

SWFP Registration Tips and Tricks

“Program” (capitalized) refers to the whole document, encompassing the entire event; “program” refers to each individual educational opportunity. We are following the language used in the past for consistency through the 73+ years of the SWFP.

Book Lodging As Soon As Possible. Lodging in and around the GSMNP fills up quickly ahead of the spring travel season. Book your hotel or campsite as soon as you can.

Look over the Program and plan each day for each person you will register before you begin the Registration on March 1 at 10AM Eastern.

Have alternate choices for each person, especially if registering in the first couple of days when 600 people typically register! We suggest you make notes, like, e.g., Joey will attend events Wed AM (#8 Plants and Fungi or #12 Fungi and Lichens), Wed PM (#18 Dogs and Cats or #16 Mice and Rats of the GSMNP), Wed evening (#24 or none), Thurs AD (#31 or none)...; Shannon will attend events Wed AM (#8 or 9), Wed PM (#18 or none), Thurs AM (#26, 28, 29)..).

Be sure there are no time conflicts (e.g., Joey cannot be signed up for a Wed ALL DAY and a WED AM. Doing this will cause an error and the system and you'll have to go back and figure it out because the system cannot tell you what is creating the conflict, only that there is one.

Registration opens March 1st at 10AM Eastern. This will be a very busy 24-48 hours for us. If you need help, be sure you are in the system and then send an email to [Joey, Shannon, and Quinn](#) and we will respond to you in turn.

If a program/hike fills, it will automatically close and no longer show up on the registration page. If you see a program on the registration portal, it will have at least one spot available. If you are registering for two (you and a partner), and there is only one spot remaining for a program you want to attend, register one of you and then watch the system. You might be able to get in as other people modify their itineraries.

You may modify your itinerary at any point up until a week or so ahead of event. We cannot help you if you are not in the system. If you experience problems, make sure you are registered for something and then send an email to [Joey, Shannon, and Quinn](#) and we will respond to you in turn. Your confirmation number will be needed to re-enter the portal and modify your itinerary.

Registering Multiple People

- Each person, even the children, in your party need(s) an independent registration tied to an independent email address. Yes, even kids need an email address to be in the system, so please create one for them even if they will not use it. We cannot change the registration platform which use email as a unique identifier.
- To increase the opportunity of separate registrants, say friends, registering for the same events, it is best if registrations occur nearly simultaneously.

Cancellation Policy. We appreciate your support of this event and its mission to bring experts into contact with the public in one of the most biodiverse areas of North America. Due to financial commitments to vendors, partners, sponsors, and facilities, refunds are NOT provided after March 31. Fees will be used as a

contribution to help support this event and keep it accessible to students and children, or they will be donated to education and science funds in the GSMNP.

Donations! Please consider making a donation. Donations to the Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage are tax deductible and help reduce the cost to children, high school, and college students. Over the past few years their numbers have averaged about 150, which means we have to raise about \$15,000 per year to offset this cost. Exposure to wilderness, biodiversity, and conservation now can be the seed for their future guardianship of places like the GSMNP.