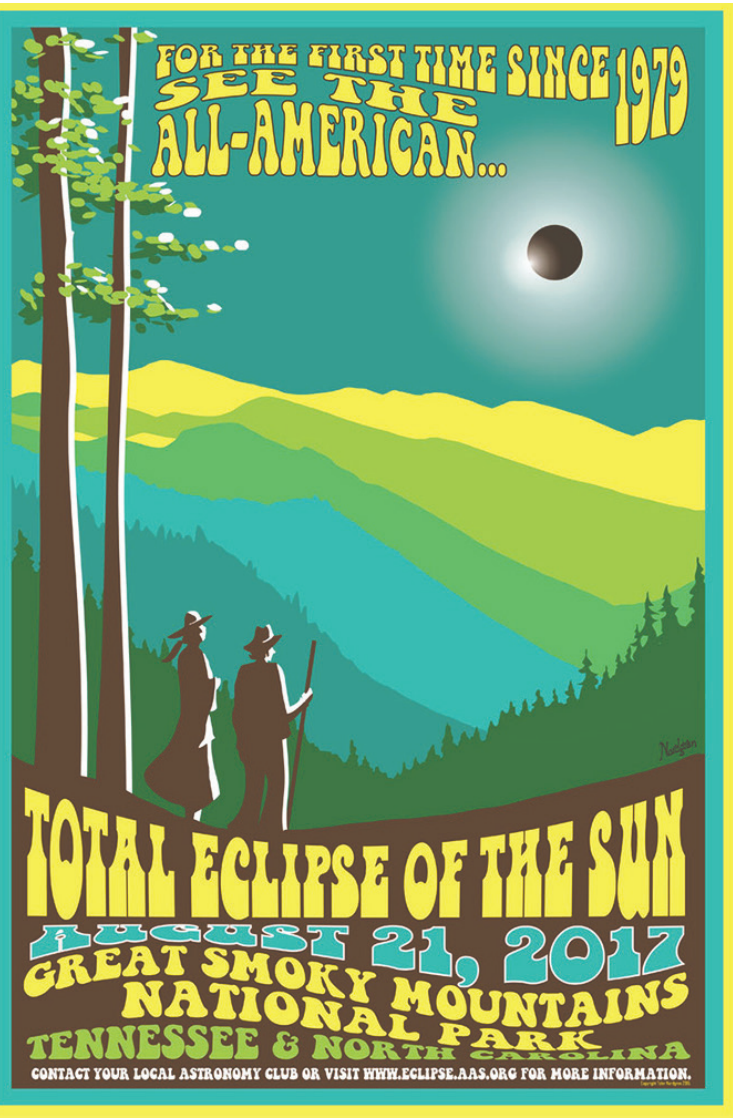




SMOKIES GUIDE



FREE RANGER-GUIDED TALKS & WALKS—PAGES 10-14



TYLER NORDGREN POSTER



GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK ☞ SUMMER 2017



BILL LEA PHOTO



The short Spruce-fir nature trail begins along Clingmans Dome Road.

WALKING FERN

This adorable fern often grows on boulders and tree bases. It “walks” when the tips of its long, narrow leaves root in the ground and produce a new walking fern. A member of the spleenwort family, look for this fern at the park’s low- and mid-elevations, especially in limestone areas.



A Walk in the Clouds

At the very highest elevations of the Great Smoky Mountains are rare forests dominated by evergreen spruce and fir trees and other plants and animals more typical of New England. Because of the elevation, this spruce-fir habitat is 10 to 20 degrees Fahrenheit cooler than the surrounding lowlands. It also receives considerably more rain and snow and is often cloaked by clouds and enveloped in mist.

These dark green gems of forest are relics of the last ice age, stranded atop the highest peaks of the southern Appalachian Mountains as the continent warmed. Recently, as temperatures worldwide have been rising at an alarming rate, scientists are concerned that these ancient ecosystems could get squeezed off the tops of the mountains.

On an ecological map, pockets of surviving spruce-fir forest dot the summits of the southern Appalachian Mountains like a chain of islands. Each is separated

from the other by a “sea” of lowland hardwood forest that is unsuitable habitat for many highland species.

Because of this Galapagos-like isolation, the southern spruce-fir forests are home to several very rare species. Two high elevation endemics, the red-cheeked salamander and Rugel’s ragwort, survive only in the Great Smokies. Others, like mountain avens, Fraser fir, and Cain’s reed grass, live only in a handful of high elevation sites. The endangered northern flying squirrel and spruce-fir moss spider are also denizens of the spruce-fir.

If you would like to sample a bit of this New England-in-the-Smokies, take a drive on Clingmans Dome Road and walk the spruce-fir nature trail situated about halfway along it. Other options include the half-mile trail to Clingmans Dome, the Heintooga Ridge Road, and the Appalachian Trail starting at Newfound Gap. Please see the map on pages 8-9.

The influx of eclipse viewers could gridlock park roads on August 21.

Plan Ahead for Eclipse

Park officials are anticipating record visitation to the Smokies for the solar eclipse on August 21. The last total solar eclipse visible from the Lower 48 states was nearly 40 years ago.

Park staff will provide guided viewing opportunities at Oconaluftee Visitor Center and at Cades Cove near Cable Mill for those who want to experience the eclipse within the park and are able to arrive early in the day. Visitors may view the eclipse from other areas of the park on their own, though the Park Service may need to restrict access to certain areas sometime on August 21st to reduce gridlock,

including Newfound Gap Road and Cades Cove Loop Road.

Officials suggest that visitors plan ahead to find the right eclipse experience for their situation. Many sites outside the park, including Bryson City, Jackson County, Sweetwater, Tennessee state parks, and Obed Wild and Scenic River, are hosting special events to observe the phenomenon and those locales may be a great alternative for those not wanting to risk traffic congestion in the park.

Visit the park website for more information: www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/2017-solar-eclipse.htm



smokies trip planner

to order maps and guides: www.SmokiesInformation.org

smokies guide

Smokies Guide is produced four times per year by Great Smoky Mountains Association and Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Publication dates are roughly as follows:

SPRING: March 15

SUMMER: June 1

AUTUMN: September 1

WINTER: December 1

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BILL LEA PHOTO

Nine campgrounds will be open in the national park this year.

camping in the national park

The National Park Service maintains developed campgrounds at nine locations in the park. There are no showers or hookups. Circuits for special medical devices are available at Cades Cove, Elkmont, and Smokemont.

Campsites at Elkmont, Smokemont, Cataloochee, Cosby, and Cades Cove may be reserved. For reservations call 1-877-444-6777 or contact www.recreation.gov. Sites may be reserved up to six months in advance. Reservations are required at Cataloochee Campground. Other park campgrounds are first-come, first-served.

Site occupancy is limited to six people and two vehicles (a trailer = 1 vehicle). The maximum stay is 14 days.

Special camping sites for large groups are available seasonally at Big Creek, Cades Cove, Cataloochee, Cosby, Deep Creek, Elkmont, and Smokemont. Group sites must be reserved. Call 1-877-444-6777 or contact www.recreation.gov. Group sites may be reserved up to one year in advance.

The list below shows number of sites, elevations, daily fees, approximate 2017 operation dates, and maximum RV lengths. Visit www.nps.gov/grsm for current information.

ABRAMS CREEK 16 sites, elev. 1,125', \$14, open May 26-Oct. 9, 12' trailers
BALSAM MOUNTAIN 42 sites, elev. 5,310', \$14, open May 26-Oct. 9, 30' RVs
BIG CREEK 12 sites, elev. 1,700', \$14, open April 14-Oct. 29, tents only
CADES COVE 159 sites, elev. 1,807', \$17-\$20, open year-round, 35'-40' RVs
CATALOOCHEE 27 sites, elev. 2,610', \$20, open April 7-Oct. 29, **reservations required**, 31' RVs
COSBY 157 sites, elev. 2,459', \$14, April 14-Oct. 29, 25' RVs
DEEP CREEK 92 sites, elev. 1,800', \$17, open April 14-Oct. 29, 26' RVs
ELKMONT 220 sites, elev. 2,150', \$17-\$23, open March 10-Nov. 26, 32'-35' RVs
LOOK ROCK *Closed*
SMOKEMONT 142 sites, elev. 2,198', \$17-\$20, open year-round, 35'-40' RVs.

accommodations

Le Conte Lodge (accessible by trail only) provides the only lodging in the park. Call (865) 429-5704.

For information on lodging outside the park:
Bryson City 1-800-867-9246
Cherokee 1-828-788-0034
Fontana 1-800-849-2258
Gatlinburg 1-800-588-1817
Maggie Valley 1-800-624-4431
Pigeon Forge 1-855-716-6199
Sevierville 1-888-889-7415
Townsend 1-800-525-6834

pets in the park

Pets are allowed in frontcountry campgrounds and beside roads as long as they are restrained at all times. Pets are not allowed on park trails, except for the Gatlinburg and Oconaluftee River trails. Dogs on these trails must be leashed.

special events

June 17 Womens Work at Oconaluftee Mountain Farm Museum

September 16 Mountain Life Festival Mountain Farm Museum

facility rentals

PICNIC PAVILLIONS Available at Collins Creek, Cosby, Deep Creek, Greenbrier, Metcalf Bottoms, Twin Creeks. Visit: Recreation.gov
APPALACHIAN CLUBHOUSE AT ELKMONT Day use only. \$250-\$400 Contact: Recreation.gov
SPENCE CABIN AT ELKMONT Day use only. \$150-200 Contact: Recreation.gov

picnic areas

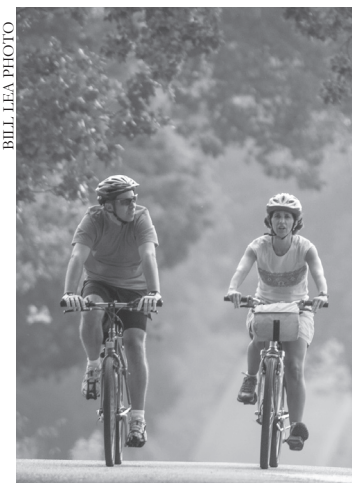
Please see pages 8-9 for locations of picnic areas. All have charcoal grills for cooking. Only charcoal fires are permitted.

visitor centers

Summer hours of operation for park visitor centers are: Sugarlands, 8-7:30; Oconaluftee 8-6; Cades Cove, 9-7:30; Clingmans Dome, 10-6.

other services

There are no gas stations, showers, or restaurants in the national park. Mt. LeConte Lodge is the only lodging. The campstore at Cades Cove Campground offers limited food, souvenirs, and daily bicycle rentals.



BILL LEA PHOTO

Bicyclist- and pedestrian-only mornings in Cades Cove continue until September 27. See details below.

bicycling

Most park roads are too narrow and heavily traveled by automobiles for safe or enjoyable bicycling. However, Cades Cove Loop Road is an exception. This 11-mile, one-way, paved road provides bicyclists with excellent opportunities for viewing wildlife and historic sites.

Helmets are required for persons age 16 and under and are strongly recommended for all bicyclists.

From May 10-Sept. 27, on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from sunrise to 10:00 a.m., only bicycles and pedestrians are allowed on Cades Cove Loop Road. Bicycles may be rented at the Cades Cove Campground store.

park information

for additional information, visit www.nps.gov/grsm

| Gatlinburg, TN elev. 1,462' | | | Mt. Le Conte elev. 6,593' | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----|---------------------------|-----------|-----|---------|
| | AVG. HIGH | LOW | PRECIP. | AVG. HIGH | LOW | PRECIP. |
| Jan. | 49° | 27° | 4.0" | 36° | 18° | 6.7" |
| Feb. | 53° | 28° | 4.1" | 37° | 19° | 5.6" |
| March | 62° | 35° | 5.5" | 44° | 25° | 7.0" |
| April | 71° | 42° | 4.5" | 52° | 31° | 6.7" |
| May | 77° | 50° | 5.7" | 58° | 39° | 8.0" |
| June | 82° | 58° | 5.8" | 64° | 47° | 8.7" |
| July | 85° | 62° | 6.3" | 67° | 50° | 9.0" |
| Aug. | 84° | 61° | 5.3" | 67° | 49° | 7.6" |
| Sept. | 79° | 55° | 4.7" | 62° | 44° | 7.2" |
| Oct. | 70° | 43° | 2.9" | 55° | 35° | 4.7" |
| Nov. | 60° | 34° | 3.4" | 46° | 27° | 6.8" |
| Dec. | 51° | 28° | 4.6" | 38° | 20° | 6.4" |

The above temperature and precipitation averages are based on data for the last 20 years. Temperatures are in degrees fahrenheit. An average of over 84" (7 feet) of precipitation falls on the higher elevations of the Smokies. On Mt. Le Conte, an average of 82.8" of snow falls per year.

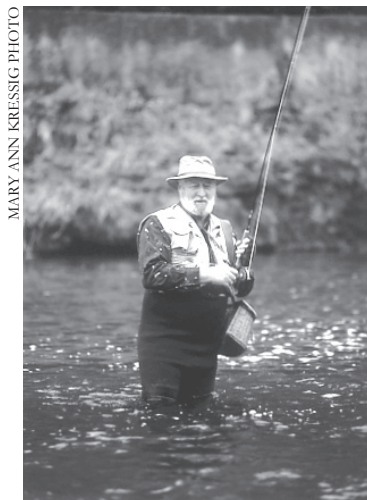
horse riding

Horseback riding is generally available from early March through November. Rates are \$30 per hour. Most stables have maximum rider weight limits of 225 or 250 pounds and age restrictions for children. Please call the stables below or stop at a visitor center for detailed information.

CADES COVE (865) 448-9009
cadescovestables.com
 SMOKEMONT (828) 497-2373
smokemontridingstable.com
 SMOKY MTN (865) 436-5634
smokymountainridingstables.com
 SUGARLANDS (865) 436-3535
sugarlandsriddingstables.com

Hayrides, wagon rides, and carriage rides (\$10-\$14 per person) are available from Cades Cove Riding Stable. Wagon rides (\$10 per person) are offered at Smokemont. Souvenir photos, tee-shirts, hats, soft drinks, and ice may be available.

The Park Service operates horse camps at Cades Cove, Big Creek, Cataloochee, and Round Bottom. Call 877-444-6777 or visit www.Recreation.gov for reservations.



Fishing for brook trout is now allowed in park streams.

fishing

Fishing is permitted year-round in the park, but a Tennessee or North Carolina fishing license is required. Either state license is valid throughout the park and no trout stamp is required. A special permit is required for the Cherokee Reservation and Gatlinburg. Licenses are available in nearby towns. Fishing with bait is prohibited.

A free fishing map with information about park streams and a complete list of all park fishing regulations is available at park visitor centers.

DRIVING DISTANCES & ESTIMATED TIMES

Cherokee, NC to:
 Gatlinburg: 34 miles (1 hour)
 Cades Cove: 57 miles (2 hours)
 Newfound Gap: 18 miles (½ hour)
 Clingmans Dome: 25 miles (¾ hour)
 Cataloochee: 39 miles (1½ hours)
 Deep Creek: 14 miles (½ hour)

Gatlinburg, TN to:
 Cherokee: 34 miles (1 hour)
 Cades Cove: 27 miles (1 hour)
 Newfound Gap: 16 miles (½ hour)
 Clingmans Dome: 23 miles (¾ hour)
 Cataloochee: 65 miles (2 hours)
 Greenbrier Cove: 6 miles (¼ hour)
 Deep Creek: 48 miles (1½ hours)

Townsend, TN to:
 Cades Cove: 9 miles (¼ hour)
 Newfound Gap: 34 miles (1¼ hours)
 Gatlinburg: 22 miles (¾ hour)
 Cherokee: 52 miles (1½ hours)
 Look Rock: 18 miles (½ hour)
 Cataloochee: 87 miles (2¼ hours)



Primitive backcountry shelters like this one at Double Spring Gap are located along the Appalachian Trail and near the summit of Mt. Le Conte. Reservations are required for all campers in the backcountry.

Backcountry Camping in the Smokies

Camping at a backcountry campsite or shelter can be an exciting adventure for persons properly equipped and informed. To facilitate this activity, the National Park Service maintains over 800 miles of trails and more than 100 backcountry campsites and shelters throughout the park. One of the greatest challenges for backcountry campers is deciding where to go. Here are some tools to help.

1. Go online to view the park's official trail map (www.nps.gov/grsm/plan-yourvisit/maps.htm), which shows all park trails, campsites, and shelters. Park rules and regulations are also listed here. If you wish, you can purchase the printed version of the trail map for \$1 by stopping at any park visitor center or calling (865) 436-7318 x226 or shopping online at www.SmokiesInformation.org.
2. Call or stop by the park's backcountry office (open every day from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m). The office is located in Sugarlands Visitor Center, two miles south of Gatlinburg on Newfound Gap Road (U.S.

441). (865) 436-1297.

3. Make your reservation through the backcountry office at Sugarlands Visitor Center (by phone or in person) or online at smokiespermits.nps.gov.

Reservations and permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry. The cost is \$4 per person per night. Reservations may be made up to 30 days in advance.

Rangers will need to rescue over 100 people in the backcountry this year. If you don't want to be one of them:

- **Ditch the sandals.** Sturdy hiking boots are the best way to prevent a lower leg injury.
- **Know when the sun sets.** Many hikes turn into rescues because people get caught out on trails after dark without flashlights or headlamps.
- **Know your limits.** Don't plan a 15-mile hike unless you are in spectacular physical condition and have done such hikes in mountain terrain recently.
- **Prepare for the weather.** These mountains are green because it rains a whole lot here. Always carry rain gear. Stay dry.

national park news

National Park Service News Briefs



Trails Forever Crew Begins Major Makeover of Rainbow Falls Trail

THE VERY POPULAR RAINBOW FALLS Trail to the 75-foot waterfall and Mt. Le Conte is closed Monday-Thursday (excluding holidays) this season to allow the Trails Forever crew to rehabilitate some badly eroded sections. Hikers to Mt. Le Conte should consider alternative trails such as The Boulevard, Brushy Mountain/Trillium Gap, and Alum Cave. The Monday-Thursday trail closures will end for the season on November 16 and then likely resume in May 2018.

Parson Branch Road to Remain Closed

PARSON BRANCH ROAD, the one-way gravel road that exits Cades Cove Loop Road onto Highway 129, is expected to remain closed during the 2017 season. The road is currently unsafe for travel because of the large number of dead and hazardous trees lining the route. As soon as funding permits, park officials hope to remove the trees and reopen the roadway.

Great Smoky Mountains Trails Update

WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED on Ramsey Cascades and Alum Cave trails and they have been permanently reopened. The following trails were damaged by the November, 2016 wildfires and are expected to remain closed at least through the summer: Chimney Tops, Road Prong, Bull Head, and upper Sugarland Mountain. Footlog bridges may be missing on a few other trails; be prepared for potentially challenging stream crossings if you wish to complete these routes. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/grsm.

Field School Celebrates 40 Years In Smokies

FORTY YEARS AGO THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE formed a partnership with Great Smoky Mountains National Park to offer educational programs about the natural world in the park. Today the Smoky Mountain Field School employs college professors and other subject matter experts to lead dozens of programs on everything from bears to salamanders and hiking to photography. Most courses cost only \$79. Find out more about these affordable and fascinating programs at www.outreach.utk.edu/smoky or by calling (865) 974-0150.



The Park Service is preserving the Daisy Town portion of the Elkmont historic district.

Work Underway at Elkmont District

Park crews made significant progress already this year to preserve four structures and remove 29 others at the Elkmont Historic District as specified in the 2009 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the National Park Service and state historic preservation agencies.

The next buildings slated for preservation include the Levi Trentham Cabin, Mayo Cabin, Mayo Servants' Quarters, and Creekmore Cabin in the Daisy Town area. The 29 structures that were removed this spring stood along "Millionaire's Row" and "Society Hill." Although the buildings have been removed, most of the fireplaces and foundations were left to mark the sites of the summer homes. Revegetation will be done at the project's conclusion.

The historic area of early 20th century summer homes is located near Elkmont Campground, which is between Sugarlands Visitor Center and

the Townsend Wye on Little River Road.

"Elkmont has long been recognized as a special place that tells the story of early logging and tourism, while at the same time harboring a rare alluvial forest that supports unique species like the synchronous fireflies," said Superintendent Cassius Cash. "I'm pleased that we have the opportunity to both preserve pieces of the rich cultural history and restore natural habitats."

Park crews plan to complete the stabilization of the four Daisy Town structures by November. Workers will repoint masonry features, replace rotted wood, paint, and make needed repairs to windows, doors, and roofs.

From 1992 through 2008, the park entered into a series of public planning efforts including an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that led to the 2009 MOA and an amendment to the park's

General Management Plan. The EIS defined a full range of possible actions from removal of all buildings to incrementally greater preservation and reuse of the buildings for a variety of purposes with costs estimated between \$1.4 million to over \$30 million.

As specified in the decision documents, 19 structures should be preserved for public visitation, while 55 structures are slated for demolition. Park officials continue to seek funding to complete the needed work.

To date, the Appalachian Clubhouse and Spence Cabin have been fully restored and can be rented for day use activities such as reunions, wedding receptions, and meetings. Visit recreation.gov to make a reservation.

For more information about the Elkmont Historic District Environmental Impact Statement, please visit the park website at www.nps.gov/grsm.

Enjoying Waterfalls

annual rainfall exceeds 85 inches at the higher elevations

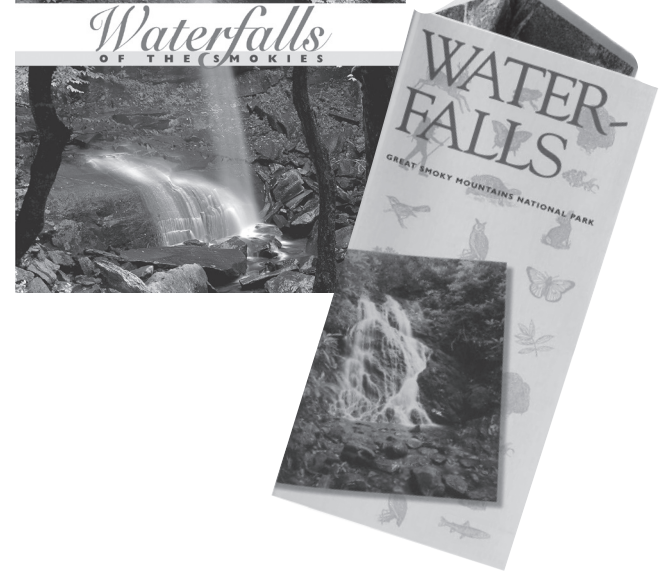


BILL LEA PHOTO



Near Cherokee, NC, a short walk leads to the beauty of Mingo Falls.

Helpful guides to Great Smoky Mountains waterfalls can be found at any of the park's visitor centers.



Waterfalls from the Road

- ① **Place of A Thousand Drips** Sign post #15 on Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail, near Gatlinburg, TN.
- ② **Meigs Falls** 15 miles west of Gatlinburg on Little River Road. Sign post #6, 6 miles east of Townsend, TN.

Waterfall Loop Trail

- ③ **Deep Creek 3-Waterfall Loop** Roundtrip length: 2.4 miles Difficulty: Moderate Starts from the end of Deep Creek Road at Deep Creek trailhead near Bryson City, NC.

Short Walks to Waterfalls

- ④ **Cataract Falls** Roundtrip length: 0.7 mile Difficulty: Easy Starts from Sugarlands Visitor Center near Gatlinburg, TN.
- ⑤ **Mingo Falls** Roundtrip length: 0.4 mile Difficulty: Moderate Starts from Big Cove Road near Cherokee, NC.

- ⑥ **Tom Branch Falls** Roundtrip length: 0.5 mile Difficulty: Easy Starts from the end of Deep Creek Road at Deep Creek trailhead near Bryson City, NC.

Difficult Hikes to Waterfalls

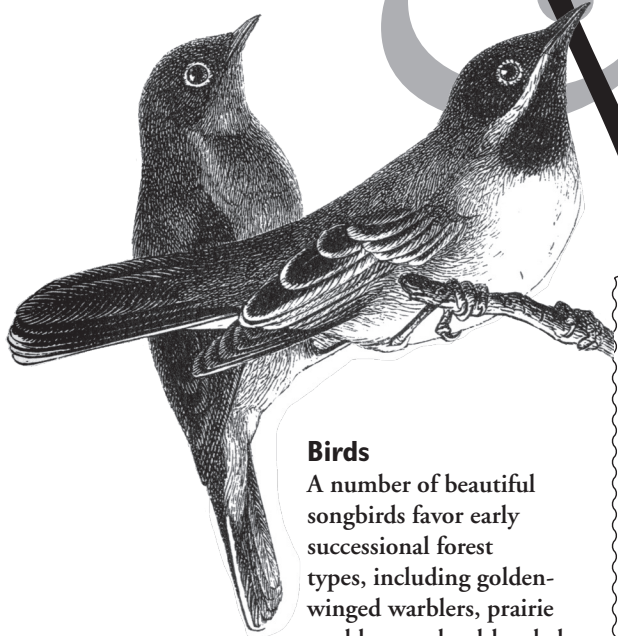
- ⑦ **Ramsey Cascades** Roundtrip length: 8 miles Difficulty: Strenuous Starts from the Greenbrier area of the park 6 miles east of Gatlinburg, TN.
- ⑧ **Rainbow Falls** (Trail open Fridays-Sundays only) Roundtrip length: 5.5 miles Difficulty: Strenuous Starts from Cherokee Orchard Road near Gatlinburg, TN.
- ⑨ **Baskins Creek Falls** Roundtrip length: 3.2 miles Difficulty: Moderate-Strenuous Starts from Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail near Gatlinburg, TN.



WATERFALL FALLS

Several fatalities and innumerable serious injuries have resulted from people climbing on slippery rocks near waterfalls in the Smokies. Keep in mind that medical help is many hours away. Watch children!

Of Wildfire & Wildlife

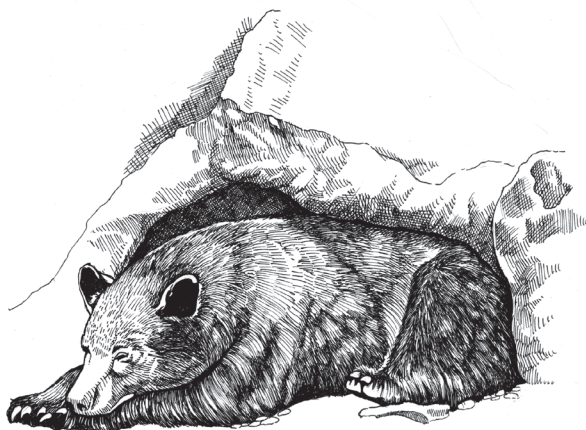


Birds

A number of beautiful songbirds favor early successional forest types, including golden-winged warblers, prairie warblers, and red-headed woodpeckers. All of these species are uncommon in the Smokies because disturbances like large fires are rare in the park's usually soggy environment.

Bears

Black bears will benefit early in the year from the grasses that emerge in burn areas where the duff layer on the forest floor has been reduced or eliminated. Duff, like mulch in your garden, inhibits the growth of new plant life. The native shrubs that produce the blackberries, blueberries, and huckleberries that bears love also get a boost in the post-fire cycle of forest succession.



During late November of 2016, the Chimney Tops 2 fire burned an area of approximately 11,000 acres in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Although the wildfire killed at least two black bears and probably killed small mammals such as chipmunks, squirrels, and mice in the park, the fire's long-term impact on wildlife habitat should be positive.

"Fire creates early successional forest habitat," said wildlife biologist Bill Stiver. "Which is good for elk, deer, bear, turkey, rabbits—and lots of other wildlife."

Disturbances like fire open up the forest canopy and allow energy in the form of sunlight to reach the forest floor. This, along with the nutrients released by the burned vegetation, triggers a surge of growth for plants that are nutritional for wildlife.

"Wildlife flourishes when there is a mosaic of habitats, from old-growth forest to open, early successional zones," Stiver added.



Bats

Most bats have a hard time flying through dense vegetation, so a more open forest makes hunting insects easier.



Pollinating Insects

The burning of the duff layer, a more open forest canopy, and the influx of nitrogen and other nutrients from burned wood should lead to a proliferation of flowering plants. These flowers will attract native bumblebees, butterflies, moths, and other insects that should in turn flourish themselves.



Deer, Elk

Browsers will benefit from the boost to grasses and other herbaceous plants. Root sprouts from burned trees and shrubs also make excellent browse.



Of Forests & Fires

Although only about two percent of the national park's acreage was burned

by last year's historic wildfire, and some of the forest within that two percent burn area was untouched or only lightly impacted, it was still a major fire by Great Smoky Mountains standards. This season, biologists and visitors are eager to discover what happens next. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions concerning the impacts of the late-November 2016 wildfires in the park.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL LEA

Q: What will happen to the trees burned by the fire?

A: In about 8% of the burn area, mostly on south-facing ridges with lots of pine and oak trees, the plant mortality is 100%. These sunny sites were tinder dry from the drought, and the fire, stoked by hurricane-force winds, became an inferno. The duff on the forest floor, which was 4-6" deep, was incinerated, exposing mineral soils. Only about 900 acres in the park were severely impacted in this way.

Even these heavily impacted pine-oak-mountain laurel sites are already rebounding. Fire ecologist Rob Klein said that within three days of the fire, seeds were raining down from burned

Table Mountain pine trees. Since early March, thousands of seedlings have sprouted. Table Mountain pine grows only in the southern Appalachian Mountains, and actually depends on fire to reproduce. Because the duff layer on the forest floor acts like mulch in your garden, impeding new plant growth, the removal of the layer may allow the tiny seeds of orchids and numerous other species to get started as well.

Q: What about the magnificent cove hardwood forests with their huge trees and expanses of spring wildflowers?

A: Most of the moister areas in the burn, like the cove hardwood and northern hardwood forests, received

low- to moderate-intensity fire impacts. Although even some of the largest trees in these rich woodlands may die, their absence will create major gaps in the forest canopy and increase sunlight on the forest floor. Increased energy from sunlight, combined with the greater availability of plant nutrients released from the burned vegetation, has produced a robust wildflower bloom in some areas already this year. Any young trees that survived the fires should get a similar boost.

Q: What about the rhododendron that burned?

A: These evergreen shrubs often grow in damp places, so fires are uncommon in their habitats. The lightly burned

rhododendron has a good chance of re-sprouting, but the severely burned shrubs are unlikely to survive. It will be interesting to see what regrows in these moister sites that experienced such rare, high intensity fire.

Q: What other unknowns are out there?

A: A couple of large heath bald thickets burned on the slopes of Mt. Le Conte. Two of these are visible from Carlos Campbell scenic overlook on Newfound Gap Road. How these nearly-impenetrable evergreen shrub-lands originated has always been a mystery, but one theory is they got their start after severe fire. So scientists will be watching closely to see what grows back now.

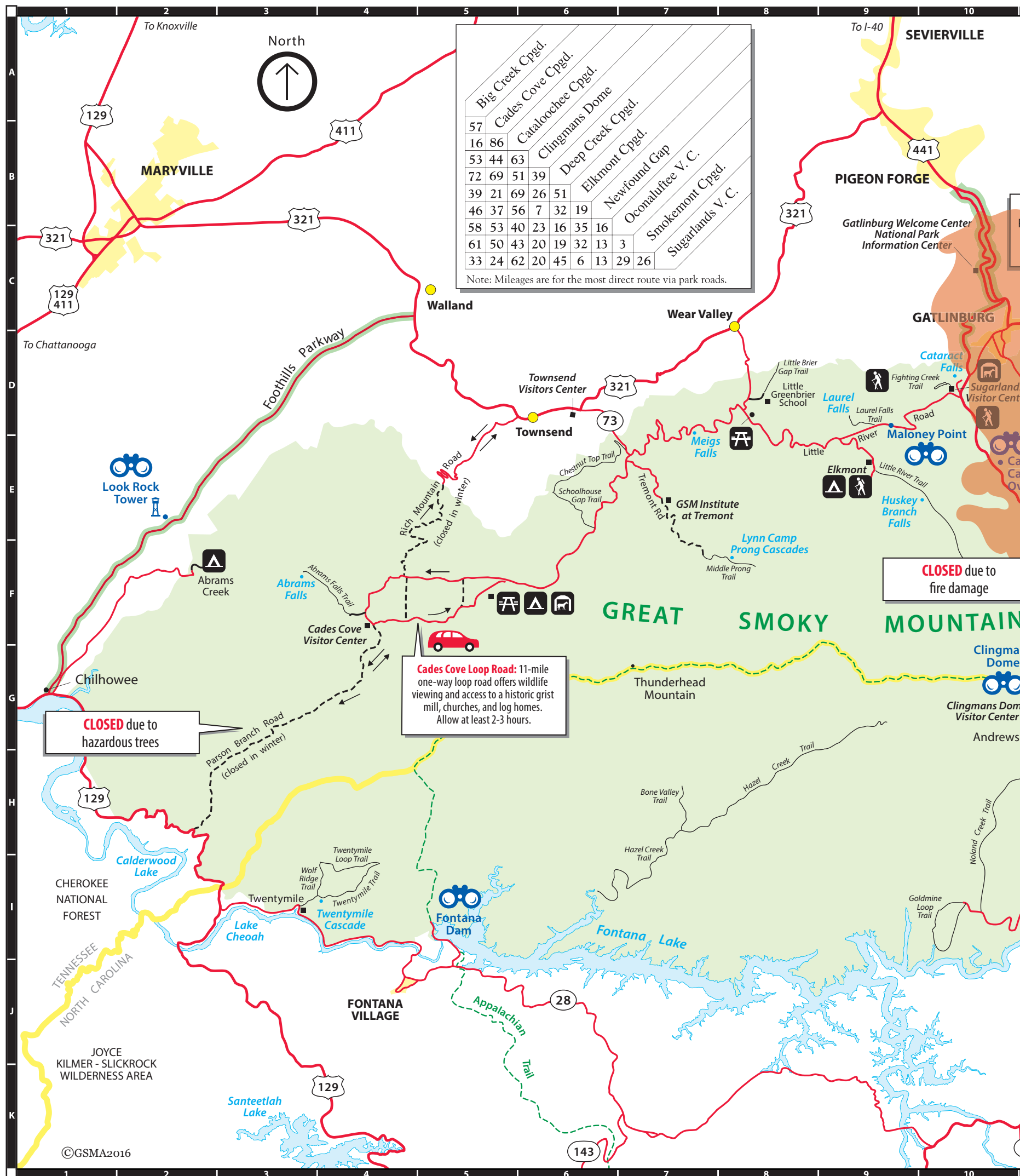
Oak forest also poses a mystery. Though many oaks possess adaptations to fire, ecology studies in the southern Appalachians have shown mixed results regarding the regeneration of oak forests following fires.

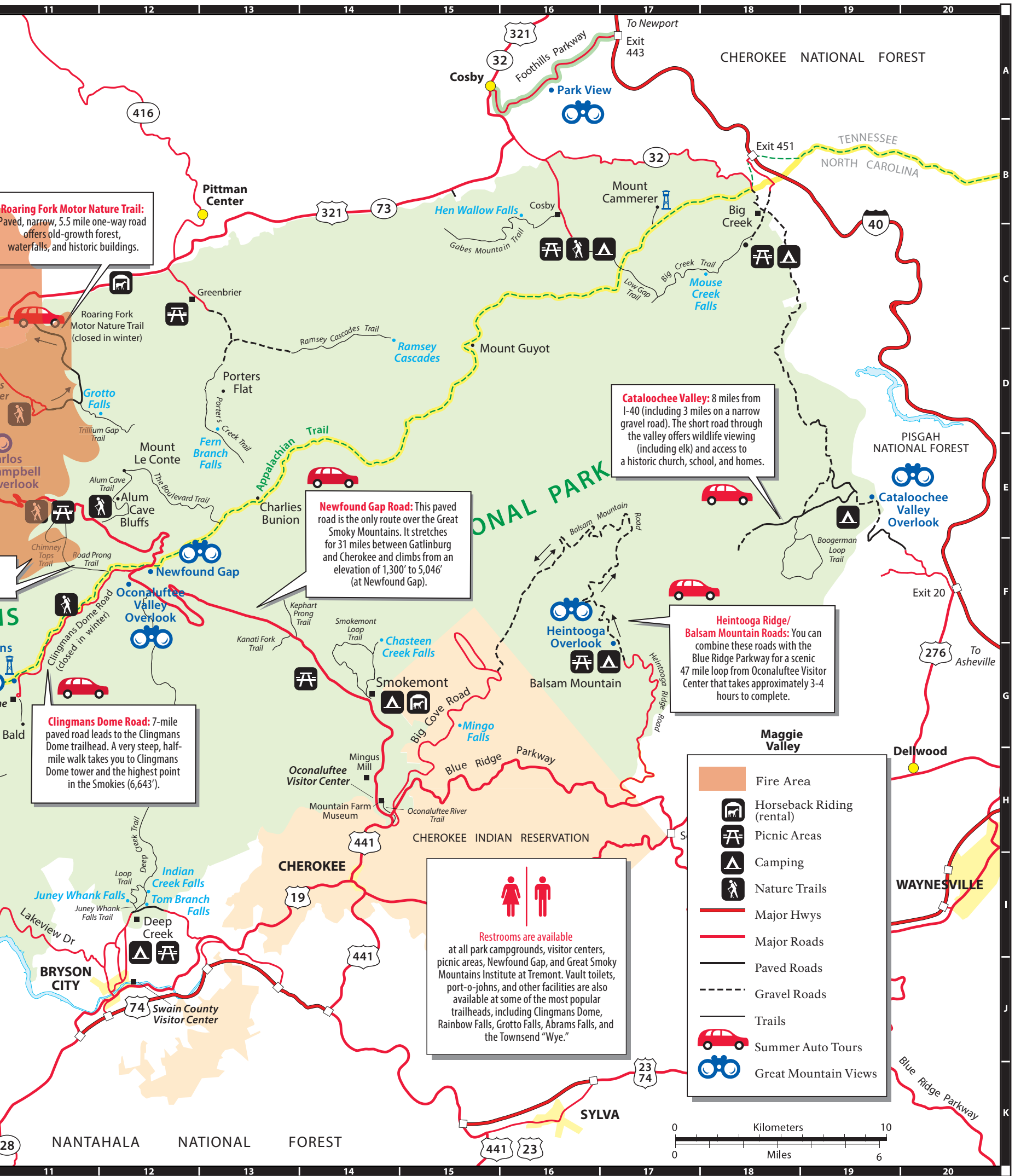
"Where the overstory oak trees have been killed, we don't really know if oak will replace oak or if it will be replaced with species like maple, pine, and blackgum," Klein said.

Forest recovery and wildflower abundance will also depend a great deal on rainfall. If last year's drought continues into 2017, more of the trees impacted by the fires could die and the overall forest recovery could take longer.



GREAT SUMMER DRIVING TOURS AND VIEWS IN THE SMOKIES





Roaring Fork Motor Nature Trail: Paved, narrow, 5.5 mile one-way road offers old-growth forest, waterfalls, and historic buildings.

Newfound Gap Road: This paved road is the only route over the Great Smoky Mountains. It stretches for 31 miles between Gatlinburg and Cherokee and climbs from an elevation of 1,300' to 5,046' (at Newfound Gap).

Cataloochee Valley: 8 miles from I-40 (including 3 miles on a narrow gravel road). The short road through the valley offers wildlife viewing (including elk) and access to a historic church, school, and homes.

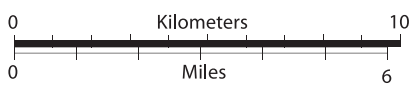
Heintooga Ridge/ Balsam Mountain Roads: You can combine these roads with the Blue Ridge Parkway for a scenic 47 mile loop from Oconaluftee Visitor Center that takes approximately 3-4 hours to complete.

Clingmans Dome Road: 7-mile paved road leads to the Clingmans Dome trailhead. A very steep, half-mile walk takes you to Clingmans Dome tower and the highest point in the Smokies (6,643').

Restrooms are available at all park campgrounds, visitor centers, picnic areas, Newfound Gap, and Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. Vault toilets, port-o-johns, and other facilities are also available at some of the most popular trailheads, including Clingmans Dome, Rainbow Falls, Grotto Falls, Abrams Falls, and the Townsend "Wye."

Maggie Valley

- Fire Area
- Horseback Riding (rental)
- Picnic Areas
- Camping
- Nature Trails
- Major Hwys
- Major Roads
- Paved Roads
- Gravel Roads
- Trails
- Summer Auto Tours
- Great Mountain Views





free, fun things to do

| SUGARLANDS/ELKMONT AREA | WHEN? | MEETING LOCATION | DURATION/DIFFICULTY |
|--|--|---|---|
| Branching Out: The Smokies are home to over 130 species of trees. Explore the dramatic forest and find out what the trees can tell us about their ecosystem. | Sunday 10:00 A.M. | Elkmont Nature Trail | 1.5 hours Easy |
| A Walk in the Woods: Do you have a few minutes? Get away from the hustle and bustle by taking an easy stroll and discover stories of history and nature along this scenic, wooded trail. | Daily 11:00 A.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 1.5 hours Easy |
| Junior Ranger: Geology Rocks!: Amaze your friends with newfound knowledge about how these mountains were born and how they have changed over time. | Sunday 1:00 P.M. | Metcalf Bottoms Picnic Area | 1 hour Easy |
| Old Town of Elkmont: Take an afternoon stroll with a ranger and learn about Elkmont when it was a turn-of-the-century logging boomtown. | Sunday 2:00 P.M. | Elkmont Ranger Station | 2 hours Easy  |
| Junior Ranger: Porch Talk: Did you know that the Smokies is one of the most diverse places in the world? Join a ranger to learn more during this "Ranger's Choice" style program. | Daily 3:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 30 minutes Easy |
| Sugarlands Night Hike: Challenge your senses and experience the mystery of the Smokies after dark. | Sunday 8:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 1 hour Easy  |
| Hike with a Naturalist: Get outside, connect with nature, and explore the Smokies! | Monday, & Wednesday 10:00 A.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 1.5 hours Easy |
| Mosaics of the Landscape: Explore the park's dynamic ecosystems and their resilience in times of change. Join a ranger for a conversation on the ecological and social implications of fire. | Monday & Saturday 10:00 A.M. | Mon.: Cove Mtn. Trailhead Sat.: Gatlinburg Trailhead | 2 hours Easy to Moderate |
| Junior Ranger: Whose Poop is on my Boots? Grab the kids and meet a ranger to get the scoop on animal skins, tracks, and... poop! | Monday & Friday 1:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 45 minutes Easy |
| Slimy Salamanders: Join a ranger to explore the damp, dark world of the park's most popular amphibian. Be prepared to get a little wet and even a little dirty as we search for this slimy creature. Closed toed shoes recommended. Limited to 25 participants. Call (865) 436-1291 up to 4 days in advance to make reservations. | Monday & Wednesday 2:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 1 hour Easy |
| Little River Night Hike: Challenge your senses and experience the mystery of the Smokies after dark. | Monday & Thursday 8:00 P.M. | Little River Trailhead | 1 hour Easy |
| Little River Morning Stroll: Investigate the intricately beautiful world of the Smokies on this easy walk. | Tuesday & Saturday 9:30 A.M. | Little River Trailhead | 2 hours Easy |
| A Resilient Forest: Wildfire is an agent of change. Join a ranger to learn about fire's effect on the landscape. | Tuesday & Friday 10:00 A.M. | Tues.: Noah 'Bud' Ogle Parking Area Fri.: Cove Hardwood Nature Trail | 1.5 hours Easy |
| Junior Ranger: Mountain Medicine Kids: Travel back in time to learn about what mountain kids played with and what natural resources were available to keep them healthy. | Tuesday 1:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 45 minutes Easy |
| Junior Ranger: Pack your Bags: Learn what to pack before you make tracks! Do you know how to set up a campsite? Learn proper food storage, what you need to bring, and where the best places are to camp. | Wednesday 11:00 A.M. | Chimneys Picnic Area | 45 minutes Easy |
| Junior Ranger: Aw Shucks: Come and experience the art of making a simple cornshuck doll while gaining historical insight of the diversity of corn in the region. | Wednesday 1:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 45 minutes Easy |



**PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL PARK—JUNE 17 – AUGUST 13, 2017 ONLY. NO PROGRAMS AUGUST 10.**

| SUGARLANDS/ELKMONT (CONT.) | WHEN? | MEETING LOCATION | DURATION/DIFFICULTY |
|--|---|---|---|
| Junior Ranger: History Detective: Join us as we use detective skills to search for signs of human existence before the park was established. | Thursday 1:00 P.M. | Sugarlands Visitor Center | 45 minutes Easy |
| Talking Tombstones: The Smokies preserves almost 200 cemeteries. Researching a cemetery can be lots of work but very informative and entertaining. Come and experience the stories the tombstones share with us. | Friday 3:00 P.M. | Jakes Creek Trailhead | 45 minutes Easy |
| Evening Campfire: Join a ranger for a National Park tradition—the evening campfire program. Topics vary, but you’re guaranteed to learn something new about the Great Smoky Mountains. | Friday & Saturday Check at Sugarlands Visitor Center or Campground Office | Elkmont Campground | 1 hour Easy |
| METCALF BOTTOMS AREA | | | |
| Junior Ranger: School Days at Little Greenbrier: Go back in time to discover what it was like to live in a mountain community and go to school in a one-room schoolhouse. Fun for all ages, and great for Junior Rangers. Please arrive 15 minutes before program start; space is limited. | Tuesday 11:00 A.M. & 2:00 P.M. | Little Greenbrier School | 1 hour Easy |
| OCONALUFTEE AREA | | | |
| Andrews Bald Hike for Families: Join a ranger on a 3.6 mile round trip hike to the most accessible of the Smokies’ grassy balds to learn more about this unique high elevation feature. Leisurely hike back to the parking lot on your own after reaching the bald. Sturdy footwear, a snack, and water recommended. | Sunday 9:00 A.M. | Forney Ridge Trailhead at Clingmans Dome | 3 hours Moderate (600’ elevation change) |
| Junior Ranger: Slimy Salamanders: Join a ranger to explore the damp, dark world of the park’s most popular amphibian. Be prepared to get a little wet and even a little dirty as we search for this slimy creature. Closed-toed shoes recommended. | Sunday 10:00 A.M. | Mingus Creek Trail | 2 hours Easy |
| Longing for the “Good Ol’ Days”: You’ve heard it before but was it really the “good ol’ days?” Join a ranger for a walk on the Mountain Farm Museum and learn about the “new comers” who settled here and farmed this land. | Sunday 3:00 P.M. | Davis House at the Mountain Farm Museum | 45 minutes Easy  |
| Smokemont Nature Hike: Enjoy a short nature hike and uncover Smokemont’s rich logging history. | Monday 11:00 A.M. | Smokemont Campground Nature Trail Near B Loop | 1 hour Easy to moderate |
| Junior Ranger: Stream Splashers: Roll up your pants and wade through a mountain stream to look for mayflies, stoneflies, dragonflies, and other aquatic critters. | Monday 2:00 P.M. | Oconaluftee River adjacent to Mountain Farm Museum | 2 hours Easy |
| Junior Ranger: Feeding Time! Join park staff as they close the Mountain Farm Museum for the evening. You’ll even be able to help feed the pigs and chickens! | Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday 6:30 P.M. | Entrance to Mountain Farm Museum | 45 minutes Easy  |
| Junior Ranger: Smokemont Night Hike: Ever wonder what goes “grrr” in the night? What creatures are out there moving under the cover of darkness? Take a walk on the dark side with a ranger and learn about some of the mysteries and wonders found only after the sun goes down. Limited to 25 participants. Call (828) 497-1904 up to 4 days in advance to make reservations. | Monday & Saturday 8:45 P.M. starting June 19 | Bradley Fork Trailhead, D-Loop Smokemont Campground | 1 hour Easy |
| Junior Ranger Explorer! Come take an adventure on the Oconaluftee River Trail using fresh eyes and ears. Did you know these are a ranger’s most important tools? You will need to be careful, some of the things we will explore may be smaller than a dime or larger than you. | Tuesday 10:00 A.M. | Oconaluftee River Trailhead | 1 hour Easy |



OCONALUFTEE AREA (CONT.)

WHEN?

MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Junior Ranger: But I Don't Wanna! Ever say that when someone asks you to do something you do not want to do? Rangers would rather hear "Sure, I can do that!" Come learn a little about fire ecology and how fire can be used to help nature...and what you can do to make the ranger smile when you are camping.

Tuesday
1:00 P.M.

Meet at the maple tree below the visitor center porch

1 hour
Easy



Walking with the Passed—Mountain Cemeteries

Hike: Do you know why coins were placed on the eyelids of the deceased? Join a Park Ranger on a 4-mile hike, as we explore two historic cemeteries, examining the mountain culture and traditions surrounding death and burial in Southern Appalachia.

Wednesday
10:00 A.M.

Mingus Mill Parking Lot

2.5 hours
Moderate

Junior Ranger: Porch Program: Join a Ranger on the porch of the Oconaluftee Visitor Center to discover what makes Great Smoky Mountains National Park so special. Topics vary so feel free to come more than once!

Wednesday
11:00 A.M.

Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

45 minutes
Easy



Waxing or Waning—Which one do I want? Is it time for beans or potatoes? Have you ever wondered what it means to plant by the signs, such as the moon? Enjoy insights as to how people of the past...as well as the present, use various signs to plant their gardens.

Wednesday
3:00 P.M.

Davis House at the Mountain Farm Museum

1 hour
Easy



Kephart Prong Hike: Join a ranger to explore the remains of an old logging camp, which later became a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp. Discover what signs are still visible and what life was like.

Thursday
10:00 A.M.

Kephart Prong Trailhead

2 hours
Easy to moderate

Junior Ranger: Cherokee-style Pottery: Step back in time for a hands-on demonstration about one lifeway skill of the Cherokee. Participants will fashion their own piece of pottery in a style used on the Qualla Boundary.

Thursday
11:00 A.M.

Collins Creek Picnic Area

1 hour
Easy



Junior Ranger: Thinking Like a Scientist: Look, listen, and question! Good science always begins with making observations and asking questions. Explore the Oconaluftee River Trail with a park ranger, and practice your science skills.

Thursday
1:30 P.M.

Oconaluftee River Trailhead

1 hour
Easy

Junior Ranger: Mountain Traditions: Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to have lived in the Smokies over 100 years ago, before the national park? Join a ranger to learn about some of the mountain traditions of years past.

Thursday
3:00 P.M.

Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

1 hour
Easy



Junior Ranger: Blacksmithing: Learn a new skill. Be a blacksmith and create your own item to take home. Limited to ages 10-12. Other Junior Ranger programs will be going on simultaneously for younger kids.

Friday
10:00 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
11:00 A.M.
11:30 A.M.

Blacksmith Shop at the Mountain Farm Museum

30 minutes
Easy

Junior Ranger: Batteries Not Included: What kind of toys did kids play with in the "old days?" Join a ranger to discover (or remember!) how kids were entertained before video games and cell phones. You'll be able to take home a "buzz button" of your very own.

Friday
10:00 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
11:00 A.M.
11:30 A.M.

Mountain Farm Museum

30 minutes
Easy



"As papaw use to say"....Southern Sayings: "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater!" Have you ever heard a saying or a phrase and wondered its meaning? Join a ranger at the Mountain Farm Museum to explore the history behind common Southern sayings.

Friday
1:00 P.M.

Davis House Porch at Mountain Farm Museum

45 minutes
Easy



Don't Get Lost: Join park staff and learn the basics of using a compass. You will learn how to use Azimuth readings and line of sight to get you where you want to go. This is a beginner's hour.

Saturday
11:00 A.M. & 2:00 P.M. starting June 24

Oconaluftee River Trailhead

1 hour
Easy



OCONALUFTEE AREA (CONT.)

WHEN?


MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Welcome Home!: After more than a century of absence, the elk have returned. Join a Ranger to hear the story of the return of the largest mammal in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Saturday
4:00 P.M. starting June 24


Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

45 minutes
Easy


What Smokey Didn't Tell You, Wildland Fire Ecology: Not all fire is bad. Wildland fire has shaped the forests throughout our land. Bring your chair, a cup of coffee, and join the conversation with a park ranger to learn how fire benefits the forest.

Saturday
7:00 P.M. starting June 24

Smokemont Campground between C-Loop and D-Loops

1 hour
Easy


CATALOOCHEE AREA

WHEN?


MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Junior Ranger: Smoky Mountain Elk: It's all about connection and balance in nature to ensure survival for elk and other species living together in an ecosystem. Learn about the history of the elk through "show and tell" activities. Then stay and watch the elk come into in the fields!

Sunday
5:30 P.M.

Palmer House in Cataloochee Valley

45 minutes
Easy


Return of the Elk: Come enjoy a guided hike to the elk acclimation pen and explore how, when, and why the elk were returned to the Smokies. Hike is moderate, less than one mile.

Tuesday
at 3:00 P.M. July 4, 11, 18 & August 1, 15, 29


Cataloochee Valley, Rough Fork Trailhead
1.5 hours
Moderate

1.5 hours
Moderate

Cataloochee Elk: Cataloochee is a great place for viewing elk. Learn about the history of the elk through "show and tell" activities. Then stay and watch the elk come into in the fields! Limited to 25 participants. Call (828) 497-1904 up to 4 days in advance to make reservations.

Fridays
at 5:30 P.M. June 9, 23 & July 14, 28
August 11

Palmer House in Cataloochee Valley

45 minutes
Easy


CADES COVE AREA

WHEN?


MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Junior Ranger Program: Join a park ranger for a hands-on exploration of the Smokies. Participation counts towards earning a Junior Ranger badge and certificate.

Sunday, Wednesday, & Thursday
1:00 P.M.


Cades Cove Visitor Center/Cable Mill Area

45 minutes
Easy


WILD by Design
A talk and hands-on demonstration about the wild things in the park.

Sunday, Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday
2:30 P.M.

Cades Cove Visitor Center/Cable Mill Area

30 minutes
Easy


Junior Ranger Program: Blacksmithing: Join a ranger in the blacksmith shop to learn about blacksmithing. Other Junior Ranger programs will be going on simultaneously for younger kids. Closed-toed shoes required. Limited to children 8 – 12 years old with group size limited to 8 per program

Monday
10:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M., 1:00 P.M., & 2:00 P.M.


Cades Cove Visitor Center

45 minutes
Easy

Cades Cove Evening Hayride: Join a ranger for an open evening air hayride viewing wildlife and discovering the diversity of life in the Cove. Hayrides can fill up quickly, first-come, first-serve for this program. Fee: \$14.00/person.

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday
5:00 P.M.

Cades Cove Riding Stables

2 hours
Easy


Precious Memories: Find out how the church influenced the Cove and its residents.

Tuesday & Thursday
11:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M.

Primitive Baptist Church

30 minutes
Easy

Evening Program: Join a park ranger to learn some interesting facts and hear some stories of Cades Cove and the park.

Tuesday
7:30 P.M.


Cades Cove Amphitheater

1 hour
Easy

Cades Cove 'Early Bird' Morning Hayride: Join a park ranger for a morning open air hayride viewing wildlife and discovering the diversity of life in the Cove. Hayrides can fill up quickly. First come, first serve for this program. Fee: \$14.00/person

Thursday
8:00 A.M.

Cades Cove Riding Stables

2 hours
Easy


Cades Cove Night Hike: Join a park ranger for an evening walk discovering the night creatures of the Cove. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a flashlight.

Thursday
9:00 P.M.

Cades Cove Orientation Shelter at the Entrance to the Loop Road

1.5 hours
Easy

CADES COVE AREA (CONT.)

WHEN?

MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Junior Ranger: Stream Splashers: Roll up your pants and wade through a mountain stream searching for aquatic creatures. Be prepared to get wet. Closed toe shoes that can get wet are recommended.

Friday
1:00 P.M.

Cades Cove Visitor Center

45 minutes
Easy
♿

Junior Ranger Program: Animal Olympics: This interactive and fun activity compares your abilities to the animals of the park.

Saturday & Monday
1:00 P.M.

Cades Cove Visitor Center / Cable Mill Area

45 minutes
Easy

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

WHEN?

MEETING LOCATION

DURATION/DIFFICULTY

Sugarlands Science: Join a scientist on the 3rd Friday of the month to learn about and engage in ongoing scientific research happening inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Topics vary each month. June 16 is "Fungus Among Us." July 21 is "Smokies Dragonflies & Damselflies." August 18 is "Snakes of the Smokies."

Friday
June 16, July 21, & August 18
1:00 P.M.

Sugarlands Visitor Center

2 hours
Easy
♿

Shape-Note Singing School: Singing schools in the mountains were scheduled when people were not occupied with their work. Usually held when the "literary" schools were adjourned, singing schools taught the rudiments of music to the general population by the use of shaped notes (also known as Old Harp singing). Come and participate or just listen. Songbooks will be provided.

Sunday
July 16
2:00 P.M.

Little Greenbrier School

2 hours
Easy

Women's Work Festival: Join park staff and volunteers for a glimpse into the past roles that rural women held in the family and community. Come experience the similarities as well as the differences life presented more than a century ago. A variety of demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the day.

Saturday
June 17
10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Mountain Farm Museum

Ongoing
6 hours
Easy
♿

Back Porch Old-Time Music Jam: Bring an acoustic instrument and join in on this old-time jam. Or just sit back and enjoy the sights and sounds as others play traditional Appalachian music.

Saturday
June 3 & 17
July 1 & 15
Aug. 5 & 19
1:00 P.M.

Oconaluftee Visitor Center Porch

2 hours
Easy
♿

Blacksmith Demonstration: Learn the art of blacksmithing and why it was important in the Cades Cove community.

Saturday
May 27, June 17, July 1 & 29, & August 19
Sunday
May 28, June 18, July 2 & 30, & August 20
10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Blacksmith Shop near the Cable Mill area

Ongoing
6 hours
Easy

Old-time Toy Demonstration: See how wooden toys were used back in Cades Cove's earlier days.

Wednesday
June 7 – August 2
11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Cades Cove Visitor Center / Cable Mill Area

Ongoing
5 hours
Easy

Kids 5 - 12:
Become a Junior Ranger!

Pick up a booklet at any park visitor center.
Earn a free badge.

Anyone between the ages 13-130 can now become a **[NOT-SO-JUNIOR] RANGER**

Pick up your card today at Sugarlands, Clingmans Dome, Oconaluftee, or Cades Cove visitor centers! Earn a very cool patch.

if you love the smokies...

help protect this place for ourselves and future generations

become a
member



Since 1953, Great Smoky Mountains

Association has supported the educational, scientific, and historical efforts of the National Park Service through cash donations and in-kind services. In 2017 alone, the association plans to provide more than \$1.3 million in assistance that includes saving hemlock trees, living history demonstrations, environmental education programs, salaries for wildlife personnel, and historic preservation.

Association members receive a number of benefits to keep them informed about special events in the park and issues affecting the Smokies:

- Subscription to the semi-annual, full-color magazine *Smokies Life*
 - Digital access to the award-winning quarterly park newspaper, *Smokies Guide*, and the association's newsletter, *The Bearpaw*
 - A 15-20% discount on books, music, gifts, and other products sold at park visitor centers and at our web store
 - Special GSMA "Hiking 101" outings to Twentymile Loop, Porters Creek, Gregory Bald, Boogerman Trail, Charlies Bunion, cemeteries, and more. All hikes are led by knowledgeable staff who love to share the park with others. Groups are limited to 20 people. Also this year, ask us about "Gear Fest" programs and special gear discounts.
- Join today using the coupon to the right or visit www.SmokiesInformation.org, or call us at 1-888-898-9102 x349. Memberships start at just \$35. per year.

MARY ANN KRESSIG PHOTO



Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the few large national parks without an entrance fee. Most parks now charge \$20 or \$30 per vehicle. Without this supplemental income, it is difficult for the Smokies to adequately protect wildlife, preserve historic areas, and provide educational opportunities. You can help by using some of the money you saved at the entrance to support the park partners that support our park!

field school

An exciting variety of adventures await adults who long to get out and explore the park accompanied by expert guides. Programs are offered by the Smoky Mountain Field School and include Mt. Le Conte overnights, wildlife workshops, edible plants, wildflower photography, animal tracking, bird watching, salamanders, mountain cooking, and more. One-day programs start at as little as \$79. Contact: (865) 974-0150 or smfs.utk.edu

gsmi at tremont

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont provides residential environmental education programs in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Up to 5,000 students and adults annually attend workshops and school programs at the Institute. Tremont's adult workshops include birding, backpacking, environmental education, naturalist weekends, and photography. Contact (865) 448-6709 or www.gsmit.org

summer camps

Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont offers a variety of summer youth camps in the national park. Camps last from 6-11 days and cost from \$589. Fees include meals, lodging, and most equipment.

This year's offerings include: Discovery Camp (ages 9-12), Wilderness Adventure Trek, Girls in Science (ages 12-15), and Teen High Adventure (ages 13-17).

Contact: (865) 448-6709, or www.gsmit.org

support the
friends

Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a nonprofit organization that assists the National Park Service by raising funds and public awareness and providing volunteers for park projects.

Since 1993, Friends has



raised over \$50 million for park projects and programs. These donations help:

- protect elk, bear, brook trout, and other wildlife
- improve trails, campsites, and backcountry shelters
- support educational programs for school children
- improve visitor facilities
- fund special educational services like the park movie
- preserve log cabins and other historic structures

Your donation can help make these projects a reality. Put a few coins or a few dollars in one of the donation boxes located at visitor centers, roadsides, and other locations around the park. Buy the Smokies license plate for your car (available in Tennessee and North Carolina).

However you choose to give, your donation will really help protect the Great Smoky Mountains for many years to come!

Friends of the Smokies
P.O. Box 1660
Kodak, TN 37764
(865) 932-4794
1-800-845-5665
www.friendsofthesmokies.org

GSMA MEMBERS

"Get Rooted in the Smokies"

- Acorn (youth) Membership \$15
- Buckeye Annual Membership \$35
- Chestnut Annual Membership \$100
- Dogwood Membership \$200
- Hemlock Lifetime Membership \$1,000
payable in 5 installments
- Lookout League Business Memberships \$250-\$10,000

SIGN ME UP!

Name(s)* _____

Address _____

Email (for Cub Report) _____

Telephone # _____

Please include your check with this form. Mail to:
GSMA, P.O. Box 130, Gatlinburg, TN 37738

visitor information

for more information, www.nps.gov/grsm

information

General park information:

(865) 436-1200
www.nps.gov/grsm

Backcountry information

(865) 436-1297
smokiespermits.nps.gov

To order maps & guides

(865) 436-7318 x226
www.smokiesinformation.org

emergencies

Listed below are some numbers to call **for emergencies** that arise after hours.

Park Headquarters (865) 436-9171
 Cherokee Police (828) 497-4131
 Gatlinburg Police (865) 436-5181

hospitals

Le Conte/Sevier County
 (865) 446-7000, Middle Creek Rd., Sevierville, TN.
Blount Memorial (865) 983-7211, U.S. 321, Maryville, TN.
Haywood County (828) 456-7311, Waynesville, NC.
Swain County (828) 488-2155, Bryson City, NC.

regulations

Picking or digging plants is prohibited in the park.
 Persons feeding wildlife are subject to a \$5,000 fine.
 Pets are not permitted on most park trails. Only the Gatlinburg and Oconaluftee River trails allow dogs on a leash.

accessibility

Restrooms at all park visitor centers (Cades Cove, Clingmans Dome, Oconaluftee, and Sugarlands) are fully accessible. The Sugarlands Valley all-access nature trail is located on Newfound Gap Road just south of Sugarlands Visitor Center.

