



Earlham Wilderness 50th Anniversary Alumni Trips

Donnell Pond, ME

Organized by: Sue Reimensnyder Collins '90
suerecol@yahoo.com
 207-546-4262

Location: Franklin and Sullivan Maine

Dates: 9/9/21 to 9/12/21

Cost: Cost of getting to Ellsworth Maine and lodging before and after the trip, someone will probably need to rent a car, cost of food for the trip + \$30 for a meal out.

Difficulty:

Level of fitness

Easy (No sweat, no hurry)	Moderate (Active lifestyle)	Strenuous (Regular vigorous exercise)
---------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------------

Experience level

No experience necessary	Some experience with this type of trip	Significant experience required
-------------------------	--	---------------------------------

This is an easy to moderate trip. Zero to no cell reception and a steep walk to the outhouse. I would like there to be some people with experience who can really hike and paddle, but poor balance, knees, shoulders, kids, and no experience can be accommodated if we have a few folks who can help.

Itinerary

Folks should arrive in Ellsworth area on 9/8/21. We can hike and/or paddle into the sites, so we will need to know preferences prior to arrival so we can make sure we have enough boats and life jackets to get people to the sites. It will probably be a 1.5 mile paddle or a 2.25 mile hike. We will go to the campsites mid to late morning on 9/9/21, set up camp, relax, fish, swim, do day hikes, explore the pond and little island, cook, and talk. The sites are free and fairly rustic. There are pit toilets, a fire pit, and a picnic table (that may be in bad shape) at each site. It is carry-in and carry-out. I cannot reserve the campsites I am planning on using, but they should be available in early September. I will reserve a rustic cabin or 2 just in case we can't go to the campsites on Donnell Pond. Worst case scenario, we will take day trips from the cabins. From the campsites, we can hike up several small mountains. I could also figure out how to do a pretty big hike if folks are interested. We will pack up on 9/12 and I'm hoping we can get pizza and go to Tidal Falls and meet Peter Suber for dinner. Then we will say goodbye and be on our own. Once again, I cannot reserve the campsites I am planning on using, but they should be available in early September.

Role of participants

We will need to meet via Zoom to figure out our plan for the trip. I am happy to buy and pack up food and then be reimbursed. We will share cooking and cleanup responsibilities. Folks will need to bring their own clothes, rain gear, hat, mittens, bathing suit, flashlight, and 20 degree sleeping bag and pads. If people want to fish, you need a license and your own gear. My husband has mostly caught small mouth bass at Donnell. We own and can provide 2 canoes, 1 small

kayak, a hobby cat that has been converted into a weird little motorized raft, a large screen house, some firewood, and some tents. Bugs can be bad in Maine, but, if you live in Maine, you don't notice the bugs by September. If you are from away, you need to be prepared for bugs. Also, temperatures can be as low as 30 at night, and we may be hot during the day. Come prepared for any weather. While camping there, we've experienced 90 degrees and sunny, thunderstorms with 5" of rain, and near freezing temperatures. We have several small tents folks can use, but large air mattresses and cots do not fit in our tents.

Biography of the organizer



I went on Water Wilderness in 1986 and lead it in 1988. I work as an Occupational Therapist at Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital and have camped at Donnell for years. We usually boat in because we bring too much stuff and then I hike in and out to get to work. My worst commute ever was the day we got 5" of rain ~ I hiked in that crazy storm to get to work. Not my best decision! Instead of hiking through a flash stream, in the dark, in a thunderstorm, in my bare feet, I should have been trying to squat on my life jacket with my heels together without touching my elbows to my knees!! This is to say, I know the area, but I am not the leader. I know CPR but have never done it. If you get hurt and I love you, I become faint. I am ok with bodily fluids in a work setting, but I don't like wounds. I may be ok with an injury in the woods, but you also may be on your own for a bit. I do not know anyone who has good cell reception in this area. If people want, I could look into getting a satellite phone and we could share that cost too. We will also need to talk about first aid supplies as I tend to be a minimalist.