

Big Sky Hikers – 2007 Season - Final

Welcome all residents and visitors to Big Sky and Gallatin Canyon

Meeting Place and Time: Big Sky Hikers meet each Thursday morning, at the Big Sky Community Park, located on Little Coyote Road next to the Golden Eagle Lodge. All hike groups will DEPART from here at 8:30 am unless otherwise noted. Please gather there somewhat earlier, around 8:15 am, sign up for the hike you prefer, meet your group and help prepare for a prompt departure. Transportation to the trailhead will be organized by car-pooling in each group. Roads to some trailheads will require four wheel drive vehicles with adequate ground clearance.

Multiple Hike Groups: To better accommodate larger numbers of hikers and differing abilities, two or three hikes have been scheduled for every Thursday. Each hike group will go to a different trailhead, and to minimize impact to the environment there will be a limit of 15 persons for each hike. At the meeting place, hikers will sign a roster/waiver sheet for each hike; when 15 people have signed up, that hike will be closed. Hikers are welcome to choose one of the other hikes with available space as an alternate. Of course, all hikes are subject to change due to weather conditions.

Hike Rating System: None of our hikes require technical climbing techniques or gear. “A” hikes are strenuous, involving long distances and significant altitude gain; these hikes are best suited to fit, altitude acclimated and well-prepared hikers. “B” hikes represent more moderate efforts. “C” hikes are easy, and suitable for hikers of all ages. The information provided for each hike in the table below is representative, but approximate. If you have any questions regarding the details of a particular hike, call one of the assigned leaders who will have recent, personal experience in hiking that trail.

Donation: A donation of \$2/person per hike is asked from each hiker. This pays for administration costs (paper, postage, park fees), hike supplies (coolers, first aid kits), after hike refreshments, and donations to relevant causes or organizations.

Hiking Etiquette: Remember the policy of “Pack it in, pack it out,” and “Leave no trace” when hiking in the wilderness or YNP. No toddlers or pets, please. Our practice is to keep our groups together on the trail, pacing the hike to the pace of the slowest hikers in the group. This not only ensures that no one becomes separated or lost, but also is the single best way to avoid surprising a bear. Big Sky country is grizzly bear country, and this is a serious consideration on all of our hikes. Please stay together!

Equipment: Experienced hikers carry a well-sorted daypack, with plenty of water, lunch and snacks, rain gear and other clothing layers to cope with the abrupt changes in weather that are typical in the mountains. Sturdy (and broken in!) shoes are suggested, as many of the trails are rocky, may cross patches of snow and streams, and at times the footing can be unstable. Hike leaders will have a basic first aid kit. Hikers should bring their own bear spray, insect repellent, toilet paper, sunscreen and big SMILES!! If you have questions regarding gear, ask a hike leader.

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Hike Coordinators:

A Hikes: Sherrie Fast (995-7486) & Steve Johnson (995-4566)

B Hikes: Jeanne Johnson (995-4566) & Barbara Blesch (995-2422)

C Hikes: Christl Gump (995-4406) & Robyn Faris (995-2964)

NOTE: Two leaders (leader, sweeper) are needed on each hike. If an assigned leader is unable to lead a hike, that person is responsible to find an appropriate substitute. Assigned leaders are also responsible to scout their hikes in advance.

Potluck Picnic:

Date: Tuesday, July 24th

Location: Big Sky Community Park Pavilion

Time: 6-8pm

Cost: There will be a small charge to cover the cost of renting tables – please pay at the door.

Bring your own chairs, drinks and a favorite dish to share. Tablecloths, paper plates, napkins, cups, ice, plastic ware, and tables will be furnished. No smoking, please. If you have any questions, please call Christl Gump (995-4406) or Jeanne Johnson (995-4566).

Rock Creek Details: The hikes on August 16th will take depart from the Rock Creek Resort in Red Lodge, Montana. Hike Coordinators have yet to finalize the specific hikes, but all will be conveniently located in the Red Lodge, Absaroka/Beartooth area. A block of rooms has been reserved for Big Sky Hikers at the resort, and a banquet dinner has also been arranged for the night of the 16th. If you will be hiking, you may wish to book rooms for the nights of the 15th and the 16th; if you will be joining us only for the banquet dinner, a room for the night of the 16th may do. **INDIVIDUAL HIKERS MUST BOOK THEIR OWN ROOM RESERVATIONS WITH ROCK CREEK RESORT BY CALLING 800-667-1119!** Mention that you are with the Big Sky Hikers group. Everyone will be responsible for his or her own room charges; the group dinner will cost \$35 per person, and a cash bar will be available. Individuals will be responsible for transportation requirements. Please RSVP by August 1st to Jeanne Johnson (995-4566). Barbara Blesch will collect charges for dinner in ADVANCE.

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Date	Rating-Hike	Trailhead	Length*	Climb*	Leaders	Comment
June 2	National Trails Day	Big Sky Community Park			Tracy Jacobson 995-2022 Steve Johnson 995-4566	Meet at the Community Park at 9:30 am
June 14	B Yellow Mule	Ousel Falls			Mary Grundman 995-3201	
	C Kirkwood	Kirkwood (Hebgen – Hwy 287)	6-8 miles	2000 ft	Barbara and Joe Gillispie 995- 2160	Destination will depend on trail conditions
June 21	A Cinnamon/Albino Lake	Cinnamon shuttle to Taylor Fork	12 miles	2000 ft	Barbara Blesch 995-2422 Steve Johnson 995-4566	Pt-to-pt hike
	B Windy Pass	Portal Creek	5 miles	1300 ft	Woody Burt 995-2671	
	C Porcupine Loop	Porcupine Creek	5 miles	750 ft	Christl Gump 995-4406 Ann Wilson 995-3453	
June 28	A Buck Ridge	Buck Creek Ridge	12 miles	1750 ft	Jack McGuire 995-7422	
	B Buck Ridge	Buck Creek Ridge	9 miles	1500 ft	Woody Burt 995-2671 George Macdonald 995-7172	
	C Daly Creek to Teepee Creek	Daly Creek	6 miles	500 ft	Carol McGuire 995-7422 Robyn Faris 995-2964	
July 5	A Gneiss Creek	Gneiss Creek	14 miles	500 ft	Steve Johnson 995-4566	Pt-to-pt hike to Seven Mile Bridge in YNP – leave 7:30
	B Lemon Drop	Twin Cabin Creek	5 miles	1200 ft	Jeff Strickler 995-4768	
	C Sage Creek	Sage Creek	6 miles	250 ft	Mary and Jon Carlson 995-2216	
July 12	A Blue Danube Lake	Beaver Creek (Hebgen)	10 miles	2200 ft	Barbara Rupp 995-4510 Rebecca Shopay 995-2767	
	B Lizard Lake	Taylor Fork	11miles	2200 ft	Mary Grundman 995-3201 Sody Jones 995-3626	
	C Wildflower Hike with Jeff Strickler	Depends on where the best flowers are			Karen and Jeff Strickler 995-4768	Jeff will announce hike destination on July 5 th
July 19	A Ramshorn Lake	Buffalo Horn	12 miles	2000 ft	Shelly Bermont 995-7100 Barbara Kaufman 995-3175	
	B North Fork Ridge	North Fork	8 miles	1540 ft	Tom Draper 995-3070 George Macdonald 995-7172	
	C Taylor Falls	Taylor Fork – Lightning Creek	4-5 miles	500 ft	Pat Nathanson 561-630-8477 Donna Thompson (995-3433)	
July 24	Potluck Picnic	Big Sky Community Park			Christl Gump 995-4406 Jeanne Johnson 995-4566	See Potluck Picnic Details Above

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Date	Rating-Hike	Trailhead	Length*	Climb*	Leaders	Comment
July 26	A-Mystery	Mystery	Trust us	Trust us	Sherrie Fast 995-7486 Steve Johnson 995-4566	
	B-Mystery	Mystery	Trust us	Trust us	Jeanne Johnson 995-4566 Barbara Blesch 995-2422	
	C-Mystery	Mystery	Trust us	Trust us	Christl Gump 995-4406 Robyn Faris 995-2964	
August 2	A Pika Point	Taylor Fork – Wapiti Creek	12 miles	2400 ft	Leslie and Rich Piercy 993-2303	
	B Tumbledown Lake	Beaver Creek (Hebgen)	9 miles	1500 ft	Jeanne Johnson 995-4566 Gina Macdonald 995-7172	
	C Swan Creek	Swan Creek	4-8 miles	250 ft	Carolyn and Roger Brislawn 995-2296	
August 9	A Blackmore	Hyalite (Bozeman)	10 miles	3300 ft	Daryl Choate 763-4269 Tom Ross 556-5093	Picnic at Leepers for all groups following the hikes.
	B TBD	Bozeman			Jan and Arlyn Selting 522-8118	Leepers will provide beer & brats - bring a dish to share
	C South Cottonwood Creek – Langhor Loop	Cottowood Creek (Bozeman)			Margaret and John Leeper 596-2831 or 570-3567	5803 Montforton School Road, Bozeman
August 16	A Aero Lakes	Goose Lake road, Lady of the Lake	12 miles	1500 ft	Sherrie Fast 995-7486 Steve Johnson 995-4566	See Rock Creek details above
	B Rock Creek - TBD				Jeanne Johnson 995-4566 Barbara Blesch 995-2422	See Rock Creek details above
	C Rock Creek - TBD				Christl Gump 995-4406 Robyn Faris 995-2964	See Rock Creek details above
August 23	A Ernest Miller Ridge	Bacon Rind	12 miles	2400 ft	Sherrie Fast 995-7486 Rebecca Shopay 995-2767	
	B Cinnamon Mountain	Cinnamon	8.5 miles	2680 ft	Heidi and Bill Olson 995-2455	
	C Elkhorn	Red Cliff (Hebgen – Hwy 287)	6-8 miles	700-1000 ft	Barbara and Joe Gillispie 995- 2160	
August 30	A Cedar Lake	Moonlight Basin	14 miles	2500 ft	Nina & Robbie Hill 995-2532 Steve Johnson 995-4566	Subject to access availability
	B TBD					
	C Northfork Trail	Northfork	6 miles	500 ft	Doug Gale 995-2913 Cindy Larsen 995-7988	

*Lengths are total distances, either round trip or point to point. Climb is difference in elevation between trailhead and highest point on the route. All of these data are approximate, to the best of our ability to read maps!