

Hikes & Activities **NOTE: You must register to attend each hike**

Sat., Mar. 3 **Ridley Creek Bridle Trails** **9:00 a.m.** **5 miles** **Class 2**

Starting at the Park Office parking lot, we will walk uphill through the stable area to see the horses. Beyond the stable, we will go downhill on Bridle Trail #2 and follow a level section of Ridley Creek to join Bridle Trail #1 which is briefly rocky and steep on the west side of Hunting Hill until reaching the edge of former farm fields. After the overgrown fields, we will follow the east side of Hunting Hill to return to Ridley Creek, the stable and the Park Office. **DIRECTIONS:** at DCNR.pa.gov

Sun. Mar. 4 **First State National Historic Park** **5 miles** **Class 2**

For PTC Members only. This hike includes wooded trails along with water features and horse farms. There are a number of hills, but just keep in mind that in Delaware the highest point is only 450 feet. Some portions of the trail may be muddy or wet.

Sat., Mar. 10 **Center City River-to-River (Navy Yard version)** **10:00 a.m.** **8 miles** **Class 1**

Starting at 30th Street Station on the Schuylkill River, we will follow the Schuylkill Banks Trail to its end and then continue through the neighborhoods until we reach FDR Park and then The Navy Yard on the Delaware River. We will make a lunch stop at one of the local establishments, so bring cash to buy your lunch. The return trip will be by SEPTA on the Broad Street Line changing at City Hall to continue to 30th Street. (Fare - \$2.50). **DIRECTIONS:** Meet inside 30th Street Station in Philadelphia at the 30th street side entrance. Please register in advance, so we will be looking for you. Snow, rain, or extreme cold will cancel.

Sun., Mar. 11 **French Creek Rail Trail** **9:00 a.m.** **4.75 miles** **Class 1**

We're going to hike the French Creek Rails-to-Trails trail. It's out and back through a wooded area along the route of the former Pickering Creek Railroad. It's a Class 1+ hike due to some hills. Depending on weather, it may be a bit wet. **DIRECTIONS:** Meet at parking lot address 1005 Township Line Rd, Phoenixville, PA 19460.

Sun., Mar. 17 **Haycock Mountain** **5-7 miles** **Class 3**

PTC members only. This is a scouting hike (hike route not established ahead of time); participate in identifying a new hike for the club. Hike to the top of Haycock Mountain, highest point in Bucks County at 961 feet and explore State Game Lands 157, which is wooded with very large rocks. **DIRECTIONS:** Take Rte 611 to left on 412 N. Left on 563S for 1 mile, right on Top Rock Trail. Parking lot is 0.6 mile on left. NO bathrooms; stop at the Turkey Hill on 611 just prior to left on 412 N. This is the location of the parking lot --https://maps.apple.com/?ll=40.492340,-75.206758&q=My%20Location&_ext=EiQpuxQsAwU/REAxQRMUHTvNUA5uxQsAwU/REBBQRMUHTvNUA%3D&t=m

Sun., Mar. 18 **Brandywine State Park** **5-6 miles** **Class 1+**

For PTC Members only. This hike takes us via the Creekside Trail. Most of the hike will be on relatively flat terrain, but wear sturdy hiking shoes as the trail may be muddy. **DIRECTIONS:** From Rte. 476 go to exit 5 (Lima/Springfield) follow signs for US 1 S; Continue on US 1 S for about 7 miles and make left onto Valleybrook Rd; continue on Valleybrook for about a mile and make right onto Smithbridge Rd; stay on Smithbridge for about 6.7 miles then turn left onto Brandywine Creek

Rd, (do Not cross covered bridge) parking lot will be on your right about 2 tenths of a mile in. Approximate GPS Address: 400 Brandywine Creek Rd, Wilmington, DE. 19803

Sat., Mar. 24 Ft. Washington Best Friend Hike 4-5 miles Class 2

This hike is for PTC members, their friends and dogs only. Here's a mostly easy hike that will be a perfect day to share with your best friend, so invite one. If your best friend is a dog, that's ok. This is a dog-friendly walk for well-mannered pooches on leashes. We walk on path that is wide and clear except for short sections where footing may be tricky on some steeper but brief slopes. There's an opportunity to get back to your car after 2 ½ miles if your dogs are tired. For those who continue, we cross Joshua Rd and explore the completely wooded section of the park. Anyone who brings a friend will get free cookies at the end of the walk. (Editor's note: everyone gets free cookies.) **DIRECTIONS:** Entrance is on Joshua Rd between Militia Hill Rd and Stenton Ave. From PA Turnpike take Norristown exit. Go east on Germantown Pike. Turn left at third traffic light (Joshua Rd). Go 2.2 miles to park entrance on right. Turn right, then take first right to Lot #1.

Sun., Mar. 25 Audubon Loop 5 miles Class 1+

For PTC members and their guests only. Hike along the Perkiomen Creek and through the grounds of Mill Grove. Bring snack or lunch. **DIRECTIONS:** Take Rte. 422 W to Oaks exit. At the bottom of the ramp, turn right into Egypt Rd. Make an immediate right into Lower Perkiomen Valley Park. Follow New Mill Rd. to the end, turn left at sign for the Park Entrance and park near the office.

Thu., Mar. 29 Treweryn Trail 2 miles Class 1

For PTC members and their guests. This is a slow walk on level chipped and grass paths along a meandering creek. This 2-hour outing is great for members who have not hiked in a while. The trail wraps around two ponds with beautiful stone bridges at both ends. Extend your walk to the North Trewellyn Trail. Be sure to wear boots, as it may be muddy in the spring, and bring your camera. **DIRECTIONS:** From Ambler, drive north on Bethlehem Pike about two miles, turn left at Sumneytown Pike (the road changes name at this intersection from Norristown Rd), drive about 1/2 mile. You will see a small parking lot on the right and then the Treweryn Farm Trail sign. If you pass Gwynedd Mercy you went too far.

Sat., Mar. 31 Evansburg State Park 9:00 a.m. 5 miles Class 2

Hiking boots and water recommended. We will not be stopping for lunch but snack will be provided. **DIRECTIONS:** Evansburg State Park can be reached from exit 31 off the PA Turnpike. Turn east on PA 63. Where PA 63 turns left, continue straight ahead to a junction with PA 363. Turn right and drive 8.7 miles; then turn right on Germantown Pike at a traffic light. After 2.7 more miles, and immediately beyond the Eight Arch Bridge over Skippack Creek (no sign), turn right. This is Skippack Creek Rd (again, no sign). Follow it to Mill Rd and continue into the park on May Hall Rd. Park near the picnic pavilion. Rain Cancels. Register in advance.

Sun., Apr. 1 Palmyra Cove Nature Park 5-6 miles Class 1

For PTC members only. Palmyra Cove Nature Park's 250 acres comprise upland forest, meadows, and wetlands, including the 125 acres the freshwater tidal cove after which the park is named. The main trails are wide and flat. We will meet at the Visitor Center. Visit the web site for more specific information about this park: www.palmyracove.org. There is a flea market which we can visit after the hike. **DIRECTIONS:** From Philadelphia via Tacony-Palmyra Bridge; Take I 95 N to Exit 27 toward Bridge St/Harbison Ave, merge onto Aramingo, turn right toward Tacony St. for about 1.4

miles, turn slightly right and Tacony St. becomes Tacony/Palmyra Bridge. Continue on Route 73 after crossing the bridge. Make a right turn about ¼ mile after the bridge (entrance to the flea market and park). Enter wooden gates on your right onto Park Dr; follow Park Dr to the parking area. GPS Address: 1300 Route 73 North, Palmyra, NJ 08065.

Sat., Apr. 7 Tyler State Park 1:00 p.m. 6-7miles Class 2

This is a moderate hike in beautiful historic Tyler State park. We will walk along the creek, cross the bridge and take side trails, mostly dirt, some paved. Hiking boots recommended. Bring water and lunch. Refreshments will be provided at end of hike. Rain or snow cancels. **DIRECTIONS:** Use GPS address: 101 Swamp Rd, Newtown PA . Follow signs to the boat house and canoe rental parking lot. Rain may cancel

Sun., Apr. 8 Pine Barrens: Carranza Memorial/Apple Pie Hill 9:45 a.m. 8 miles Class 1

This hike is easy, mostly flat with good footing. It's an out and back hike in Burlington Co., N.J. Haven't been to the Pine Barrens yet? What are you waiting for? We start at The Carranza Memorial. From here we hike along the Batona Trail to Apple Pie Hill Fire Tower. Must pre-register so that I can notify you if any changes. Restrooms at start point. Bring lunch/snacks, water. Always dress for weather. Extreme weather cancels. **DIRECTIONS:** From the Red Lion circle of US 206 and Rte 70, take US 206 S for 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Carranza Rd (CR 648). Travel 2.2 miles to Tabernacle. At the stop sign, cross CR 532 and continue south on Carranza Rd. Shortly you will enter Wharton State Forest. At 6.7 miles from Tabernacle, the Carranza Memorial and parking lot are located on the right.

Sat., Apr. 14 PTC Spring Luncheon

Sun., Apr. 15 Wissahickon Hike 10:00 a.m. 5 mile Class 2+

Fun little hike in the Wissahickon Valley. Get out, get some exercise to get ready for the warmer weather. We will start at the Chestnut Hill West Train Station. We will be walking on the hills and valleys within the park, including trails with rocks, roots, and leaves. We will initially walk down Rex Ave. to Forbidden Dr., and over to the Valley Green Inn. That's the easy part. From there we will climb lots of hills on the Chestnut Hill side of the park. Finally we will walk up Germantown Pike on the sidewalk to our start point. Of course we can stop and enjoy all the great shops and restaurants that are along our way back to our cars. The hike should take 2.5 hours.

Sat., Apr. 21 Delaware Water Gap 12 miles Class 3 For PTC

members and their guests only. Start out from the Worthington State Forest parking lot near Kittatinny Visitor Center, up to summit of Mt. Tammany for view of the Water Gap, walking the Kittatinny ridge to Sunfish Pond and back along Dunnfield Creek Trail. **DIRECTIONS:** Take 80 E, cross over into NJ and take River Rd in Hardwick. Exit from I-80 E (follow signs for Kittatinny Visitor Center). Go past the visitor center, make left to cross under route 80, left again (it will look like you are going back onto 80 W), turn right into Worthington State Park parking area. Hiking boots recommended, dress in layers, bring lunch, water and snacks.

Sun., Apr. 22 Crow's Nest Preserve Scouting 6+ miles Class 2

For PTC members and their guests only. This is a scouting hike, which means we will explore this potential new hike together. Crow's Nest is the gateway to the Hopewell Big Woods, a 73,000-acre expanse of forest that reaches north into Berks County. **DIRECTIONS:** Rte 76 W to Rte 100 S

toward West Chester, 0.2 mi keep straight on Rte 100 for about 2 miles, turn right onto Kutz Dr. Go 0.3 of a mile, turn right onto W Hoffecker Rd, and then immediately turn left onto Laurelwood Rd and go about a half mile, turn right onto Harmonyville Rd and continue for 5.3 miles. Turn right onto Piersoll Rd. Parking for the preserve will be on the left. The last intersection is Harmonyville Rd. If you reach Hopewell Rd, you've gone too far. GPS Address: 201 Piersol Rd, Elverson, PA 19520.

Thu., Apr. 26 Robbins Park 2 miles Class 2

For PTC members and their guests only. This is a slow hike on level chipped paths in the shade. Great for those getting back into walking/hiking and need the slower pace. We will hike for about two hours. Walk along the north branch of the Rose Valley Creek as it flows to the Wissahickon Creek. **DIRECTIONS:** Use address 1419 E. Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002. From Ambler at the intersection of Butler Pike and Bethlehem Pike. Drive east on Butler Pike for approximately one mile. Drive under the Rte 309 overpass and the entrance to Robbins Park will be on your left at the light where Meetinghouse Rd intersects with Butler Pike.

Sat., Apr. 28 Lake Nockamixon State Park 9:30 a.m. 5.5 miles Class 2

Enjoy a scenic hike in this 5,200+ acre state park surrounding a 1400- acre lake in the rolling hills of Bucks County. This area is known for migrating waterfowl. Park is located 9 miles west of Doylestown, PA. Register with leaders. **DIRECTIONS:** From Rte 611 N (Easton Rd.) Doylestown area- Continue on 611 N towards Ottsville. Pass Wehrung's Lumber on the right and proceed to South Park Rd (unmarked road) just past the Ottsville post office. Turn left (no road sign) on to South Park Rd (you'll see a sign on the right side of road which reads Kimberton Whole Foods & Brig O'Doon Coffee House). Continue on South Park Rd. to Old Ridge Rd. and turn right. Proceed to the parking lot, which is at the trail head for Church trail. Refreshments will be served at the end of the hike. Boots recommended. Rain will cancel.

Sun. Apr. 29th Perkiomen Trail, 8 miles Class 1

PTC members only. An easy, pleasant walk on the Perkiomen Trail from Spring Mont to Collegeville. Weather and trail conditions will determine distance. Car shuttle needed. Meet at Springmont Hotel parking area at 10 a.m. Bring lunch or a snack. **DIRECTIONS:** from Rte 73 and 29 in Schwenksville (north of Collegeville), travel north through the town. About 1 mile from Schwenksville, turn right on Springmont Rd. At T intersection go straight ahead into parking area. Please register because rain cancels.

Sat., May 5 Brandywine Valley 11:00 a.m. 4-5 miles Class 1

Experience the world of Andrew Wyeth along the Brandywine River for a 4-5 mile hike on mostly unpaved trail. Sneakers or hiking shoes are just fine. Optional: Plan to stay for lunch, and visit the Brandywine Museum or take a tour of the NC Wyeth House and Studio. Meet at the Brandywine Conservancy and Museum of Art, 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd. Chadds Ford, Pa. 19317. **DIRECTIONS:** From Rtes. 202 & US 1, follow Rte. 1 S for about 2 miles to Hoffman's Mill Rd. on your left, just past the Sunoco station.

Sun., May 6 Chanticleer Gardens 10:15 a.m. 2-3 miles Class 1

Radnor, Del. Co. Join us for a leisurely stroll at Chanticleer, the garden with a sense of humor. <http://www.chanticleergarden.org/visitors.html> This casual walk will focus on the witty elements of this beautiful, constantly changing gem in Radnor Township. There is a \$10

admission fee, but this lovely site is well worth the cost. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Carpooling encouraged. Raindate : TBA. **DIRECTIONS:** Use address 786 Church Rd, Wayne, PA 19087. From Rte 476, take Exit 13, Villanova-St. Davids, to Rte 30 (Lancaster Ave.), exit to 30 W, then right at Rtes. 30 & 320 to Rte. 320 S. Turn right at next light to Conestoga, go 100 yards, then take left fork onto Newtown Rd. Continue $\frac{1}{2}$ mi. on to Abrahams Lane on right. Take Abrahams to Church Rd. Turn left on Church Rd., go 300 yards to Chanticleer on right. Meet in the lower parking lot. Please register.