

CATS Harvest Moon Hike at the Adirondack Harvestfest

On Friday, Sept. 16, join the 4-mile Champlain Area Trails “Harvest Moon Hike.” You will hike as the setting sun in the west illuminates the almost-full moon rising over Lake Champlain.

Meet at the Essex County Fairgrounds in Westport at 5 p.m. to ride the shuttle bus two miles to the DaCy Meadow Farm Trailhead. You’ll walk through the lush farm fields with views of Toll Gate Hill, Lake Champlain, and the forested West Champlain Hills. After entering DaCy Meadow’s forests, you’ll climb by some old trees and arrive on Ledge Hill Road for a gentle downhill walk back to the Fairgrounds.

The shuttle from the fairgrounds to the DaCy Meadow trailhead leaves at 5:15 p.m.

CATS Essex to Westport Ferry-to-Fairgrounds Hike to the Adirondack Harvestfest

On Saturday, Sept. 17, join the 13-mile Champlain Area Trails “Ferry-to-Fairgrounds Hike” on trails and scenic back roads from Essex to Westport.

Meet at the Essex County Fairgrounds at 9:45 a.m. to take a 10 a.m. shuttle to Essex, where the hike begins. For those hikers from Vermont who arrive on the Charlotte-Essex Ferry, just walk off the ferry about 10:30 a.m. to begin the hike. Shuttles will take you back to Essex at day’s end.

There will be three “oases” with food, drink, and port-o-potties, where hikers can stop early or start later. Shuttles will go between the oases, fairgrounds, and ferry during the day. The hike features scenic views of the Champlain Valley’s beautiful farmland, diverse forests, and mountains. The entire hike will take between 4 and 7.5 hours, depending on your speed.

Cost of hikes (ages 18 and below are free):

Harvest Moon Hike: \$10

Ferry-to-Fairgrounds Hike: \$20

Both hikes: \$25