedeza cuneata

Crimson Clover
Trifolium incarnatum

Black Cherry
Prunus serotina

Southern Dewberry
Rubus trivialis

Winged Elm
Ulmus alata

Red Mulberry
Morus rubra

False-nettle
Boehmeria cylindrica

White Oak
Quercus alba

Bluff Oak
Quercus austrina

Southern Red Oak
Quercus falcata

Sand Live Oak
Quercus geminata

Sand Laurel Oak
Quercus hemisphaerica

Turkey Oak
Quercus laevis

Sand Post Oak
Quercus margaretiae

Swamp Chestnut Oak
Quercus michauxii

Water Oak
Quercus nigra

Cherrybark Oak
Quercus pagoda

Willow Oak
Quercus phellos

Post Oak
Quercus stellata

Black Oak
Quercus velutina

Live Oak
Quercus virginiana

Common Wax-myrtle
Morella cerifera

Dwarf Wax-myrtle
Morella pumila

Pignut Hickory
Carya glabra

Mockernut Hickory
Carya tomentosa

American Hop-hornbeam
Ostrya virginiana

Southern Yellow Wood-sorrel
Oxalis dillenii

St. Andrew's Cross
Hypericum hypericoides

Primrose-leaf Violet
Viola primulifolia

Common Blue Violet
Viola sororia

Yellow Passionflower
Passiflora lutea

Popcorn Tree
Triadica sebifera

Chamber Bitter
Phyllanthus urinaria

Winged Sumac
Rhus copallinum

Poison-Ivy
Toxicodendron radicans

Red Maple
Acer rubrum

Bristly-mallow
Modiola caroliniana

Carolina Sea-lavender
Limonium carolinianum

Longbristle Smartweed
Persicaria longiseta

Smartweed
Persicaria sp.

Woody Glasswort
Salicornia ambigua

Dwarf Glasswort
Salicornia bigelovii

Samphire
Salicornia virginica

Blackgum
Nyssa sylvatica

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida

American Persimmon
Diospyros virginiana

Sweetleaf
Symplocos tinctoria

Coastal Sweet Pepperbush
Clethra alnifolia

Downy Sweet Pepperbush
Clethra tomentosa

Sparkleberry
Vaccinium arboreum

Smooth Highbush Blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum

Southern Blueberry
Vaccinium tenellum

Partridge-berry
Mitchella repens

Tropical Richardia
Richardia brasiliensis

Carolina Jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens

Carolina Ponyfoot
Dichondra carolinensis

White Ash
Fraxinus americana

Wild Olive
Cartrema americanum

Oak Mistletoe
Phoradendron leucarpum

Cross-vine
Bignonia capreolata

Trumpet-creeper
Campsis radicans

Shortspur Creeping Bladderwort
Utricularia gibba

Beautyberry
Callicarpa americana

Narrowleaf Skullcap
Scutellaria integrifolia

Common Blue Curls
Trichostema dichotomum

Little Gallberry
Ilex glabra

American Holly
Ilex opaca

Yaupon
Ilex vomitoria

False-willow
Baccharis angustifolia

Groundsel Tree
Baccharis glomeruliflora

Silverling
Baccharis halimifolia

Silver Seaside Oxeye
Borrchia frutescens

Cottonleaf Golden-aster
Chrysopsis gossypina

Mistflower
Conoclinium coelestinum

Common Elephant's-foot
Elephantopus tomentosus

Common Horseweed
Erigeron canadensis

Common Dog-fennel
Eupatorium capillifolium

Coastal Dog-fennel
Eupatorium compositifolium

Weakley's Goldentop
Euthamia weakleyi

American Cudweed
Gamochaeta americana

Spoonleaf Purple Everlasting
Gamochaeta purpurea

Marsh-Elder
Iva frutescens

Grass-leaved Lettuce
Lactuca graminifolia

Blazing-star
Liatris sp.

Climbing Hempweed
Mikania scandens

Grass-leaved Golden-aster
Pityopsis graminifolia

Stinking Camphorweed
Pluchea foetida

Saltmarsh Fleabane
Pluchea odorata

Blackroot
Pterocaulon pycnostachyum

Southern Seaside Goldenrod
Solidago mexicana

Wand Goldenrod
Solidago virgata

Long-stalked Aster
Symphotrichum dumosum

Starved Aster
Symphotrichum lateriflorum

Perennial Salt-marsh Aster
Symphotrichum tenuifolium

American Aster
Symphotrichum sp.

Asiatic Hawk's-beard
Youngia japonica

Common Elderberry
Sambucus canadensis

Swamp Water-pennywort
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

Water-pennywort
Hydrocotyle verticillata

Bearded Tooth
Hericium erinaceus

Milk-white Toothed Polypore
Irpex lacteus

Latte Bracket
Trametes lactinea

Trametes
Trametes sp.

Crowded Parchment
Stereum complicatum

False Turkey-tail
Stereum ostrea

Rustgill
Gymnopilus sp.

Emetic Russula
Russula emetica

Brittle-gill
Russula sp.

Oyster Mushroom
Pleurotus sp.

Bark Whitewash
Phlyctis boliviensis

Laurel Wilt
Raffaelea lauricola

Pear-shaped Puffball
Apioperdon pyriforme

Fungus Mold*
Syzygites megalocarpus

FAUNA

Marsh Periwinkle
Littoraria irrorata

Ribbed Mussel
Geukensia demissa

Eastern Oyster
Crassostrea virginica

Common Blue Crab
Callinectes sapidus

Stone Crab
Menippe mercenaria

Squareback Marsh Crab
Armases cinereum

Atlantic Sand Fiddler Crab
Leptuca pugilator

Mud Fiddler Crab
Minuca pugnax

Bowl-and-doily Spider
Frontinella pyramitela

Crab-shaped Spiny-back
Gasteracantha cancriformis

Mabel Orchard Orbweaver
Leucauge argyroabpta

Golden Silk Orbweaver
Trichonephila clavipes

Slender Nursery Web Spider
Pisaurina undulata

Eastern Harvestman
Leiobunum vittatum

Harvestman
Leiobunum uxorium

Gall Mite*
Acalitus sp.

Grasshopper
Orphulella pelidna

Short-winged Green Grasshopper
Dichromorpha viridis

Clipped-wing Grasshopper
Metaleptea brevicornis

American Bird Grasshopper
Schistocerca americana

Mole Cricket
Scapteriscus sp.

Leaf-footed Bug
Acanthocephala declivis

Antlion
Myrmeleon immaculatum

Acorn Plum Gall Wasp
Amphibolips quercusjuglans

Wool-bearing Gall Wasp
Druon quercuslanigerum

Red Imported Fire Ant
Solenopsis invicta

Mexican Paper Wasp*
Mischocyttarus mexicanus

Paper Wasp
Polistes sp.

Blue-black Spider Wasp
Anoplius sp.

Pipe-organ Wasp
Trypoxylon politum

Braconid Wasp
Atanycolus sp.

Tachinid Fly
Winthemia sp.

No-See-Um
Ceratopogonidae sp.

Muhlygrass Mealybug*
Stemmatomerinx acircula

Little Blue Dragonlet
Erythrodiplax minuscula

Phantom Darner*
Triacanthagyna trifida

Patent-leather Beetle
Odontotaenius disjunctus

Multicolored Asian Lady Beetle
Harmonia axyridis

Groundselbush Beetle
Trirhabda bacharidis

Acorn Weevil
Curculio sp.

Redbay Ambrosia Beetle
Xyleborus glabratus

Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis sennae

Sleepy Orange
Abaeis nicippe

Little Yellow
Pyrisitia lisa

Gulf Fritillary
Dione vanillae

Red Admiral
Vanessa atalanta

Common Buckeye
Junonia coenia

Carolina Satyr
Hermeuptychia sosybius

Monarch
Danaus plexippus

Fiery Skipper
Hylephila phyleus

Yucca Giant-skipper
Megathymus yuccae

Mummichog
Fundulus heteroclitus

Sailfin Molly*
Poecilia latipinna

Southern Toad
Anaxyrus terrestris

Southern Cricket Frog
Acris gryllus

Green Treefrog
Hyla cinerea

Spring Peeper
Pseudacris crucifer

Little Grass Frog
Pseudacris ocularis

Green Anole
Anolis carolinensis

Ground Skink
Scincella lateralis

Double-crested Cormorant
Nannopterum auritum

Snowy Egret
Egretta thula

Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias

Great Egret
Ardea alba

Wood Stork
Mycteria americana

White Ibis
Eudocimus albus

Hooded Merganser
Lophodytes cucullatus

Clapper Rail
Rallus crepitans

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

Black Vulture
Coragyps atratus

Bald Eagle
Haliaeetus leucocephalus

Northern Harrier
Circus hudsonius

Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis

Osprey
Pandion haliaetus

Wild Turkey
Meleagris gallopavo

Belted Kingfisher
Megasceryle alcyon

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus

Red-headed Woodpecker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus

Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus

Downy Woodpecker
Dryobates pubescens

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Sphyrapicus varius

Pileated Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus

Hairy Woodpecker
Leuconotopicus villosus

Eastern Phoebe
Sayornis phoebe

Tree Swallow
Tachycineta bicolor

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata

American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos

Fish Crow
Corvus ossifragus

Tufted Titmouse
Baeolophus bicolor

Carolina Chickadee
Poecile carolinensis

White-breasted Nuthatch
Sitta carolinensis

Brown-headed Nuthatch
Sitta pusilla

House Wren
Troglodytes aedon

Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus

Marsh Wren
Cistothorus palustris

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Corthylio calendula

Eastern Bluebird
Sialia sialis

Hermit Thrush
Catharus guttatus

Cedar Waxwing
Bombycilla cedrorum

Blue-headed Vireo
Vireo solitarius

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Setophaga coronata

Pine Warbler
Setophaga pinus

Palm Warbler
Setophaga palmarum

Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis

Song Sparrow
Melospiza melodia

Swamp Sparrow
Melospiza georgiana

Red-winged Blackbird
Agelaius phoeniceus

House Finch
Haemorhous mexicanus

Eastern Red Bat
Lasiurus borealis

Nine-banded Armadillo
Dasypus novemcinctus

Eastern Gray Squirrel
Sciurus carolinensis

Coyote
Canis latrans

American Raccoon
Procyon lotor

American Mink
Neovison vison

White-tailed Deer
Odocoileus virginianus

Draper WMA - ADDENDUM
York Co., SC
September 27, 2025

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FAUNA

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Contopus virens

Acadian Flycatcher

Empidonax virescens

Common Yellowthroat

Geothlypis trichas

Black-and-white Warbler

Mniotilta varia

Blue Grosbeak

Passerina caerulea

Indigo Bunting

Passerina cyanea

Northern Parula

Setophaga americana

Bay-breasted Warbler

Setophaga castanea

Pine Warbler

Setophaga pinus

Brown Thrasher

Toxostoma rufum

Mourning Dove

Zenaida macroura

Santee Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Cuddo Unit - ADDENDUM
Clarendon Co., SC
October 25, 2025

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 Tom Austin at scnaturalists76@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring to in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

Eastern Tent Caterpillar

Malacosoma americanum

Fall Webworm Moth

Hyphantria cunea

House Wren

Troglodytes aedon

American Goldfinch

Spinus tristis

FLORA

Showy Rattlebox

Crotalaria spectabilis

Common Wax-myrtle

Morella cerifera

Purple-foxf glove

Agalinis fasciculata

Narrowleaf Sunflower

Helianthus angustifolius

Camphorweed

Heterotheca subaxillaris

Pineland Silkgrass

Pityopsis aspera

FAUNA

Golden Silk Orbweaver

Trichonephila clavipes

Six-spotted Fishing Spider

Dolomedes triton

Green Lynx Spider

Peucetia viridans

Green-striped Grasshopper

Chortophaga viridifasciata

Obscure Bird Grasshopper

Schistocerca obscura

Red-headed Meadow Katydid

Orchelimum erythrocephalum

Walking-stick Mantis

Brunneria borealis

Leaf-footed Bug

Leptoglossus phyllopus

Bumblebee

Bombus impatiens

Chironomid Midge

Chironomus sp.

Confused Eusarca Moth

Eusarca confusaria