

Cold River Chapter Outings November 2026

November 5: Fishing Outing on Lake Colby

Leader: Jeffrey Schanzer

ADK Rating: Leader Level 1, C (Easy)

Duration: Minimum of 3 hours on water

Description: Lake Colby is just north of the town of Saranac Lake. Lake Colby has rainbow and brown trout as well as salmon, which can be taken from the lake year round. No special restrictions as to size or bait. We will be on the water for at least three hours. Bring a snack and fluids, as well as the required PFD and whistle.

Meeting time and place: Meet at noon at the Lake Colby boat launch. It is on Route 86, north of the town. Coming from the south, you will first see a public area on the left. Continue a little farther and take a left at the boat launch.

Contact: Email Jeffrey Schanzer at JeffSchan@aol.com to participate. An email will be sent to participants the night before should any changes or cancellation be necessary.

Medical: Adirondack Medical Center; 2233 State Route 86, Saranac Lake, NY 12983
518-897-2557

November 5: Hike Watch Hill Trail, Indian Lake

Leader: Shannon Andersen

ADK Rating: Leader Level 1 (Easy)

Duration: 3.7 miles, 3 Hours Limit: 15

Description: This is an out and back 3.7-mile hike with 872 feet of elevation gain located in the Jessup River Wild Forest. This trail has two locations near the top of the descent to the shore that provide scenic views of the lake and surrounding mountains. There is a sandy beach on the shore of Indian Lake where we can have a snack/lunch.

Meeting Time/Place: We will meet at 10 AM at the pull off located in the east side of Route 30, about 1 mile south of the Snowy Mountain trailhead between Indian Lake and Speculator.

Contact: Shannon Andersen at theandersenson3385@yahoo.com or 914-490-9534. Bring lunch/snack, and water. If cancellation is necessary, an email will be sent by 7 AM the day of the outing.

Medical: Indian Lake Health Center, 6356 State Rt 30, Indian Lake, 518-648-5707.

November 12: Hike Moxham Mt., Minerva**Leader:** Tracey Donaldson**ADK Rating:** Leader Level 2, B (Moderate)**Duration:** 4 hours, 5.3 miles, Elevation 1,374'. **Limit:** 10

Description: This trail maintains an easy grade with a few short stretches with a moderate grade. There are many lookouts along the way on open clearings. The summit has views of Gore Mountain and Mud and Clear Ponds to the south, Crane Mountain to the southeast and on a clear day Snowy and Blue Mountains to the west.

Meeting Time / Place: 9:00 AM at the Black Bear to carpool or 9:30 AM at the trailhead

Directions: The Moxham trailhead is 1.8 miles down the paved portion of 14th Road, off NY 28N in Minerva and 0.2 miles further on the dirt road. Parking is available on both sides of the road.

Contact: Tracey at traceydonaldson0710@gmail.com or 845-464-5177

If cancellation is necessary, an email will be sent by 6:00 AM the day of the outing.

Medical: Hudson Headwaters Health Center, 126 Ski Bowl Road, North Creek, NY 518-251-2541

November 12: Bass Lake, end-to-end hike, North Hudson, Hammond Pond Wild Forest**Leader:** Meredith Todd**Duration:** 3.5 - 4 hours**Limit:** 12**ADK Leader Level:** 1, C+ (fairly easy)

Description: We will meet at the end-point of the hike, and shuttle one or more cars to the start, to allow a thru-hike of about 5 miles, including a short spur to the west end of the lake, although we will walk along the south shore for almost a mile. We will take a few steps off the trail to view Berrymill Flow at its outlet. We will hike south from the Hammond Pond trailhead, then northwest on the Bass Lake trail. There are some undulations but no major elevation changes.

Meeting Time and Place: 9:45 on the south spur of Caza Turn Rd, just south of the Black Brook crossing; at an old, overgrown road. (There is no sign marking the trailhead on short Caza Turn Rd, no parking lot). We will shuttle to the Hammond Pond/Berrymill Flow trailhead on Ensign Pond Rd.

Directions: From Northway exit 29, head east to a T-intersection with US Rt. 9. Turn left (north), and drive 2.6 miles to Caza Turn Rd. There is a small road sign indicating to turn here for Port Henry. The meeting place will be a short distance on the right shoulder. If you miss the turn, the next right turn, in about 0.3 miles, is the other end of the Caza Turn Rd, a loop road.

Nearest Health Facilities: Hudson Headwaters clinics Ticonderoga or Schroon Lake, Elizabethtown Community Hospital in Elizabethtown or Ticonderoga.

Contact: Meredith Todd, email (preferred): meredith36ny@yahoo.com or phone [518-494-8088](tel:518-494-8088).

November 19: Hike The Priory to the Palmer Pond Loop, Chestertown**Leader :** Marti Townley**ADK Rating:** Leader Level 1, C**Duration:** 3 hours; **Limit:** 12

Description: Although you may be very familiar with the Chester Challenge Palmer Pond loop, this trail starts at The Priory, a former Catholic retreat center now owned by the Town of Chester, passes by the Chester Horse Farm and takes a turn around Palmer Pond and then back to our parking at The Priory. This flat trail (elevation 250') is about 3.2 miles with most of the trail in the Lake George Wild Forest. We will stop and have a snack along side the Pond.

Meeting Time/Place: 10:00 at the Priory; Starting from Stewarts in Chestertown, drive on Rt 8 for 4.3 miles, taking a left on Pine Notch Road, stay to the left onto Priory Road. Coming from the west on Rt 8, Pine Notch Road is 2.5 miles from the Riparius Bridge.

Contact: Marti Townley Mdksshea@aol.com 518-301-3712

Medical: Hudson Headwaters Chestertown, 6223 State Rt 9, Chestertown, 518-494-2761.

November 19: Hike Ben Wood Mountain, Warrensburg**Leader:** Peggy Carrol**ADK Rating:** Leader Level 1, C (Easy)**Duration:** 5 miles, 3.5 hours; **Limit:** 12

Description: This is an easy hike with some elevation along a logging road which makes a loop around Pack Forest Lake with a spur hike up Ben Wood Mountain. The elevation gain is about 400'. The summit is wooded, but continuing on a short path south of the summit leads to a viewpoint with vistas of the peaks of Thurman and Warrensburg to the south. Open rock ledges provide a spot for a snack. The trail is not marked but is wide and easy to follow.

Meeting Time/Place: 10:00 at the Pack Forest main parking area, 131 Pack Forest Rd. The SUNY ESF Pack Forest entrance is off Route 9, north of Warrensburg, about .7 miles north of the Rt 28/Rt 9 intersection. If cancellation is necessary, an email will be sent by 7 AM the day of the outing.

Contact: Peggy Carrol, peggycarrol281@gmail.com; 281-804-5744.

Medical: Hudson Headwaters Urgent Care, 3767 Main Street, Warrensburg, 518-623-2844.

Thursday, November 19, Meeting & Potluck**Leaders: Noelle McCrum & Sue Sliva****Duration: 3:00 to 6:00**

Description: Come and enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal with your ADK friends at McCrum's home. The hostesses are asking for traditional foods served at Thanksgiving. Sue and Noelle will provide the home baked turkey and ham. Please bring one of the following: stuffing, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, some kind of fruit salad, boiled onions, pumpkin pie, apple pie, or cherry pie. If you have a favorite Thanksgiving dish you are welcome to bring it.

Schedule:

3:00 to 4:00 Social time

4:00 Meeting

4:30 Dinner

RSVP: To Sue at suesliva@aol.com or 518-494-4215 (C) or 518-494-4215 (H)

To Noelle at kinderteach@hotmail.com or 518-494-5193

Location: 47 Clarkson Road, Chestertown

Directions: From Exit 25: Drive west towards Chestertown, pass North Warren School, Stewarts, Dollar General, fire station and the chicken. Turn right onto White Schoolhouse Rd. Then turn left onto Clarkson Rd. The McCrum home is on the lake side of the road at about 0.2 mi.

From North Creek: Turn left off Rt 28 at Wevertown and head towards Chestertown. Take Rt 8 until you pass the Loon Tavern on your right. Continue on Rt 8, passing the Loon Lake dam, immediately after which is White Schoolhouse Road, a four-corner intersection. Turn left and Clarkson Rd will be the next left, a narrow dirt road.

Parking: Please carpool as our parking area will be very tight. There will be event parking signs.

November 26: THANKSGIVING