

National Park Service Department of the Interior

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



March 2020

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

The Big South Fork is Looking for Volunteers to Join the Trail Keeper Program. Trail Keepers a volunteer partnership for people who love the park's trails and want to help take care of them. The program's goal is to provide an extended presence in the backcountry while providing Big South Fork's staff with information on trail conditions. Trail keepers are expected to hike, bike or horse ride their adopted trail at least four times during the calendar year. They also report on overall trail conditions, pick up any trash, and submit a trail report after each visit. Being a trail keeper does not involve heavy trail maintenance or the use of power equipment. To learn more about the Big South Fork Trail Keeper program, email the park's volunteer coordinator at effie_houston@nps.gov or call (423) 569-9778.

Join a Park Ranger at Terry Cemetery Parking Lot for a Strenuous 6-mile Hike Along Beautiful No Business Trail on Saturday, March 7 at 10 am ET. Get ready to visit some great historical sites as we see the remnants of Boyatt Family Farm, Crabtree Farm, Dewey Slaven Place, No Business Hotel, & stop by a few cemeteries where settlers of Big South Fork are laid to rest. Water shoes are needed to cross No Business Creek. Bring water, snacks, and lunch.

DYK? Four New Crustacean Species were Discovered in the Park Last Year. Native species include *Cambarus Cumberlandensis*, *C. distans*, and *C. rusticiformis*. One non-native species was found (*Faxonius rusticus*).



Winter Rains Have Been a Challenge. Once Things Dry Out We'll be Assessing Damage to the Parks.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2020 Big South Fork and Obed Science Meeting for the Cumberland Plateau on Wednesday, April 1. Join us at the Rugby, TN Visitor Center starting at 9:30 am ET as we discuss the latest research findings focused on natural and cultural scientific findings in the parks.

Bandy Creek Visitor Center
(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/biso
<https://Twitter@BigSouthForkNPS>
www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNPS
www.Instagram.com/BigSouthForkNPS

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Join Us for a Ranger-led Naturalist Walk to Appreciate the Intricate World of Lichens on Friday, March 6 at 11 am ET. The moderate 2.5 mile walk on the Lilly Bluff area trails will include a discussion of lichens in the park and provide close-up views of lichens under magnification. Participants should meet at the Lilly Overlook parking area.

Boulder with a Ranger on Saturday, March 14 at 12 pm ET. Join us at Lilly Overlook Picnic Area to learn fundamentals of outdoor bouldering in this hands-on program. We'll include an orientation to the Lilly Boulder Field, a discussion of safety considerations and equipment needed to get started, and opportunities to practice outdoor boulder climbing techniques.

We're Conducting a Trail Run on Saturday, March 21 at 11 am ET. Runners of all levels are welcome to join us on the Cumberland Trail for a round-trip of 5 miles. The run will start at Rock Creek Campground.

Hike with a Ranger on Friday, March 27, at 10 am ET. We'll meet at the Nemo Day-Use area and hike along the Emory River Gorge section of the Cumberland Trail.

We're Hosting a River-based Cleanup on Saturday, March 28 partnering with TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning, East TN Whitewater Club, and TN Scenic Rivers. Paddlers should be proficient in Class III/IV whitewater and must provide their whitewater boat, personal floatation device, helmet & appropriate river attire. Meet at the Obed Visitor Center at 9 am ET.

Obed Visitor Center
(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:
www.nps.gov/obed
<https://Twitter@ObedNPS>
www.facebook.com/ObedNPS
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