

# Dawn Through Dark at KVR

## National Trails Day Hike Descriptions



### **6:00am Dawn Hike to Black Hawk Rock**

Your guide, **Travis Downing**, will meet you at the Blackhawk Rock Trail Head located off County P on Rodgers Road just west of Bridge 14. This hike will be about 2 hours long. The hike is on a steep and rocky trail, so wear good sneakers or hiking boots. Long pants or tall socks are also recommended. You may want to bring binoculars to take in the spectacular view.

### **7:30am Observing Nature: Birds**

Your guide, **Susan Reed**, will meet you at the South Gate of Old 131 Trail. All birders (including beginners!) are welcome on this easy, mostly flat walk. We will look and listen for birds and other interesting sights. The walk will start promptly at 7:30 and last about an hour. Bring binoculars if you have them.

### **9:00 Hike/Play (for young kids and their families)**

Your guide, **Julie Hoel**, will meet you at the Visitor Center. This will be a child-centered short hike featuring several play stops that will take about an hour. Wear long pants and shoes that can get wet. Bring a snack. (If you are running late, just follow the colorful snake trail markers to catch up.)

### **10:00am Walk and Talk Local History Hike**

Your guide, **Brad Steinmetz**, will meet you in front of the Visitor Center. His "History Hike" will be a mostly flat walk around the Visitor Center Trail and will cover nature's and people's history that will be easy to view. We should be done in an hour because we'll want to get back for all the good food! No special clothes or shoes are required.

### **10:00 and 11:00 Llama Trekking**

Your guide, **Kristy Brown**, will meet you at the Visitor Center by the Maintenance Building. Look for the llama. The hike is easy going, mostly flat, family friendly and will take about one hour. The first hike will start promptly at 10:00 and a second hike will go out at about 11:00. Trail Etiquette and Leave No Trace principles will be discussed as we hike with the llamas. Bring your camera and a water bottle. **No dogs allowed.**

### **10:00 through 12:00 Interactive Trail Etiquette Demo**

Practice proper trail etiquette with **Dan and Linda Catherman** and one of their horses in the grassy area near the Visitor Center Parking lot. Come when you can and stay as long as you like!

### **11:00am KVR Favorites**

Your guide, **Patty Kinsey**, will meet you in front of the restrooms near the Visitor Center parking lot. This will be an evenly paced walk with some stops along the way for viewing. The hike will last about 60-70 minutes. (You could return early on your own if you chose.) Bring a water bottle and binoculars if you wish. Wear good hiking shoes light weight pants or tall socks are recommended.

### **1:00 A way-finding Adventure for Families**

Your guide, **Mary Szepi**, will meet you at the Visitor Center. Some of this approximately 90-minute adventure will be off the beaten path, so wear long pants and shoes that can get wet. Bring a water bottle too!

### **2:00 Hikin' with Lichens**

Your guide, **Susan Cushing**, will meet you at the Visitor Center parking lot and head to the Lichen Trail along the Wintergreen Trail. This will be a slow hike with time for observations. It is about a mile round trip. Bring your curiosity, a hand lens, binoculars and bug repellent. (Some lenses will be available.)

### **3:00 Nature Exploring for Families**

Your guide, **Cathy Chybowski**, will meet you at the South Gate of the Old 131 Trail. Everyone is welcome; families are encouraged to attend. The walk will last about an hour. We will “see what we can find” as we walk to and from the ponds along a hard, mostly flat surface.

### **4:00 Saving our Diversity: Identifying Invasives**

Your guide, **Marla Lind**, will meet you across from Campsite AA near the South end of the Old 131 Trail. This hike will be on gently sloping terrain, but the trails will not be hard surfaced. We will discuss multiple invasive species and the threat they pose to Wisconsin native plants including identification and control tips. The hike will last about an hour. Wear long pants and shoes that do not have open toes.

### **4:00 Birds of the KVR**

Your guide, **Jane Furchgott**, will meet you at the Visitor Center for a leisurely hour-long hike. Hearing and seeing birds will be the main focus, but we will also note other animals and plants of interest. Bring a water bottle and binoculars if you have them.

### **8:30 (NOTE TIME CHANGE) Stars and Frogs: The KVR at Night**

Your guide, **Susan Cushing**, will meet you at the south gate parking lot of the Old 131 Trail to experience the marsh, ponds, fields and special dark skies of KVR. We will use red lights, no white light flashlights. Red light shields will be provided if you don't have one. The trail is mostly flat and will be about one-mile round trip. Bring your curiosity and bug repellent.

