

Nature Photography Weekend 2025

Field Course Offerings

Field courses offered by the NPW speakers are special add-on opportunities for registered event attendees and participants. These courses are more hands-on workshops that allow event participants and attendees one-on-one instruction from a speaker. Group sizes are kept small. Field course spots are limited, and attendance is not included in your event registration. There will be an additional cost of \$10+tax per field course.

Registered attendees and participants should submit their field course preferences to media@grandfather.com by Sunday, May 11.

Field course spots will then be randomly drawn, and “winners” will be able to purchase their “spot” before the actual event. Assignment emails with a link to purchase field course spots will go out May 19. An effort will be made to get all interested folks into at least one of their preferred field courses. After receiving an email May 19 with an assignment, the window to purchase field course spots will be open until May 30.

Kevin Adams | “Light Painting Gear & Techniques”

Saturday, June 7 | 7 – 8:30 a.m.

Kevin will demonstrate the gear he uses for light painting, both at night and during the day. You will be surprised at how something as simple as a small flashlight can help you create dramatic images of all kinds of subjects.

Location: Meet outside the front entrance of the Wilson Center. Shooting will take place in the areas around the Wilson Center.

Capacity: 15 people

Chrissy Donadi | “Motion in the Mountains: Intentional Camera Movement (ICM)”

Offered Twice:

- **Saturday, June 7 | 7 – 8:30 a.m.**
- **Saturday, June 7 | 9 – 10:30 a.m.**

Looking to create more abstract, expressive images of the natural world? In this field session, we’ll explore Intentional Camera Movement (ICM)—a creative technique that blurs the line between photography and painting using slow shutter speeds and deliberate motion.

We'll focus on how to select appropriate subjects, choose the right shutter speeds and control the direction, rhythm and timing of your camera movements while working with natural elements in the landscape. This session is all about *exploration over perfection*. You'll leave with new tools, new images and a whole new way to play with your camera.

Recommended Gear: A DSLR or mirrorless camera with manual settings, mid-range and telephoto lenses (such as a 24–105mm or longer), and a neutral density (ND) filter to allow for longer exposures in bright conditions. A tripod is optional but not required.

Location: *Meet at the entrance to Linville Bluffs, the picnic area located across the park road from the Wilson Center. Feel free to park at the Wilson Center and (carefully) walk across the park road. Very minimal parking is available at the entrance to Linville Bluffs, please save this for attendees with limited mobility.*

Capacity: 12 people

Georgia Walters | “Selective Focus in a Macro World”

Offered Twice:

- **Saturday, June 7 | 7 – 8:30 a.m.**
- **Saturday, June 7 | 9 – 10:30 a.m.**

Let's get out into the wildflowers and see things in a micro focus point. Pull together your surroundings into a dreamy, out-of-focus world. Decide what you want in focus and create dreamy images that put the spotlight on a specific point. Mushrooms, wildflowers, snails.... the small things in life are our subjects.

Location: *Meet at the Woods Walk (far left) Trailhead. Please park in open spots not being used for camping and do not block the road. Shooting will take place along the Woods Walk Trail.*

Capacity: 15 people

Kevin Adams | “Tips & Tricks for Mobile Phone Photography”

Saturday, June 7 | 9 – 10:30 a.m.

Often, when Kevin goes on a photo shoot, the only camera he brings is his iPhone. In this course, he'll demonstrate the tools and techniques he uses to capture images with his mobile phone that rival or surpass those he makes with his DSLRs.

Location: *Meet outside the front entrance of the Wilson Center. Shooting will take place in the areas around the Wilson Center.*

Capacity: 15 people

Vinny Colucci and Bill Fortney | “Birds of Prey Photo Shoot”

Offered Twice:

- **Saturday, June 7 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.**
- **Saturday, June 7 | 12:30 – 2 p.m.**

Vinny Colucci and Bill Fortney, in partnership with Lees-McRae College’s May Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, will have an assortment of birds of prey to photograph.

Multiple subjects will be displayed by the keepers, in various backdrop locations, for the group to photograph. Attendees will be able to shoot different subjects throughout the session. Vinny and Bill will go over camera and lens settings to optimize your image. You will have opportunities to ask questions throughout the event as the keepers switch out the subjects.

Lens recommendations are short- to mid-telephotos to isolate the subjects in a portrait setting. 70-200, 100-400, 28-300 or anything in-between will work. 100-300 range is a good range for this event. The faster the aperture, (ie: f/2.8, f/5.6/f6.3) the better to soften your background.

Location: Meet at the entrance to Linville Bluffs, the picnic area located across the park road from the Wilson Center. Feel free to park at the Wilson Center and (carefully) walk across the park road. Very minimal parking is available at the entrance to Linville Bluffs, please save this for attendees with limited mobility. We do expect this to be a busy time around the Wilson Center, so plan to show up a bit early to get parked and to the meeting location.

Capacity: 25 people