

Seabrook Natural History Group
Spring 2012 Trip Descriptions
Sign-up Deadline: January 6th

1. National Weather Service Tues. Feb. 7 9:00am – 1:00pm
Leader: Ilse
We will tour the Charleston National Weather Service, which has forecast and warning responsibilities for portions of Southern South Carolina. Our guide will review historical weather patterns, explain how they receive their data, explain climatic models and show us how they run predicative numerical models as well as what affects the weather of Charleston.
Min: 10 Max: 15 Cost: \$5.00 No lunch plans

2. Yawkey Wildlife Center Wed. Feb 15 12:00pm -
7:00pm Leader: Cindy
Experience the rustic, natural beauty of this environmental treasure. The Center includes three coastal islands located at the mouth of Winyah Bay and is composed of marsh, managed wetlands, forest, ocean beach, long leaf pine forest and maritime forest. Left to SCDNR by Thomas Yawkey, a passionate conservationist and former owner of the Boston Red Sox, it is a wildlife preserve, research and education area, and waterfowl refuge. We will catch the ferry just north of McClellanville and then be met by a van for our tour. No walking except on and off the ferry and the van.
Min: 14 Max: 14 Cost \$8 No meal plans

3. Charleston Pirate Tour Wed, Feb. 22 9am - 1pm
Leader: Jan
Join well known Charleston guide Carol Ezell, in following the trail of Blackbeard's siege of Charleston in 1718 at the height of his career. Hear the story of the capture of Stede Bonnet who was with Blackbeard, captured, put on trial and later hanged. Walking through the old walled city, the site of their escapades, the story of Blackbeard and Bonnet remains one of Charleston's most entertaining and favorite legends. A two-hour **WALKING** tour begins at Washington Park and ends at White Point Gardens.
Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$20 No lunch plans

4. Charleston Cooks Thurs. Feb. 23 9:00am – 1:00pm
Leader: Sue
Here's your chance to watch and learn from one of Charleston's finest chefs. Danielle Wecksler received her culinary training in Italy and is passionately knowledgeable about all things olive. Learn the distinctions between virgin, extra virgin and first press olive oil. Olives grown in different regions produce

different characteristic. Which oil is most appropriate for which occasion? At the end we'll enjoy some of the finest pairings of recipe and olive oil accompanied with some delightful vino.

Min: 10 Max: 30 Cost \$42 Lunch included

5. Native Americans at Caw Caw Thurs. Mar. 8th 9:00am - 12:30pm
Leader: Sue

Tour the Caw Caw plantations with a naturalist discussing the Native Americans in the South Carolina Lowcountry at the time of English settlement. This program explores the overall lifestyle of Native Americans in this area as well as hunting/gathering techniques, fire making, tool making, and use of edible/medicinal plants using hands-on artifacts and activities.

Min: 6 Max: 20 Cost \$6 No lunch plans

6. Harbour Club Cooking Class Sat. March 10 9:00am - 2:00pm
Leader: Jan

Join well-known Chef Travis of the Charleston Harbour Club for "a hands on" cooking class. Our theme Southern Foods, will include four courses and the appropriate companion wines. Not only will you cook but you will enjoy the fruits of your effort with a wonderful lunch in this beautiful facility.

Min: 10 Max: 25 Cost: \$38.00 Lunch included

7. Coastal Cupboard Wed. Mar 14th 8:30am -1:00pm
Leader: Sue

Kick up your culinary skills a notch with a cooking class at Coastal Cupboard. To usher us into spring we'll learn to make English Pea and Ricotta Crostini with Mint and French Olive Oil, and Chicken Saltimbocca with Spinach, Prosciutto & Parmesan. This should liven up the challenging winter menu. After the demonstration we will enjoy generous tasting with a glass of wine.

Min: 10 Max: 20 Cost \$50 Lunch included

8. MUSC- Center of Aging Mon. March 19 9:00am -1pm
Leader: Ilse

Once again the Aging Center at MUSC has invited us to tour one of their newest buildings, Drug Discovery. Following our tour there will be a presentation on "Telemedicine," a new exciting program for diagnosing potential Alzheimer and stroke patients in rural areas as well as its use in continuing education for medical professionals.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost \$8.00 No lunch plan

9. Dill Plantation

Wed. Mar. 21

9:00am – 1:00pm

Leader: Sue

Located on the Stono River, the Dill Wildlife Sanctuary was once a Plantation owned by the British loyalist Paul Hamilton. We'll explore the rich history of this track of land in both the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. With the help of a Museum curator we'll tour the riverbanks where bunker sites remain relatively untouched by urban growth. Tour involves **considerable walking**. Wear comfortable shoes, bring bug spray and water.

Min: 10

Max: 20

Cost \$17

No lunch plans

10. ACE Basin/ Hammock Island Adventure

Thurs. March 22nd

9:00am – 2:30pm

Leader: Cindy

Come learn about and experience the ACE Basin and the dynamics of a river estuary. We will begin with an educational and entertaining slide presentation followed by a boat ride to a Hammock Island, where we will spend an hour learning and exploring with the guidance of an expert naturalist. Bring a picnic lunch to eat on the island, sunscreen and insect repellent.

Min: 20

Max: 40

Cost: \$11

Bring Picnic Lunch

11. Georgetown Plantation House Tour Sat. March 24th 8:00am – 5:00pm

Leader: Ellen

We are offering a group tour to the Annual Plantation Tour in Georgetown. This is a tour of pre-Revolutionary and antebellum churches, town homes and plantations, the majority of which are privately owned and shared on this day, once a year with the Episcopal Church of Prince George, Winyah Parish. See their web site for specific details. Reservations are prepaid. **No refunds if your reservation cannot be used by the waiting list and you must inform the trip leader at least 7 days in advance of the trip.**

Min: 20

Max: 40.

Cost: \$45.

No lunch plan

12. Walking Tour of McClellanville/MuseumTues. March 27th

8:45 – 2:30pm

Leader: Ellen

McClellanville's Museum is a treasure trove of the areas natural history from the Sewee Indian villages through the 1600's, the Jamestown (SC) settlement in 1685 to the Civil War, to the present with the establishment of McClellanville as a coastal resort and seaport. Bud Hill, founder and Museum Director, will share the history and its' artifacts and their relationship to McClellanville. He will lead a 90-minute **walking** tour of the village followed by lunch at the local T.W. Graham and Company. (Price range \$8-\$16 not included)

Min: 10

Max: 15

Cost: \$14.

Lunch not included

13. Donnelley WMA Bike Tour Thurs, Mar 29 9:00am - 3:00pm

Leader: Sophia

Take an 11-12 mile bike tour on hard packed roads in this Wildlife Management Area that includes a variety of habitats supporting a diversity of wildlife from alligators to armadillos. Bring a picnic lunch to eat on the lawn of a lodge that overlooks a large impoundment giving refuge to resident and migrating birds. Mountain/hybrid bikes only. **Advanced skills** required.

Min: 5 Max: 15 Cost \$5.00 Bring picnic lunch

14. Audubon Swamp Garden Mon, Apr 2nd 8:30am-2:00pm

Leader: Sophia

The Audubon Swamp Garden is part of Magnolia Plantation. Take a guided tour along the 1½-mile walk that includes a large rookery for coastal birds. Box lunch included. **Walking** Tour

Min: 10 Max: 20 Cost \$16 Lunch included

15. Spirit of South Carolina Thurs. April 5^t 9:30am -4:00pm

Trip Leader: Jean

Enjoy an afternoon of sailing aboard the Spirit of South Carolina on Charleston Harbor with magnificent views of the city, the Ravenal Bridge, Fort Sumter, and more while participating in "hoisting the sails", and educational activities focusing on Marine Science and Maritime History. The Spirit of South Carolina is a 140' two masted sailing vessel modeled after the Francis Elizabeth built in 1879.

Min: 30 Max: 40 Cost: \$86.00 Bring a picnic lunch

16. Brookgreen Gardens Tues. April 10th 8:30am – 5:00pm

Trip Leader: Jean

We will enjoy a guided tour of the Huntington Sculpture Garden with more than 1200 works by 350 American artists set in lush gardens and landscape settings. Following lunch continue to explore the gardens on your own or visit the Mother Nature's Cafe or Meet the Animals. **Walking** Tour

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$27.00 Lunch included

17. Kurio's Farm & Old Santee Canal Park Wed. Apr. 11th 8:30am - 3:30pm

Leader: Sophia

Tour a hydroponic farm where delectable vegetables are grown for local restaurants. Enjoy a picnic lunch at Old Santee Canal Park and take a guided tour of the park and plantation house. Comfortable walking shoes will be needed for the tours. There is an interpretive center as an alternative to the longer walk.

WALKING TOUR

Min: 10 Max: 20 Cost \$5.00 Bring picnic lunch

18. Dinner Cruise / Spirit of Carolina Thurs. April 12th 5:30pm – 11:00pm

Trip leader: Ilse

Enjoy an unforgettable three-hour cruise with breathtaking views of Charleston Harbor as you savor a three-course dinner plus desert. (Meals will be prepared to order) Beverages available and entertainment included.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$58.00 Dinner included

19. Stewards of Hampton Park and the Horticulture Division of the City of Charleston

Tues: April 17th 9:00am – 1:00pm

Trip leader: Ilse

Ever wonder where the beautiful plants and flowers that grace Charleston are grown? Join us at the greenhouse compound at Hampton Park. Some **walking**.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$8.00 No lunch plans

20. What's On The Beach? Thurs. April 19th 12:30am - 2:45pm

Leader: Jan

Walking our beautiful beaches, how many times have you wondered what is that funny looking thing or attempted to identify a shell. Now is the time to bring all your questions to our own expert biologist Tom Fox and walk with him on the beach. Tom is sure to know the answer! Learn about the animals, sands, tides and many other aspects of our beach environment. Moderate **walking** and **standing**.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$5.00 No lunch plans

21. Morris Island & Castle Pinckney Sat. April 21 8:00am -1:00pm

Trip leader: Jan

An enjoyable historical trip. Join Dr. Stephen Wise, author and historian as we boat to Morris Island from the Charleston Maritime Center. The site of fighting in the Union campaign to capture Charleston, Dr. Wise will take us through the key elements of that battle. Departing from Morris Island, we will stop at Castle Pickney "the silent sentinel" defensive fortification currently owned by the Sons of Confederate Veterans who plan archeological exploration and eventually reconstruction.

Min: 30 Max: 49 Cost: \$70.00 Bring a picnic lunch

22. Sparkleberry Swamp Kayak Mon. Apr. 23rd 8:30am – 4:30pm

Leader: Sophia

Enjoy easy kayaking in a submerged cypress and tupelo forest area at the north of Lake Marion. A naturalist will guide us at a leisurely pace through the magical maze that is home to many animals. Finish the trip with a delicious barbeque meal Single or tandem kayaks are available.

Min: 10 Max: 12 Cost \$87.00 Lunch included

23. Historic Fort Sumter Cruise Tues, April 24th 10:30am – 3:30pm

Leader: Ilse

Join us for a two-hour boat ride to historical Fort Sumter. A taped historical tour of the harbor followed by a Fort Sumter guide describing the highlights of the fort. There will be time allotted to tour the fort at your own pace. Some walking on uneven ground, there are restrooms on the boat as well as snacks and a light lunch available. Food is not allowed on the boat.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$20.00 Food for Sale on Board

24. Beidler Forest/Cypress Swamp Thurs. April 26th 8:30am – 2:30pm

Leader: Sue

Walk the boardwalks of this old growth Cypress Tupelo Swamp. Centuries ago much of the Lowcountry was covered with this type of vegetation. The trees date backs 1000 years and support a pristine ecosystem boasting more songbirds per acre than anyplace on earth. Explore the plants and animal life exclusive to this healthy ecosystem. Comfortable shoes, water, bug spray and perhaps a picnic lunch to eat after the tour.

Min: 10 Max: 25 Cost \$11 Bring Picnic Lunch

25. Triple Tower Tour **Mon, Apr. 30** 9:00am - 2:00pm

Leader: Sophia

Bike on Kiawah and visit three observation towers for a view of the various barrier island environments. Enjoy a picnic lunch at Cinder Creek. Ride will be a leisurely 11 miles. For **experienced** bikers.

Min: 5 Max: 10 Cost: \$5 Bring picnic lunch

26. Wadboo Creek Kayaking Thurs. May 3 8:30am - 3:30pm

Leader: Cindy

Come kayak the best of the upper and lower portions of Wadboo Creek. We will begin so that we see some of the remnants of dikes and canals from the rice field era along with limestone bluffs of the upper portion and then continue on to the lower portion with its more swampy growth of cypress and tupelo shaded areas. We should see lots of wildlife as well as experience good kayaking. Of course after our time on the river we will enjoy Louie's famous barbeque lunch.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$75 Lunch included

27. Edisto Island Tour Fri. May 4th 9:00am - 2:30pm
Leader: Jim
A classic "Pink Van" tour of neighboring Edisto Island, home to 26 sites on the National Register of Historic Places. We will see plantations and other aspects of historic island life dating back to colonial America and will finish with a Gullah lunch prepared by the proprietors of Main's Market, an Edisto landmark. Some **walking**.
Min: 10 Max: 11 Cost: \$39 Lunch included

28. Cypress Gardens Tues May 8th 11am - 4:30pm
Leader: Cindy
Following lunch we will tour the swamp and beautiful gardens by boat. Visit the butterfly house and enjoy an interesting presentation of the various insects and animals in their Nature Center before touring the butterfly house.
Min: 15 Max: 30 Cost: \$15 Bring Picnic Lunch

29. USS Yorktown & Medal of Honor Museum
Thurs. May10th 8:45am-5:00pm
Trip Leader: Jim
Special guided tours of aircraft and the living and working areas of the ship not generally accessible to the public. After a lunch onboard in the Chief Petty Officers' Galley, time will be available to take self guided tours of the Medal of Honor museum on the Yorktown, the destroyer USS Laffey (the ship that would not die), the submarine USS Clamagore, and a model Vietnam Support Base Camp all located nearby. This activity will require considerable **WALKING**, climbing up and down stairs and moving in somewhat confined spaces.
Min: 10 Max: 14 Cost: \$52.00 Lunch included

30. Kiawah River Paddle Mon, May 14th 1:30pm - 5:00pm
Leader: Sophia
Meet at Mingo Point for a guided paddle on the Kiawah River and the surrounding creeks. Singles and tandem kayaks available. This will be a leisurely outing. Some experience is necessary.
Min: 10 Max: 30 Cost: \$31 No Meal Plans

31. Mary Whyte Exhibit at the Gibbes Tues. May 15th 9:00am – 1:00pm
Trip leader: Ilse

We are indeed lucky to have a docent tour of renowned watercolorist Mary Whyte's show at the Gibbes, "Working South," in which she captures men and women of vanishing blue-collar professions of the South.

Min: 15 Max: 20 Cost: \$8.00 No lunch plans

32. Biggerstaff Bees Wed. May 16th 9:00am – 12pm

Trip leader: Jan

Visit Mr. Biggerstaff "My Hobby Is Honey" and tour his apiary. He will talk about the care and culture of bees. Some **walking** required, standing during discussion. He has a small shop with honey and beeswax candles for sale.

Min: 10 Max: 15 Cost: \$5.00 No lunch plans