

THE HIGH KNOB HERALD

JULY EDITION

The Clinch Coalition
Newsletter

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High Knob Naturalist Rally Offers Pre-registration

*Sign Up Early For Events
and Hikes for our Annual
Rally!*

The High Knob Naturalist Rally Committee of The Clinch Coalition is happy to announce that we will be offering the opportunity for members of the community to secure your spots for events and hikes occurring at our High Knob Naturalist Rally on September 25th, 2021.

Due to COVID restrictions and guidelines, several of our hikes will be limited in capacity. As such, we are requesting that those who want to attend certain aspects of the rally pre-register online to conveniently and easily monitor the expected number of people who will be in attendance.

Pre-registration will be available starting August 1st, 2021 at 12pm. It will be found online at our website www.clinchcoalition.org.



Activities

What's new on High Knob?

High Knob Naturalist Rally: We are working on our High Knob Naturalist Rally for September! Keep up to date with our plans on our Facebook and Instagram (@thelinchcoalition), as well as our website! If you would like to be involved or volunteer, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at clinchcoalition@gmail.com.

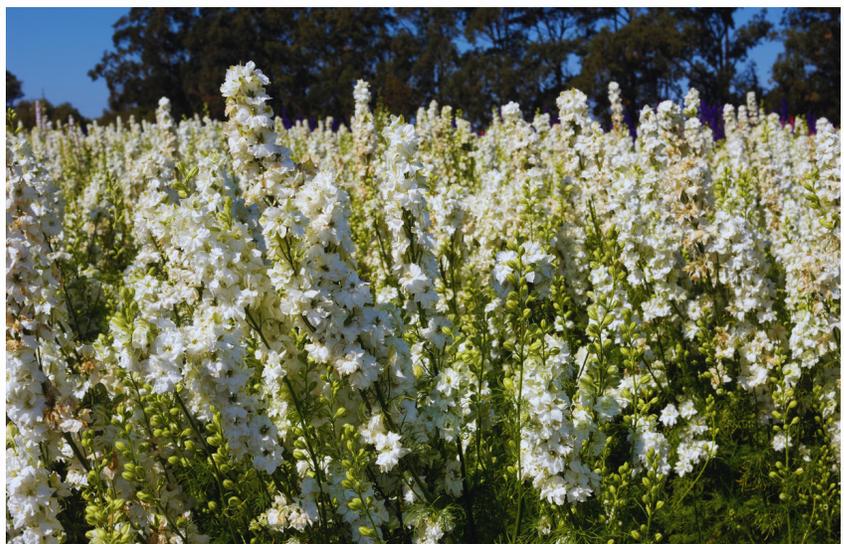
High Knob Outdoor Fest: August 21st, 9am-5pm at Norton City Hall. Contact Katie Dunn for more information at kated@nortonva.org

High Knob Hellbender 10k: October 2nd, 2021. Contact Katie Dunn for more information at kated@nortonva.org.

Plant of the Month

Wild Larkspur (*Delphinium carolinianum*)

The larkspur plant is very popular for its pretty flowers. Each individual floret on the flower stalk has five petals, and one of them is elongated. The name "larkspur" is derived from this petal, which resembles the shape of silver prick spurs of medieval knights. While pink larkspurs often signify fickleness, white larkspurs represent a time of happiness and new beginnings. How fitting is that for the month celebrating American independence?



Animal of the Month

Pileated Woodpecker - *Dryocopus pileatus*

The Pileated Woodpecker is one of the biggest, most striking forest birds in Virginia. It's nearly the size of a crow! It is black with striking white stripes down the neck and a flaming-red crest. You can often hear Pileated Woodpeckers whacking at dead trees and fallen logs in search of their main prey, carpenter ants. When they hunt for food, they leave unique rectangular holes in the wood. The nest holes these birds make offer crucial shelter to many species including swifts, owls, ducks, bats, and pine martens.



Fun Fact:
John Adams believed that American independence should be celebrated on July 2, as that's the actual day the Continental Congress voted for independence in 1776.