

2018 Calendar of Events



GTKYW = Get To Know Your Watershed! These events will always include a naturalist, outdoor guide, or some other expert to help participants learn more about the upper Hiwassee River watershed area.

GTKYW Event: Hike to Tusquitee Bald via Short Branch

Date: Saturday, March 31

Time: 9:00-5:00

Location: Fires Creek Wildlife Management Area

Pre-registration is required for this outing!

Registered hikers will meet at Bristol Horse Camp

Details: This moderate, full day hike up Short Branch to the Rim Trail and ultimately Tusquitee Bald is through the heart of the proposed wilderness area in the headwaters of Fires Creek! Due to parking constraints on Short Branch, the hike is limited to 12 participants; registration is required. Registered hikers should be prepared to meet at the Bristol Horse Camp at 9:00 am. Email us at cmoore@hrwc.net or call 828-837-5414 for more information or to register.

GTKYW Event: Lake Chatuge Get Outdoors! Expo

Beginnings of Aquatic Food Chains Microscope Activity

Date: Saturday, April 7 & Sunday, April 8

Time: Expo – 10-5 daily

HRWC activity – 3:30 on Saturday & 11:30 on Sunday

Location: Towns Co. Recreation & Conference Center

150 Foster Park Rd., Young Harris, GA 30582

Cost: Adults - \$5; Children under 14 - Free

Details: From hunting and fishing to hiking and camping and everything in between, the Lake Chatuge Get Outdoors! Expo is bringing vendors from all types of outdoor activities for an amazing show! Presented by the Towns County Chamber of Commerce, there will be demonstrations, children's activities, food vendors, and much more from 10-5 each day. The Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition will be providing a fun microscope activity called "Beginnings of the Aquatic Food Chain." Youth and adults alike will be able to see and identify microscopic phytoplankton and zooplankton in pond water samples! Visit <https://www.getoutdoors.net> for more information.

Event: 2018 Fly Fishing Film Tour

Date: Saturday, April 14

Time: 6:00-9:00 PM

Location: Young Harris College, Rollins Campus Center

1 College Street, Young Harris, GA 30582

Cost: Reg. Admission - \$20 in advance/\$30 at door; Students - \$5 in advance

Details: The nationwide Fly Fishing Film Tour is again coming to Young Harris College in 2018 thanks to the YHC TU 5Rivers Fly Fishing Club! The event will benefit the YHC TU 5Rivers Fly Fishing Club, Project Healing Waters and the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm with films starting at 7:00pm. For more information contact Liam Cunningham at lacunningham@yhc.edu or 912-373-5250. Tickets are also available at <https://flyfilmtour.com/buy-tickets>.

Event: 2K Water Run Fundraiser

Sponsored by Calaboose Cellars, Andrews Brewing Company and the Andrews Chamber of Commerce

Date: Friday, April 20

Time: 3:30-4:30 Sign in; 4:45 Runners Meeting

5:00 PM Start

6:00 Live music by Blue Revue!

Location: Calaboose Cellars

565 Aquone Road, Andrews, NC 28901

Cost: Adults - \$20 per runner

Details: This is a very short race event (2.23K!) in the Andrews community. It is a fundraiser for the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition. For your \$20 entry fee you will receive an HRWC T-shirt, a custom race bib, and a special treat post-race. Prizes include tickets to the HRWC Trout Dinner on the following Thursday, April 26th. You'll also receive a good feeling of support for clean water in the Hiwassee River basin! The Course: Start at Calaboose Cellars. Head downtown on Aquone Road. Turn right onto Cherry and then run around Ivie Funeral Home counterclockwise and back onto Cherry. Left onto Aquone Road and back to the Calaboose. Blue Revue will provide live music post-race!

GTKYW Event: Earth Day Expo at Hamilton Gardens on Lake Chatuge

Date: Saturday, April 21

Time: 10:00-2:00

Location: "Top" of Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds

96 Pavilion Road, Hiawassee, GA 30546

Details: HRWC will again host a booth at the second annual Earth Day Expo at Hamilton Gardens. There will be exhibits from agencies and groups who are "stewards of the earth," trash-to-treasures recycled art displays, and demonstrations throughout the gardens. Come visit our booth to learn about native and invasive plants and take a stroll through 33 acres of beautiful blooms!

GTKYW Event: Earth Day Nature Walk along Valley River

Date: Sunday, April 22

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: Cherokee County Heritage Park

1 Wilson Street, Andrews, NC 28901

Details: HRWC Restoration Coordinator, Tony Ward will lead a Nature Walk along easy the walking trail at the Heritage Park in Andrews, NC. As the group strolls beside the beautiful Valley River, Tony will point out various native trees and shrubs and discuss their value as streambank stabilization, shade, stormwater filtration, and wildlife

habitat. The walk will also highlight the two stream restoration projects along Town Branch that HRWC completed in 2006 and 2015, respectively. Problematic invasive exotic plant species are also likely to come up as a topic. No registration is necessary.

Event: **Trout Dinner (14th Annual!)**
Date: **Thursday, April 26**
Time: 5:30-7:00 PM
Location: **Meeks Park, Pavilion #3, Union County, Ga.**
Directions: Meeks Park is located in Union County, Georgia approximately one mile west of Blairsville on Hwy. 515. Look for a long left turn lane before you get to North Georgia Technical College.
Cost: **Adults - \$15; Children Ages 6-12 - \$8; Children Under 6 - Free**
Details: HRWC will serve up locally farmed, smoked rainbow trout along with baked beans, coleslaw, potato salad, cornbread, your choice of homemade desserts and a drink. This event has become pretty popular, so come early to get a table seat and bring a lawn chair (if you have one) to relax in after you eat. Not a fan of trout? Mild Italian sausages will be available as an alternative to fish. To-go containers will also be available. All proceeds go to support our work sustain clean water in the upper Hiwassee River watershed.

Event: **Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer Monitoring Workshops - Chemical & Bacterial**
Date: **May 12 (Tentative)**
Time: **9:00-12:00 Water Chemistry; 12:30-3:00 Bacterial**
Location: **Andrews, NC**
Specific location TBD
Cost: Workshop is offered free of charge; volunteers taking both sessions should bring lunch.
Details: A day of hands-on learning about how YOU can help protect our lakes, rivers and streams! Participants will have the opportunity to become certified volunteers in the Adopt-A-Stream program. From 9-12, workshop participants will be trained in chemical monitoring, learning how to test stream samples for dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH and conductivity. Then after lunch (and rightly so!) attendees will learn how to conduct bacterial monitoring. The training will include a "hands-on" demonstration at nearby Corn Creek. Pre-registration is required. Please email Raleigh Keagan at admin@hrwc.net or call 828-837-5414.

GTKYW Event: **Wildflower Walk on the John Muir National Recreation Trail (TN)**
Date: **Saturday, May 19**
Time: 9:00-4:00
Location: **HRWC Office, 90 Tennessee Street, Murphy, NC 28906**
Meet at the Coalition office to carpool.
Details: This easy hike along the beautiful Wild & Scenic section of the Hiwassee River in Tennessee follows the route taken by one of the early founders of the conservation movement, John Muir, during his "Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf." We will hike from the Childers Creek trailhead near Reliance, TN to Big Bend and back for a total of

about six miles. It is possible to leave vehicles at Big Bend for those who would rather do a shorter hike. This is a wildflower walk extraordinaire! Participants should bring their own lunch and water. Please let us know if you're planning to go: admin@hrwc.net or call 828-837-5414.

Event: "Hillside to Streambank" Erosion Mitigation Lecture & Tour
Sponsored by the Community Council of the GMREC

Date: Friday, June 1

Time: 10:00am-12:30pm

Location: Georgia Mountain Research & Education Center
GMRE Center Auditorium and Ethnobotanic Garden, streamside.
195 GA Mtn Experiment Station Rd, Blairsville, GA 30512

Details: HRWC Executive Director, Callie Moore will present a one-hour lecture geared toward helping landowners identify potential erosion sources and also to give them suggestions for restoring problem areas that might include hillsides, house sites, and streambanks. After the lecture, participants may tour the recent streambank stabilization project to learn how to maintain water quality on their property.

Event: Art, River, & Music Festival Canoe/Kayak Trips
Sponsored by the Cherokee Co. Arts Council

Date: Saturday, June 2

Time: 10:00am-3:00pm

Location: Historic L&N Depot & River Walk in Downtown Murphy
132 Hiwassee Street, Murphy, NC 28906

Cost: Free!

Details: The Coalition will again partner with the Cherokee Co. Arts Council to provide river activities and educational information at the 8th Annual Art, River, & Music Festival! The Coalition's information booth and canoe trip sign-up will again be located behind the Historic L&N Depot on Hiwassee Street in downtown Murphy. Canoe trips are offered from 10:00-2:00 and are free to the public. There will be a sign-up sheet to schedule boats; children under 18 must have a parent or guardian co-sign a liability waiver. Kayaks will also be available for individuals to take out for 20-minute periods on a free, first come, first served basis. Admission to the festival is free. Donations to support clean water are always welcome!

HRWC, 90 Tennessee Street, Ste. D, Murphy, NC 28906
828-837-5414; <https://hrwc.net>
www.facebook.com/hiwasseeeriver