

Welcome!

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Great Smoky Mountains and our Natural Resources College Consortium. We hope that the schedule of sessions, hikes, and events will provide you many opportunities to learn new things and to experience the beauty and wonder of the Smokies. Our hope is that you leave here with a renewed appreciation for exploring the natural world, a variety of fun activities to try, and a heightened personal connection with your National Park.

This booklet contains a schedule and descriptions to help you better anticipate the week. There will be more details about all the programs given at meals, so listen to the announcements! We will do our best to make sure your week in the Smokies is one to remember. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance throughout your stay.

Sincerely,

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont Staff

Telephone: A telephone is located in the Mountain Room, just off the Dining Hall. It is available any time and has emergency numbers by it. Long distance calls can be made using a calling card or credit card. ***There is no cellular phone service in the valley.***

Wireless Internet: Wireless connection to the Internet is available in the Activity Building as well as in outdoor areas adjacent to this building. Please ask for the password if you would like to use this feature.

Caylor Lodge: Because ours is an open dormitory situation, please be considerate of others. Women will be sleeping on the Right Upstairs and Downstairs. Men will occupy the Left Upstairs and Downstairs. Try to use only bedside lights and observe quiet hours between 10pm and 7am. Because animals are attracted to food, we ask that there be no food or drink in the lodge. There is a place in the dining hall for such items.

Dining Hall: The activity building will always be open and coffee or tea will be available. Please do your socializing in this building rather than the lodge. Our cooks ask that only staff be allowed in the kitchen. Return used coffee mugs, glasses and silverware to the dish window.

Mail: Outgoing mail may be dropped off at the office.

Sales Area: T-shirts, books, postcards, film and other items are available for sale in the office area gift shop. It is open from 8am - 5pm Monday-Friday and 9am - 5pm on Saturday.

Library: You are welcome to browse and check books out for the week from our library located in the office. Please ask for staff assistance.

After Hours Assistance: A staff member is assigned to be on site and available at all times. If you are in need of staff emergency assistance after hours, you should find someone either at the director's house by the river, or at one of the staff apartments.

Sample Schedule of Sessions, Hikes and Events

Participating Colleges and Universities: University of Georgia
Purdue North Central University

Sunday

10:00am	Depart Athens, GA with classes and field activities en route
2:00 - 4:00pm	Hike country hike to Andrews Bald
5:00pm	Arrival, Check-in at Office, Move into Lodge, Make yourself at Home!
5:30pm	Supper - Dining Hall
6:30pm	Social event

Monday

9:00 - Noon Waterfall hike and community ecology

1:00 - 5:00pm Orienteering: Learning how to read a map and compass

5:30 pm Supper - Dining Hall

6:15 pm **Welcome, Orientation, and Introductions- Cove Room**

6:30 pm **"State of the Park Address" with Bob Miller, GSMNP Spokesperson**

Learn some of what is so special about this country's most visited National Park and about some of the biggest challenges facing the park from Great Smoky Mountains National Park's Superintendent. Bob Miller will share information and take questions from us. Cove Room

7:30 pm Break and Refreshments - Dining Hall

8:00 pm **GSMNP History: An Overview with Jeremy Lloyd- Cove Room**

Explore the history of the national park, before, during and after its creation

Tuesday

7:00 am **Field Journaling Techniques with Amber Parker -Cove Room**

A field notebook is a naturalist's, field ecologist's, or student's best tool. Field notes and sketches are invaluable for remembering place, size, color, behavior, and species associated with a certain habitat or landscape. This session explores the fundamentals of journaling through recording methods, materials, resources, and the value of journaling for all ages. We will cover a great variety of field notebooks and journals from accounts kept by early explorers to personal records of phenological events. Participants will leave with a new appreciation of the field journal and the desire to continue this vanishing art. Cove Room

8:00 am Breakfast - Dining Hall

8:30 am **All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory: An Overview with Amber Parker - Cove Room**

The All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory or ATBI is a ground breaking program designed to identify all the species in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, an ambitious undertaking. Learn how this program is managed, the inventory methods used, and just how far we have come.

9:30 am **ATBI Inventory Activities - Brian, Jen, Josh**

Now is your chance to become an ATBI researcher. We'll split into several inventory groups, each with their own project, survey and area, and return to report our progress. You may research; fungi, dung beetles, moths, aquatic beetles, or butterflies.

11:30 am **Group Presentation**

Share what you saw, collection methods, and your results.

12:00 pm Break

12:30 pm LUNCH - Dining Hall

1:15 pm **Introduction to Ecology with Dr. Jason Curtis - Cove Room**

2:30 pm **Forest Ecology Overview with Amber Parker- Cove Room**

Get ready for the rest of the week with a quick overview of dominant forest types found in the Smokies, their indicator species, distribution, and areas of concern.

- 3:15pm **Break**
- 3:30 pm **Forest Ecology Hike with Jen, Josh and Brian**
Put what you just learned into practice as we walk some of the local trails in search of various forests. See how aspect and elevation affect forest distribution and composition.
- 5:00 pm **Break**
- 5:30 **SUPPER - Dining Hall**
- 6:00 pm **University Meeting** (discussion of pre-trip quiz)
- 6:30 pm **Amphibians, reptiles and birds of the Smokies with Dr. Don Linzey - Cove Room**
An overview of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
- 7:30pm **Mammals with Dr. Don Linzey - Cove Room**
- 8:15pm **Introduction to Land Use Simulation Game with Dr. Michael Tarrant - Cove Room**
- 9:00 pm **Refreshments - Dining Hall**

Wednesday

- 7:00 am **BREAKFAST** in Dining Hall
- 7:30 - 9:15 **Exotics in Great Smoky Mountains National Park with Josh - Council House**
GSMNP is dealing with many exotic pests. Learn the issues surrounding exotics as well as how the park is managing for these pesky organisms.
- 9:30 - 12:15 **Aquatic and Terrestrial Salamander Survey Methods with Jen and Brian**
Woody and Herbaceous Plants with Ken and Amber
- 12:30 pm **LUNCH - Dining Hall**
- 1:15 - 4:15 pm **Aquatic and Terrestrial Salamander Survey Methods with Jen and Brian**
Woody and Herbaceous Plants with Ken and Amber
- 4:30 pm **Reading Time**
- 5:30 pm **SUPPER**
- 6:00 pm **Wildlife Management in GSMNP - Bill Stiver, Wildlife Biologist**
- 7:30 pm **Voice of the Smokies - Cove Room**
- 9:00pm **Refreshments - Dining Hall**
- 9:15 pm **Meeting for Land Use Simulation Game with Dr. Michael Tarrant - Cove Room**

Thursday

- 7:00 am Breakfast - Dining Hall
Pack Sack Lunch
- 7:30 - 9:15 am **Air Quality in GSMNP with Jason Love - Cove Room**
Great Smoky Mountains National Park has some of the worst air quality in the United States. Learn the contributing factors to our air quality woes, the effects of bad air, and how we can use plants as air quality indicators.
- 9:30 - 4:30 All Day Trip to Cades Cove with Jen, Josh, and Amber
Spend a day exploring this mountain valley which is both geologic and natural wonder as well as cultural history icon. We'll focus on the karst landscape features, wetlands, plant restoration efforts, and the rich history of this area.
- 4:30 pm **Reading Time**
- 5:30 pm Supper - Dining Hall
- 6:30 pm **Geology of the Smokies with Harry Moore - Cove Room**
Join Harry Moore, author of *A Roadside Guide to the Geology of Great Smoky Mountains National Park* for an in-depth look at mountain formation, geologic features, and other aspects of the foundations of these mountains.
- Friday**
- 7:00 am Breakfast - Dining Hall
- 8:00 am
- 9:00 am - **Interpreting the Smokies with Mike Maslona, Resource Ed, Ranger - Cove Room**
Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the most visited in the nation! Find out how park staff educate the masses about the natural and cultural wonders that exist here.
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30 am **Black Bear Ecology and Research in Great Smoky Mountains National Park with - Cove Room**
Join University of Tennessee black bear researcher, , for a behinds the scenes look at how they gather information on this secretive mammal.
- 12:30 pm LUNCH - Dining Hall
- 1:30 **Stream Ecology - Cove Room**
Learn about the inhabitants of streams and rivers as we explore the variety of aquatic niches found in the Middle Prong. We'll focus on understanding the morphology of streams, aquatic macroinvertebrates, bioindicators, and conservation issues.
- 4:30 Reading Time
- 5:30 pm Cook-Out - Pavilion
- 6:30 **Land Use Simulation Game - Cove Room**
- 9:30 Refreshments - Dining Hall

Saturday

8:00 am Breakfast - Dining Hall

8:30 am Exam

10:30 am Departure

Sample