

# National Park Service Department of the Interior

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area  
Obed Wild & Scenic River



## Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

**The 14th Annual Spring Planting celebrates spring and the traditional mountain ways of early life near the Big South Fork.** On Saturday, April 26th, enjoy demonstrations of forgotten arts such as blacksmithing, basket making, hand spinning, weaving, woodcarving, chair caning, soap making, and paling fence making. Plowing and planting with mules takes place at the Lora Blevins Field. The Knoxville Area Dulcimer Club will also perform toe-tapping tunes of traditional mountain music.

**All Campgrounds are Open.** Enjoy fee free camping and backcountry permits on April 19-20 in honor of National Parks Week. Spring camping is the perfect way to enjoy all that's blooming in the park.

**All Aboard!** The Big South Fork Scenic Railway kicks-off the 2014 season with the Redbud Bunny Express on April 5th. Contact the Railway ([www.bsfsry.com](http://www.bsfsry.com)) for more information about this and many other new special events, like the Ice Cream Socials, Banjo Boogie Express, and Moonshine Limited. Don't let the train depart without you on board!

**Park Joins with Gateway Communities to Operate Visitor Centers.** The park is working with the Crossville-Cumberland Chamber of Commerce to operate a new Gateway to the Big South Fork Visitor Center in Crossville which will open soon. This summer, the park will staff visitor information stations in Rugby and in Stearns at our Kentucky Ranger Station.

**Contact the Visitor Centers for information on all the current programs & activities happening in the parks.**

**Bandy Creek Visitor Center**  
**(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:**

[www.nps.gov/biso](http://www.nps.gov/biso)  
Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR

## Obed Wild and Scenic River

**Join us for Memories of the Obed with John Smarsh.** You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear about his early years of subsistence living near Clear Creek between Barnett and Jett Bridges. He went to some of the first picture shows in Harriman and Sunbright and remembers the early settlement of Morgan County by people from eastern European countries

such as the Ukraine. This free program takes place on April 12th at 1 pm in the Obed Visitor Center.



Special guest, Fred Hamby, captivates visitors at last month's Memories of the Obed program.

## Earth Day Celebration in Oak Ridge on April 26th.

Park rangers will have an information booth at the festival as part of our ongoing efforts to encourage more people to come and enjoy all that the Obed has to offer. Please stop by and say hello.

## Celebrate National Parks Week With Us!

- April 19th— Join us for an invigorating and informative hike about the National Park System and its many wonders. (Lilly Bridge Overlook).
- April 19-20th— Camp for free at Rock Creek Campground.
- Sunday, April 27th, children of all ages are invited to the Junior Ranger program at Obed to experience a day in the busy life of a park ranger. After completing the program, children will be sworn in to become junior rangers!

**Obed Visitor Center**  
**(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:**

[www.nps.gov/obed](http://www.nps.gov/obed)  
Twitter@ObedWSR