



The Kentucky Native Plant Society's WILDFLOWER WEEKEND

Natural Bridge State Park, April 28 – April 29, 2017

\$10 for adults, free for ages 18 and under. Discounted KNPS memberships \$10 for paid registrants. Registration on site prior to hikes and programs. Hikes start at Natural Bridge Lodge, programs are in Woodland Activities Center.

Join us as we explore the area in search of wildflowers with some of the best botanists in the state and listen to fascinating talks on native plants by regional experts. Children's wildflower scavenger hunt activities will be offered and door prizes will be offered during evening talks. A tribute to Mary Carol Cooper is being planned for Saturday evening.

Friday, April 28

9:00 AM Wildflower Walk on Whittleton Trail (1 mile, easy) - David Taylor, US Forest Service

1:30 PM Wildflower Walk on the Rock Garden Trail (1 mile, moderate) – Bob Van Hoff, USACE (retired)

2:00 PM Non-flowering Plants Walk (1/2 mile, easy) – David Taylor, US Forest Service

4:00 PM Wildflower Walk on the Rock Garden Trail (1 mile, moderate) – Danny Barrett, Kentucky Society for Natural History

6:30 PM Find out more about KNPS and our activities!

6:45 PM *Flora of Boyle County, Kentucky* – Heidi Braunreiter, former ECU botany masters student, Copperhead Consulting Field Botanist
Heidi received a KNPS student grant for her graduate master's work doing floristic inventories of Boyle County under Dr. Ron Jones at ECU. She has since moved over to Copperhead consulting where she is a field botanist. She will be discussing the details of her master's thesis.

7:00 PM *A Bloomin' Crescendo: Some Notable Botanical Events of the Southern Appalachians*—Barry Howard, KY State Parks
Barry Howard has had a state government career as a naturalist and manager of several eastern Kentucky state parks, including Pine Mt State Park, and as a land protection specialist at KSNPC. He is a longtime nature photographer and has been chasing wildflower displays for the past 6 years, primarily in the higher mountains of the southern Appalachians. Join as we listen to Barry discuss some fascinating plants of the southern Appalachians.

Saturday, April 29

8:30 AM Trees and Shrubs Walk (1/2 mile, easy) – David Taylor, US Forest Service

8:30 AM Ecology of Hood's Branch (4 mile, moderate to difficult) – Martina Hines, Ecologist at Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission

9:00 AM Wildflowers on the Sheltolee Trace (2 mile, moderate) – Brad Ruhfel and Thomas McFadden, ECU Biological Sciences

9:30 AM Geology and Wildflowers of Red River Gorge, Nada Tunnel to Rock Bridge –Ron Jones (EKU, Plant Life of KY author) and Mark Sweet.

1:30 PM Edible and Medicinal Plants (1/2 mile, easy) – Hannah Helm, Environmental Educator, wild plant enthusiast

1:30 PM Wildflower Walk on Whittleton Trail (1 mile, easy) - Heidi Braunreiter and Austin Prater, Copperhead Consulting Botanists

2:00 PM Plant hike in the Red River Gorge (TBA) – Andrew Lane Gibson, Ohio DNR field botanist

2:00 PM Hike on Martin's Fork Trail (1 mile, easy to moderate) – Deb White, Botanist, Woods and Water Land Trust Director

3:00 PM Join Botanical Artist Laura Poullette at the Woodland Pavilion for a Botanical Art Demonstration-Kid Friendly!

6:30 PM *Tribute to Mary Carol Cooper: Join us as we share our memories of Mary Carol and honor her contribution to Kentucky Botany.*

6:50 PM Find out about the Kentucky Native Plant Society's plans for 2017!

7:00 PM *Rare Plants of Ohio* – Andrew Lane Gibson, Ohio Department of Natural Resources Field Botanist, blogger, photographer

Andrew was born on the glaciated till plains of west-central Ohio, where he came to admire nature from a very young age. That early admiration has since blossomed into a calling to better understand and preserve our natural world. Gibson is a graduate of Hocking College where he studied wildlife management and biology before continuing his education in plant biology and ecology at Ohio University in Athens. He is currently a field botanist for the Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves where he monitors, surveys, and manages state listed rare plants and habitats. Wild orchids are his most passionate botanical interest and area of research. He has seen nearly 80 of eastern North America's species and all 47 of Ohio's indigenous taxa. Gibson is an ardent photographer and writer and publishes a popular nature blog and Instagram, The Buckeye Botanist featuring his many botanical forays and travels. Join us as we listen to Andrew discuss the Rare and unusual plants of Ohio and their fascinating distributions!

Wildflower Weekend is sponsored by: The Kentucky Native Plant Society, The Kentucky Society for Natural History – Slade Chapter, Natural Bridge State Park, and the US Forest Service