

**Anniston Outdoor Association  
Schedule of Activities  
May 2024**

**May 3-6 / Canoeing or Kayaking in the Blackwater River State Forest, FL**

This will be an outing in the Blackwater River State Forest located near Munson, Florida. The Blackwater River is considered to be one of the purest sand bottom rivers in the world. The river and its adjoining creeks are characterized by gentle flowing tannin waters with beautiful white sandbars. We will be camping at the Bear Lake Campground. The campground is located on Bear Lake Road and has several amenities including 3 hiking trails, a mountain bike trail, showers with hot water, and centrally located water spigots. Two sites (39 & 40) have been reserved at a cost of \$36.71 per site for the 3 nights. Each site can accommodate 2 tents and up to five people. Additional people in excess of 5 are allowed at a cost of \$2.50 per person. This cost of the sites will be divided among those participating. Canoeing plans include an approximate 5-hour float trip on the Blackwater River (Cotton Bridge to Bryant Bridge) on Saturday, May 4, and an approximate 4-hour trip on Coldwater Creek (Wagner's Bridge to the County Highway 191 bridge) on Sunday, May 6. We will leave the campground each morning at 9:00 am for the float and should return by mid-afternoon. Those deciding not to participate in a particular day's float should let the trip leader know before 9:00 am to allow time for alternate plans to be made. The trip leader plans to leave Friday after work, so it will probably be best for participants to meet directly at the campground. The campground is located at the end of Bear Lake Road just off of FL Hwy 4 east of Munson, FL. Participants are free to arrive and depart from the campground as their schedules permit. This year an optional group gathering is planned at a nearby restaurant on Sunday evening to conclude the outing. Participants should register for this outing by Monday, April 29. To register, contact Keith Hudson by phone or text at 256-453-9527, or by email at [anniston.outdoor.assn@gmail.com](mailto:anniston.outdoor.assn@gmail.com). A minimum of 4 participants will be required for this trip to make.

**May 25 / Hatchet Creek Float Trip**

This will be a 9-mile float trip on Section 5 of the Hatchet Creek Canoe Trail beginning at King's Bridge on Coosa Co Road 18 northwest of Rockford and ending at Double Bridge on Coosa Co Road 29 west of Rockford. This section features some Class I and II drops, fast shoals, some rocky sections to navigate around, sandbars, and an area of Cahaba Lillies. Areas such as Humpback Rock, Sandbar Island, River Birch Beach, the Rock Garden, Lawson's Left Hook, and the Lawson Bridge can be found along this section. Participants should wear clothes they don't mind getting wet including water shoes/sandals, should pack a lunch with liquids to drink, and should bring sunscreen. The meeting time and location for this trip will be 8:00 am from the Johnson Giant Food parking located on US Hwy 78 in the Coldwater area of Oxford adjacent to I-20 Exit 179. Participants may also meet by 9:00 am at the King's Bridge put-in. The put-in is located off of Coosa Co Road 18 at the following coordinates 32.9200, -86.2714 and the take out located off of Coosa Co Road 29 at the following coordinates, 32.862102, -86.339691. The creek's water level can change rapidly so this trip is subject to being cancelled on short notice if the flow rate falls below 300 cfs. The creek's flow rate can be monitored at [https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site\\_no=02408540&legacy=1](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv?site_no=02408540&legacy=1). A map of Hatchet Creek can be viewed at [Hatchet Creek Map](#). To register your participation for this outing, please contact Keith Hudson by Thursday, May 23. He may be reached by phone or text at 256-453-9527, or by email at [anniston.outdoor.assn@gmail.com](mailto:anniston.outdoor.assn@gmail.com).