

One CPS field trip to two parks!

- Shirley Miller Wildlife Trail
- Cloudland Canyon



On the heels of our successful field trip to Old Car City yesterday, we are announcing another field trip. On **Saturday 27 March 2021** we will enjoy nature photography in the northwest corner of Georgia.

Where

Our first destination is the **Shirley Miller Wildlife Trail (SMWT)** at the Pocket near LaFayette, GA. Our follow-up destination is **Cloudland Canyon State Park (CCSP)**.

SMWT is about 2h drive from Marietta, please use this link for directions:

<https://walkercountyga.gov/discover/recreation/crockford-pigeon-mountain-wildlife-management-area/the-pocket>

Information for CCSP can be found at:

<https://gastateparks.org/CloudlandCanyon>

When

- Saturday 27 March 2021
- 1000 We will meet at the parking area for SMWT before it gets crowded
- 1200 Depart and drive 20mi (30min) to CCSP
- 1235 Lunch at West Rim Trail Parking Lot of CCSP
- 1300 Hike down the trail and steps to photograph the waterfalls
- depart home at your leisure

Why

Enjoy nature and rejuvenate your photography skills.

Who

All club members, guests welcome.

What (to expect)

- There is no formal education session for this field trip. Members of the Cobb Photographic Society are always eager to share their experience; buddy up with someone and enjoy the experience.
- The elevated wooden walkway at SMWT is an intimate location and offers great opportunity for photographing a wide variety of wild flowers during the blooming season. Last week the Virginia bluebells, Celandine poppies, and others were in bloom with trout lilies being an unexpected find. We hope to catch the trailing trillium and white trillium in (peak) bloom. A path at the end of the walkway leads to a waterfall. *Special note:* This location has no restroom facilities.
- Camaraderie and exchange of ideas with fellow photographers during lunch at one of the picnic tables at the West Rim Trail Parking Lot at CCSP. Bring your own lunch!
- Lots of steps to climb down to and up from the waterfalls at CCSP
- Waterfalls, flowering trees and any other wild flowers we might encounter.
- Well-lit view of the Sitton Gulch from observation point #1 in the afternoon
- Current forecast has rain on Wednesday and Thursday, thus good water flow may be expected for the waterfalls on Saturday.

What (to bring)

- Telephoto lens - some flowers are small and you can't step off the platform at SMWT
- Flash and/or flash light (might be especially useful at SMWT)
- Wide-angle lens for waterfalls
- Polarizing filter to eliminate glare at the waterfalls
- Neutral density filter to drag the shutter
- Extension rings for close-up photography
- Tripod
- Knee pads for better photo angle at SMWT
- Sturdy shoes with good grip (Caution: the wooden platform at SMWT and the stairs at CCSP may be wet and slippery)
- Hydration
- Snacks and lunch

Weather

- Current forecast is mild temperatures 13°C (55° F) at 1000 to 22°C (71° F) in the afternoon. Low chance (32%) of rain (0.2mm)
- Please check the forecast on Friday, 26 March for appropriate clothing.

Fees

Parking fees apply.

Field trip lead contact

- Prior to the field trip you can contact Ümit Yüksel at 404.242.6121 or umit@aol.com
- Cell coverage at the destinations is spotty, but feel free to contact during the trip in case you need attention or information.

Safety and Disclaimer

- Please be cognizant of and obey by all federal (CDC) and GA State COVID-19 guidelines, rules and restrictions. State Parks may have additional restrictions for COVID-19.
- Obey posted sign and rules of Walker County (SMWT) and GA State Parks (CCSP)
- These locations are public places, hence Cobb Photographic Society rejects any responsibility whatsoever regarding COVID-19 or any natural or manmade hazards one may encounter at these locations.
- By arriving at these locations you accept all the risk.

Enjoy the day!

Ümit