

Meshomasic Hiking Club Winter 2012 Schedule of Events

<http://meshomasichikingclub.org>

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FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Sunday, January 1, 10:30a-Gay City S.P., Hebron: Resolved: Start the New Year off with a hike! Roughly a 5-mile walk around the park on the Red Trail to see interesting ponds, Blackledge River, and old ruins. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at State Park entrance lot off of Route 85 in Hebron. RSVP by 12/31 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Wednesday, January 4, 9:00a-Historic Downtown Meriden Stroll & Lunch, Meriden: A 6-mile stroll through the town. Rating C3. No kids or dogs, walking shoes OK, bring water, lunch at a restaurant. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 1/3 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Saturday, January 7, 1:00p-Stevens Lot Hike & Boil-up, Portland:** A 4-mile hike to historic pine stands. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring beverage and food for campfire to follow. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange near jct. of Rt. 17/17A in Portland. RSVP by 1/6 to John at 860-342-0658.

Wednesday, January 11, 9:00a-Portland Preserves, Portland: A 6-mile hike to Hobos Inn, Old Mental Institute and Riverfront Park. Rating C3. No kids or dogs, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 1/10 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, January 14, 10:00a-Frozen Cedar Swamp Hike, Old Saybrook: This 4-mile hike over varied terrain to a secluded swamp containing some of the last remaining Atlantic White Cedar trees, including the largest in CT. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Exit 6 commuter parking lot off Rt. 9. RSVP by 1/13 to Ron or Andrea at 860-873-8867.

Wednesday, January 18, 9:00a-Bernstein Preserve, East Haddam: A 6-mile hike to an old mill foundation. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food & drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Rt. 16 & 66 commuter lot in East Hampton. RSVP by 1/17 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Sunday, January 22, 10:00a-Frozen Axelson Brook Hike, East Hampton:** A 6-mile hike on a fresh water tidal swamp on the CT River with cliffs, old quarries, meadows and hopefully a large frozen swamp to cross. Rating C+3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Rt. 16 & 66 commuter lot in East Hampton. RSVP by 1/21 to Ron or Andrea at 860-873-8867.

Wednesday, January 25, 9:00a-Cockaponset S.F. Exploratory, Haddam: A 6-mile hike in one of the forest blocks. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 1/24 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Saturday, January 28, 10:00a-Annual Winter Picnic, Day Pond S.P., Westchester:** Break the winter doldrums with a picnic. We will take a short hike, and then eat. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only. Bring a dish to share, your own place setting and beverage. Really bad weather cancels. Meet at Day Pond S.P. on Rt.149 in Westchester. RSVP by 1/27 to David or Paula at 860-347-7420.

***Saturday, February 4, 1:00pa-Maromas Hike & Boil-up, Middletown:** A 4-mile hike to old quarries. Rating C3. No kids or dogs, hiking boots only, bring food & drink for campfire to follow. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 2/3 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Sunday, February 5, 10:00a-Frozen Swamp of Cockaponset Forest, Chester:** A 6-mile hike in the largest cedar swamp in CT. This very wet and wild area surrounded by extensive forest and cliffs is accessible only by canoe or when frozen. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Exit 6 commuter lot off of Rt. 9. RSVP by 2/4 to Ron or Andrea at 860-873-8867.

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Wednesday, February 8, 9:00a-Salmon River S.F. and Airline Trail, East Hampton: A 6-mile hike through forest to Railroad Bed. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Rt. 16 & 66 commuter lot in East Hampton. RSVP by 2/7 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, February 11, 10:00a-Camp Moween, Lebanon: A 3-mile hike to see a 300 year old tavern plus foundations, old chimneys, etc. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Rt. 16 & 66 commuter lot in East Hampton. RSVP by 2/10 to Mike at 860-267-4317.

Wednesday, February 15, 9:00a-Madison Land Trust Preserves, Madison: A 6-mile hike on a couple preserves. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 2/14 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, February 19, Goodwin S.F., Hampton: A 6-mile hike to water views, a rail trail, new side trail off the Natchaug blue trail, beaver lodge, ponds and swamps. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Goodwin S.F. headquarters parking lot. From Willimantic, take Rt. 6 east thru Chaplin to Potter Rd in Hampton; Goodwin is on the left. RSVP by 2/18 to Bob at 860-942-4301.

Wednesday, February 22, 9:00a-Scoville Loop, Middletown: A 6-mile hike near the CT River. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 2/21 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, February 25, 10:00a-Rocky Neck S.P., Lyme: Fight the winter blues with a 3-mile hike at the beach! Try to find Paula's cave! Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. To car pool, meet at the exit 8 parking lot off Rt. 9 at 10:00a or meet at the parking lot near beach (not at the park entrance) for 10:30a sharp start. RSVP by 2/24 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Wednesday, February 29, 9:00a-Scantic River Preserves, Somers: A 6-mile hike to old mill foundations. Rating D3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 2/28 to John at 860-342-0658.

Wednesday, February 29, 6:30p-Activities Planning Meeting: Come join us to plan the activities of YOUR club. Even if you don't want to lead a hike, come see what we're about. Meet at the Portland Library. Call Paula for info 860-347-7420.

***Saturday, March 3, 2:00p-Meshomasic Hike & Boil-up, Glastonbury:** A 4-mile hike to an old quarry. Rating C3. No kids or dogs, hiking boots only, bring beverage and food for campfire to follow. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange near jct. of 17/17A in Portland. RSVP by 3/2 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, March 4, 10:00a-Machimoodus S.P., Moodus: A 4-5 mile hike on a very scenic trail winding along Salmon River Cove with overlooks, creeks, woods and grasslands. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at Machimoodus S.P. on Rt. 151. RSVP by 3/3 to Ron or Andrea at 860-873-8867

Wednesday, March 7, 7:00a-Indian Well S.P. and Paugussett Trail, Shelton: A 6-mile hike on the blue trail to a waterfall. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 3/6 to John at 860-342-0658.

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Saturday, March 10, 9:15a-Gay City S.P. to Case Mountain, Hebron/Manchester: A roughly 6-mile hike to Pine and Garnet Ledges ending at Lookout Mountain Summit with an excellent view of the CT River Valley. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Spring Street lot in Manchester for a short car spot to Gay City. From I-384 East, take exit 4, at end of exit turn right at stop sign, travel a short distance, park in upper lot before you cross the narrow bridge. RSVP by 3/9 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Sunday, March 11, 9:00a- Wolf Rock, Mansfield: A 4-mile hike to a "thunder rock" site with a glacial erratic on top of a cliff and a beaver swamp with a nature watch platform. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Rt. 6 & 66 commuter lot in Columbia. RSVP by 3/10 to Bob at 860-942-4301.

Wednesday, March 14, 9:00a-Roaring Brook Nature Center & Exploratory Hike, Canton: A 6-mile hike through the preserve to a vista. Rating C3. No kids or dogs, hiking boots only, bring food and beverage. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 3/13 to John at 860-342-0658.

***Sunday, March 18, 10:00a-Birthday Picnic, Hurd S.P., East Hampton:** Come join us for the Club's 14th birthday celebration. Mike will lead a 3-mile hike to some quarries thru a youth camp to Balloon Rock and a different view of the CT River. After the hike we will picnic. Bring a dish to share, your own place setting and beverage. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only. Really bad weather cancels. Meet at main entrance to Hurd S.P. on Rt. 151 in East Hampton. RSVP by 3/17 to David or Paula at 860-347-7420.

Wednesday, March 21, 9:00a-McLean Game Refuge, Granby: A 6-mile hike to Carpenter Falls. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food & drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 3/20 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, March 25, 9:30a-Babcock Pond Wildlife Management Area, Colchester: A 4-mile hike with a view of a large pond, bridge over a marsh area along with fields and forest views. We will be accompanied by the CT DEEP Forester in charge of the area. Rating C3. Kids OK but no dogs, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at Rt. 16 & 66 commuter lot in East Hampton. RSVP by 3/24 to Ray at 860-306-4099.

Wednesday, March 28, 9:00a-Sessions Woods Management Area, Burlington: A 6-mile hike to Negro Brook Falls. Rating C3. No kids but dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring food and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station. RSVP by 3/27 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, March 31, 9:15a-Tynan Park to Mt. Higby, Middletown: Roughly a 5.5 mile hike with some moderate climbing on a traprock ridge and Mattabessett Trail. Rating C3. Kids and dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the hiker's lot on north side of Rt. 66, ½ mile west of the jct. of Rts. 66 & 147. RSVP by 3/30 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Sunday, April 1, 9:15 a-Scantic River Preserves, Enfield: Roughly a 5 mile hike in 3 preserves by the scenic Scantic River. See the remains of Colonel Hazard's gunpowder factories where a significant portion of the Union Army's gunpowder was made during the Civil War. Rating C3. Kids and leashed dogs OK, hiking boots only, bring lunch and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet for short car spot at Brookside Mall McDonalds in Enfield on Route 190 East. From I-91, take exit 47E, go east on 190 and at fourth light or so take right into McDonalds lot. RSVP by 3/31 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

PLEASE NOTE THAT HIKES WITH * DO NOT GET ADVERTISED OUTSIDE OF THIS NEWSLETTER