

Tennessee State Parks and Natural Areas

FEBRUARY 2011 EVENTS

www.tnstateparks.com

Events are as accurate as possible but are subject to change. Please call the park to verify.

Tennessee State Parks feature a variety of unique cabins for overnight stays, weekend outings or extended family vacations. Our comfortable accommodations range from our rustic cabins built by the Civilian Conservation Corps to new modern villas. Most are open in the winter also, and make for a cozy winter retreat.

CABINS



RESORT INNS



February

Reelfoot Lake February 4-6 7th Annual Eagle Festival
Have the winter doldrums? Looks for something to lift your spirits? Come to Reelfoot Lake for the 7th annual Eagle Festival. Highlights include guided tours of bald eagles nesting, soaring and locking talons in courtship. Tours are approximately 2-hours, cost \$5.00/person and reservations are required. Additional activities include scavenger hunts, art and photography contest, silent auction, storytelling and vendors. Unable to make it to the festival? Daily eagle tours are offered through the end of February. For more information call (731) 253-2007 for event and lodging. Call (731) 253-9652 for tour reservations.

Red Clay February 5 Trail of Tears 7M
Join the Carpet Capital Running Club for the 17th race of the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour. This is considered an interesting course with one major hill with lots of frogs and cows along the way and plenty of club sandwiches or pizza at the end. For more information contact Judy White at (423) 478-1956 or jcsbwhite@gmail.com.

T.O. Fuller February 5 Guided Trail Hike
Come join us on Saturday, February 5, 2011 at 9:30 am for a guided hike sponsor by the Tennessee Trail Association Memphis Chapter. The Discovery Loop Trail offers diversity in plant/tree species and topography. Bird watchers will enjoy the view of the Ensley Bottom lagoons and the many species of birds in the area. For more information call (901) 543-7581.

Cedars of Lebanon February 12 Cedars Frostbite Half Marathon
This 18th Race in the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour is a popular race in the mid-state, with more than 450 runners in 2010. Sponsored by the Frostbite Running Club. For more information contact Lynda de Paulis (615) 889-1306 or lnrdp@earthlink.net

Roan Mountain February 12 4th Annual Naturalist Rally
Join us for a winter celebration of the Roan Highlands. This one-day event is dedicated to the ecology and beauty of Roan Mountain. Dr. Peter Weigl, internationally acclaimed biologist of Wake Forest University will present a program on the antiquity of the grassy balds of the Roan massif. Learn all about exotic/invasive plants with Lisa Huff of the Tennessee Natural Areas Program. Kids and adults will enjoy the afternoon hikes -themes include animal tracking, geology, photography and ecology. Reservations are required. Please RSVP by February 8. For more information: www.friendsofroanmtn.org/ or call (423) 772-0190.



Tennessee State

Park restaurants are serving up romance this Valentine's Day. Enjoy a candlelit meal, scenic views and that someone special at one of these Tennessee State Park restaurants.

Cumberland Mountain
(931) 484-7186

David Crockett
(931) 762-9541

Fall Creek Falls
(423) 881-5241

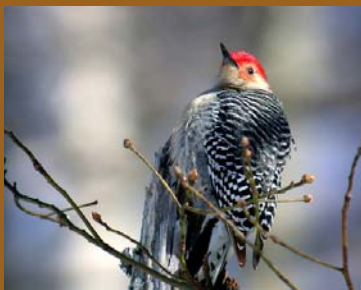
Henry Horton
(931) 364-2222

Montgomery Bell
(615) 797-3101

Natchez Trace
(731) 968-8176

Paris Landing
(731) 642-4311

Pickwick Landing
(731) 689-3135



February 14 Celebrate Valentine's Day at a Tennessee State Park

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a special romantic weekend get-a-way to one of our Resort Inn State Parks: Fall Creek Falls, Henry Horton, Montgomery Bell, Paris Landing, Pickwick Landing or Natchez Trace. Whether you join us for a romantic meal or stay for the weekend, make this Valentine's Day memorable, at a Tennessee State Park.

Bledsoe Creek February 15 Star Gazing Party

Join the Cumberland Astronomical Society and the Friends of Bledsoe Creek State Park for a winter Star Gazing Party. We will meet at the day use area at sunset to learn about the celestial sky. For more information call (615) 452-3706.

Frozen Head State Park February 18 Great Backyard Bird Count

Meet at the Visitor Center at 9am. The ranger will present a slide show about bird conservation and introduce visitors to the Great Backyard Bird Count, a national program designed to give citizens the opportunity to contribute to the knowledge and conservation of the birds around us. Stick around after the slide show to participate in an actual count of the birds at Frozen Head. This is an easy program for the entire family. For more information call (423) 346-3318.

Johnsonville February 19 Johnsonville Charge 5M

Join the Tennessee Valley Road Runners for the 19th race in the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour. This course is flat, fast and deemed to be the easiest of all courses on the Running Tour. For more information contact Michaellee Bowes at (931) 209-0736 or mbowes575@yahoo.com.

Sycamore Shoals February 19 & 20 Militia Muster at Ft. Watauga

Saturday, February 19 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday, February 20 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Visit Fort Watauga and step into a colorful Revolutionary world. Re-enactors portray a variety of characters, from hunters and farmers to land speculators and backcountry gentry. Walk among colonists and native peoples who share their past through talks, mini-dramas, and demonstrations of 18th century life. For more information call (423) 543-5808.

Paris Landing February 26 Camp Hazlewood

Camp Hazlewood at Paris Landing State Park offers a variety of programs and events throughout the year. Have fun learning about nature and improving outdoor recreation skills at these family friendly programs and events. For more information call (731) 642-6276.

10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Bluebird House Construction

Build a bluebird house for your yard and hang it before the spring nesting starts!

11 a.m. - noon

Birds of Prey

Join Tennessee State Parks Regional Interpretative Specialist David Haggard of Reelfoot Lake State Park, as he introduces us to the various birds of prey in Tennessee.

Noon - 1 p.m.

Sack Lunch

Pack your favorite Waste Free Sack Lunch and enjoy lunch in this beautiful natural setting. To learn more about creating Waste Free Lunches call Camp Hazlewood at (1-731-642-6276)



Trails do more than connect one point to another – they are an invitation, a promise of possibilities. Trails range from easy, paved trails to rugged backcountry trails. Some parks have trails designed for cyclists and mountain bikers. Horseback riding is also welcomed at designated state parks, whether you ride for a day, or stay overnight at a wrangler **camp**.



Questions?

Call 1-888-TN-PARKS
ask.tnstateparks@state.tn.us
www.tnstateparks.com

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Worm Farm

Kids of all ages enjoy observing the weird and wiggly world of worms as they go about their amazing daily business. Our Worm Farming Class allows you to see right into the wonderful World of Worms, a world that is usually hidden in the secret depths of the undergrowth, making learning fun! Raising worms is educational and fun and can create great compost! \$5.00 registration fee.

Hiking Highlights

Looking for something different to do this Valentine's Day?

Take a walk – in a Tennessee State Park! Nature's beauty will add food for the soul. The state parks of Tennessee are full of walking opportunities, from easy strolls to rugged ramblings to strenuous hikes. Many trails have scenic viewsheds as well as resting spots along the way.

The Fall Creek Fall State Park's Woodland Trail is the major trail leading from the Nature Center to Fall Creek Falls Overlook. Beginning behind the Nature Center, the trail crosses Cane Creek Cascades by way of a swinging bridge, goes up a set of steps and then on to the Fall Creek Falls Overlook. It does have a few uphill portions along the way but is considered easy.

For those wanting a bit more adventure, the Gorge Overlook Trail is an extension of the Woodland Trail that forms a scenic bypass loop. The trail passes overlooks of Cane Creek Falls, two views of Cane Creek Gulf and Fall Creek Falls and then rejoins the Woodland Trail near Fall Creek. Each overlook is worth the extra walk.

Another great walk would be to stroll through Paris Landing State Park's picnic area which goes along Kentucky Lake/Tennessee River just below the Inn. It is a flat easy walking area just on the roadway and is very peaceful and you will probably see several types of wildlife including waterfowl. From late fall to early spring an abundance of water birds may be seen, including bald eagles nesting near the Kentucky Lake shoreline.

