

National Park Service Department of the Interior

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



Big South Fork

National River & Recreation Area

Cemetery Assistance Offered on May 16 & 17 for family members who wish to visit cemeteries and do minor clean-up of graves of their relatives. Assistance will be provided to the cemeteries that are hard to access and located inside the park boundary. Transportation will be provided only to those that are physically unable to walk round trip, based on a first-come, first-served basis. Call Effie Houston at (423) 569-9778 by noon on May 13. To learn more about the cemeteries of the Big South Fork, go to <http://www.nps.gov/biso/historyculture/cemeteries.htm>.

First Annual Blue Heron Decoration Day will be on May 16th from noon to 4:30 pm ET. This is an opportunity for visitors and families that once lived and worked in the Stearns Coal Mining communities to join together for an afternoon of food, music, and fellowship. Staff will be available to copy historic photographs of the Big South Fork area. So bring photos of the old home place, family portraits and outings if you would like copies of those photos in the permanent Big South Fork museum collection.

Park Receives Grant to Improve Appaloosa Field. The Knoxville Arabian Horse Club, American Endurance Ride Conference, Southern Endurance Riders Association and the park are joint recipients of a Centennial Challenge Grant. The project will install better road access into the Appaloosa Field which is one of only two fields in the entire park where large groups are permitted to camp or hold special events.

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

www.nps.gov/biso
[Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR](https://twitter.com/BigSouthForkNRR)
www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNRRRA

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Birding walk with Dr. Charles P. Nicholson on Saturday, May 9. Over 160 bird species have been documented in the park, and spring is an excellent time to observe the park's Neotropical migrants. Join Chuck, the author of the definitive book about Tennessee's breeding bird species, at Lilly Bridge at 8 am. Wear sturdy footwear and bring binoculars and drinking water. Attendees will be provided with a birding checklist.



Bear Creek Horse Camp is now on the reservation system....reserve your site today by going online at www.recreation.gov or calling 1-877-444-6777.

Memories of the Obed program will host Bill Harper on Saturday, May 9 at 2 pm ET. William Lyle Harper, long-time Wartburg resident, World War II veteran, and retired Oak Ridge Chemist will spend time sharing memories that will include a glimpse of life in Wartburg during the 1940's, childhood adventures at Potters Falls, school times, experiences during wartime and his professional career as a chemist for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Rock Climbing and Paddling Program for 6th Grade Homeschooled Morgan County Students on Monday, May 18. To sign up, call the park office at (423) 346-6294 or email Chief Ranger Matt Hudson at matt_hudson@nps.gov.

The next Healthy Hike will be Saturday, May 23. Participants should meet at 1 pm ET in the Rock Creek Campground parking area for a Ranger led hike of one mile that will traverse mild to moderate terrain.

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(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:
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[Twitter@ObedWSR](https://twitter.com/ObedWSR)