

Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas 2010 SPECIAL EVENTS – JANUARY & FEBRUARY

www.tnstateparks.com

Events are as accurate as possible, but are subject to change. Please call to verify.



Tennessee State Parks have it all. Each park features special destinations for families, groups and individuals – offering unique weekend getaways, day trips or extended vacations. To make it easier for you to plan your trip, we have compiled a list of our 2010 Special Events.



on Going

Cumberland Trail Sunday Nights 8:30 p.m. EST WDVX 89.9 fm

Join Bob Fulcher as he presents rare old-time bluegrass, gospel, rockabilly and more, 1926 to present day, from musicians who were born and raised along the Cumberland Trail. Web cast at www.WDVX.com.
For more information call: (423) 566-2229.

Tims Ford Saturday Night Pickin's

Enjoy an evening of bluegrass, country and gospel music at Tims Ford State Park recreation building, from 6 p.m. til 10 p.m. central time. Bring your instrument and join in, or just sit back and relax.
For more information call: (931) 962-1183.

Long Hunter January 4 - May 31 Nature Circle Pre-school Program

The Nature Circle Pre-School Program meets every Monday at 10 a.m. CST, at the park office. Each week a different theme is presented in the form of a story time, craft and an activity. Preschoolers must be accompanied by a guardian. Reservation are required and may be made by emailing Ms. Liana at: thenaturecircle@hotmail.com. Programs are sponsored by ESC Lab Sciences and the Friends of Long Hunter State Park.
For more information call: (615) 885-2422.

Nathan Bedford Forrest January - April Youth Hikes

Join us every fourth Sunday for our youth hikes. Hikes are for ages 3-12 and range from a quarter mile to 3-miles. Young children must be accompanied by an adult. These hikes are sponsored by the Friends of Nathan Bedford Forrest.
For more information call: (731) 584-6356.

January

South Cumberland January 2 Stone Door Hike

Join Ranger Jamie at the Stone Door Ranger Station at 1:30 p.m. EST for a 2-mile round trip hike to the Great Stone Door and back.
For more information call: (931) 924-2980.

Reelfoot Lake January 2nd - March 1st Eagle Tours

Join us for an in-depth look at one of the largest wintering populations of Bald Eagles outside of Alaska. The tour is a two-hour bus trip around Reelfoot Lake to observe the Bald Eagles and waterfowl. Tours are offered seven days a week with buses leaving the visitor center at 10 a.m. daily and 1:30 p.m. on weekends. Reservations are required. There is a minimal charge for the tour. Tour guides equipped with binoculars and telescopes provide information about the eagles, Reelfoot Lake and other waterfowl. All times are CST.
For more Information call: (731) 253-9652.



Special Winter Rates
November 1, 2009
 through
February 28, 2010

Take advantage of **Special Winter Rates** on hundreds of cabins, villas and Resort Inn rooms throughout the state. Cabins are 50 percent off, Sunday through Thursday with a 2-night minimum. Inn rooms are \$47.95 per night, 7 days a week. Offer is not available during holiday weeks and other restrictions may apply. Click here for more information about this and other specials.



Sycamore Shoals January 2 **Chipping of the Greens**
 Bring your Christmas tree down to the upper parking lot at the visitors center and the city will chip it into mulch. Save room in the landfill and take home a garbage bag of mulch for your yard. Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. EST.
For more information call: (423) 543-5808.

Harpeth River January 4 **Mound Bottom Guided Hike**
 Join us for a moderate, 1-mile, ranger led hike into Mound Bottom Archaeological Site. Like many Mississippian-era sites, Mound Bottom probably began as a ceremonial meeting place. This hike begins at 11 a.m. CST. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain.
For more information call: (615) 952-2099.

South Cumberland January 9 **Winter Meadow Hike**
 Join us at 8 a.m. at the visitor center for a brisk walk through the meadow. Along this 1.5 mile walk, we will discuss how the plants and critters cope with the cold and freezing
For more information call: (931) 924-2980.

Sycamore Shoals January 9-10 **Old Christmas: Militia Muster**
 Discover the English, German, Scotch-Irish and Dutch roots of our modern holiday celebrations. European migrants brought Old World holiday traditions to America, from the Dutch Sinter Klaus to the Twelve Days of Christmas. Join us from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday to learn more about these fascinating customs. EST.
For more information call: (423) 543-5808.

Frozen Head January 16 **Volunteer Trail Day**
 Meet at the visitor center at 9a.m. Bring a daypack with your water, lunch, good pair of hiking boots and wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Specific projects will be determined later but will focus on trail maintenance and repair. Some moderate hiking may be required and we will return at 3 p.m. or before. EST.
For more information call: (423) 346-3318.

Warriors Path January 16 **Winter Gardening Seminar**
 Guest speaker, Cherie Cordell, of Great Smoky Mountains National Park will teach us environmentally friendly gardening methods. No admission fee but pre-registration is required.
For more information call: (423) 239-8531.

Harpeth River January 17 **Mound Bottom Guided Hike**
 Join us for a moderate, 1-mile, ranger led hike into Mound Bottom Archaeological Site. Like many Mississippian-era sites, Mound Bottom probably began as a ceremonial meeting place. This hike begins at 1 p.m. CST. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain.
For more information call: (615) 952-2099.

A D V E N T U R E



P R O M O T I O N S



Visit our Web site for more info about:
 wildflower hikes
 waterfall tours
 deep swamp canoe trips
 rock climbing workshops
 living history presentations
 and other outdoor adventures coming soon to a park near you.



Makes Good Cents...

Sign-up to receive information about Tennessee State Parks special events and promotional discounts.

Send an email to listserv@listserv.state.tn.us.

Be sure to type in the message body: "Subscribe TSPPROMOTIONS"

Harpeth River January 18 Mound Bottom Guided Hike
 Join us for a moderate, 1-mile, ranger led hike into Mound Bottom Archaeological Site. Like many Mississippian-era sites, Mound Bottom probably began as a ceremonial meeting place. This hike begins at 11 a.m. CST. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain.

For more information call: (615) 952-2099.

South Cumberland January 23 Evergreen Hike
 Join Ranger Jason at 10 a.m. at the Grundy Forest parking lot for a moderate 2-mile hike through hemlock, pine, fern, and moss.

For more information call: (931) 924-2980.

Walls of Jericho Natural Area January 23 Winter Hike
 Journey through the wintertime beauty at the Walls of Jericho State Natural Area in Franklin County. This strenuous 8-mile hike descends 600 feet into the "Walls" and continues along the creek to an amazing canyon of sheer rock bluffs, caves, and waterfalls. Dress warmly in layers, wear sturdy boots, and bring plenty of water and lunch. This hike is strenuous and participants should be in good physical condition. The trip will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. RSVP by January 22. The first 10 reservations can take advantage of transportation provided by the Tennessee Natural Areas Program. www.tn.gov/environment/na.

For more information call: (615) 532-0431, or Forrest.Evans@tn.gov

Harpeth River January 24 Mound Bottom Guided Hike
 Join us for a moderate, 1-mile, ranger led hike into Mound Bottom Archaeological Site. Like many Mississippian-era sites, Mound Bottom probably began as a ceremonial meeting place. This hike begins at 1 p.m. CST. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations required. Max 15 people. Canceled if rain.

For more information call: (615) 952-2099.

February

Reelfoot Lake February 5-7 6th annual Eagle Fest
 Have the winter doldrums? Looking for something to lift your spirits? Come to Reelfoot Lake for the 6th annual Eagle Fest. Highlights include guided tours of bald eagles nesting, soaring and locking talons in courtship. Tours are approximately two hours and reservations are required. Additional activities: live birds of prey program; scavenger hunts, art and photography contest, storytelling, silent auction and vendors.

For more information call (731) 253-2007 for event and lodging information. Call (731) 253-9652 for tour reservations.

T O Fuller February 6 Guided Trail Hike
 Once home and sacred ground of Native Americans and black farm owners; T.O. Fuller was the first state park for African Americans east of the Mississippi (only the second in the country). Join us for a guided hike of the improved Discovery Loop Trail. The trail has been reworked and rerouted and new, bench-cut sections have been added. A new section of the trail offers a view of the "borrow pit" and connects to the Chucalissa Nature Trail. The Discovery Loop Trail offers diversity in plant/tree species and topography. Bird watchers will enjoy the view of the Ensley Bottom lagoons and the many species of birds in the area.

For more information call: (901) 543-7581.



Frozen Head February 13 Great Backyard Bird Count

Join the park ranger as we count the birds at the park's bird feeders and contribute to the knowledge of the nation's bird populations. A project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon, data collected helps scientists learn more about North American bird populations. A great opportunity for amateur and experienced birdwatchers, young and old to learn about birds. **For more information call: (423) 346-3318.**

Frozen Head February 20 Volunteer Trail Day

Meet at the visitor center at 9 a.m. EST. Bring a daypack with your water, lunch, good pair of hiking boots and wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Specific projects will be determined later but will focus on trail maintenance and repair. Some moderate hiking may be required and we will return at 3 p.m. or before. **For more information call: (423) 346-3318.**

Lucius Burch Natural Area February 20 Winter Hike

The 728-acre Lucius E. Burch, Jr. State Natural Area is part of the larger Shelby Farms Park in Memphis. The natural area is within the floodplain of the Wolf River, which borders the south end of the natural area. The hike is approximately five miles and we plan on returning to the parking lot by noon. The hike is through bottomland forest and is easy hiking. Expect portions of the trail to be wet and muddy, so wear boots, and preferably waterproof boots. The trip leader will interpret the ecology of the natural area. RSVP by February 18th. www.tn.gov/environment/na. **For more information call: (731) 512-1369 or allan.trently@tn.gov. If you need to call me on February 20th call my cell at (731) 234-4887.**

Sycamore Shoals February 20 - 21 Living History Militia Muster

Visit Fort Watauga and step into a colorful Revolutionary world. Living history actors portray a variety of characters, from hunters and farmers to land speculators and backcountry gentry. Walk among colonists and native peoples who share their past through talks, mini-dramas and demonstrations of 18th century life. Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. EST. **For more information call: (423) 543-5808.**



The Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards program is accepting nominations January 1 - March 31. **Click here** to learn more about these prestigious awards.

Friends Groups Making a Difference

In 1993, Tennessee passed legislation authorizing private, non-profit groups to organize for "maintaining and enhancing the purposes, programs and functions of the state park system". These groups, more commonly known as Friends, are concerned citizens who have banded together to assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the beauty and the splendor of their favorite state park. They give selflessly of their time, talents and energy to help ensure the park's integrity is intact for future generations to enjoy. There are 35 active and established Friends groups. Click here to find out more about a group or how to get involved with one, check out the group's website (if available) or contact the volunteer coordinator at: tnstateparks.volunteer@tn.gov or (615) 532-5249.