



## DISCOVER LIFE IN AMERICA'S ANNUAL ATBI CONFERENCE:

March 19, 20, and 21<sup>st</sup> 2015

Park Vista by Doubletree Hilton 705 Cherokee Orchard Rd., Gatlinburg, TN  
865-436-9211

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY Elementary through High School Teachers Scholarships Available

**What is the ATBI?** The ATBI or **All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory** is a project operated by Discover Life in America or **DLIA**. This project seeks to inventory the estimated 60,000 -80,000 species of organisms in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The project will develop checklists, reports, maps, databases, and natural history profiles that describe the biodiversity and biology of this rich landscape to a wide audience.

**The ATBI is also about education, citizen scientists and developing young scientists for the future.** This is where teachers come in to the picture!

Check [www.dlia.org](http://www.dlia.org) for more information.

#### AND EVERY YEAR THERE IS AN ANNUAL CONFERENCE...

**WHAT?** Learn about some of the most current discoveries in the Southern Appalachians plus learn how to set up biodiversity inventories in your school yard or how to include biodiversity curriculum in your classroom!

**WHEN?** Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

**WHERE?** Park Vista, Gatlinburg, TN

#### WHY?

- Learn from scientists from all over the United States!
- Network with educators from elementary through college!
- Obtain curriculum, science fair and field trip ideas!
- Find ways to get your students involved in real science!
- Discover “Citizen Science” projects for your students!
- Participate in great Field trips, workshops and presentations about biodiversity from world class experts.

**COST?** The registration fee for teachers is \$ 185.00 for all three days of the conference.  
**There are a limited number of scholarships for this fee.**

**HOW?** Complete the attached form and fax or e-mail as soon as possible. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. Scholarship recipients will be notified on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. Apply now.**

To apply for free registration please send this application to:  
Heather Hansen  
[heather@dlia.org](mailto:heather@dlia.org)  
865-430-4756  
Fax: 865-436-1728  
*Scholarships are limited!*  
*Deadline: Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>.*

**SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM**  
**ELEMENTARY THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS**



**DLIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015**

I am requesting a scholarship sponsored by the DLIA Education Committee.

This scholarship is for the \$185.00 registration fee for

Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> conference program.

*I am excited about the effort to provide sessions that will benefit teachers!*

*I understand that there will be a workshop on arthropod taxonomy in the classroom, a school yard ATBI, nature photography and a session on the next generation of scientists, and more!*

*I will return to my classroom with ideas I can use right away!*

**Name:**

**Affiliation (School):**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Phone:**

**E-Mail (to be notified about scholarship acceptance):**

**Grade Level/Subject(s):**

*How will this conference help you to improve your classroom activities (please write a short description): -*

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Please return this form along w/ registration form to Heather Hansen by e-mail: [heather@dlia.org](mailto:heather@dlia.org) or fax: 865-436-1728. No LATER than Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>!! Feel free to call with questions: 865-430-4756.



# DLIA'S 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ATBI CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

**Theme: Every Living Thing  
March 19 – 21, 2015**

Park Vista  
705 Cherokee Orchard Road-Gatlinburg, TN 37738  
1-800-421-PARK

### 1. Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip  
code \_\_\_\_\_

E- \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Full Conference Registration** includes Colloquium, two-day conference, Thursday evening “Business After Hours” Reception, Rob Dunn Friday evening keynote, and any Field trips, but DOES NOT include Saturday evening with Rob Dunn. **Please note the GSMNP Science Colloquium on Thursday is free, but registration is required.**

<b>EARLY BIRD Postmarked By March 1, 2015</b>	Professional	Student/ Teacher/ Retiree	<b>LATE Postmarked After March 1, 2015</b>	Professional	Student/ Teacher/ Retiree
Full Conference	<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$150</b>	Full Conference	\$210	\$185
GSMNP Science Colloquium (Thursday Only) - Free					
One Day Only Please Circle: Fri. or Sat.	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$100</b>	One Day Only Please Circle: Fri. or Sat.	\$125	\$125
Saturday Reception <b>Every Living Thing: A Special Evening w/Rob Dunn @East TN History Center (Knoxville)</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>\$25</b>	Saturday Reception <b>Every Living Thing: A Special Evening w/Rob Dunn @East TN History Center (Knoxville)</b>	\$25	\$25
Unable to attend but here's my contribution					
Total Cost	\$	\$	Total Cost	\$	\$

**NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 1, 2015.**

Room reservations should be made by calling Park Vista (865-436-9211) and asking for the DLIA rate.  
Rooms must be booked by 2/28/2015

### 3. Options –

Please mark all that apply with an X.

Thursday Park Science Colloquium (all day)	
Field Trip A (Thursday 11 am - 5pm)- Beginning Field Botany	
Business After Hours (Thursday evening)	
Field Trip B (Friday 7 am – 10 am)-Birding in the Smokies	
Friday Keynote	
Field Trip C (Saturday 8:30 - Noon)- Schoolyard ATBI	
Field Trip D (Saturday 9 am – 4 pm)- Geology and Biodiversity	
Field Trip E (Saturday-1 pm - 4pm)- Salamander Study	
Saturday Evening Reception (\$25)	

### 4. Return Form and Payment

Check payable to DLIA is Enclosed or AmEx, Discover,  
Visa or  
MC number

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ val. code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on

Card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# FIELD TRIPS 2015

**Thursday, MARCH 19, 2015**

11 am – 5 pm

## **FIELD TRIP A: Basic Field Botany with Dr. Dan Pittillo**

This basic botany, native plant ecology and plant identification field trip is designed for teachers, wildlife biologists, government regulators, planners, landscape architects, general contractors and other professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of native plants and field-based botany. We will be learning the basic techniques for sorting plants in winter or very early condition. A brief introduction will take place inside the Park Vista Hotel on techniques for identifying winter twigs and bark. This will be followed by an examination of the basic Newcomb Guide to Wildflowers sorting method using a live flower. The last hour we will take a walk outside around the hotel to see examples of morphological features just studied. Please bring Newcomb's Guide to Wildflowers if you have a copy.

Leader, **J. Dan Pittillo**, Dan is a retired biology professor from Western Carolina University and former curator of their herbarium. He also served many years as director of Highlands Biological Station and the Bartram Trail Society as well as newsletter editor for Southern Appalachian Botanical Society. Author of numerous professional publications, his interests include regional floras, rare plant distributions, conservation, and land development planning.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015**

7 am – 10 am

## **Field Trip B: Birding and Bird Diversity in the Smokies – Tiffany Beachy**

This field trip is intended for participants of all levels, from beginner to advanced. It's about bird study, not just bird watching. The pace will be relaxed, and we'll take time to study the birds we see and discuss their natural history. Plenty of time will be allowed to answer participant's questions about birds. An emphasis will be placed upon identifying and learning songs and calls in the field. Though the focus will be birds, we won't ignore other natural history subjects we see. We'll visit the area around the Sugarlands Visitor Center and walk the Fighting Creek Nature Trail (1.25 miles, relatively flat). Meet at the Sugarlands Visitor Center parking lot, rain or shine. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring binoculars (7 to 10 power), if you have them, but we'll also have a few extra pairs to share.

Leader, **Tiffany Beachy**, Citizen Science Coordinator at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, was born and raised in Roanoke, VA. She earned her BS in Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech in 2003 and her MS in Wildlife Science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2008, where she studied Cerulean Warblers. She lived the life of a bio bum for a while and has participated in avian research in Tennessee, Canada, Mexico, the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador, Venezuela, and Missouri.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015**

8:30 a.m. - Noon

## **Field Trip C: Schoolyard ATBI – Tiffany Beachy**

Interested in conducting a schoolyard BioBlitz but just not sure how to make it happen? We'll show you how easy it is by actually conducting a mini-BioBlitz with students from a local elementary school. Meet at the Park Vista Hotel for a brief introduction to schoolyard exploration, and then pile into the Tremont van with us to venture out to Pi Beta Phi Elementary for a morning of fun with students! You will have an opportunity to learn the process while facilitating the activity with kids.

Leader, **Tiffany Beachy**, Citizen Science Coordinator at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont, was born and raised in Roanoke, VA. She earned her BS in Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech in 2003 and her MS in Wildlife Science from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2008, where she studied Cerulean Warblers. She lived the life of a bio bum for a while and has participated in avian research in Tennessee, Canada, Mexico, the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador, Venezuela, and Missouri.



9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Field Trip D: BIODIVERSITY IN THE GSMNP: THE GEOLOGY CONNECTION - Keith Langdon**

This field trip will explore the reasons for the high biological diversity of some species groups in the Southern Appalachians, with a focus on the influence of geology, especially karst landscapes. We will start with an introduction indoors including perusing the new super-computer generated species maps, developed from ATBI data by the University of Tennessee's computer lab. We will also peruse the park's new LIDAR imagery and other remote sensing tools that clarify the role of geology. We will go into the field to see some of the different geologies and examine the natural communities of plants and animals that inhabit them. The group is limited to 10 participants; it will be about 2/3 day: bring lunch, water, hiking footwear and outdoor gear. In case of pouring rain / icy conditions we will have an abbreviated discussion at the Twin Creeks Science and Education Center. Van transportation from Twin Creeks will be provided.

Leader, **Keith Langdon**, Retired as Supervisory Biologist with Great Smoky Mountains National Park, after 37 years in several National Parks. A geographer by training, his interests are in vascular plants, several insect orders, geology, land mollusks and the landscape characteristics that create specialized habitats for any rare or endemic species.

1- 4:00 p.m.

**Field Trip E: Salamander Study – Susan Sachs**

Great Smoky Mountains National Park staff have been doing citizen science projects with salamanders for many years. Head out into the field to get down and dirty as we collect early spring phenology data along a small creek at the Chimney's Picnic area. The protocols of this activity can be replicated for most natural areas or you can use park data in your classroom for a unique STEM activity. Come prepared to get a bit muddy. We will begin with a short classroom presentation and carpool to the study site in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Leader **Susan Sachs** is the Education Coordinator of the Appalachian Highlands Science Learning Center in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. She has been developing and presenting citizen science education programs for middle and high school students in this capacity since 2001. Susan has worked at National Parks and non-profit Environmental Education Centers in urban Washington, DC, Alaska, California and Arizona since 1991.