National Park Service
Department of the Interior

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

March 2018

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

GO BIG Hike With a Ranger on Saturday, March 3 on Twin Arches Loop Trail. Meet at the Twin Arches Loop trailhead at 10 am (ET) for a moderate to strenuous 5.5 mile hike involving ladders and stairs. Twin Arches Loop is also home to the oldest, standing, usable lodge in national parks, Charit Creek Lodge. Order a sack lunch at http://www.ccl-bsf.com/reservations-1-1/ or bring your own to enjoy with the group.

GO BIG Hike With a Ranger on Saturday, March 24 on John Litton Farm Loop Trail. Meet at the Bandy Creek Swimming Pool parking lot at 10 am (ET) for a moderate 6.3 mile hike along the John Litton Farm Loop. We will continue our journey to the John Litton Farm where we will stop for lunch.

Join Us on Saturday, March 24 for a Special Reading Ranger Storytime and Trail Cleanup along the Sheltowee Trace National Recreation Trail to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trail System Act. We'll meet at the Yamacraw Day Use Area parking lot at 10:30 am ET or meet at the McCreary County Library at 10 am ET and follow staff to the Yamacraw Loop Trailhead. This month we will read books about protecting our rivers and waterways.

Spring Means Spring Cleaning so Join Us for the Annual Yamacraw Cleanup on Saturday, March 24. We'll kick things off at 9 am (ET) with a safety meeting at Yamacraw Bridge parking lot on Highway 92 in McCreary County.

Obed Wild & Scenic River

Hike with a Ranger on Saturday, March 10 along the Nemo Section of the Cumberland Trail. The 2.6-mile hike will allow participants to view a scenic confluence of the Obed and Emory Rivers, as well as several different sandstone boulders in the park. Meet at 10 am (ET) at the Nemo Day-Use Area parking lot, located just off of Catoosa Road in Morgan County. The hike should last until noon.

View Night Skies Over the Obed on Saturday, March 17. Dr. Owen Hoffman will be our guest speaker as we enjoy viewing the spring constellations, star clusters and distant galaxies. New Moon conditions will make for optimal dark-sky viewing; with 6 of the top 10 brightest stars prominent in the sky. The program will start at 7:30 pm (ET) and run until 10 pm at Lilly Overlook.

Help Us Do Some (River) Spring Cleaning on Saturday, March 31. Bring your kayaks and join the NPS and Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning as we ride the river and pick up trash along the way. Meet at the Obed Visitor Center at 9 am (ET). Call the Park Visitor Center for more info.

DYK? During the past year our inventorying and monitoring program has recorded two new species of spiders in the park including the yellow garden spider (*Argiope aurantia*) and the goldenrod crab spider (*Misumena vatia*).

Business Opportunity Available at Big South Fork: We are accepting applications from those interested in providing food services at the Blue Heron facility, located at the Blue Heron Mining Community, in Kentucky. The operation has a full size kitchen area with outdoor dining facilities. Information about the permitting process and the business application is available online at https://www.nps.gov/biso/getinvolved/commercial-visitor-services.htm. Applications are due no later than March 31. For more information about this opportunity, contact the park fee manager by email at tish_neal@nps.gov .

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