

2019 SPRING GATHERING

MARCH 30 VALLEY VISITOR CENTER PROGRAM

7:30–8:30 am: (FVC) Early Morning Bird Walk with Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist Kaleb Goff

8 am – Registration begins in the Valley Visitor Center

8:30 am: (Auditorium) WELCOME SESSION: Yosemite Conservancy President Frank Dean and Yosemite National Park leadership

In order to attend the below events, please make sure to finalize your registration first



Indoor Programs: *(no sign-ups necessary)*

9–10 am	10:15–11:15 am	11:30 am–12:30 pm
(Theater) Yosemite Partnership Update – Join NPS Superintendent Mike Reynolds and Yosemite Conservancy President Frank Dean for an overview of 2019 and see the impact that Yosemite Conservancy donors will continue to have on the park. Repeats at 2 pm.	(Theater) The Spirited Life of Florence Hutchings – Meet Florence Hutchings! Born in Yosemite Valley in 1864 to hotel entrepreneur James Mason Hutchings, “Floy” was an adventurous, spirited girl who rebelled against powerful cultural forces pushing her toward femininity. Join Floy, portrayed by Audrey Davis, as she looks back on her brief but full 17-year life.	(Theater) – Search and Rescue in Yosemite - John Dill of Yosemite Emergency Services will present an abbreviated version of his weekly Yosemite Theater lecture. He will illustrate a few ways that you can find (or avoid) trouble in the park and how the NPS tries to bring you back alive.
(Auditorium) Yosemite’s Peregrine Falcons – Listen to an informative talk from Yosemite’s keen-eyed NPS Raptor Surveyor Crystal Barnes. Learn about how managing climber access helps reduce the disturbance to nesting pairs of peregrines. Repeats at 10:15 am.	(Auditorium) Yosemite’s Peregrine Falcons – Listen to an informative talk from Yosemite’s keen-eyed NPS Raptor Surveyor Crystal Barnes. Learn about how managing climber access helps reduce the disturbance to nesting pairs of peregrines.	(Auditorium) Yosemite Wildlife: The Past, The Present, and Hopes for the Future – Join Dr. Rachel Mazur, Branch Chief of wildlife at Yosemite, to learn about the park's efforts to protect and restore Yosemite's wildlife. Repeats at 2 pm.

Yosemite Valley Outdoor Programs: *(no sign-ups necessary)* Programs meet in Front of the Visitor Center (FVC), Behind the Visitor Center (BVC), in front of the Yosemite Museum (YM), or where indicated below.

9–10 am	10:15–11:15 am	11:30 am–12:30 pm
(YM) Frazil Quest – Join Yosemite Conservancy naturalist Pete Devine on a 1-mile walk to see if there's any frazil ice in Yosemite Creek. No guarantees, but this is the time of year to find the famed frazil phenomenon.	(YM) Do all Indians live in Teepees? – Enjoy a walking tour as NPS Ranger Ben Cunningham-Summerfield dispels the idea that all American Indian people live in teepees and take a close-up look at traditional housing of the Ahwahneechee Miwok. Repeats at 2 pm.	(FVC) A Walk to the Wetlands near Royal Arches – Join NPS Ranger Joy Baccei on a walk along the Merced River to the wetlands near Royal Arches. Learn about how the restoration of this wetland habitat will improve the health of the aquatic ecosystem.
(FVC) The Late Birdwalk – Bird enthusiasts have an opportunity to enjoy an avian outing with Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist Kaleb Goff.	(YM) Singer in the Stream – An easy walk to the Merced River and Cook's Meadow to learn about the American Dipper, Common Merganser and other Yosemite birds that rely on our wetlands and waterways.	(BVC) Life on the Big Wall – Rock climbers from around the world flock to Yosemite's Big Walls. Learn more about their sport and methods of survival from NPS Ranger Jesse McGahey. Repeats at 3:15 pm.
Nature Drawing Program – Yosemite Conservancy's Lora Spielman will guide you through the process of capturing the majesty of Yosemite through art journaling. Supplies included.		(FVC) Yosemite in Focus – Bring your camera on this nature walk to learn tips from photographer Brittany Colt. Repeats at 3:15 pm.
(YM) Helping the Pollinators in Yosemite Valley – Join NPS Ranger Garrett Dickman on a naturalist walk discussing how damaged meadows are transformed into healthy habitats for pollinators by the removal of invasive plants and planting of native flora. Repeats at 2 pm.	(FVC) Historic Walking Tour of Old Yosemite Village – Take a stroll through time with author Alice van Ommeren who will share stories of Yosemite's founding days. This walking tour starts in the new village with a history of its government structures and retail buildings before walking towards Sentinel Bridge. After discussing the bridge's significance and its contribution to the development of the Old Village, the group is guided to the location of the Old Yosemite Village. Through old maps, vintage photos and a few physical remains, participants will get a good sense of what once was a thriving lodging and business location for visitors.	
(FVC) Valley Views along the Valley Loop Trail - This half-day guided hike, led by Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist Andrea Canapary, will highlight views of Sentinel Rock, Glacier Point, Royal Arches, Royal Arches Cascade, Washington's Column and Half Dome from the Valley Loop trail. Modest elevation gains and flexible turn around points for 2-5 mile hiking options.		
(BVC) Strenuous All-Day Hike on the Yosemite Falls Trail – Join retired ranger Dick Ewart on this exciting and strenuous all-day hike up the Yosemite Falls Trail. Advanced sign-ups required, and you must bring appropriate hiking shoes for this 7-mile and 2800 feet elevation gain excursion!		

12:00-2:00 pm: Lunch in the Valley Visitor Center Courtyard

March 30 VALLEY VISITOR CENTER AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Indoor Programs: (no sign-ups necessary)		
2–3 pm		3:15–4:15 pm
(Theater) Yosemite Partnership Update – Join NPS Superintendent Mike Reynolds and Yosemite Conservancy President Frank Dean for an overview of 2019 and see the impact that Yosemite Conservancy donors will continue to have on the park.		(Theater) – Historic Hotels of Yosemite – Author and historian Alice van Ommeren describes the challenges and opportunities of some of the early Yosemite hotel proprietors and their accommodations, including the impact of the Yosemite Grant in 1864. Participants will discover the significant contributions of these pioneering innkeepers on the early history and development of Yosemite.
(Auditorium) Yosemite Wildlife: The Past, The Present, and Hopes for the Future – Join Dr. Rachel Mazur, Branch Chief of wildlife at Yosemite, to learn about the park's efforts to protect and restore Yosemite's wildlife.		(Auditorium) <i>Closed for reception and raffle set-up</i>

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(FVC) Helping the Pollinators in Yosemite Valley – Join NPS Ranger Garrett Dickman on a naturalist walk discussing how damaged meadows are transformed into healthy habitats for pollinators by the removal of invasive plants and planting of native flora.		(BVC) Life on the Big Wall – Rock climbers from around the world flock to Yosemite's Big Walls. Learn more about their sport and methods of survival from NPS Ranger Jesse McGahey.
(YM) Do all Indians live in Teepees? – Enjoy a walking tour as NPS Ranger Ben Cunningham-Summerfield dispels the idea that all American Indian people live in teepees and take a close-up look at traditional housing of the Ahwahneechee Miwok.		(FVC) Protecting Endangered Amphibians - Learn how cutting-edge techniques are helping to restore populations of Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs and California red-legged frogs to Yosemite in this engaging walk to Cook's Meadow with NPS Aquatic Ecologist Rob Grasso.
(Half Dome Village) Tour of Historic Curry Orchard in Yosemite Valley -- Join NPS Ranger and Cultural Resources Manager Scott Carpenter on a short saunter and discussion of this nationally important historic apple orchard in Yosemite Valley. An interesting view of Yosemite's history and cultural resources will be provided.		(FVC) Yosemite in Focus – Bring your camera on this nature walk to learn tips from photographer Brittany Colt.
(FVC) Nature Journaling: Creation, Exploration and Reflection in Yosemite Valley - Join naturalist Kaleb Goff for a nature journaling walk, exploring new ways to observe and experience your surroundings. Combining art and science, this walk will focus on using pen, paper and pencil to expand our reflections, observations and knowledge. Fun and inspiring activities such as drawing maps, layering specific observations, poetry, creative writing, landscape drawing, exercises in intentional curiosity and more! Everyone is welcome, all ages, skillsets and experiences will be richly rewarded with the beauty and power of Yosemite's heritage! Bring water, walking shoes, sun protection, curiosity and creativity! Basic journaling/art supplies will be provided.		
(FVC) A Sense of Yosemite – Join photographer Nancy Robbins on this photo walk to capture seasonal changes.		
(Girls Club) Kids Crafts – Drop in to color and draw your favorite Yosemite scenes and animals, paint a picture or make a postcard to send to a friend! Great for kids or the kid-at-heart. All materials included.		
(BVC) Meadows, Views and Rivers - Enjoy a guided hike, led by Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist Andrea Canapary, of approximately 3 miles on flat terrain while enjoying the flora and fauna along the way. Throughout the walk you will be treated to Yosemite Falls from many different angles, stunning views of Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Glacier Point and time up close to the Merced River.		

4:15–5:15 pm: Wine and Cheese Hour and Raffle in the Valley Visitor Center Auditorium. Raffle winners announced at 4:30 pm.

7 pm: Stargazing – Meet at the Yosemite Valley Lodge Amphitheater. *Weather permitting.*