

JULY 16 - 17

SEEKTHEPEAK.ORG

## RAISE MONEY & EARN GEAR

#### BASE CAMP: VENDOR VILLAGE

1 Mount Washington Auto Road, Gorham, New Hampshire

PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS - FOOD TRUCKS -ENTERTAINMENT ~ GEAR EXPERTS & MORE!











## THE 21ST ANNUAL SEEK THE PEAK

Join us for the largest annual fundraiser of the nonprofit **Mount Washington Observatory**, welcoming oudoor enthusiasts of all ages and abilities to the beautiful White Mountains.

#### **RAISE MONEY + EARN GEAR!**

Raise \$200 and receive an exclusive Cotopaxi/Eastern Mountain Sports backpack.

Raise \$300 and earn a 21st Anniversary STP Tee, \$15 food voucher, and be entered to win premier outdoor gear, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors.

Choose your adventure and raise funds that provide vital support for Mount Washington Observatory. The pages of this guidebook offer many adventure options to choose!

The mission of Seek the Peak is to cultivate and sustain connection to and stewardship of Mount Washington Observatory and the White Mountains region. This will be achieved by utilizing our natural spaces in a responsible manner to create a wide range of adventures on our trails. cliffs, and waterways. By leveraging our community's passion for discovery and exploration, we will simultaneously build capacity in support of the observatory's critical mission.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

## Register Today and Choose Your Adventure!

Register at seekthepeak.org as an individual or team and begin inspiring friends and family to support your adventure of choice. Start your peer-to-peer fundraising and begin earning prizes!

This year's expanded event schedule includes guided hikes, climb and rappel clinics, mountain bike rides, kayak excursions on the Androscoggin River, fly fishing, a 5K race and more.

Participants are also invited to seek your peak. Plan your own outing anywhere, whether it's a summit hike or immersing yourself in new adventure while supporting the Observatory. A safe experience in the White Mountains starts with our daily weather forecasts at mountwashington.org.

seekthepeak.org offers **helpful fundraising** tips to support your communications and outreach. Once registered, you can share a link to your fundraising page, where people can donate to your goal. There is a \$10 registration processing fee that is ultimately applied to your fundraising total.



#### YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

#### OUR MISSION IN WEATHER AND CLIMATE SCIENCE

Mount Washington Observatory (MWO) is a private, nonprofit, member-supported institution with a mission to advance understanding of the natural systems that create Earth's weather and climate.

It serves this mission by maintaining a weather station on the summit of Mount Washington, performing weather and climate research, conducting innovative science education programs, and interpreting the heritage of the Mount Washington region.

Weather observations are reported to the National Weather Service for use in nationwide forecasting models and regional reports, and MWO scientists produce specialized forecasts for the higher summits of the White Mountains.

With detailed climate records dating back to the organization's founding, MWO maintains what is now one of North America's longest continuous climate records.



## **EVENT SCHEDULE**



1 Mount Washington Auto Rd., Gorham, NH

## FRIDAY - JULY 16

2-6 PM: Registration

Stop by our Base Camp at Great Glen Trails, drop off any final donations, and pick up your prizes for raising funds! Staff will be onsite to provide information on weekend activities. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and cooler and hang out to catch up with other participants. First 50 STP participants at the \$300 fundraising level: stop by Eastern Mountain Sports in North Conway to pick up your FREE pair of Smartwool socks!

## **SATURDAY - JULY 17**

### 12-7 PM: Adventure Expo and Vendor Village

An epic celebration of our 2021 participants, supporting sponsors and organizations!

#### Vendor Village ~ Food Trucks ~ Live Music

Gather to celebrate your adventure, speak to field experts from an expansive line-up of adventure brands, and learn about outdoor recreation stewardship from many non-profits. Peruse the booths for product clinics and & giveaways

General Admission - \$10Fee FREE to ages 12 & under and registered STP fundraising participants.

**PRIZE DRAWINGS AT 2:30, 4:30, AND 6:30 P.M.** at the MWO booth! Seek the Peak participants who've reached \$300 in fundraising are eligible to win a Garmin inReach Mini, Petzl headlamps, Big Agnes Mica Camp Chair, Hyperlite packs, and many other premier outdoor adventure items. See next page for details.

## EVENT SCHEDULE

## **JULY 17 VENDOR VILLAGE**

Exhibitors include...

Oboz ~ Eastern Mountain Sports ~ Petzl ~ Garmin Hyperlite Mountain Gear ~ Cotopaxi Backpacker Get Out More Tour ~ Big Agnes ~ Smartwool Granite Outdoor Alliance ~ Great Glen Trails Far Bank Fly Fishing ~ Trout Unlimited ~ 93.5 WMWV NH Outdoor Council ~ NH State Parks Cross NH Adventure Trails ~ AbilityPlus ~ Access Fund Protect Our Winters ~ White Mountain Trail Collective **Mountain Center Physical Therapy Appalachian Mountain Club Mount Washington Observatory** 

#### LIVE MUSIC

Mount Washington Radio Group with Roy Prescott, 12-1 & 3-4 PM

Bear Mt. Band, 1-3 PM

Shark Martin, 4-7 PM

#### **FOOD TRUCKS**

~ Kimberly's Gluten Free Kitchen ~ Tin Can Company ~ ~ Crescent City Kitchen & KozBar ~

# 2021 PRIZE OFFERINGS

RAISE \$200



Cotopax - Eastern Mountain Sports Exclusive STP Pack

#### RAISE \$300 AND BE ENTERED TO WIN

Amazing prizes like these...thank you to the generosity of our sponsors:



ECCUPATE CUIT CERTIFICATES EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS



BE OUTDO'RS

Backpacker

BIG LASY 2 - TENT THE PORES WHEELED DUFFLE MOUNTAIN CHAIR ENG-FIELD DAY BLANKET HYGROFEASK 40 OZ.

GARMIN. INTERCH MINI

PETZL

BINDS HEADLAMPS SWIFT RL HEADLAMPS INC ACREE



SYPPRIST MOUNTAIN GEAR DATEBLAK PACKE

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RECEPACITE MAGAZINE TV YOUR

PARTMER GREENARS CRAMITS OUTBOOK ALLIANCE PARTNER GIVE WIRE

THE MORTH FACE THE NORTH FACE DUFFLES

COLUMBIA GIFT CERTIFICATES

RAISE \$300

RAISE

\$500

RAISE

\$1,000

RAISE

\$2,500

RAISE

\$5.000



Sport Fech Rev 8.515 Food Voucher®



An STP White Mountains Topo Map Insulated Hydration Bottle from Well Told and a pair of Smartwool Social

GET



and STP longsfeeve tee

GET

everything above, plus PICK YOUR ACTIVITY

Padding Expursion Climbing Trip GGT Trail Pass AMC His Stay

A Gift Certificate to participate in any or of the many partner experiences provided for weekend of STP or another date



PRIZES TO BE DRAWN SATURDAY JULY 17TH AT THE MWO TENT IN THE VENDOR VILLAGE...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE NONPROFIT MWO!

RAISE \$10000

GET everything above, plus

Mount Washington Observatory lifetime membership

TOP FIINDRAISFR

Oboz Hiking Boots, Hyperlite DayBreak Pack, Petzl eLite Headlamp. Big Agnes Sleeping Bag, Big Agnes Mica Basin Camp Chair



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Can my partner and I sign up as one person or team?

You can, but we don't recommend it. One registration = one backpack, one T-shirt, one set of fundraising incentives, one ticket to the Adventure Expo, and one entry into the prize pool. Each participant, as an individual, must meet that \$200 fundraising minimum to receive their own backpack, incentives, after party ticket, and prize pool entry.

#### For summit hikers, is there a shuttle down from the summit?

No shuttle will be provided for Seek the Peak hikers, and you are responsible for getting yourself down the mountain. However, many hikers have a friend drive up the Mt. Washington Auto Road and meet them at the top for a quick ride down to the Expo. For more information, visit mtwashingtonautoroad.com.

#### Can I bring a guest to the Expo?

Absolutely! The Expo is open to all guests. There is a \$10 fee for each guest. Ages 12 & under are free. No dogs, please.

#### Can children participate?

Yes, if they are capable of your chosen outdoor adventure. To decide if your child is ready for a back country hike, we recommend reviewing Hike Safe on page 20 and educating yourself about weather preparedness.

#### Do I need to be an Observatory member to participate?

No, anyone can participate, but we would love for you to become a member and advance support of our mission!

#### What if it rains?

The event is held rain or shine, so be prepared for all conditions. Check our forecasts at mountwashington.org to know what to expect.

#### Who can I speak to if I have other questions?

We're here to help - Contact: Krissy Fraser at kfraser@mountwashington.org or (603) 356-2137, x231.

#### HIKING



Participant Ashley Witham takes in a view while crossing an alpine stream.

Know before you go: Check the MWOBS Higher Summits Forecast.

#### **Guided Hikes**

King Ravine\* on Friday, July 16, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Eastern Mountain Sports Guide School experts will lead a challenging hike to one of the most rugged features in the White Mountains. King Ravine to Mt. Adams offers a grand adventure for those ready to take on the challenge. 8 miles round trip, 4,500 feet of elevation gain.

Lows Bald Spot\*, Saturday, July 17, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Naturalist and expert birder Will Broussard will lead you on this moderate, near 4-mile hike that travels through beautiful wooded trails before opening up to spectacular mountain views. Departing from AMC's Pinkham Notch Joe Dodge Lodge.

\*EMS guided King Ravine hike is available to participants reaching \$1,000 in fundraising before June 1. Space is limited and requires registration on a first-come, first-served basis. Any space available after June 1 will be available for purchase. Lows Bald Spot hike is available to all participants who reach the \$300 fundraising goal. Reservations required.

#### HIKING

#### Self-Led Hikes

Given so many options in the White Mountains, here are some favorites:

Arethusa Falls: A 60-foot spectacle located at the end of a moderate, 3-mile inand-out trek from US Route 302 in Crawford Notch State Park. Ideal for families.

Mount Willard: A few miles north of Arethusa Falls sits this 2,864-foot summit, a relatively short hike for an incredible vantage point. The easy-to-moderate 3-mile round-trip along an old carriage road starts on US Route 302 near the AMC's Highland Center.

Mount Chocura: Enjoy 360-degree views from this rugged summit. Moderate-level paths to the top include Piper Trail (4.2 miles each way from Route 16) and Champney Falls Trail (7.6 miles from the Kancamagus Highway).

Mount Kearsarge North: Reaching this 3,268-foot peak includes a 6.2-mile moderately difficult round trip from Hurricane Mountain Road. The Popular Pequawket Fire Tower offers a grand 360-degree view.

Baldface Loop: Near vertical rock faces offer a rewarding ridge walk and stunning views from the 3,570-foot South Baldface and 3,610-foot North Baldface peaks. The 10-mile loop begins on Route 113 in North Chatham.

Great Glen Trails: Nature walks available throughout the day.

## More Info & **Options**

visitnh.gov goeast.ems.com outdoors.org fs.usda.gov

#### Area Guides & Gear

Eastern Mountain Sports, 603 733 4378 1640 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

**REI**, 603 356 0475 1498 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

IME, 603 356 7064 2733 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Stan & Dan Sports, 603 356 6997 2936 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

#### MOUNTAIN BIKING



Mountain biking at Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center.

#### **Guided Rides**

Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail (xNHAT)\* Friday, July 16, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or Saturday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This expert-led, 20-mile adventure will take you along a variety of trails, over bridges and through the woods, opening up to stunning views of the Presidential Range.

Saturday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Explore the scenic Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge on this easy and scenic 8-mile ride led by XNH Adventure Trail volunteers.

#### Great Glen Trails\*

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Pedal through beautiful meadows and over scenic rivers and see stunning mountain vistas as the legendary Marty Basch leads you through the awesome trail network at Great Glen Trails. Bike rentals available on property.

<sup>\*</sup>Guided mountain bike rides will be available to participants who reach the \$300 fundraising goal. Reservations required.

#### MOUNTAIN BIKING

#### Self-Led Rides

Marshall Conservation Area: Rides for all levels, located a short drive from North Conway on West Side Road, there are 14 trails maintained by the White Mountains Chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA).

Great Glen Trails: For-fee trails designed for riders of all ages and ability levels. More info at greatglentrails.com.

Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail: Choose a section to ride or cover the entire 83-mile long collection of rail trails, dirt roads, bike paths, and quite paved backroads between Woodsville, NH and Bethel, ME.

Moose Brook State Park: Near Gorham, NH, this park's 774 acres offer a number of excellent single-rack trails and scenic relaxing dirt roads. More info at nemba. org.

Hurricane Mountain Zone: The majority of trails are for expert-level (black diamond)

## More Info & **Options**

xnhat.org nemba.org ridenoco.org cooscyclingclub.org

#### Area Guides & Gear

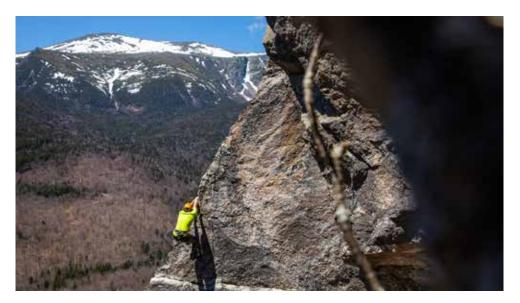
Eastern Mountain Sports, 603 733 4378 1640 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

REI, 603 356 0475 1498 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Great Glen Trails, 603 466 3988 1 Mount Washington Auto Road, Gorham

**Stan & Dan Sports**, 603 356 6997 2936 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

#### ROCK CLIMBING



Mount Washington makes for a dramatic backdrop during a rock climbing adventure. EMS photo. Know before you go: Check the MWOBS Higher Summits Forecast.

#### **Guided Climbs**

Climb & Rappel at Square Ledge\* on Saturday, July 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EMS Guide Schools will be onsite at Square Ledge, across from the AMC Pinkham Notch Visitor Center, offering climbing and rappelling sessions for participants interested in "learning the ropes."

Climb at Whitehorse Ledge\* on Saturday, July 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you have some prior climbing experience and want to step it up, venture up one of North Conway's most popular routes with an expert from EMS Guide Schools. Choose objectives from 5.4 to 5.10+, some over 1,000' of climbing!

<sup>\*</sup>Reservations required. Climb & Rappel at Square Ledge will be available to all participants who reach the \$300 fundraising goal. Rock Climbing at White Horse Ledge will be available to participants reaching the \$2,500 fundraising goal before June 1. Limited space available on a first-come, first-reserved basis. Any space available after June 1 will be available for sale. Reservations required.

#### **ROCK CLIMBING**

#### Self-Led Climbs

The highly visible and massive White Horse Ledge and Cathedral Ledge just outside North Conway Village have attracted rock climbers for almost 100 years, scaling cliffs more than 100 feet tall. Between the two cliffs there are more than 300 established routes, from easy to expert. If you're new to climbing, numerous sources for guide services and gear are listed below to help you get started.

Whitehorse Ledge, Standard Route: This seven-pitch outing includes more than 1,200 feet of linear climbing, splitting the middle of the main slab.

Whitehorse Ledge, Children's Crusade: This three-pitch climb ascends the steeper edge of the south buttress.

Cathedral Ledge, Thin Air Face: A four-pitch climb offering a challenge for both new and seasoned climbers.

Cathedral Ledge, Recompense Route: This three-pitch outing ascends the central buttress known as The Prow.

## More Info & **Options**

newhampshireclimbing.com mountainproject.com accessfund.org

#### Area Guides & Gear

Eastern Mountain Sports, 603 733 4378 1640 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

IME, 603 356 7064 2733 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

REI, 603 356 0475 1498 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Synnott Mountain Guides, 603 733 8416 279 NH-16, Intervale

#### PADDLING



With Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center as your guide, paddle along the Androscoggin River.

## **Guided Kayaking**

White Water Clinic\* on Friday, July 16 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m, Led by Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center A.C.A. certified guides, this excursion focuses on paddling basics and safety, and we'll make sure you're having fun on the water the first day out. You don't need paddling experience to enroll, just a willingness to try something new. You'll learn learn how to wet exit, perform aggressive self rescues, paddle your boat in every direction, read river hydrology, practice eddy turns and peel outs, ferrying across the river, braces and more.

1/2 Day Wildlife Kayak Trip\* on Saturday, July 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Led by Great Glen Trail Outdoor Center A.C.A. certified guides, this trip is your gateway to river exploration along a beautiful, quiet section of the Androscoggin River. Bring a camera as the Mahoosuc Mountains provide a stunning backdrop and wildlife sightings. The guides know the history, topography, flora, fauna and ins and outs of the waterways. Designed for first time paddlers and experts alike.

<sup>\*</sup>Available to participants reaching \$1,000 in fundraising before June 1. Limited space available on a first-come, first-reserved basis. Any space available after June 1 will be available for sale. Reservations required.

#### PADDLING

## Self-Led Kayaking

The plentiful rivers and lakes of the Mount Washington Valley and its surroundings are prime places to paddle surrounded by nature's bounty.

Saco River: A popular river with some of the most canoeable waters in the Northeast, there is an easy stretch a short drive from North Conway Village. Paddle eight miles from First Bridge on River Road to Davis Park with its covered bridges. The experience is heavily dependent on water levels. Local shuttle services and kayak and canoe rentals are available; two vehicles are helpful.

Androscoggin River: For a more secluded paddle, travel north from the Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center to the Androscoggin River, where osprey and eagle spotting could prove positive. It's about a 3 or 4 hour float just over the Maine border from Gilead to Bethel. Two cars or shuttle are necessary.

Conway Lake: With its Mill Street access about eight miles from North Conway, Conway Lake is a good four-hour paddle. It's easy, unless there are huge winds, and pays out big time with swimming and loon sightings.

Lower Swift River: For experienced kayakers, this section offers seven miles of Class 3-5 waters, dropping alongside the Kancamangus Highway amid beautiful scenery. Put in at Rocky Gorge. Watch the USGS online Saco gage for an idea of water levels. A reading of about 1,500 cfs usually correlates with a low level.

## More Info & **Options**

visitnh.gov outdoors.dartmouth. edu nhstateparks.org

#### Area Guides & Gear

Eastern Mountain Sports, 603 733 4378 1640 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Great Glen Trails, 603 466 3988 1 Mount Washington Auto Road, Gorham

**REI**, 603 356 0475 1498 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Saco River Canoe & Kayak, 207 935 2369 1009 Main Street, Fryeburg

#### TRAIL RUNNING



Photo caption

Know before you go: Check the MWOBS Higher Summits Forecast.

## **Competitive Trail Running**

5k Trail Race at Great Glen Trails\* on Saturday, July 17, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. With support from the White Mountain Miliers. Staggered start times. The course varies slightly each year, taking advantage of both wide carriage roads and more challenging single track.

<sup>\*</sup>Registration is \$25 or Seek the Peak participants who've raised \$200 or more can request a waiver code by emailing events@mountwashington.org.

#### TRAIL RUNNING

## **Self-Led Trail Running**

Castleview Rock and Ledge: An easy 1.8-mile loop with 450 feet in elevation gain and views of the Northern Peaks. The trailhead is located off Randolph Hill Road. Follow the Mt Crescent Trail, Castleview Loop and Carlton Notch Trail. More info at randolphmountainclub.org.

Great Glen Trails: 28 miles of well-marked trails surrounded by the beauty of the White Mountains. No trail pass required for walking and running. Dogs welcome. Rolling carriage roads and challenging single track through the woods makes Great Glen Trails a wonderful place to run and walk.

Chocura Loop: Moderate-level paths to the top include Piper Trail (4.2 miles each way from Route 16) and Champney Falls Trail (7.6 miles from the Kancamagus Highway).

Franconia Ridge Loop: Starting from the Old Bridle Path trailhead in Franconia Notch State Park, the first four miles entail climbing almost 3,400 feet to the Mt. Lafayette summit. This technical route includes many mountain views. 8.6-mile round trip.

## More Info & **Options**

greatglentrails.com outdoors.org randolphmountainclub.org rei.com

## Area Guides & Gear

Eastern Mountain Sports, 603 733 4378 1640 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

**REI**, 603 356 0475 1498 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

IME, 603 356 7064 2733 White Mountain Hwy, No Co

Ragged Mountain Equipment, 603 356 3042 279 NH-16 #302. Intervale

#### **ASK THE EXPERTS**

Contact the Appalachian Mountain Club today for expert advice.



AMC helps you get outdoors on your own, with family and friends, and through activities close to home and beyond. Get involved by learning more about their guided activities and chapter hiking clubs.

Happy Trails!

603-466-2727



### HIKE SAFE

Mount Washington is a real mountain, with real, inherent risks. Visit **HIKESAFE.COM** to learn how to properly prepare for an enjoyable experience on the northeast's tallest peak and for any hiking experience!

## FOLLOW THE HIKER RESPONSIBILITY CODE

You are responsible for yourself, so be prepared:

- -With knowledge and gear. Become self reliant by learning about the terrain, conditions, local weather and your equipment before you start.
- -To leave your plans. Tell someone where you are going, the trails you are hiking, when you will return and your emergency plans.
- **-To stay together.** When you start as a group, hike as a group, end as a group. Pace your hike to the slowest person.
- -To turn back. Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Fatigue and unexpected conditions can also affect your hike. Know your limitations and when to postpone your hike. The mountains will be there another day.
- -For Emergencies. Even if you are headed out for just an hour, an injury, severe weather or a wrong turn could become life threatening. Don't assume you will be rescued; know how to rescue yourself.
- -To share the hiker code with others.

#### LODGING

We work with several area lodging properties who support the Mount Washington Observatory year round. The lodging options in the area are endless.

Appalachian Mountain Club Joe Dodge Lodge & Highland Center
Grand Summit Hotel at Attitash
Nordic Village Resorts
Cathedral Ledge Resort
The Glen House Hotel
Inn at Jackson
Kearsarge Inn
Comfort Inn & Suites
Buttonwood Inn
Eastern Slope Inn
Christmas Farm Inn & Spa
Cranmore Inn Bed and Breakfast

For more information on these properties please visit our website, mount-washington.org, and navigate to our "Area Lodging" section located under "Visit Us."



#### DIRECTIONS

**Registration and the Main hub of the event is l**ocated at the field across from the Great Glen Trails Outdoor Center

The Mt Washington Auto Road is located off NH Route 16 in Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire – 12 miles north of Jackson, NH, and 8 miles south of Gorham, NH.

It is sometimes hard to find with GPS devices.

First try 1 Mount Washington Auto Road, Gorham, NH or simply enter

"Mt Washington Auto Road" or "Glen House" in your GPS Attractions or

Points of Interest page.

Our GPS coordinates are: 44.28850 Lat., -71.22580 Long.

