

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB: KILLINGTON SECTION OUTINGS (www.gmckillington.org)

Newcomers and nonmembers are welcome on our outings. Bring drinking water and a lunch. Wear sturdy footwear, dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared for weather changes. This is Vermont! **Unless otherwise noted, all trips leave from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City.** Distances are round trip and are approximate, as are elevation gains. Trips vary considerably in level of difficulty. Call hike leader if you have any questions. **HIKE LEADER HAS DISCRETION TO REFUSE ANYONE WHO IS NOT ADEQUATELY PREPARED.**

NOTE: Hike details may change at the last minute due to various unexpected conditions – always a good idea to confirm with hike leader in case of changes.

DECEMBER 2019-MARCH 2020

December 14, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Rutland or 9:30 a.m. at Shrewsbury Meeting House parking lot

Lottery Road Wildlife Corridor Loop, Shrewsbury

Sandy Bragg 492-2143

The Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife is planning to conserve a 500+ acre property in Shrewsbury as a new Wildlife Management Area. We'll hike on a wood road that follows a north/south ridge on the property, starting from the foundations of a former barn of the Shrewsbury Town Poor Farm, connecting to the LT/AT near Clarendon Shelter, then head north on the LT/AT to Lottery Road, concluding with a road walk back to our starting point. Moderate, approximately 4 miles.



Happy Holidays!

January 25, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.

Route 4-The Elbow-Catamount Loop, Mendon

Larry Walter 775-3855

This is a hike that Sue led last winter, but with the Catamount Trail thrown in for a nice complete loop. We'll car pool to the AT/LT parking lot on Route 4 (not the Sherburne Pass trailhead). From there, we'll hike/snowshoe northerly to the Elbow, passing Willard Gap and our new Tucker Johnson Shelter. After hitting the Elbow and some recent cutting, we return via Elbow Road and then branch off onto the Catamount Trail. As you probably know, the Catamount Trail merges with the AT/LT about 5 minutes north of Route 4. There's quite a bit of up and down on this hike, so I'd rate it as moderate if the snow is firm, and difficult if we're breaking through powder - approximately 6 miles. Definitely bring traction devices and snowshoes, and I would recommend hiking poles with baskets. I'll make sure to recon the route well enough to determine what we need on hike day. Hope to see you there!

February 2, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Mount Zion, Hubbardton

Sue Thomas 773-2185

Celebrate Groundhog Day with a short climb to a view overlooking the mountains and the Hubbardton Battlefield at Taconic Ramble State Park. Snowshoes or spikes may be needed. If it's too icy, we'll hike a lower-elevation trail. Moderate, 2 miles and 260' elevation gain. (Option to continue on other trails for more views.)

February 8, Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Rutland or 10:10 a.m. Emerald Lake State Park access road
Emerald Lake State Park Vista Trail, North Dorset **Herb Ogden 293-2510**
Pass under cliffs east of Route 7 and enjoy good views to the west over the Lake and the Taconics.
Moderate to difficult depending on snow, 2.8 miles and elevation gain of about 500', but steep in a couple of places.

February 15, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. Rutland or 10:40 a.m. East Poultney Green
East Poultney Area Snowshoe **Diane Bargiel 413-687-1109**
A moderate to moderately difficult co-hike with the Slate Valley Trails group.

February 22, Saturday, 9:30 a.m. Rutland or 10:15 a.m. Shrewsbury Town Clerk's Office
Plymbsbury Trails, Shrewsbury **Gerry and Chryl Martin 492-2244**
Snowshoe through the winter woods at the Plymbsbury Recreation Area. Moderate, approximately 4 miles.

March 1, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Wilton Preserve, Wilton, New York **Allison Henry 779-4404**
Snowshoes may be needed for this moderate, 4-5 miles.

March 7, Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at GMC Visitor Center, Waterbury Center
24th Annual Winter Trails Day
Try out winter hiking with experienced GMC leaders and join our great community for a fun-filled day at GMC. There will be guided group hikes around the Green Mountains, winter skills workshops, snowshoe demos, kids' activities and a campfire with s'mores all day. Then stay for the après party and raffle! For schedule and further details (TBD), go to greenmountainclub.org or see the Long Trail News (Winter 2019 issue - when published).

March 8, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Merck Forest, Rupert **Larry Walter and Vivian Bebee 775-3855**
We'll hike from the Visitor's Center to the Ridge Cabin to see the view, which will be new to us. More clearing has been done to open up the view since we were there last. We may take different trails out and back, but the total hike will be approximately 4 miles, moderate to difficult, with a couple of steep stretches.