Gear up for an Adventure in May During Beech Mountain's Hike On Month

Each May, Beech Mountain celebrates its fantastic trail system as Hike On month with guided hikes and giveaways at the Visitor's Center.

A trekker's haven, the area provides adventurers of all ages and skill levels many wonders to uncover around the mountain from the scenic vistas of the Emerald Outback trail park to beautiful, maintained trails. During a spring trek, hikers can take in waterfalls, wildlife, and wildflowers.

Hit the Trails:

The Emerald Outback is located near the summit of the mountain and features more than eight miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking and trail running. From the Oz Forest Run to Wizard's Way, and the other six trails in between, there's a path for every skill set, and breathtaking views from four designated overlook areas.

Wild Iris Trail stretches for 2.2 miles along old roadbeds and through lush forests. This is a great trail to look for wildflowers and, in the summer months, fresh blackberries!

A popular adventure for those who can't get enough waterfalls is the combination of the Buckeye Lake Loop and Falls Trail. Over a mile in length, The Falls Trail brings you to Buckeye Creek Falls, a beautiful, 20-foot cascade. From this trail, you can also access the Buckeye Lake Loop that takes you around the Buckeye Recreation Center's full property. The Grassy Gap Creek trail can also be found nearby.

Other great trails to explore on Beech include the Sassafras Trail, Red Fox/Arrowhead Trail, Smoketree Trail, Overlook Trail, and the Resort Mountain Biking Area.

Visitors can make a full weekend of forest exploration with a variety of <u>lodging options</u> from condos, chalets, and private homes to quaint inns & lodges, with budget friendly pricing.

Hike On Month Highlights:

- A comprehensive Hiking Guide https://beechmtn.com/hiking/ providing trail recommendations for all skill levels and tips. A different trail will be featured each week.
- Giveaways at Visitors Center: Free map, water bottles, decals, and hike on! friendship bracelets
- Guided Hikes: The Buckeye Recreation Center will provide guided treks.
- A grand finale event the Beech Mountain Naturalist Rally on May 31 with featured hikes, talks and programs.