

Elizabeth Furnace Backpacking Trip

April 21st and 22nd, 2018

ASSEMBLE: 7:30am Saturday 4/21 at the Chevy Chase Elementary School parking lot.

RETURN: 1:00-2:00 pm Sunday 4/22 at the Chevy Chase Elementary School parking lot.

OVERVIEW: We will be hiking in the Elizabeth Furnace Recreation Area in the northern part of the Shenandoahs – specifically, in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest in Virginia. As part of the hike, we'll have the chance to climb Signal Knob – the Civil War lookout point we visited in December. Have no fear, though, this hike is different from our hike in December. (And hopefully we'll have some views this time!)



We'll be backcountry camping along the loop, likely walking 6-7 miles on Saturday, and walking the remainder of the trail on Sunday. Depending on interest from the group, we may have both a shorter hike (~7+ miles) and a longer hike (~13+ miles).

HIGHLIGHTS: We'll have the chance to visit the historic Elizabeth Furnace, used in the first half of the 19th century for making iron. We should also have some terrific views of the Shenandoah Valley. Trip reports on the internet suggest that we may well have the chance to see wildlife. Bring rope to hang your bear bag!

COST: \$15. Please pay online by Tuesday, April 17th.

BRING: Bag lunch for Saturday, money for lunch on Sunday if we need to stop. You'll plan for Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast by patrols.

EMERGENCY CONTACT: Mr. Presnall's cell 202-215-0094, Mr. Barringer's cell 919-838-5329, and Mr. Watson's cell 301-832-0543.

Note that we may not have connectivity on the trail.

BE PREPARED: Forecast temperatures in the area are expected to be roughly in the mid 60s during the day and in the 40s at night. Not as cold as it was in December!

Bring warm clothing, cold-weather gear, and rain gear! Also see the Essential Equipment list in the "Library" section of the T255 website.

