Pimiteoui Trail Association
Hiking Club
July - Sept 2026

President: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941
Vice President: Liane Bisanz (309) 642-1356
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Newsletter: Cherie & Andy Shull shullag@yahoo.com

HIKE REMINDERS

1. Hikes start promptly with no more than a 5-minute grace period for late arrivals.
2. The newsletter will be published quarterly. Hike leaders: please email your Event Reports to shullag@yahoo.com within two weeks after completion of your scheduled events. A single photo (jpeg file format) for inclusion in the Newsletter may be attached to your report.
3. Hike Leaders are to register all attendees for a hike/bike/paddle event using the "official" Pimiteoui Trail Association Liability Waiver form. These may be obtained on our website at WWW.PTAHIKE.ORG.
4. If an area allows dogs, they must be on a leash at all times. Also, please be prepared to pick up and dispose of pet excrement.
5. In case of bad weather, contact the hike leader to see if the hike/event has been cancelled.

3rd Quarter 2026 Event Schedule

Saturday, July 18, 2026, 10:00 AM, Jubilee College State Park, Brimfield, IL

Address: W Fussner Rd, Brimfield, IL 61517

We will meet in the historic site parking lot (near the old college building). We will hike several miles in this 3,200-acre park, one of the natural treasures of central Illinois. This is a joint hike with the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club.

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941

Saturday, August 1, 2026, 6:30 PM, Illinois River Road Trail (also called East Peoria Fondulac Trail), East Peoria, IL

Address: 201 Veterans Drive, East Peoria, IL 61611

Join us for an evening walk along the scenic Illinois River Road Trail! Meet at the Fon du Lac Park Administration Building (at the Caboose).

🕛 **Time:**
Meet at **6:30 PM**

We'll enjoy a relaxed **1-hour out-and-back walk** on the paved Illinois River Road Trail toward Morton. The trail is mostly flat and suitable for hikers of all experience levels. Portions of the trail are shaded, while others are exposed to the sun, so **bring water, wear comfortable walking shoes, and consider a hat for sun protection.**

🐾 **Dogs Welcome!**
Friendly, well-behaved dogs are welcome but **must remain on a leash** at all times.

Come enjoy a beautiful evening outdoors, meet fellow hikers, and take in the river views. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hike Leader: **Liane Marchini-Bisanz (309) 642-1356**

Saturday, August 22, 2026, 10:00 AM, Coal Hollow Park, Chillicothe, IL

Address: 22004 N Yankee Ln, Chillicothe, IL 61523

Please meet in the parking lot near the entrance along Route 29 and Yankee Lane north of Chillicothe. This 80-acre wooded bluff park has about 3 miles of trails. This is a joint hike with the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club.

Hike Leader: Dave Grebner (309) 222-7941

Saturday, September 12, 2026, 10:00 AM, Rock Island Trail through Peoria Heights, IL

Address: 816 E Glen Avenue, Peoria Heights, IL 61616 (Peoria Heights Library)

Please meet at Peoria Heights Library parking lot at 10:00 AM as we walk a part of the Rock Island Trail. We will be walking towards Springdale Cemetery and downtown Peoria. The trail is paved and dogs are welcome on leash. There are no restrooms on the trail itself, but we will be close to some in Peoria Heights.

Hike Leaders: Pat Palmer (224) 280-6680; Jim Perry (309) 634-1227

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 10:00 AM, Lake Eureka Park, Eureka, IL

Address: Lake Road, Eureka, IL 61530

Join us for an early Autumn hike at Lake Eureka Park in Eureka on September 26. We will meet at the "upper" parking lot on Lake Road, where the playground is. The simplest way to approach it from the West is via Eureka Road, which runs East out of downtown Washington. When the road curves sharply to the left near Eureka, turn right onto Lake Road which continues due East. About a mile further, the park will appear on your left.

Pets are welcome on a leash. The trail is easy; portions are unpaved but there is one set of steps. Use your discretion on footwear and hiking poles. If you have time, join us for a casual lunch afterwards at Braker's Market.

Hike Leaders: Cherie and Andy Shull (309) 645-5974

SECOND QUARTER 2026 EVENT REPORTS

2026-6 Saturday, April 18, Bluebell Hike at Humiston Woods, Pontiac

Six of us met at Humiston Woods, near Pontiac, IL for a hike along the river to see the bluebells. Humiston Woods is a former scout camp along the Vermilion River and offers hiking with very little vertical change. We had a nice short hike with lots of bluebells.

Hikers: Mike Joslin, Celeste Hansen, Sherri Morrison, Cherie Shull, and Andy Shull
Hike leader: Rob Alexander

2026-7 Saturday, April 25, Tawny Oaks Field Station, Edelstein

We had 10 hikers including the hike leader on this sunny day with mild temps in the mid 60's. We hiked a 4-mile loop and saw various wildflowers including Blue Phlox, buttercups, Mayapple blooms, Trillium, and there were just a few bluebells left.

Hikers: LaVerne Wilson, Walt Klypchak, Eric Hutchison, Cherie Shull, Dave Grebner, Carol Raines, Jamal Shafii, Connie Canterbury, Hazel Johns
Hike Leaders: Celeste Hansen

2026-8 Saturday, May 16, Springdale Cemetery, Peoria

The forecasted thunderstorms had cleared off for us by the start of our hike through the Historic Springdale Cemetery. We numbered 12 members, 2 guest speakers and 2 adorable beagles. Aaron Compte, General Manager of Springdale and Linda Aylward, a local historian, met us at the entrance to the Cemetery. They gave us a detailed account of the restored Civil War Monument located just inside the Cemetery grounds. We drove down to the old Perry Street Entrance to park and start our hike. Linda stayed with us and gave information of many of the historical people buried at Springdale as we hiked up the hills, around the beautiful grounds, and back down hills to get back into the valley. Jim Perry provided us with Girl Scout Cookies at the bottom of the hills. Some of us decided to tackle a climb up the hills to another part of the cemetery after that short break.

Hiking Members: Eric Hutchison, Jim Perry, Dan Mansfield, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull, Donna Uftring, Carol Raines, Walt Klypchak, LaVerne Wilson, Les Hensley, David Grebner, Mary Greenhood
Hiking Guests: Aaron Compte, Linda Aylward, 2 beagles
Hike Leaders: Pat Palmer, Jim Perry

2026-9 Saturday, May 30, Farmdale Reservoir Park, Washington

The weather smiled on us at Farmdale - partly sunny skies, temps in low 80's with some cooling breeze. We hiked up the valley on the west side of Farm Creek (the park's namesake). Found our way to the 'falls' area where the big creek enters the park. We chose to sightsee but not cross the big water. On our walk back, we

visited with a couple of horses (and their riders) who were heading the other way. Lots of mayapple plants lingered along the trails. The park's new restrooms were much celebrated on our return.

Hiking members: Carol Raines, Dave Grebner, Walt Klypchak, LaVerne Wilson, Cherie Shull, Andy Shull, Priska Lauber, Wyatt Whitlow, Pat Palmer, Jerry Pasco, Dan Mansfield, Connie Canterbury, Jim Perry, Ann Eads
Hiking guests: Dave Kweram

Hike stats ~ 2 hours, 4.x miles.
Hike Leader: Eric Hutchison

2026-4 Sunday, June 14, Lakeland Park, Canton

A group of five hikers met me in Canton for a 3.5-mile walk around the outer loop of Lakeland Park on a cool, breezy day in the upper 60s. Despite the wind, the conditions were pleasant, and our group took its time along the trail, stopping often to identify native and invasive plants while enjoying easy conversation. Along the way, the hikers were told about the park's unique history. It was once the site of Canton's local airport where America's 100th astronaut into space, Steve Nagel, learned to fly. The land was later strip-mined, creating the five lakes that now define the landscape. The property was eventually donated to the Canton Park District, which has developed and maintained it as a community treasure.

Hiking Members: Pat Palmer, Dan Mansfield, Carol Raines, Cherie Shull, and Andy Shull
Hike leader: Ed Coleman

2026-5 Saturday, June 27, Rock Island Trail, Dunlap

Our hike along the Rock Island Trail from Dunlap June 27 was attended by 14 members, several for the first time. The morning was a bit warm, but comfortable. We started at 10:05 and finished at 11:30.

Hikers: Carol Canterbury, Jim Perry, Donna Uftring, Carol Raines, Sarah Heimdal, Dan Mansfield, Eric Hutchinson, Kathy Jones, Andy Shull, Walt Klypchak, LaVerne Wilson, Ann Eads, Rob Alexander
Hike Leader: Dave Grebner