

ACTIVE ADULT PROGRAM

Active Adult S.O.A.R. Trip - Hiking & Whitewater Rafting - Bryson City, NC



Enjoy a trip with adventure, relaxation and scenic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.
Sunday, August 30 - Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Day 1: Leave at 9 am from the Anne Gordon Center. Sit back and relax as we travel to Bryson City, NC. On the way up we'll stop for lunch and a short hike lead by the Outdoor Recreation staff with breathtaking views of the mountain range and one of the many beautiful waterfalls in these mountains. Then continue onto Bryson City and check into your home for the next 2 nights, Sleep Inn. Enjoy the evening relaxing by the pool or taking a stroll in town. Dinner will be on-your-own.

Day 2: Breakfast will be at the hotel before heading to Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) for a guided rafting trip along the crystal-clear Nantahala River. The river features eight miles of practice on easy Class II rapids with occasional calm water before splashing through the exciting Class III whitewater. Not interesting in rafting? The NOC offers; shops, changing rooms, restaurants, as well as a beach area with seating along the river, and an amazing view to enjoy. Next, travel up the scenic mountain highway, through the Great Smokey National Park, discovering some hidden treasures. Tonight is a night of leisure and dinner on-your-own.

Day 3: Have your bags packed, as we head home today. Breakfast will be at the hotel. This morning enjoy an easy walk along the Deep Creek Trail, where we will enjoy beautiful waterfalls. The group will then head back to Raleigh with an on-your-own lunch break. Return at 6 pm.

Register online at reclink.raleighnc.gov by searching 'AATRIP' under "Activities," or by calling at any of the facilities listed below.

Cost:

Double Rate per person

\$400/Resident, \$415/Non-resident
(Not whitewater rafting -\$85)

Single Rate

\$519/Resident, \$534/Non-resident
(Not whitewater rafting -\$85)

What's Included

Mini-bus transportation
Guided hikes
2 night hotel with breakfast
Guided whitewater rafting

Patron Expectations

This trip has a moderate to high volume of walking expected. There will be unpaved trails with some steps, uneven paths with loose bricks, gravel and tree roots. Patron must be able to hike 1/2 mile without concern and keep to the scheduled timeline of the trip. Please remember there is no one-on-one assistance provided by the escorts.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be made in writing at least 14 days prior to trip departure date to receive a refund. Full or partial refunds are subject to non-refundable expenses incurred by the Department. If the Department cancels a trip, a full refund will be given. Submit withdrawal letter to Carmen Livingston at carmen.livingston@raleighnc.gov or in-person at any Active Adult Center.

Active Adult Program
Walnut Terrace Center (919) 996-6160
Five Points Center (919) 996-4730
Anne Gordon Center (919)996-4720

raleighnc.gov/parks



Raleigh
Parks