

THE NATURE FOUNDATION AT WINTERGREEN CELEBRATES 30^{TH} SPRING WILDFLOWER SYMPOSIUM IN VIRGINIA'S BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS





WINTERGREEN, Va. (April 20, 2015) - The Nature Foundation at Wintergreen and Wintergreen Resort will celebrate the 30th Spring Wildflower Symposium: *The Art of Science & Nature* at The Foundation's Trillium House, May 15-17. There is no better time or place to experience nature's beauty than in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

The Wintergreen's Spring Wildflower Symposium is ideal for anyone who loves nature and learning, with activities that include hiking the well-marked trails, bird watching, learning about native Virginia wildflowers and how to grow them, and exploring geology with expert instructors.

"The 30-year old Spring Wildflower Symposium has its roots deeply embedded in the conservation ethic and the recognition of a vision that founded Wintergreen over 40 years ago," said Doug Coleman, biologist and executive director. "The Nature Foundation at Wintergreen, a research and education non profit, remains the keeper and the reminder of that vision and as such is the trusted manager of Wintergreen's thousands of acres of wildflower laden forests."

The Blue Ridge forests of Wintergreen, by virtue of their rugged coves, deep stream-carved gorges and precipitous rock faces host some of America's greatest remaining natural ecosystems, including an abundance of tree diversity, ancient wildflower gardens, relict fern beds, and scenic vistas.

A favorite highlight of the weekend is the sale of native wildflowers, shrubs and ferns. For information regarding special orders, please call (434) 325-7451. Windbeam Way Nursery will have a selection of native rhododendrons and azaleas for sale.

Wintergreen Resort's special Wildflower Symposium package includes a 20% accommodations discount on the best available rate for the weekend event. Resort lodging options include 230 villa-style condominiums and rental homes, from studio suites to seven-bedroom homes, each

offering fully equipped kitchen, and comfortable living area, most with fireplaces and a balcony or deck. For more information call 888-329-5828 or visit www.wintergreenresort.com.

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About Wintergreen Resort: Wintergreen Resort is an 11,000-acre, four-season resort located in the Blue Ridge Mountains southwest of Charlottesville, Va. This beautiful hideaway is the ultimate vacation and conference spot, nearly 230 condominium-style accommodations; 45 holes of championship golf; snow skiing, snowboarding and snow tubing; an award-winning tennis program; a full-service, destination spa; 40,000 square feet of meeting and event space; and savory dining options. The resort is located adjacent to the Blue Ridge Parkway in beautiful central Virginia near Charlottesville, just 90 minutes from Richmond, Va., three hours from Washington, D.C. and Raleigh, N.C., five and a half hours from Philadelphia, and eight hours from Atlanta. For more information, guests can call (434) 325-2200 or visit the resort's web site at www.wintergreenresort.com.

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