

TATC Activity List for March 8th General Meeting

- This listing is current as of the date of the meeting, see the Google calendar and/or the TATC web site for up-to-date information as new items get added, and occasionally published schedules get modified.

See also the TATC Google Calendar for information

- It is viewable at the bottom of the TATC Home Page or can be added to your Google calendar on your computer or phone using the following link –

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=Y2hqMjdudGM1Y201cWwyamZzMWVvZDhwc2tAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xlLmNvbQ>

Tuesday Group - More information on the TATC Tuesday group can be found at - [TATC Tuesday Group\(google.com\)](#). Many of their events are planned only a week or two prior to the event date, and thus do not get listed in this General Meeting snapshot of events. Also, they do not get copied onto the main TATC Google calendar until details have matured, but some advance info is available on the Tuesday Group website prior to being included on the main TATC calendar. They have an event almost every Tuesday morning.

TATC General Meeting (Norfolk)

When: March 8th, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Location – Episcopal Church of the Advent, 9629 Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, VA 23503

Tidewater Scouting Midway

When: March 11th

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club has been invited to join the Tidewater Boy Scouts of America for their University of Scouting Midway on March 11th. The University of Scouting is a training day for all Scouting units in Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, and the seven counties of northeastern North Carolina. University of Scouting is designed to train Scouting leaders by offering ways to enrich their units' programs. Their goal is to showcase organizations that support Scouting. They anticipate over 200 participants in attendance.

This is a FREE event for Midway participants.

TATC's goal is that the Scout leaders learn what our club has to offer both their families and Scouting units.

We will be staffing a table with club members that can explain what we do. Please let us know if you are interested in helping!

John Barnes (outreach@tidewateratc.com) is the TATC POC for this event, please contact him if you can help!

First Landing State Park Trail Maintenance

First Landing State Park Trail Maintenance Work Day

March 11th from 9:00 to 12:00.

The meeting location is the parking lot by the picnic area.
At least 3 volunteers are needed.

Contact: Margaret Pisone at localtrails@tidewateratc to sign up.

March Beach Clean-up - False Cape

While this is not a TATC event, club members are encouraged to support this effort!

It's time for the March Beach Clean-up, and it will be on March 11, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We will meet at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuges Parking lot. (At 4005 Sandpiper Rd. Virginia Beach, Va. 23456) Please be there by 8:45 am so we can leave at 9:00 a.m. to drive the 4 miles to False Cape St. Pk. Beach. No open toe shoes and you must wear your shoes at all times. Bring water, snack, sunscreen, and your grabbers, if you like.

Please call the park Visitor Center at 757-426-7128 and get your name and PHONE NUMBER on the sign-up list. If you plan on bringing someone their name MUST be on the sign-up sheet also. We can only take a small number of volunteers and we need to know beforehand how many volunteers we will have that day. Please sign-up early. I do have 6 buckets for you to use if you would like one. (First come first serve).

POC - Bruce Julian

Tidewater Appalachian Trail Club Tree Planting Event at Mariners' Museum

When: March 11, 2023

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location – Mariners' Museum of East Boundary Rd and Museum Parkway (see attached map image)

Mariners' Museum has removed forest stands with dense growths of invasive species, cleared the area, and plan to replant with native species. The area is ready for the addition of 400+ native species, which in most cases will be seedlings.

If you have walked the Noland Trail; you have probably seen areas with new plantings of Long Leaf Pine and Short Leaf pine.

We will be working in the same general area and planting several native species.

Please note that the gates at the Museum are sometimes closed. I would suggest arriving to the site via Museum Parkway

Dress for the weather conditions and wear work gloves and shoes. Also, bring water and snacks.

Contact: To participate, email Bruce Davidson at bruce.davidson3@verizon.net

Questions: call Bruce 757-846-4283 or Jim Newman at jimnewman55@gmail.com

- General grounds maintenance
- Winter Storm clean up.
- Campsite Preparations
- Installation of new trash cans, beach area
- Installation of a few new signs
- Painting

The event is scheduled for March 18th with March 25th as the rain date. TATC members can camp anywhere, use the CC Kitchen, or stay in the Staff House. Showers will be available only at the staff house that weekend, but water will be available at all hydrants. Participants can camp in Sherando both Friday and Saturday nights.

If you are willing to help, contact John Sima, who has agreed to take the lead on this project, at johncsima@yahoo.com.

Tuesday Group - Merchants Millpond Hike

Tuesday March 21, 2023- 9:15am

Merchants Millpond State Park has been described as a jewel of a park. It is located in Eastern North Carolina near Sunbury. It has been a year since I have had the opportunity to visit Merchants Millpond. I am looking forward to spending time there. This is a dog friendly hike.

We will hike ~7 mile Lassiter Trail from the Visitors Center. More information about the Park is available at the website: <http://www.ncparks.gov/Visit/parks/memi/main>

DIRECTIONS: Please use the (map) function above for turn by turn directions to the Park. From U.S. 158 go ~ one mile South on Millpond Rd. Visitors Center parking lot will be on your left.

MEET: At the Visitors Center Parking lot. Registration 9:15; hike begins at 9:30. Restrooms are available at the Visitors Center.

BRING: Lunch, water, snacks, comfortable hiking shoes, \$ for ice cream (if the store is still open), appropriate clothing for the weather. Plastic bag to sit on just in case.

Please click on this link to sign-up:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jUihb9a8K6reDw-bOVZKgtGFmrlkqtzjwUTsba1tTYA/edit?usp=sharing>

Watch to see who has signed up in order to arrange carpools.

More information on the TATC Tuesday group can be found at - [TATC Tuesday Group\(google.com\)](#)

Beginner's Backpacking Trip – Waitlist Only

Date: March 25th and 26th

Time: Aiming at a just before noon start

Where: Shenandoah National Park, Skyland area.

Day 1: Start at Skyland around noon (either parking for the lodge or parking for the trail up to Stonyman/Little Stonyman). We'll hike 6.3 miles on the AT that day up and over Little Stonyman and Pinnacles Mountain, spending the night at Byrd's Nest 3 shelter.

Day 2: We'll hike a total of 3 miles on the AT from Byrd's Nest 3 to the Panorama Parking lot at the

Thorton's Gap entrance to the park (Rt. 211). Along the way on this short day, we'll take in the views from Mary's Rock before we descend to the parking lot.

After the hike, we'll drive to Sperryville and find some food.

Who: Open to 8 hikers. There'll be a couple of other folks with me to answer questions/pass out free knowledge.

This could easily be your very first backpacking trip. The miles are short and the views are wonderful.

What to bring: The park charges an entrance fee. I will provide a list of suggested equipment and items for those who have never done this before. The Shelter has a bear box, which makes it convenient to store your food and toothpaste. It will be chilly, so extra layers will be suggested.

<https://www.nps.gov/shen/planyourvisit/backcountry-camping.htm>. I will file the backcountry permit (free) for the whole group.

For questions or to sign-up contact Carl Albuquerque at csalbie@gmail.com (mailto:csalbie@gmail.com).

The size of the groups is limited, so you must contact Carl to participate!

Merchants Millpond Hike

Date - March 25, 2023

Location - Merchants Millpond State Park 176 Mill Pond Rd, Gatesville, NC 27938.

Merchants Millpond State Park is a good opportunity to see a cypress swamp and its majestic trees. We will be hiking the Lassiter Trail which is an approximately 7-mile trail, that includes bridges over the swamp and good views of the cypress, rolling uplands and some long leaf pines. The trail is well marked and well maintained. It includes a good number of bridges and while mostly flat it does also have some hills. The park is located a little over hour away from the Hampton Roads Area in Eastern North Carolina near Sunbury near U.S. route 158. This hike is dog friendly. A museum and restrooms are in the Visitor Center near the trail head. This hike is limited to 20 participants. Please arrive on time.

More information about the park is available at the website: <https://www.ncparks.gov/state-parks/merchants-millpond-state-park>.

DIRECTIONS: From U.S. 158 go ~ one mile South on Millpond Rd. Visitors Center parking lot will be on your left.

MEET: At the Visitors Center Parking lot. Sign-up at 9:15; hike starts at 9:30.

BRING: Lunch, water, snacks, comfortable hiking shoes, appropriate clothing for the weather, bug repellent. Plastic bag to sit on just in case.

To sign-up or for questions, email Bill Bunch at bbunch@att.net.

TATC General Meeting (Norfolk)

When: April 12th, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Location – Episcopal Church of the Advent, 9629 Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, VA 23503

Other Future Activities (see linked calendar for details) –

- Spring Walk-thru – April 14th to 16th, 2023
- Dismal Swamp Bike Ride – April 22nd, 2023
- Cabin Work Trip – April 28th to 30th, 2023
- Spring Day In the Park – May 6th, 2023
- General Membership Meeting – May 10th, 2023
- First Landing State Park Maintenance – May 12th, 2023
- Bamboo Hike – May 13th, 2023
- Spring Maintenance with Sunday Hiking – May 19th – 21st, 2023
- Trail Magic Day at Reids Gap or Tye River – June 3rd, 2023
- General Membership Meeting – June 14th, 2023
- Lopperfest #1 – June 16th – 18th, 2023
- General Membership Meeting – July 12th, 2023
- Lopperfest #2 – July 14th – 16th, 2023
- ATVISTA – August 4th – 7th, 2023. Johnson City, TN
- General Membership Meeting – August 9th, 2023
- Lopperfest #3 – August 11th – 13th, 2023
- Fall Walk Through – September 29th – October 1st, 2023
- Newport News Fall Festival – October 7th, 2023
- General Membership Meeting – October 11th, 2023
- Fall Maintenance – October 20th – 22nd, 2023