

National Park Service Department of the Interior

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



April 2019

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

We are Kicking Off National Parks Week on Saturday April 20 with Two Events!

- **Hike with a Ranger along Blue Heron Loop Trail** starts at 10 am ET. Meet at Blue Heron Outdoor Museum parking lot off Hwy 92 & Hwy 742 for a moderate 7.4 mile all day hike that is packed with cultural history about the Blue Heron Mine & community, a climb through “Cracks-in-the-Rocks”, scenic views of Big South Fork River Gorge & Devils Jump Rapid, as well as breathtaking spring wildflowers!
- **Enjoy free backcountry camping or free camping at Alum Ford Campground** that night.

Something for Everyone at the Spring Planting & Music Festival on Saturday April 27.

Guided Bird Walk at 8 am (ET), Kids Fun Run at 9 am, Oscar Blevins 4 mile or 7 mile Trail Run at 10 am (sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Oneida/OscarBlevinsTrailRunsatBigSouthForkNRRRA>), crafts, heritage farm life demonstrations, livestock displays, and music all day long at Bandy Creek area. Crafts and Food vendors will be on site. Bring a folding chair and sit under the big tent for more than 10 different Appalachian musical performances.

DYK? The park completed prescribed burning of 1200 acres in March for forest health and wildlife habitat purposes.

Learn About All the Exciting Science in Your Parks on Wednesday, April 24 at the Rugby Visitor Center in Rugby, TN. The meeting offers an opportunity to learn about the newest scientific developments on the endangered tuxedo darter, citizen science activities, historic railways and other topics in our two Upper Cumberland Plateau national parks. The Harrow Street Café will be open for lunch and lodging is available at www.historicrugby.org.

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

www.nps.gov/biso
[Twitter@BigSouthForkNPS](https://twitter.com/BigSouthForkNPS)
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Come on a Naturalist Walk to Appreciate the Intricate World of Lichens on Friday, April 5 at 10 am (ET) for a moderate 2.5 mile walk on the Lilly Bluff area trails and a discussion of lichens in the park with close-up views of lichens under magnification. Participants should meet at Lilly Overlook parking area located on Ridge Road in Morgan County, TN. Hikers are welcome to bring well-behaved dogs on a leash.



It's Almost Time for Spring Planting.

Join Us for the Next Owl Prowl Program on Friday Evening, April 12 at 8 pm (ET) at Lilly Bluff Overlook parking lot, located off Ridge Road in Morgan County, TN. Be sure to bring flashlights and wear sturdy shoes.

Help Celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 20 and join us for the Annual Obed WSR & Cumberland Trail Clean Up and Volunteer Appreciation Potluck Lunch. Meet at Obed Visitor Center at 8:30 am (ET). Everyone

is invited to return to the VC for lunch. Burgers & drinks will be provided & everyone is welcome to bring a dish to share.

Come Out for a Ranger-led Wildflower Walk on Friday, April 26 at 10 am (ET). Join us for a moderate hike of 5 miles total along the Cumberland Trail section to Alley Ford. We will discuss the local wildflowers in bloom, plant communities, and forest ecology. Participants should meet at the Rock Creek Campground parking area.

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

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