

West Virginia Master Naturalists
Kanawha Valley Chapter

Program Coordinator: Becky Linger (rebecca.linger@wvstateu.edu)

2026 Calendar of Classes

Please note: The dates of these classes may change depending on the health and evolving schedules of our instructors.

Watch your email for class reminders and revised copies of the Calendar of Classes if dates need to change due to instructor schedules or illness.

Date	Class	Location
Friday, March 20, 2026, 6:00 pm	Orientation Becky Linger, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, March 27, 2026, 6:00 pm	Nature Interpretation and Teaching Core Class, 3 credit hours Barry Curry, Instructor Becky Linger, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, April 3, 2026, 6:00 pm	Recording and Preserving Core Class, 3 credit hours Barry Curry, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, April 10, 2026, 6:00 pm	Fishes Core Class, 3 credit hours Mike Vernon, Instructor Michelle Platt, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Sat., April 11, 2026, 1:00 pm NOTE START TIME	Nature Journaling Elective Class, 3 credit hours Jamie Chambers, Instructor and Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, April 17, 2026, 6:00 pm	Names, Classifications, and Identification Core Class, 3 credit hours Steve Beckelhimer, Instructor Gerry Stover, Class Coordinator	Zoology Zone, Valley Park, Hurricane, WV
Friday, April 24, 2026, 6:00 pm	Spring Medicinal Plants Elective Class, 3 credit hours Becky Linger, Instructor and Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Sat. April 25, 2026, 1:00 pm NOTE START TIME	Fieldwork	Johnson Hollow, KSF

Friday, May 1, 2026, 6:00 pm	Birds Core Class, 3 credit hours Jim Waggy, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Saturday, May 2, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	TBD
Friday, May 8, 2026, 6:00 pm	Soils Elective Class, 3 credit hours Aaron Sattler, Instructor Gerry Stover, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Saturday, May 9, 2026, 9:00 am	Photography Elective Class, 3 credit hours Sara Mick, Instructor Gerry Stover, Class Coordinator	Meeks Mountain Trails Hurricane, WV
Wed. May 13, 2026, 6:00 pm	Terrestrial Habitats Core Class, 3 credit hours Doug Wood, Instructor Barry Curry, Class Coordinator	Woodscape <i>Home of Doug Wood and Dianne Anestis</i>
Friday, May 15, 2026, 6:00 pm	Orienteering Elective Class, 3 credit hours Sheldon Owen, Instructor Gerry Stover, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, May 22, 2026, 6:00 pm	Reptiles Core Class, 1.5 credit hours Sara Mick, Instructor Gerry Stover, Class Coordinator	Zoology Zone Valley Park Hurricane WV
Saturday, May 23, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	Meeks Mountain Trails Hurricane, WV
Thursday, May 28, 2026, 6:00 pm	Wildflowers & Weeds Core Class, 3 credit hours Mark Watson, Instructor Drew Gornik, Class Coordinator	Clay Tower Room 102 University of Charleston
Sat. May 30, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	TBD
Friday, June 5, 2026, 6:00 pm	Insects Core Class, 3 credit hours Laura Miller, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center or Shelter 4
Saturday, June 6, 2026, 10:00 am	Fieldwork	Dunlop Hollow

Friday, June 19, 2026, 6:00 pm	Aquatic Habitats Core Class, 3 credit hours Garrett Hoover, Instructor Michelle Platt, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Sat. June 20, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	Nature Center Area, Davis Creek
Friday June 26, 2026, 6:00 pm	Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines Core Class, 3 credit hours Liz Moss, Instructor NEED Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Fri. July 24 to Sun. July 26, 2026	WVMN 2026 State Conference <i>Registration opens April 11, 2026</i> <i>mnofwv.org</i>	Camp Dawson Kingwood, WV
Friday, Aug. 7, 2026, 6:00 pm	Wilderness First Aid Elective Class, 3 credit hours Barb Koster, Instructor Kandi Workman, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Sat., August 15, 2026, 9:00 am	How to do a Nature Walk Elective Class, 3 credit hours Becky Linger, Instructor and Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center and Shrewsbury Hollow
Friday, August 21, 2026, 6:00 pm	Wetland Habitats Core Class, 3 credit hours Barry Curry, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Sat. August 22, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	Greenbottom WMA, Glenwood, WV
Sat. August 29, 2026, 11:30 am	KVMN Annual Picnic And Awards Recognition Bring a dish!	KSF Shelter #3 <i>The shelter nearest the road at the Nature Center</i>
Friday, Sept. 11, 2026, 6:00 pm	Amphibians Core Class, 1.5 credit hours Mark Watson, Instructor Drew Gornik, Class Coordinator	Clay Tower Room 102 University of Charleston
Saturday, Sept. 12, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	TBD
Friday, Sept. 18, 2026, 6:00 pm	Edible Wild Plants Elective Class, 3 credit hours Becky Linger, Instructor and Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026, 9:00 am	Field Work	Johnson Hollow, KSF

Friday, Sept. 25, 2026, 6:00 pm	General Ecology Core Class, 3 credit hours Barry Curry, Instructor Jamie Chambers, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, 6:00 pm	Mammals Core Class, 3 credit hours Sheldon Owen, Instructor Michelle Platt, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, Oct. 9, 2026, 6:00 pm	Habitat Improvement for Wildlife Core Class, 3 credit hours Sheldon Owen, Instructor Michelle Platt, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Friday, Oct. 16, 2026, 6:00 pm	Geology Core Class, 3 credit hours Claudette Simard, Instructor Barry Curry, Class Coordinator	KSF Nature Center
Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026, 9:00 am	Fieldwork	TBD
Friday, March 5 through Sunday, March 7, 2027	Woodlore Weekend at Twin Falls State Park Elective Credit available through several workshops Doug Wood and Dianne Anestis, Instructors	Twin Falls State Park WV-97 Mullens, WV 25882 (304) 294-4000

Directions

KANAWHA STATE FOREST, 7500 Kanawha State Forest Road, Charleston, WV From I-64 East or West

Take Exit 58A, drive south on US 119. Turn left onto Oakwood Rd. at the second stop light, (following the brown and white routing signs) go 3/4 mile and take a left before George Washington High School continuing on Oakwood Road, turn right onto Bridge Rd., and right onto Connell Rd. At the bottom of Connell, make a sharp left onto Kanawha Forest Drive, follow to the forest entrance.

From I-79 South/I-77 South

Follow I-77 South towards Charleston. Keep right to follow I-64 East towards Huntington. Take Exit 58A, drive south on US 119. Turn left onto Oakwood Rd. at the second stop light (following the brown and white routing signs for Kanawha State Forest), go 3/4 mile and take a left before George Washington High School continuing on Oakwood Road, turn right onto Bridge Rd., and right onto Connell Rd. At the bottom of Connell, make a sharp left onto Kanawha Forest Drive, follow to the forest entrance.

KSF Nature Center and Shelters 3 & 4: The Nature Center is approximately 1.5 miles into the Forest. Stay on Kanawha State Forest Road until you see signs for The Nature Center on your left. As you turn left into the roads leading to the Nature Center, you'll enter a large parking lot. You'll pass Shelter 3 on your left and Shelter 4 is further to your left at the end of the parking lot. The Nature Center is on your right.

Johnson Hollow: Johnson Hollow is exactly four miles into the Forest. Stay on Kanawha State Forest Road until you see a large gravel parking lot on your left.

CLAUDIA WORKMAN WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER, 301 Forks of Coal Way, Alum Creek, WV From Charleston: Drive south on Corridor G for 11 miles. Turn right on Forks of Coal Way. Turn right immediately and drive to the Center.

GREENBOTTOM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, 10225 Bryan Creek Rd, Glenwood, WV 25520

MEADOWOOD PARK, 292 Pettigrew Lane, St. Albans, WV 25177.

From Charleston: Drive west on I-64 to exit 55. Take exit 55 and merge onto Kanawha Turnpike. At the traffic circle, take the first exit and stay on Kanawha Turnpike for 1.5 miles. Continue onto Lincoln Drive for 0.6 miles, then continue onto Smith Creek Road for 6.3 miles. Turn right onto Pettigrew Lane. We will be meeting at the Lodge.

From points west: Drive east on I-64. Take exit 44 toward US-35/St. Albans. Turn right onto WV-817 S and drive for 3.1 miles. Continue straight onto W. Main st. Turn right onto Coal River Road for five miles. Turn left onto Smith Creek Road. Turn left onto Pettigrew Lane. We will be meeting in the Lodge.

MEEKS MOUNTAIN TRAILS, 3511 WV-34, Hurricane, WV 25526

From Charleston: Drive west on I-64 for 18 miles. Take exit 39 and turn left onto WV-34 South. Drive 3 miles to Hurricane City Park on your left.

ST. ALBANS CITY PARK, 931 Observatory Dr, St Albans, WV

From I-64W or I-64E: Take exit 50 to merge onto WV-25W/1st Ave. S. Keep left to continue on Center St. Turn left onto State Rte 25 Spur/Center St. Continue onto 3rd St. Turn left onto Kanawha Terrace. Turn right onto Observatory Dr. Observatory Dr. turns slightly right and becomes City Park Rd. Destination will be on the left.

From Charleston: Head northeast on US-119 N/Corridor G towards Parkway Rd. Keep left to stay on US-119N/Corridor G N. Take the WV-601 exit toward South Charleston/Davis Creek Rd. Turn left onto WV-601 N/Kanawha Turnpike. Turn right onto Jefferson Rd. Turn left onto Kanawha Terrace. Turn left onto Observatory Dr. Observatory Dr. turns slightly right and becomes City Park Rd.

Destination will be on the left.

UNIVERSITY OF CHARLESTON, CLAY TOWER ROOM 102, 2300 MacCorkle Ave. SE, Charleston, WV
Clay Tower is the tallest building on campus, it is the building with the “crown-like” appearance at the top. You can park in any of the surface lots as long as they are not blocked off for a specific event. Come through the doors on the 1st floor of Clay Tower on the MacCorkle Avenue side. Walk past the elevator and take the first hallway to the right. Room 102 is at the end of the hallway on the left.

WV TECHNOLOGY PARK, BUILDING 2000, 2020 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, 25303.

From I-64 West: Take Exit 55 in South Charleston. for Kanawha Turnpike toward Jefferson Road WV- 601. Turn left onto Union Carbide Drive.

From I-64 East: Take Exit 54 in South Charleston. for Kanawha Turnpike toward Jefferson Road WV- 601. Turn right onto the first cross street (Jefferson Road). Turn left onto Kanawha Turnpike. Turn right onto Union Carbide Drive.

WARD HOLLOW WILDLIFE HABITAT, 2020 Union Carbide Drive, South Charleston, WV 25303

From I-64 West: Take Exit 55 in South Charleston. for Kanawha Turnpike toward Jefferson Road WV- 601. Turn left onto Union Carbide Drive. Follow Union Carbide Drive for 0.8 miles, continuing past Bridge Valley CTC. Behind Bridge Valley, there will be a parking lot to your right, next to a red brick building. Drive to the end of that parking lot. The gated entrance to Ward Hollow will be to your right.

From I-64 East: Take Exit 54 in South Charleston. for Kanawha Turnpike toward Jefferson Road WV- 601. Turn right onto the first cross street (Jefferson Road). Turn left onto Kanawha Turnpike. Turn right onto Union Carbide Drive. Follow Union Carbide Drive for 0.8 miles, continuing past Bridge Valley CTC. Behind Bridge Valley, there will be a parking lot to your right, next to a red brick building. Drive to the end of that parking lot. The gated entrance to Ward Hollow will be to your right.

WOODSCAPE, Home of Doug Wood and Dianne Anestis 38°22'49.07"N/ 81°55'59.92"W, or 38.380297°/-81.933311°

From St. Albans, travel W on U.S. Rt. 60 past the intersection with WV Rt. 817 (old Rt. 35), and over Coal Mountain to “One Accord Community Church” on the R. To the L, across from the church is Sams Fork Road. Turn onto Sams Fork Rd. and follow for approximately 2.0 miles total to our house, passing a gated driveway entrance on the R at approx. 1.0 mile enroute to our house. At approx. 1.6 miles watch on the L for Spite Road entering from behind. Remain straight on Sams Fork Rd. DO NOT TURN L onto Spite Rd. From this intersection, watch on R of Sams Fork Rd. for the next house on R. This next house on R is ours. Light gray vinyl siding and a steep roof will help you identify it.

From Hurricane exit of I-64, travel S on Rt. 34 towards Hamlin for a mile or so until you reach U.S. Rt. 60. Turn L, E on U.S. Rt. 60 for a few miles, passing a golf driving range on the R to “One Accord Community Church” on the L. To the R, across from the church is Sams Fork Road. Turn onto Sams Fork Rd. and follow for approximately 2.0 miles total to our house, passing a gated driveway entrance on the R at approx. 1.0 mile enroute to our house. At approx. 1.6 miles watch on the L for Spite Road entering from behind. Remain straight on Sams Fork Rd. DO NOT TURN L onto Spite Rd. From this intersection, watch on R of Sams Fork Rd. for the next house on R. This next house on R is ours. Light gray vinyl siding and a steep roof will help you identify it.

ZOOLOGY ZONE SCIENCE CENTER, 3 Valley Park Dr, Hurricane, WV 25526

From Charleston: Drive west on I-64 for 18 miles. Take exit 39 and turn left onto WV-34 South. Drive 4 miles to Valley Park on your right.