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## Georgia Becoming an Outdoorswoman Beyond BOW Events Calendar and Resources January – April 2024 Open for Registration

*These events are open to women aged 18 or older only.*

Please see the activity specific information below for registration details. Only January through April are available to register currently. Please make sure to contact the registration contact if you are unable to attend so waitlisted individuals have a chance to pop in. Have fun out there!

### Physical Activity Ratings:

Classes below are described according to the level of physical activity required to participate fully. This classification is to help you decide if the class is right for you. If you are not sure, just ask us for more information. We're happy to help!

**LEISURELY (L):** Class is not physically demanding.

**MODERATE (M):** Class requires moderate level of physical activity; for example, lifting an 8-pound chainsaw, shotgun, paddling a canoe or kayak.

**RUGGED (R):** Class is strenuous and may require hiking/climbing over uneven terrain.

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**January 27<sup>th</sup>**      **Okefenokee Swamp Park Tour, Waycross, GA**      **(L)**

**Time:** 11:00 am – 3:00 pm      **Price:** Min of 20 people for \$19, otherwise \$35

**Registration:** Register through Jolie Hoyle at [jolie.hoyle@okeswamp.org](mailto:jolie.hoyle@okeswamp.org) or (912) 283-0583.

Explore the park in 3 hours in 3 different ways! You'll first tour the natural ecosystem of the swamp on a boat, then have time for lunch before boarding a train for a historical tour. The final part of your experience is a reptile show with the park staff. There will be a break for lunch where you can bring your own or purchase it on site and there is a nature center to visit. If you'd like overnight accommodations Laura Walker State Park has cabins or there are local hotels available.

**February 9<sup>th</sup>**      **Squirrel Hunt at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center**      **(R)**

**Time:** Noon – 6pm      **Price:** \$30.00

**Registration:** <https://license.gooutdoorsgeorgia.com/Event/ViewEvent.aspx?id=42107>

**License or Pass:** Hunting License

Come experience a squirrel hunt utilizing dogs. Hosted by our very own Commissioner Walter Rabon, you'll get to learn about the types of dogs utilized, what to look for when hunting and see it all in practice. Be prepared to walk on uneven ground through the grounds of the wildlife center.

**February 17<sup>th</sup>                      Okefenokee Adventures Canoe Trek, Folkston GA                      (M)**

**Time:** 9:00 am – Noon                      **Price:** Min of 20 people for a \$50, otherwise \$100

**Registration:** Register through Jolie Hoyle at [jolie.hoyle@okeswamp.org](mailto:jolie.hoyle@okeswamp.org) or (912) 283-0583.

Explore the park in a more hands-on in-depth experience as you paddle a kayak through the swamp with a knowledgeable guide. Gear usage, water and snacks are included in this price. You can choose between solo or tandem kayaks if travelling with a friend! Okefenokee Pastimes and the Folkston Inn are two of the closer places to stay if you need overnight accommodations.

**March 14<sup>th</sup>                      Give it a Shot Shotgun: Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center                      (M)**

**Time:** 9:30 am - 2:00 pm                      **Price:** \$10

**Registration:** Please visit this [link](#) or call 770-784-3059 to register.

**License or Pass:** Hunting or Fishing Required

Are you new to shooting? Do you prefer a hands-on approach to learning? If you answered yes to both, the Give It a Shot program is for you! Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center will be offering a women's-only shotgun course, which will focus on the basics of firearm safety and shooting, with time in the classroom and on the range. Participants will have the opportunity to practice using a shotgun in a safe and structured environment. Please note this is a beginners only class.

**April 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>                      Backpacking 103 Program: F.D. Roosevelt State Park                      (R)**

**Rain Date:** April 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 2:00 pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> to 11:30 am on the 7<sup>th</sup>                      **Price:** \$30                      **Max Participants:** 8

**Registration:** Please visit this [link](#) or call 770-784-3059 to register.

**License or Pass:** State Parks Pass

Get Outdoors! Ever wanted to go backpacking but didn't want to purchase all the necessary gear? This course will allow you to try out overnight backpack camping without breaking the bank. We provide a loaner backpacking pack, tent, and a few other items. This is an OVERNIGHT course led by a ranger. We cover the basics including finding trails, packing, fitting your gear, where to camp, utilizing equipment, building fires, and some tips and tricks for a variety of outdoor scenarios while out on the trail. This hands-on course is sure to be educational and fun! We will be outside the entire time, so please dress for the weather. Bring your own gear if you wish. The mileage to the campsite is ~ 1 mile. Danielle will provide more information about what to bring after registration.

**April 13<sup>th</sup>**                    **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual No Fooling, Just Fishing: Charle Elliott**                    **(L-M)**  
**Time:** 9:00 am – Noon                    **Price:** \$10                    **Max Participants:** 20  
**License or Pass:** Fishing (can be one day)

Want to work on those fishing skills or just relax with the BOW ladies? Come on out for a day of fishing and fellowship around the lake. You can either bring your own gear or we will provide some to utilize at all levels of learning! Bait will be provided if you prefer live bait fishing, and we'll have a make and take of an advanced artificial lure.

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## **Looking Forward – Updates with Registration Links to be sent out in March.**

**May 13<sup>th</sup>**            **Give it a Shot Handgun: Wilson Shoals WMA**                    **(L-M)**  
**May 18<sup>th</sup>**            **Keeping Georgia Wild Day (Free Family Event at CEWC)**                    **(L)**  
**June**                    **TBD**  
**August**                    **Canoeing Class TBD**  
**September 16<sup>th</sup>**            **Give it a Shot Handgun: Wilson Shoals WMA**                    **(L-M)**  
**October 19<sup>th</sup>**            **Caving at Cloudland Canyon**                    **(R)**  
**November 1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup>**            **The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual BOW Workshop at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center**                    **(L-R)**  
(Registration does not open until mid-August, more details to come)

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### **Other Opportunities:**

- Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center Family and Public Programs. We have a series of specialized guest speakers and activities set up. Please find more information at: [https://georgiawildlife.com/sites/default/files/Family%20Public%20Programs\\_2023.pdf](https://georgiawildlife.com/sites/default/files/Family%20Public%20Programs_2023.pdf)
- Hunt and learn multiple day programs at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center. These programs are co-ed youth and adult mentored hunts that are by application only for beginner hunters on multiple species. The dates and applications can be found at: <https://georgiawildlife.com/LearnToHuntFish> or you can reach out to Bruce Thomas at [bruce.thomas@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:bruce.thomas@dnr.ga.gov) for more information.
- S.H.A.R.P. is a one-day class that covers everything you need to start or get back into hunting different species. These courses include everything but a mentored hunt, but resources will be given. You can find dates and registration information at: <https://georgiawildlife.com/sharp-program> or you can reach out to Bruce Thomas at [bruce.thomas@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:bruce.thomas@dnr.ga.gov) for more information.

- Mike and Marie Bain, past BOW Course Instructors, are NRA Certified and offer Ladies Only classes every month or every other month. Pistol, Concealed Carry, Personal Protection Inside & Outside the Home, Rifle, Shotgun. Use this [link](#) choose which class types you'd want to see from the left column. Then choose Women Only at the bottom. Their zip code is 30519 and they are under their business's name: Defensive Specialties, LLC. Their personal website is: [www.defensivespecialties.com](http://www.defensivespecialties.com).
- Georgia Artemis Program: Are you interested in hunting, fishing, and shooting sports, but not quite sure how to get started? Do you already hunt and fish, but you're struggling to find a community to help you stay involved? We can help. Artemis Georgia is a strategic initiative established and supported by Georgia Wildlife Federation in collaboration with Artemis Sportswomen of the National Wildlife Federation. Artemis Georgia, led by a primarily volunteer board of dedicated sportswomen, focuses on building community, one-on-one mentorship, and helping women to become more confident in the outdoors. The mission of Artemis Georgia is to ENGAGE, ENCOURAGE, and EMPOWER women in conservation through hunting, fishing, and shooting sports. The link to their website is: <https://gwf.org/artemisgeorgia/>
- Girls with Bows: Women's archery both competitive and hunting. [girlswithbows.ga](http://girlswithbows.ga)

