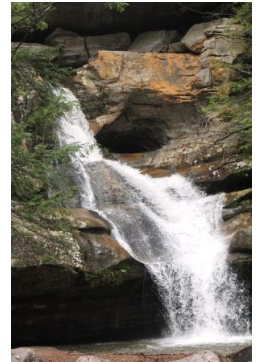




Wildflowers and Waterfalls of Hocking Hills Ohio



April 20-23, 2016
Cost: \$475.00/person

Spring! The sun is still out when you get off of work, the winter chill is leaving the air, and you are starting to wake up to the happy chirping of birds outside your window. With blankets of wildflowers and rushing waterfalls, the spring renewal in Hocking Hills is one of Ohio's most beautiful sights. From late March through early June, Hocking Hills is awash in color! Wildflowers are everywhere—nearly 300 species of them—covering wide open fields, popping up unexpectedly on rock walls, and peeking through the forest undergrowth. For some of the best wildflower viewing, hit the trails in Hocking Hills State Park. There, you will be treated to glimpses of violets, columbines, Virginia bluebells, wild blue phlox, pink lady slippers, and much, much more. Spring is also the best time to view Hocking Hills' signature waterfalls. The winter snows are melting, which means the cascading waterfalls are at their most impressive. You can glimpse these spectacular falls on a hike through many of the areas of Hocking Hills State Park.

Arrive at Sarett at 8:00 am on Wednesday, April 20 to load up our vans for the 6 hour trip. We will make a fast food stop (or you can bring your own sack lunch) for lunch as we travel south. Hummingbird Hill Cabins in Sugar Grove, Ohio will be our home for the next 3 nights. These cabins, located in Sugar Grove, Ohio, near Old Man's Cave, are situated on 140 acres of private land with hiking trails for us to explore. The owners created Hummingbird Hill cabins with one simple idea: to give their guests the kind of experience of being in the woods, surrounded by nature, that they have grown to love in their years of living in the Hocking Hills. They wanted to provide large, airy, sunny, comfortable cabins that would make their guests feel like they had come to a special place. This peaceful setting will allow us to enjoy nature right outside our own front door.

We will have our breakfasts in our cabins, then it will be off to **Hocking Hills State Park**. Most people know the Hocking Hills for its beautifully colorful autumn season. A few years ago Sarett led a fall color trip to this area and we were quite taken with the stone formations, waterfalls and colors. But many are finding the less crowded, more subtle spring colors a joyous celebration of nature's survival of the cold of winter – and the waterfalls are generally rushing, the streams gurgling. So we decided to give it a try in the spring. Driving the **Hocking Hills Scenic Byway** will enable us to view the flowering dogwood and redbud trees that dot the hillsides in the spring as we travel to the various trailheads within the park. Hocking Hills is made up of six major areas: Old Man's Cave, Ash Cave, Rock House, Conkle's Hollow, Cedar Falls and Cantwell Cliffs. Each of the park areas offers unique geologic features and experiences for those who walk their paths. From hemlock-lined trails, to huge rock formation, waterfalls to rock bridges and carpets of wildflowers, guests to the park are sure to treasure their explorations for years to come. Rich in forested areas and natural wonders, there are over 25 miles of hiking trails in the Hocking Hills State Park system. We will explore as many of these areas as possible as we enjoy wildflowers and waterfalls. Sarett will provide Picnic lunches on April 21 & 22.

INFORMATION

COST: \$475.00 per person

DEPOSIT: A non-refundable deposit of \$100.00 will hold your space on this trip. Get your deposit in soon as this trip will fill quickly.

FINAL PAYMENT: Final payment of \$375.00 is due on or before Wednesday, March 30, 2016.

COST INCLUDES: Round trip transportation from Sarett Nature Center
Three nights lodging at the Hummingbird Hill Cabins, Sugar Grove, OH
Entrance fees to all State Parks
Three breakfasts and two picnic lunches
Services of Sarett Naturalist(s)

If you have any questions, call Dianne or Mindy at 269-927-4832.