

ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB

ONONDAGA CHAPTER

TALK OF THE TRAIL Winter 2026

December ❄ January ❄ February

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS EDITION

- From the Chair
- Invasive Species Spotlight
- Outings! Outings! Outings!



Adirondack
ADK
Mountain Club

ADK ONONDAGA CHAPTER

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adk-on.org

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Submissions for the spring edition accepted until Feb 1. Send to jalynncondon@outlook.com

ABOUT THE COVER

Westkill Mountain in the Catskills

Photo Courtesy Bob Rosati

AN ADK SIZED WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Christopher Delia, Daniel Foody, Ian Gallagher, John Gruninger, Tera Hecht, Danielle Hurley, Elina Khmelkova, John Langenberg, Colleen Maloney, Charles Martin, Gretchen Palmiter, Lara Philip, Deanna Pleskach, Thomas Quinlan, Ethan Richards, Jeffrey Ryan, Linda Savino, Christopher & Jessica Simons, James & Barbara Ann Smith, Thomas & Heidi Sproull, Erin Stebbins, Kathryn Tunkel, Sophie Well, Aaron Williams

FIND ADK ONONDAGA ONLINE

<https://adk-on.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/adkonondaga>

https://www.instagram.com/adk_onondaga_chapter/

<https://www.meetup.com/adk-onondaga-chapter-outings/>

CHAPTER EMAIL UPDATES

Join our Google Group:

<https://groups.google.com>

Search for our group name:
ADK-On-Email

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

To update your mailing address, phone number or email address, email membership@adk.org or call 800-395-8080

Latest Membership Stats	Membership as of July	Change Since January
Onondaga Chapter	879	-57
Adirondack Mountain Club Overall	23,000~	unknown

ADK ONONDAGA CULTURE

We believe diversity makes us stronger.
We believe inclusion fuels our cause.
We welcome people of all races, ages, genders, sexual identities, religious affiliations, and national origins. Join us today!



Need a bear canister for your overnight adventure? The Onondaga Chapter bear canister is available on loan to any ADK member for your outdoor adventure. Contact [Lisa Druke](#) to reserve.

BY BRUCE HOLLOWAY



As the colors fade and the air turns crisp, there's still plenty to enjoy in the great outdoors.

Welcome to Theresa Evans as our Publicity Chair

Our chapter is excited to welcome Theresa Evans as the new Publicity Committee Chair! The position had been vacant for quite a while, and Theresa stepped up this fall with fresh energy and a passion for helping more people discover the outdoor adventures we have to offer here in Central New York. We're thrilled to have her on board and look forward to seeing the creative ways she'll help spread the word about our chapter's activities.

Fall Colors Fading, but Great Hiking Weather!

The brilliant reds and golds may be fading fast, but don't let that stop you from getting outside. This is one of the best times of year to hike — cool, comfortable air, fewer bugs, and peaceful trails. The views are still beautiful, even without the full fall canopy, and the forest takes on that quiet, earthy feel that signals winter's approach. Get out and enjoy a few more adventures before the early winter mud season sets in — your boots will thank you later!

Hunting Season Reminder

Hunting season is here, and it's an important time to be aware of your surroundings on the trails. Some routes may be temporarily rerouted or closed, so check for posted notices before heading out. And don't forget your blaze orange — a hat, vest, or jacket helps hunters see you clearly and keeps everyone safe. It's a simple step that makes a big difference. Whether you're hiking, walking the dog, or just exploring your favorite woods, a little extra caution goes a long way this time of year.

Looking Ahead to Winter 2026

It's hard to believe winter is right around the corner — but that means new ways to get outside! Once the snow arrives, the Adirondacks turn into a whole different playground. Dust off the snowshoes, wax up the skis, and get ready for crisp mornings and quiet, snowy trails. Winter hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing are great ways to stay active, enjoy the fresh air, and experience the magic of the season. There's nothing like a blue-sky day after fresh snowfall to remind you why we love it here!

Here's wishing you happy holidays and hope to see you out on the trails — whatever the season brings!



From a hike up Old Spec Mountain in Maine. *Photo Courtesy Bruce Holloway*

BY HAROLD KYLE

It's been a busy year of small reroutes that will improve the hiking on the Finger Lakes Trail. The Chapter recorded 1,774 hours of work from 96 different volunteers, including 33 new volunteers this year. This is a bit down from 2024, but we had fewer "major" projects and we were still able to complete all the projects we planned for the year.

Here is a sampling of projects that trails volunteers helped make happen in 2025:

- Reroute on O2-7 in Deruyter State Forest between Stanton and Tromp Rd to fight erosion
- Several new puncheons in Morgan Hill State Forest just east of Morgan Hill Rd on O1-8
- Extension of the Irish Hollow Spur O1-3.1 to a snowmobile trail that connects to Midlum Rd
- New road crossing in Morgan Hill State Forest at Rowley Hill Rd on O1-15 after DEC's construction of a new culvert
- New trailhead for M22-7 Stage Coach Hill in Mariposa State Forest at Dublin Rd to avoid motorized vehicles on the trail
- Informative signage during hunting season at trailheads with hunting activity

We gained some new trail stewards in 2025 to help patrol and maintain FLT sections. I'd like to thank Fred Hintz, Colleen Kania, Emily Holmes, John Hollopeter, and Monica Aungier for adopting trails this year. As always, I am seeking any volunteers who are interested in trail maintenance, so please reach out if you're curious what that entails.

There are several trail projects that we're planning for 2026:

- Building trail on a new FLTC-owned property that is under contract at the moment. Details later!
- Reroute requested by SUNY ESF at Tully Truxton Rd heading to Pond 1.
- Reroute of the west side of the Fellows Loop to avoid an area plagued by frequent blowdowns after recent timber sales.
- Possible reroute near Stoney Brook Rd to avoid a section that is frequently overgrown and subject to blowdowns.

The Finger Lakes Trail has actively been preserving trails in our area. They are in the process of acquiring key parcels to maintain trail access in perpetuity and have also coordinated legal efforts to protect our existing easements. They pay for mapping software that shows the condition of our trails year-round. They are focused on fundraising in 2025 so that they can cover such costs in addition to their new professional staff. Please join or renew your membership with FLTC and consider donating to help their efforts.



Bob Rosati and Beth Burghardt bench the hill leading up from Dublin Rd in Mariposa State Forest. *Photo Courtesy Harold Kyle*



Kim Putnam and Colleen Kania use the 2-person crosscut saw to clear a blowdown in Mariposa State Forest. *Photo Courtesy Harold*

BY KATHY CAMPBELL

A Small Pest with a Big Impact on Our Forests

The hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), *Adelges tsugae*, is a tiny, aphid-like insect that poses a major threat to hemlock trees across North America. Originally native to East Asia, HWA was first detected in the eastern United States in the 1950s and has since spread rapidly, causing widespread damage to forests and landscapes. **HWA is now on our doorstep, identified in Green Lakes SP, Clark Reservation, Labrador Hollow, Morgan Hill SF, the S end of Cazenovia Lake, Fillmore Glen SP, Selkirk Shores SP and the Ithaca area!**



What Does the HWA Look Like?

HWA is extremely small—less than 1/16 of an inch long. The most distinctive sign of infestation is the presence of white, woolly masses on the underside of hemlock branches, especially at the base of the needles. These "woolly" balls are the insect's protective coating and are most visible from late fall through early spring.

How Does HWA Affect Hemlock Trees?

HWA feeds by sucking plant sap from the base of the tree. This disrupts the flow of nutrients, leading to needle loss, reduced growth, and ultimately death of the tree, potentially within 4-10 years.

Why Are Hemlocks Important?

Eastern hemlocks are a foundation species in our forest ecosystems. They provide shade, which helps regulate stream temperatures and preserve aquatic habitats. Hemlocks also offer shelter and food for wildlife, stabilize soil, and enhance the beauty of our forests. Hemlocks are found in most of our stream beds and glens.

What Can You Do to Help?

1. Get outside and look for hemlock trees.
2. Check for white fuzz balls on the undersides of hemlock twigs - these are HWA egg masses.
3. Report your findings to **iMap** <http://www.nyimainvasives.org/> **OR** call **NYS DEC Forest Pest Information Line: 1-866-640-0652** to document presence of HWA.
4. Avoid spreading HWA: Do not transport hemlock branches, firewood, or nursery stock from infested areas to uninfested regions.

Excellent
resources for
more information

<https://blogs.cornell.edu/nyshemlockinitiative>
<https://www.nyimainvasives.org/hwa>
<https://cceanondaga.org/resources/managing-forests-for-hemlock-woolly-adelgid-hwa>

Researchers and forest managers are working hard to develop sustainable methods to control HWA. Biological control agents such as predatory beetles are being studied and released in some areas. Early detection and public awareness remain crucial in the fight against this invasive pest.

By staying informed and taking action, we can all play a part in preserving our hemlock forests for future generations.

Thank You Trail Blazers


We had a very successful summer of blazing thanks to our many volunteer blazers. We were able to complete Map 02 from the intersection of Bardeen Rd. and W. Keeney Rd. to Holmes Rd. in New Woodstock, 17.1 miles. Some people were new to blazing and others experienced. A couple of the new blazers mentioned how fun and rewarding it was to be out in the fresh air hiking with others and accomplishing a needed task. Mary Niemi and I want to thank Julie Crimmins, Doug Burdick, Susan Baldacci, Tera Hecht, Larry MacArthur, Michele Blust, also David Grant and Lisa Druke who blazed the trail they steward. We could not have accomplished the task without you.

New to trail blazing? Trail blazing involves marking a path with paint, signs, or other visible markers so that hikers can easily follow the route and avoid getting lost.

We plan to blaze Map 01 in 2026. Come and join us. Please contact Pat Urban, sabharp@att.net, if available to help. - *Pat Urban*

ADK-ON volunteers needed – Statistician

Keep track of outing participants on an excel spreadsheet. If interested Please contact Chapter Chair: Mary Niemi, maryrwniemi@gmail.com

 **ADK-ON volunteers needed – New trip leaders.** Take advantage of ADK's leader training program for volunteers (course costs are reimbursed). Contact Lisa Druke, lisadruke@gmail.com.

Newsletter

Love sharing stories and keeping people connected? If you are interested in pitching in by writing articles, designing layouts, proofreading or even co-chairing the committee, reach out today, I'd love to hear from you. - *Jamie Condon, jalynncondon@outlook.com*

Get Involved with Your Chapter

Want to do more with ADK Onondaga? We're always looking for members to help with committees, plan events, or do trail maintenance. It's a fun way to meet people, learn new skills, and support conservation and outdoor recreation right here in Central New York. Reach out to anyone in the directory or just show up to one of our hikes. See details in the Outings section or find us on Meetup.

Date(s)	Outing	Leader(s)
Repeating	Walking Wednesday	Mary Niemi, Bruce Holloway
Mon, Dec 1	Erie Canal at Camillus	Sigi Schwinge, Theresa Evans
Sat, Dec 6	Great Bear Springs Recreation Area	Kathy Campbell
Sat, Dec 13	Cuyler State Forest Hike	Theresa & Jay Evans
Sat, Dec 20	Camillus Forest Unique Area	Mary Niemi
Sat, Dec 27	Holiday Gathering Land O' Pines	Peg Whaley, Mary Dineen
Thu, Jan 1	First Day Hike/Snowshoe at Highland Forest Co. Park	Ann Furze
Sat, Jan 3	Stoney Pond Snowshoe	Sandy Manca
Mon, Jan 5	Winter Outing at Baltimore Woods	Sigi Schwinge, Theresa Evans
Sat, Jan 10	Nelson Swamp Unique Area Snowshoe	Lisa Druke
Sat, Jan 17	American Heart Association First Aid / CPR	Lisa Druke, Jeff Sargent
Sun, Jan 18	FLT NCT DeRuyter Lake to Webber Rd (Out and Back)	Kathy Campbell
Sat, Jan 24	Taylor Valley State Forest	Theresa & Jay Evans
Sun, Jan 25	Intro to Snowshoeing Beaver Lake	Kathy Campbell, Lisa Druke
Sat, Jan 31	Cazenovia Preservation Trails - Burlingame Rd.	Mary Niemi
Mon, Feb 2	Green Lakes Park (amble or snowshoe)	Sigi Schwinge, Theresa Evans
Sat, Feb 7	Gorge Trail Snowshoe	Lisa Druke
Tue, Feb 10	Intro to Snowshoeing Highland Forest	Kathy Campbell, Lisa Druke
Sat, Feb 14	Beaver Lake Nature Center	Mary Niemi
Sun, Feb 15	Finger Lakes Figure 8 Trail	Kathy Campbell
Sat, Feb 21	Chateaugay State Forest - snowshoe	Theresa & Jay Evans

Hike Leader Ratings

Leader Level	Rating	Effort Level	Elevation Gain (ft.)	Miles	Time (hrs.)
1	C	Easy	Under 1,000	< 5	< 5
1	C+	Fairly Easy	1,000	5 to 8	4 to 6
2	B	Moderate	1,000	5 to 10	5 to 7
2	B+	Moderately Strenuous	2,000	5 to 10	6 to 8
3	A	Strenuous	3,000	5 to 10	8 to 10
3	A+	Very Strenuous	4,000	10	10

Notice to Participants

Choose only outings suitable to your abilities; call the leader if you are unsure. Outing leaders are not guides; they are volunteers willing to share their knowledge and experience with you. Please give them your cooperation and respect. Stay with the group at all times. Stay behind the leader unless permission is given to go ahead, and then stay within sight of the group. Make sure the leader is aware if you must leave the group. Dress properly for the type outing and the weather, and be prepared for changing weather conditions. The leader has the right to refuse anyone who is not prepared for the outing.

New hikers should call the leader before their first outing. Most outings starting in the morning are designed for a full day with return to the meeting place prior to dinnertime.

Hazardous weather or insufficient snow on snowshoe and/or cross-country ski trips may require a change of destination.

Transportation: The leader will organize carpooling at the meeting location. Passengers are expected to contribute toward the cost of the transportation.

Risk: There are risks involved in our outings. Anyone participating does so at their own risk and is required to sign the *Release of Liability Form* provided by the leader.

Overnight Outings: Overnight outings are open only to ADK members.

Dogs: Please contact the leader in advance if you would like to bring a dog. It is up to the leader to decide if a dog is allowed to join the hike.

Meeting Places

Participants gather at a meeting place as designated in the outing write-up. Primary meeting places are:

Thruway Exit 34: For outings to the east and northeast. Park & Ride Lot is on the left as you approach the toll plaza from N. Peterboro St (Canastota).

Thruway Exit 39: Park & Ride Lot (relocated to Jones Rd). Heading west on Rt. 690, the Jones Rd. exit is located just before the 690 exit for the Thruway entrance.

DeWitt Wegmans Park & Ride For outings to the southeast. Exit Route 481 at Fayetteville. Wegmans is on Route 5 east of the Route 481 exit. Meet at the Bus Park and Ride in front of the Hobby/Lobby.

Green Hills Plaza For outings to the south and southwest. Parking lot is on the east side of South Salina Street across from Green Hills Farms, just south of the Syracuse city line.

Camping World (old Gander RV) Cicero, NY. For outings to the north. From NY 31, take the access road for I-81 N. Camping World is on the right just past the on-ramp for I-81.

Hike Equipment Checklist

- ✓ Water (amount appropriate for outing/weather)
- ✓ Lunch and extra food
- ✓ Clothing appropriate for outing/weather
- ✓ Rain gear
- ✓ Map and compass
- ✓ Headlamp or flashlight (extra batteries)
- ✓ Whistle
- ✓ Waterproof emergency blanket
- ✓ First-aid kit
- ✓ Hiking poles (if you use them)
- ✓ Work gloves (for work hikes)
- ✓ Bright clothing (in hunting season)
- ✓ Snowshoes/skis (in winter)

(A) – denotes the outing is within the Adirondack Blueline

**9252 Walking Wednesday
Every Wednesday 9:00 AM**

Meeting Place: Dewitt Wegmans' Park & Ride (in front of Hobby Lobby)

Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 4-5 miles, ~4-6 hours

Long Distance Trail: FLT, NCT100

R/T Drive (miles): Less than 100 miles

Map Reference(s): DeLorme p. 60, DeLorme p. 61, DeLorme p. 77, FLT-O1, FLT-O2, FLT-M21

Leader(s): Mary Niemi, 315-751-7492, maryrwniemi@gmail.com and Bruce Holloway, b.holloway.adk.on@gmail.com (for info).

Every Wednesday some of our members take a 3-6 mile hike on one of the many trails in CNY. The first Wednesday of each month during Spring, Summer and Fall is usually devoted to trail maintenance. The Wednesday hikes welcome new participants. Please bring lunch and sufficient water. Call or email the leaders if you have Wednesday free and would like to hike.

**9253 Erie Canal at Camillus
Mon, Dec 1 10:30 AM**

Meeting Place: Meet at 10:30 AM at the Canal or call leaders for carpool from the east side of city

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 3+ miles level grade

Est Hike Time: 2 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 60

Leader(s): Sigi Schwinge, sigischwinge@aol.com; Theresa Evans, tj_evans@verizon.net, 315-414-0431

We'll hike the loop trail at the pond nature area across the road from the store where we'll see the foundation of what must have been a warehouse. Then pick one or more trails next to the canal and offshoot some trails from there. Bring water and a snack.

**9254 Great Bear Springs Recreation Area
Sat, Dec 6 10:00 AM**

Meeting Place: Great Bear Springs Recreation Area, Address: Great Bear Rd, Fulton, NY GPS: 43.26571, -76.35188, intersection of Rt 57 and Great Bear Rd.

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 4.3 miles

Est Hike Time: 2.5 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 46

Leader(s): Kathy Campbell, 315-427-3917, kathy.al.campbell@gmail.com

Take a break from your holiday preparations with a brisk walk described as the "Great Bear Outer Trail" on AllTrails. This loop will take us past the Pump House, the Oswego River, around Whiskey Island and other points of interest noted on the map (<https://friendsofgreatbear.org/maps>). The trails feature gently rolling terrain with a mix of forested areas and open spaces. Bring water and snack. Please RSVP to leader by email. Update regarding any needed winter gear will be provided prior to hike.

**9255 Cuyler State Forest Hike
Sat, Dec 13 9:30 AM
(RSVP)**

Meeting Place: DeWitt Wegmans Park-n-Ride (in front of Hobby Lobby); Note construction in this lot. Park towards near Centro bus stop.

Hike Rating: Level 1 C+, Fairly Easy, 5.8 miles

Est Hike Time: 3-4 hours

Long Distance Trail: FLT

R/T Drive: 60 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 77, FLT-M21, Finger Lakes Trail Conference Interactive Map

Leader(s): Theresa & Jay Evans, 315-414-0431; tj_evans@verizon.net

Let's take a walk in the woods as a reprieve from the holiday season flurry! We will likely be boot hiking this early in the season. In any case, be prepared with appropriate clothing & footwear. We will start at the Stoney Brook Road access, hiking past the Randal Brune Memorial Bench. We will continue to Willsey Glen bivouac area after passing Randall Hill Road. Just before is a short side trail to Rose Hollow we could also explore. We retrace our steps back to Stoney Brook on the return. Come out with your Christmas spirit as we meander thru Cuyler State Forest. Bring water, snacks/lunch and hiking poles if used.

9256 Camillus Forest Unique Area

Sat, Dec 20 9:30 AM

Meeting Place: DEC parking lot at 6185 - 6195

Thompson Rd., Camillus, 13031

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 4 miles

Est Hike Time: 2.5 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 60

Leader(s): Mary Niemi, 315-751-7492,

maryrwniemi@gmail.com

Take a break from your holiday preparations and join us on a hike through the Camillus Unique Forest. If there is no snow cover, this recreation area can be muddy. Bring snacks and water.

9257 Holiday Gathering Land O' Pines

**Sat, Dec 27 11:00 AM
 (RSVP)**

Meeting Place: 8644 Preston Hill Road, Camden

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 4-5 miles

Est Hike Time: 1.5 hours

R/T Drive: 10 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 47

Leader(s): Peg Whaley 315-633-0154, Mary

Dineen 315-424-1284 & Mark del Pozzo

Join us for a chapter Holiday tradition at Land O' Pines. Bring a snack to share and BOYD (bring your own drink). We will take a short walk (or snowshoe) then come back and sit by the fire and visit. PLEASE RSVP - bad weather will cancel.

9258 First Day Hike/Snowshoe at Highland Forest Co. Park

Thu, Jan 1 11:00 AM

Meeting Place: Highland Forest Skyline Lodge

Note: Please meet inside the lodge

Hike Rating: Level 1 C+, Fairly Easy, 4-5 miles

Est Hike Time: 2-3 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Ann Furze, 315-263-6719,

annfurze49@gmail.com

Ring in 2026 with a brisk 4-5 miles hike or snowshoe at the county's largest park. Trail conditions will be updated closer to the event. Conclude by warming up by the lodge's fireplace and goodies brought by participants. Hot water for cocoa & tea will be provided.

9259 Stoney Pond Snowshoe

Sat, Jan 3 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: Cazenovia Lake Parking Lot (near jct Rt 20 & Rt 92)

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 2-3 miles

Est Hike Time: 3.5 hours

R/T Drive: 20 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 62

Leader(s): Sandy Manca, smank777@aol.com,

(315) 807-9442

Snowshoe to the lean-to overlooking the farm lands of Madison County in this "close to home" state forest. If there is a lack of snow, we will hike. Bring lunch. Rain cancels, if in doubt, call the leader to confirm.

9260 Winter Outing at Baltimore Woods

Mon, Jan 5 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: Baltimore Woods in Marcellus;

Note: To carpool from the east side, please contact leaders

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 3-4 miles

Est Hike Time: 3 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 60

Leader(s): Sigi Schwinge, sigischwinge@aol.com;

Theresa Evans, tj_evans@verizon.net, 315-414-0431

We'll pick a few loops in the park to hike or snowshoe and listen to the sounds of nature. Afterwards we'll warm up inside and look at an art display or have a snack. Bring some warm tea in a thermos and a snack. Our walk-n-talk group hikes every Monday. Find out about other Monday walks from the Sigi or Theresa.

9261 Nelson Swamp Unique Area Snowshoe

Sat, Jan 10 11:00 AM

Meeting Place: Cazenovia Lake Parking Lot (near jct Rt 20 & Rt 92); carpool is encouraged, parking is limited at the Constine Bridge Rd. trailhead.

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 5 miles

Est Hike Time: 2.5 hours

Long Distance Trail: NCT100

R/T Drive: 5 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Lisa Druke, 315-447-4018,

lisadruke@gmail.com

Join us for a leisurely snowshoe or try out your new snowshoes at the Nelson Swamp Unique Area. We will follow an old rail-trail south of Cazenovia and follow the short loop on the nature trail with an overlook of Chittenango Creek on the return. The distance is ~4 miles with mostly flat terrain. The trail is concurrent with the North Country Trail (NCT100 Challenge 2026). Bring snow shoes (will use with 6 inches or more of snow), snacks, water, and dress in layers. We will meet at the parking area on Rt 20 at the south end of Cazenovia Lake (near Rt. 92) and carpool from there to the trailhead.

9262 American Heart Association First Aid/CPR

Sat, Jan 17 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: Fayetteville Free Library (e-Learning required in person training)

Leader(s): Lisa Druke, 315-447-4018,

lisadruke@gmail.com, Jeff Sargent

Instructor: Jeff Sargent,

sargentji@netzero.com

Must register by January 2, 2026 on Fayetteville Free Library (FFL) event calendar on their website: <https://fflib.org> or [ADK Mnt Club CPR/First Aid](#)

Cost \$75 plus \$23 for the e-learning Heart saver course. (total \$98). A certificate will be provided upon successful completion of the course.

Pocket masks and backcountry first aid kit will be provided. This is a hybrid course. 3 hr. online doing e-learning that must be completed before the Saturday in person class. Then, a 7 hr. hands-on in-person class to be held at the library.

Participants need to contact the instructor, Jeff Sargent for the instructions for doing the e-learning.

This course qualifies for the hike leader certification Level 2 basic first aid requirement. Hike leaders are reimbursed for taking the course, provide the receipts for the class to Outings Chair, Lisa Druke, lisadruke@gmail.com.

This class is open to ADK members. Note: Attendance is limited to max of 14.

9263 FLT NCT DeRuyter Lake to Webber Rd (Out and Back)

Sun, Jan 18 7:30 AM

Meeting Place: DeWitt Wegmans Park-n-Ride (in front of Hobby Lobby); Note Look for Black Subaru Outback

Hike Rating: Level 2 B, Moderate, 8.8 miles

Est Hike Time: 6-7 hours

Long Distance Trail: FLT, NCT100

R/T Drive: 40 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61, FLT-O2

Leader(s): Kathy Campbell, 315-427-3917,

kathy.al.campbell@gmail.com

Get a great start on your 2026 FLT/NCT miles with this out and back hike of challenging terrain with 1,000' elev. gain. Switchbacks will be encountered at both ends of the trail which crosses DeRuyter State Forest. If the weather is clear there will be nice viewpoints just before Webber Rd. Extra hike time was added for this hike to take distance and weather conditions into consideration. Be prepared with plenty of water, food, warm layers, boot microspikes and/or snowshoes. RSVP to leader 24 hrs prior to meeting time.

9264 Taylor Valley State Forest
Sat, Jan 24 9:00 AM
(RSVP)

Meeting Place: DeWitt Wegmans Park-n-Ride (in front of Hobby Lobby); Note construction in this lot. Park towards back of lot around Centro bus stop.

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 4 miles

Est Hike Time: 2-3 hours

Long Distance Trail: FLT

R/T Drive: 90 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 77, FLT-M21, Finger Lakes Interactive Trail Map

Leader(s): Theresa & Jay Evans, 315-414-0431, tj_evans@verizon.net

We start our hike at Chenango Day Use Area & Campground. We will snowshoe or boot hike as conditions indicate. We will be crossing the Chenango Creek on some stone steps. Our hike then will take us along the shore of the Creek and the Taylor valley SF. We will continue our walk up to Cortland Two Road, which will be our approximate turn around spot. This hike does have a Wegman's rubbing station if collecting the markings for submission. Come out and take a winter hike!

9265 Intro to Snowshoeing Beaver Lake
Sun, Jan 25 12:00 PM (RSVP)
Leader

Meeting Place: Beaver Lake Nature Center Visitors Center; Address: 8477 East Mud Lake Road, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 1.1 miles

Est Hike Time: 2 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 46, Beaver Lake Trails Map

Leader(s): Kathy Campbell, 315-427-3917, kathy.al.campbell@gmail.com, Lisa Druke, 315-447-4018, lisadruke@gmail.com

This outing is open to Members and Non-Members alike, as an opportunity to learn the basics of snowshoeing and connect with like-minded outdoor enthusiasts. Families are encouraged to participate. We will meet inside the Visitors Center where snowshoe rentals can be obtained. Once everyone has their gear we will head over to the trail as a group. We will start on the short 1.1 miles easy Woodland Trail to get everyone comfortable with their equipment adjustments and mechanics

of the sport. We can add additional mileage if time allows. If there is not sufficient snow (6 inches or more), the event is cancelled (confirm with the leaders).

Sturdy boots are a must along with appropriate cold weather clothing layers. Snowshoes are available for rent (ages 4+), or you may bring your own. Trekking or ski poles are helpful for balance if you have them. Please bring water and a trail snack.

Cost: Park Fee \$5/car payable upon exit, Snowshoe Rental \$5/hour (plan 2 hours)

Please RSVP to Kathy Campbell at the contact information shown by 5pm on 1/24.

9266 Cazenovia Preservation Trails -
Burlingame Rd.

Sat, Jan 31 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: Parking lot at 2447 Burlingame Rd., Cazenovia, NY 13035

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 5 - 6 miles

Est Hike Time: 3 - 4 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Mary Niemi, 315-751-7492, maryrwniemi@gmail.com

These trails on Fairchild Hill south of Cazenovia were once part of the Lorenzo Family Estate. Come and enjoy the views of the Cazenovia Lake watershed area. Depending on the weather, it could be a snowshoe or a boot hike. Bring snacks and water.

9267 Green Lakes Park (amble or
snowshoe)

Mon, Feb 2 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: Green Lakes State Park west beach parking

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 3-4 miles

Est Hike Time: 2 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Sigi Schwinge, sigischwinge@aol.com; Theresa Evans, tj_evans@verizon.net, 315-414-0431

We'll pick a loop going up-n-down around the lake according to weather and trail conditions. Monday's walk-n-talk group hikes every Monday in decent weather. Please contact leaders for more info and to join the e-list.

9268 Gorge Trail Snowshoe

Sat, Feb 7 11:00 AM

Meeting Place: Cazenovia Lake Parking Lot (near jct Rt 20 & Rt 92)

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 5.4 miles

Est Hike Time: 3 hours

R/T Drive: 14 miles

Long Distance Trail: NCT100

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Lisa Druke 315-447-4018

lisadruke@gmail.com

Get into the winter spirit with a snowshoe on the Gorge trail hiking from the Freber Rd parking area to Bingley Road and then return. The trail parallels Chittenango Creek and is a *gorgeous* part of the NCNST. Bring water or hot drink and a snack.

9269 Intro to Snowshoeing Highland Forest

Tue, Feb 10 10:00 AM (RSVP Leader)

Meeting Place: Highland Forest Skyline Lodge,

Note: Please meet inside the lodge

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 0.8 miles

Est Hike Time: 2 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 61

Leader(s): Kathy Campbell, 315-427-3917, kathy.al.campbell@gmail.com, Lisa Druke, 315-447-4018, lisadruke@gmail.com

This outing is open to Members and Non-Members alike, as an opportunity to learn the basics of snowshoeing and connect with like-minded outdoor enthusiasts. Families and friends are encouraged to participate. We will meet inside the Skyline Lodge reception area where snowshoe rentals can be obtained. Once everyone has their gear we will head over to the trail as a group. We will start on the short 0.8 miles Limestone Trail to get everyone comfortable with their equipment adjustments and mechanics of the sport. We can add additional mileage if time allows. We can still hike if there is not sufficient snow for snowshoes. Sturdy boots are a must along with appropriate cold weather clothing layers. Snowshoes are available for rent, or you may bring your own. Trekking or ski poles are helpful for balance if you have them. Please bring water and a trail snack. Cost: Park Fee \$0, Snowshoe All Day Rental \$10 adults, \$5 for 15 yrs and under.

Please RSVP to Kathy Campbell at the contact information shown by 5pm on 2/9.

9270 Beaver Lake Nature Center

Sat, Feb 14 9:30 AM

Meeting Place: Beaver Lake Nature Center Parking lot at 8477 E. Mud Lake Rd., Baldwinsville, NY

Hike Rating: Level 1 C, Easy, 5 miles

Est Hike Time: 3 - 4 hours

Map(s): DeLorme p. 46

Leader(s): Mary Niemi, 315-751-7492, maryrwniemi@gmail.com

Enjoy a wintery hike around the Beaver Lake Nature Center. Bring snowshoes, if we have enough snow. Snacks and water, too.

9271 Finger Lakes Figure 8 Trail

Sun, Feb 15 8:00 AM

Meeting Place: McDonalds, 5961 US 20, Lafayette, NY; Parking is in open lot behind McDonalds.

Look for black Subaru Outback

Hike Rating: Level 2 B+, Moderately Strenuous, 8.8 miles

Est Hike Time: 5-6 hours

Long Distance Trail: FLT, NCT100

R/T Drive: 62 miles

Map(s): DeLorme p. 77, FLT M19

Leader(s): Kathy Campbell, 315-427-3917, kathy.al.campbell@gmail.com

This 8.8 mi. trail is a combination of the challenging Finger Lakes Virgil Mtn and Dabes Diversion Loops in the James Kennedy State Forest in Virgil, NY with a total elev. gain of 1,400'. The trail passes over the summits of both Virgil Mtn and Greek Peak within beautiful forested trails and will include a break at the Foxfire Lean-to for lunch.

You must be prepared for winter conditions with boot spikes and snowshoes, plenty of warm layers, food and drink. RSVP to Leader 24 hrs. prior to meeting time.

**9272 Chateaugay State Forest - snowshoe
 Sat, Feb 21 9:30 AM
 (RSVP)**

Meeting Place: Camping World (old Gander RV)
 (Cicero)

Hike Rating: Level 1 C+, Fairly Easy, 4-5 miles

Est Hike Time: 2-4 hours

R/T Drive: 75 miles

Map(s): DeLorme 47, Chateaugay Forest Trails

Leader(s): Theresa & Jay Evans, 315-414-0431,
tj_evans@verizon.net

Let's return to Chateaugay SF, where we usually expect snow. Let's hope it is "just right" amount of snowfall, with the parking area at Beecherville Road plowed out. We plan on doing a series of trails that will make a loop. If all goes well, we will lunch at the shore of Orwell Brook.

Mark Your Calendar:

Back Country Hiking Course – Open to members and non-members

December 15th and 17th, Registration is required through Fayetteville Free Library Event Calendar:

[https://onlib-](https://onlib-fayetteville.libcal.com/event/15588623)

[fayetteville.libcal.com/event/15588623](https://onlib-fayetteville.libcal.com/event/15588623)

Instructor: Jeff Sargent, sargentjj@netzero.net for questions.

These sessions will cover clothing and gear recommendations, survival and emergency actions, and navigation. The classes will be more advanced discussions and geared toward group leaders or those tackling longer and more challenging hikes. Previous basic map and compass training is recommended.

Please plan to attend all 3 sessions.

Session 1 on Dec 15th will be classroom training held at the Fayetteville Free Library and will cover gear and emergencies.

Session 2 on Dec 17th will also be at the library and will be a refresher on map, compass, and CalTopo/smart phone GPS use.

Session 3 on Jan 3rd will be at Highland Forest. There we will travel on and off trail for about 5 miles. Bushwacking (navigation) and emergency skills will be practiced. Appropriate clothing, footwear, and the 10 essentials are required.

Mailing Address:

Adirondack Mountain Club
Onondaga Chapter
8729 Bridgeport Kirkville Rd
Kirkville, NY 13082

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