



Spring day outside Camp House. Native common fleabane in full bloom (Dan Sherman)

## Springtime: Fun Season Returns!

Winter is over! Bloodroot, trout lilies, and trillium are soon emerging. Birds are singing, salamanders and peepers are seeking vernal pools. Must be Spring and time to celebrate with Steep Rock Association. We have lined up a terrific array of events and activities that will break your winter doldrums, stretch your legs, inspire your imagination, celebrate your accomplishments, dirty your hands, and help SRA launch our next century of conservation. Let's start with our **Centennial 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge**, running now through July 9th. Join us Saturday, April 5th, for the grand opening of the **Isaac & Jane Camp House and Steep Rock Education Center and Museum** at the entrance to Macricostas Preserve. We've lined up **volunteer opportunities** on our trails and in Judea Garden, **hikes** for newcomers to the area, and our last **Winter Speaker Series** presentation on local archaeology. And mark your calendars for **Earth Day** (April 22nd) and **Give Local** on April 29-30, the 36-hour fundraising event sponsored by CT Community Foundation that will support our summer initiatives. Let's get together for some fun! Information below and **Register** at our [Events page](#)!

See you on our Trails...  
Brian Hagenbuch, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

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## Camp House Education Center and Museum Opening

Come celebrate with us as SRA hosts the April 5th grand opening of the Isaac & Jane Camp House, home to the SRA Education Center & Museum at the entrance to Macricostas Preserve! This thoughtfully curated space celebrates our 100-year legacy of conservation and serving our community, offering visitors an opportunity to explore Steep Rock's history, ecology, and ongoing stewardship efforts. Public is welcome on April 5th, 12 noon - 2 pm. [>Register](#)

## The Centennial Hiker's Challenge is On!

The 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge is officially underway! From April 1 – July 9, 2025, hikers are hitting the trails, tracking their progress, and working toward earning their spot among Steep Rock's most dedicated adventurers. No race bib. No stopwatch. Just you, the trails, and 100 days to make it happen. It's not too late to join—are you up for it? [>more](#)

## Spring Guide

Springtime at SRA's preserves is pure magic. As the forests shake off winter's chill, the hills turn bright green, wildflowers bloom along the trails, and the Shepaug River roars. Whether you're up for a heart-pumping summit climb, a riverside stroll, or a chance to spot migrating birds, SRA's preserves deliver. Here's your spring guide—where to go, what to see, and amazing trails for every kind of adventurer. [>view now](#)

## Big Night

On the first warm, rainy nights of late winter or early spring, wood frogs and salamanders migrate to vernal pools to breed. Amphibians can travel up to a quarter mile or more as they migrate through fragmented spaces and cross dangerous backroads to reach their destination. This is a leading cause of amphibian mortalities. It's also the reason why Conservation Partners of the Pomperaug are taking actionable steps to help.

You can help by driving carefully, avoiding crossing areas, and spreading awareness. [>Learn more](#)

## Shop Our Online Store

Before you head out on your next adventure, gear up with Steep Rock Centennial Swag! Whether it's a trail-tested hoodie, a hat, or a tee, our online shop has the perfect gear. Every purchase supports conservation, keeps the



trails you love in top shape, and helps us launch our next 100 years protecting what you love. [>more](#)

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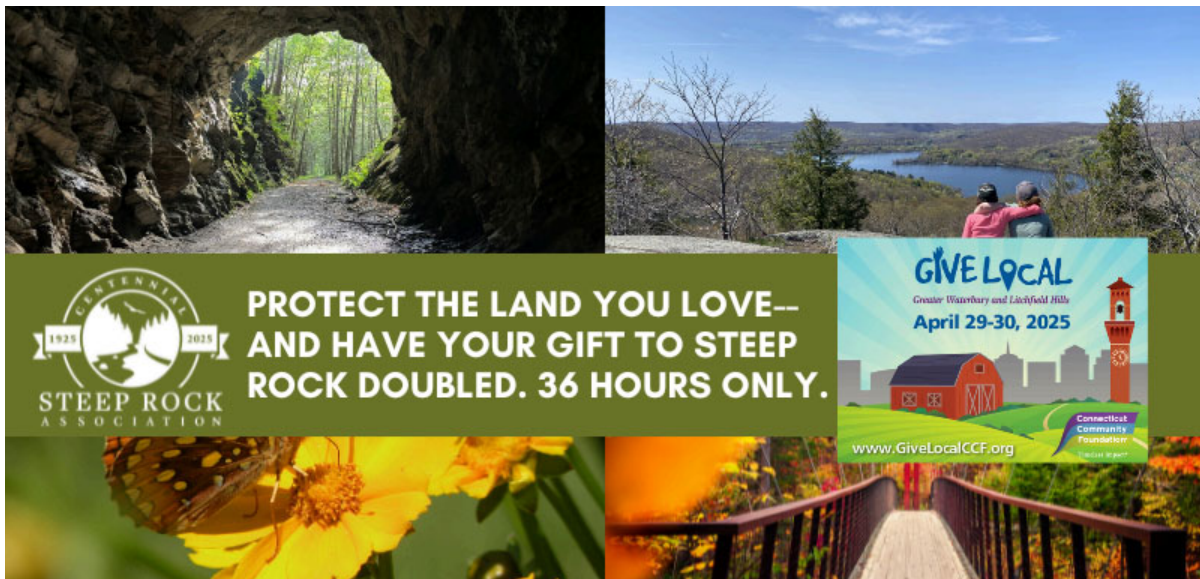
## Upcoming Events

**Thank you donors and sponsors for making our hikes and programs free!**

- 4/1 - [Centennial Hiker's Challenge](#): 100 Miles in 100 Days begins!
- 4/5 - [Camp House Education Center & Museum Opening](#)
- 4/12 - [Trail Manager Training](#)
- 4/12 - [Newcomer's Hike](#)
- 4/13 - [Judea Garden Early Spring Planting Day](#)
- 4/15 - [Archaeological History of the Washington Area](#) with Craig Nelson
- 4/19 - [Trail Work Party](#)
- 4/26 - [Washington Earth Day Celebration](#)
- 4/27 - [Woodbury Earth Day](#)

**SAVE THE DATE! The 5th Annual Rossiter Run 5K, Sunday, May 18!**

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### Our Contact Information

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