



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stewards and Storytellers Learning series returns for 2026

Brevard, NC, 6/11/26 The free Stewards & Storytellers Learning Series returns with another season of fascinating evenings exploring the natural and cultural heritage of Western North Carolina. From bioluminescence and native plants to wildlife photography, river history, and forest stewardship, this year's lineup brings together passionate experts, storytellers, and community voices for unforgettable conversations.

Bioluminescence in Western North Carolina, the first event of the series, will be held on June 11th, 2026, and will cover all the unique glowing organisms that call our area home! The event opens at 5:30 PM, and the lecture will begin promptly at 6:00 PM. Learn about the native fireflies, railroad worms, touch-wood, foxfire, and other creatures that glow in the dark!

Presented by Dr. Jennifer Frick-Ruppert, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dean of the Faculty, and Dalton Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at Brevard College, is a leading expert on the native Blue Ghost Firefly.

Tickets are free thanks to support from Self Help Credit Union, but RSVP's are made at www.gofindoutdoors.org and are encouraged. The event is open to the public and includes two complimentary alcoholic beverages and light snacks.

The FIND Outdoors NEST is located at 49 Pisgah Hwy, Suite 3, Pisgah Forest, NC. FIND Outdoors proudly provides the NEST to aligned partners and organizations to interface with the community and provide means for collaboration. To request the space, please fill out the form on the FIND Outdoors website.

FIND Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) outdoor recreation nonprofit that centers forest education and stewardship. Based in Pisgah Forest, FIND Outdoors has been stewarding public lands for over 50 years, with a vision to create a lasting community of appreciation for the outdoors. Learn more about FIND and ways you can be involved at www.gofindoutdoors.org/about.



Stewards & Storytellers Learning Series

Presented by Self Help Credit Union

- JUNE 11** **Bioluminescence in Western North Carolina**
with Jennifer Frick-Ruppert
- JULY 9** **Native Plants for Landscapes & Home Gardens**
with Tony Ward
- JULY 23** **Edible & Medicinal Plants of the Smokies**
with Lee "Natty" Trebotich
- AUG 20** **Wildlife Photography Basics**
with Steve Matadobra
- SEPT 10** **History of the French Broad River**
with David & Debi Whitmire
- SEPT 24** **Natural Resource Management**
with Robert Beanblossom

49 Pisgah Hwy, Suite 3, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768
All events start at 6:00 PM

GOFINDOUTDOORS.ORG/STEWARDS





Stewards & Storytellers

Presented by Self Help Credit Union

Bioluminescence in Western North Carolina

JUNE 11, 2026

Discover the world of bioluminescence in Western North Carolina. Come ready to learn and discuss fireflies, railroad worms, touch-wood, foxfire, and other glow in the dark creatures.



Jennifer Frick-Ruppert
Featured Speaker

FREE EVENT!

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