



DeSoto State Park and park partners like Little River Canyon National Preserve, Jacksonville State University Field School, Little River Arts Council, Seven Pines Survival and more, team up to bring you many fun events throughout the year.

Campfire Talks, Classes, Demonstrations, Guided Interpretive or Fitness Hikes, Tours, Outdoor Adventures, Workshops.....topics covering art, science, nature, and much more!

Most programs are free or charge a small supply fee.

DeSoto State Park also adds community events such as classes, festivals, workshops, local craft shows, etc to our calendar so that we can help our guests and visitors make their visit to Lookout Mountain, Alabama even more memorable.

For more events on Lookout Mountain, see  
[www.discoverlookoutmountain.com](http://www.discoverlookoutmountain.com)



Alabama State Parks, a division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, operates and maintains 22 parks encompassing approximately 48,000 acres of land and water. These parks rely on visitor fees and the support of other partners like local communities to fund the majority of their operations.

### DeSoto State Park's Campfire Talk Series



Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held almost every Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto's James L. Wynn Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. All programs are open & free to everyone. *Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable chair if you wish. In case of bad weather, programs are moved inside.*

### Serious Skills Series

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.



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## August 2019

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### Zipline Aerial Adventures

In DeSoto State Park has partnered with Screaming Eagle Ziplines and Aerial Adventures to offer a sky trail in the trees. Get a bird's eye view of the forest floor below and of the unusual rock formations. Enjoy six ziplines that range from 100 to 350 ft in length and seven sky bridges that range from 50 to 150 in length. A spiral staircase tower begins the trek and allows for a bird's eye view from up to 55 ft in the air. All adventure seekers will have great views and a fun and exhilarating aerial challenge. Make some special memories & enjoy a real adventure!

Must wear a closed toed shoe to participate on the aerial adventure tours.

Date: 7 Days a week

Times: 9:00am, 10:00am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm (Central Time Zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne. Country Store & Information Center- On County Road 89 (DeKalb County)

Fee: \$49.00 (\$53.90 after taxes). Ages 8 to adult. Minimum weight: 50 lbs, Max weights: Girls 250 lbs and under. Guys 285 lbs and under.

For more details, email [info@desotoziplines.com](mailto:info@desotoziplines.com) Call Screaming Eagle for reservations: 256-886-3761

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### Paddle Little River

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your trip can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it. Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Date: August 9-11, 2019

Boat Shack Hours: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST)

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday-call DeSoto Lodge to book- 256.845.5380

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380  
[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **Meandering Moonlight Guided Paddle**

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time! What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems

What to bring: headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Friday, August 16, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes August 15th- call 256.997.5025(leave a voicemail) or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to pre-register. Please indicate number of boats needed and what type.

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## **Yoga on the Mountain-Dusk to Dark Moonlight Class**

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area

Want to end your day in a positive way? Enjoy a yoga class along the banks of Little River, as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time as yoga instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new!

Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: Friday, August 16, 2019

Time: 7:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Fall Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area. If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380

Fee: 10.00 per participant per class. Bring mat/towel & water. Some mats and props available for use. Classes can be booked for groups.

See [www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga) for class dates. For any information, call 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Longleaf Pine Needle Basketry Class**

Learn the basics of pine needle basketry, an old craft with a long history.

Join artist Brittney Hughes to learn the basic steps to making a coiled basket from longleaf pine needles. Each participant will learn the basic skills of pine needle basketry and take home their very own creation.

The art of coiling baskets is universally common to indigenous peoples. Coiling is the technique of creating baskets and art from pine needles and was a part of pre-Columbian Native American crafts. Today, pine needle baskets and art are made primarily for decorative purposes.

All materials (pine needles, thread, and small center for basket) will be furnished. Class is for ages 10 and up.

Date: August 17, 2019

Time: 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CST)

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$25 supply fee- Supply fee due day of class

Pre-registration required by calling or emailing Brittney Hughes (NOT via Facebook); class number is limited to 12. For details and to register, 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Paddle Little River**

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your trip can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it. Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Date: August 16-18, 2019

Boat Shack Hours: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST)

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday-call DeSoto Lodge to book-256.845.5380

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380

[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **Plant Discovery Hike**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join naturalist Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" from Seven Pines Survival for an experiential journey within the forest, taking in every opportunity to learn more about the natural world. On this meandering hike Robert will identify many native plants of the southern Appalachians and will be teaching you how to recognize the natives found in the park. Journey though out DeSoto State Park to see what can be seen along the trail.

Easy to moderate meandering hike. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, the hike may be cancelled. If the weather is questionable, please call ahead to make sure the hike is a go.

Date: Saturday, August 17, 2019

Time: 9:00 am (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on County Road 89 (Porch)

Fee: Free and open to everyone! Have questions? Email Robert at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call 209-559-0040

[www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## **Longleaf Pine Needle Basketry Class**

Learn the basics of pine needle basket coiling, an old craft with a long history.

Join artist Brittney Hughes to learn the basic steps to making a coiled basket from longleaf pine needles. Each participant will learn the basic

skills of pine needle basketry: how to start a coiled basket, basic stitching, how to shape your basket, and how to finishing your basket. Participants will be able to start on a basket and continue it at home, or make a small creation and finish it off.

The art of coiling baskets is universally common to indigenous peoples. Coiling is the technique of creating baskets and art from pine needles and was a part of pre-Columbian Native American crafts. Today, pine needle baskets and art are made primarily for decorative purposes. All materials (pine needles, thread, and small center for basket) will be furnished. Class is for ages 10 to adult.

Date: Sunday, August 18, 2019

Time: 1:00 pm-5:30 pm (Central Time Zone)

Where: Cheaha State Park-Delta, AL. Bigfoot Pavilion close to tower

Fee: \$25.00 supply fee. Pre-registration REQUIRED; class number is limited to 12.

For details or to pre-register, call 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Serious Skills Series: Making Wild Teas**

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.

Join Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" from Seven Pines Survival for a class on teas made from different types of wild plants that can be harvested throughout the year. These teas will range from pleasant teas, to the more medicinal type teas. Robert will go over what plants the teas are made from, safe gathering practices, how to prepare the teas, and what they are useful for.

Date: Sunday, August 18, 2019

Time: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store & Information Center

Fee: \$10.00 per person. Pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

About Robert: [sevenpinesurvival.com](http://sevenpinesurvival.com)

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## **Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In**

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200 classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October. There is a kid zone in the City Park, music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and great food vendors.

Date: August 17, 2019

Time: 5:00-8:30 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. Info: [www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/](https://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/)

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## **Paddle Little River**

DeSoto State Park-Alabama



Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River. Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your trip can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it. Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Date: August 23-25, 2019

Boat Shack Hours: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST)

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday-call DeSoto Lodge to book-256.845.5380

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380

[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Orienteering 101

Little River Canyon National Preserve

Need some fun family time? Come join Robert Wilson of Seven Pines Survival and JSU Field School Staff for the day as we teach you and your family some of the skills needed for orienteering. Orienteering is a sport that requires navigational skills using a compass and a map to navigate from point to point in diverse and usually unfamiliar terrain whilst moving at a fast pace. In this class, we will focus on map and compass skills. Learn skills such as how to use a compass, pace counting, navigation, and more!

What to bring: water bottle, snacks/lunch, notebook, pencil. What to wear: pants and closed toed shoes are recommended, a hat if desired, and bug repellent/sunscreen.

Date: Saturday, August 24, 2019

Time: 9 am-3 pm CST

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$20 Space is limited! For more information or to register, please contact Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or 209-559-0040



## Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning-Southern Mason Jar

Hosted by DeSoto State Park

The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests, and park visitors. Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning and painting designs from artist April Blanks, and will work on an 8x10 piece featuring a mason jar with cotton bolls. This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: Saturday August 31, 2019

Time: 9:00 am-12:00 noon

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Workshop space is limited to 10, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Call 256.997.5025 or email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

Examples of April's work:

[www.facebook.com/april.blanks.3/media\\_set?set=a.890856767625243&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/april.blanks.3/media_set?set=a.890856767625243&type=3)

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## **Series Skills Series: Basketry & Chair Caning Demonstration**

Explore the beauty of basketry – one of the oldest and most varied art forms in the world. DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes will demonstrate and have examples of coiling, twining and plaiting using materials like Longleaf Pine needles, natural threads, reed, and White Oak splints. She will also demo chair caning with reed, weaving the herringbone pattern on a Civilian Conservation Corps-built chair. Come by anytime

(Please note: demo may be postponed due to wet conditions)

Date: Saturday, August 31, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

Fee: Free, come by anytime. For any information, call 256.997.5025 or email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Series Skills Series: Stained Glass Mosaics Demonstration**

Learn the beautiful and ancient art of mosaics! Artist Linda Munoz will demonstrate and share the design, techniques, and the skills of class cutting, gluing, and grouting. She will have examples of her finished and unfinished works of art on display. Stop by anytime!

See beautiful mosaic examples from Linda Munoz: [www.littleriverart.com](http://www.littleriverart.com)

(Please note: demo may be postponed due to wet conditions)

Date: Saturday, August 31, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

Fee: Free, come by anytime. For any information, call 256.997.5025 or email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Bowdrill Basics**

Little River Canyon National Preserve

The bow drill is a "simple" tool used to ignite a small piece of dried tinder to start a fire. Don't be fooled though, this class takes patience, persistence, and the eagerness to learn. Survivalist Robert Wilson of Seven Pines Survival will teach you all about the bow drill. Everything you will need to make your very first Bow Drill set will be provided. This class will include all the information you need to succeed. Not only will you learn how to make a Bow drill, but knife safety and how to properly use a knife will be included as well. This class starts at 9 am and ends when you succeed!

What to bring: Water bottle, notebook and pencil, camera

Date: Saturday, August 31, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$40 per student. Pre-registration is required. Contact Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or 209-559-0040 for more information or to register.

Class Size: Limited to 5 participants (class is for adults, but you are welcome to bring your mini me)

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## **Paddle Little River**

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River. Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your trip can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it. Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.  
Date: August 30th-September 1st, 2019  
Boat Shack Hours: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST)  
Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday-call DeSoto Lodge to book-256.845.5380  
Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park. Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668  
Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380  
[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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# September 2019

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## Outdoor Classroom

With Seven Pines Survival

All ages and for the whole family, this is an outdoor adventure with learning, exploration, skills, and good fun outside. You can expect spending the day outside participating with nature and getting a chance to learn from the natural world and what it has to teach. You will learn hands-on skills to help you understand and inhabit the natural world around you. Meet other families with the same interests, share skills and stories, children will get to make new friends, learn important social skills, play outside, play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

This event is organized by Seven Pines Survival with your teacher Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" which has been teaching outdoor, hands on and environmentally friendly educational skills to kids and families since 2014. Our practice with outdoor education and hands on teaching have led to a good partnership with multiple State Parks, Youth Organizations, schools, and other non-profits.

Date: September 4, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.

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## Plant Discovery Hike

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join naturalist Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" from Seven Pines Survival for an experiential journey within the forest, taking in every opportunity to learn more about the natural world. On this meandering hike Robert will identify many native plants of the southern Appalachians and will be teaching you how to recognize the



natives found in the park. Journey though out DeSoto State Park to see what can be seen along the trail.

Easy to moderate meandering hike. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, the hike may be cancelled. If the weather is questionable, please call ahead to make sure the hike is a go.

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

Time: 9:00 am (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on County Road 89 (Porch)

Fee: Free and open to everyone! Have questions? Email Robert at

sps@sevenpinessurvival.com or Call 209-559-0040

[www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## **The Linger Longer Pop-Up Art Series: Taylor Allison Blacksmithing**

Little River Arts Council will showcase a local artist the first Saturday morning of each month at the Mentone Inn pavilion from May through October. Artists will be at the pavilion with art demonstrations and work for sale from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., but they are welcome to "linger longer" if they so choose.

About Taylor: [www.instagram.com/taylorblakeblacksmithing](https://www.instagram.com/taylorblakeblacksmithing)

Date: September 7, 2019

Time: 10:00-1:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! For any details, email: [info@littleriverartscouncil.org](mailto:info@littleriverartscouncil.org)

[www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

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## **MUSIC FOR THE PEOPLE Summer Music Series:**

Microwave Dave and the Nukes

Sponsored by Little River Arts Council, made possible in part by the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

This heritage blues band from Huntsville has been performing for 30 years in multinational venues varying from French soccer stadiums to neighborhood saloons to events such as Daytona Bike Week. Their accomplishments in performing, writing, and preserving blues music led them to receive the Blues Achievement Award in 2001 from the Alabama Blues Society. They've released six albums, all to high acclaim, and are certain to end this summer's concert series on a high note.

Date: September 7, 2019

Times: 7:00-10:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! For any details, email: [info@littleriverartscouncil.org](mailto:info@littleriverartscouncil.org)

[www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

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## **Serious Skills Series: Pine Tar Making Workshop**

*Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.*

Join Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" from Seven Pines Survival for a class on making your own Pine Tar. This is a hands-on class teaching everyone how to dry distill pine wood to extract pine tar. This is a all-day class we will gather the material from the landscape and refine it down to a tar that is commonly used in many of SPS herbal

recipes and has a lot of great uses. Expect to be walking in the woods look and gathering natural resources, making a fire, and extracting the final product.

Date: Sunday, September 8, 2019

Time: 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store & Information Center

Fee: \$20.00 per person. Pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to sign up or for more info.

About Seven Pine Survival [www.sevenpinesurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinesurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## Bowdrill Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Survivalist Robert Wilson of Seven Pines Survival will teach participants about the Bowdrill, which is an ancient tool for making fire. The bow rotates the drill, and the friction produces enough heat to start a fire. Everything you will need to make your very first Bowdrill set will be provided, including all the information you need to succeed. Don't be fooled, this class takes patience, persistence, and the eagerness to learn. Not only will you learn how to make a Bowdrill, but knife safety and how to properly use a knife as well. This class starts at 9 and ends when you succeed!

What to bring: Water bottle, notebook and pencil, camera

Date: Saturday September 14, 2019

Time: 9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet in front of the DeSoto State Park Lodge

Fee: \$40 per student. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 5 participants. Have questions? Email Robert at [sps@sevenpinesurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinesurvival.com) or Call 209-559-0040

[www.sevenpinesurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinesurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## Meandering Moonlight Guided Paddle

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems

What to bring: headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Saturday, September 14, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes September 13th- call 256.997.5025(leave a voicemail) or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to pre-register. Please indicate number of boats needed and what type.

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## Outdoor Classroom

With Seven Pines Survival

All ages and for the whole family, this is an outdoor adventure with learning, exploration, skills, and good fun outside. You can expect spending the day outside participating with nature and getting a chance to learn from the natural world and what it has to teach. You will learn hands-on skills to help you understand and inhabit the natural world around you. Meet other families with the same interests, share skills and

stories, children will get to make new friends, learn important social skills, play outside, play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

This event is organized by Seven Pines Survival with your teacher Robert Wilson “The Traveling Herbalist” which has been teaching outdoor, hands on and environmentally friendly educational skills to kids and families since 2014. Our practice with outdoor education and hands on teaching have led to a good partnership with multiple State Parks, Youth Organizations, schools, and other non-profits.

Date: September 18, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.

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## **Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In**

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200 classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October. There is a kid zone in the City Park, music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and great food vendors.

Date: September 21, 2019

Time: 5:00-8:30 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. Info: [www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/](http://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/)

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## **Guided Backpacking Trip for Beginners**

In DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Have you always wanted to get into backpacking? Here is a great way to start!

Learn all you need to know so that you can head out on your own outdoor adventure! A early Fall backpacking class, and a great class for beginners/intermediate.

Topics to learn: backpacking essentials, camping items to choose and use, fire building, cooking, etiquettes, pitching and striking camp, setting up a tent or hammock, and more! Hiking is moderate, about a mile one-way to backpacking campsite. Sign up for this fun trip soon!

Date: September 28th-29th 2019 (1-night trip)

Time: check in 9 AM on 28th; check out the morning of September 29th

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Nature Center, next to the Country Store on County Road 89.

Cost: \$85.00 per person– includes all food & supplies.

Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited. Have questions? Call 209-559-0040 or Email Robert Wilson (seven Pines Survival) for more details:

[sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com)

About Seven Pine Survival [www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## Outdoor Classroom

With Seven Pines Survival

All ages and for the whole family, this is an outdoor adventure with learning, exploration, skills, and good fun outside. You can expect spending the day outside participating with nature and getting a chance to learn from the natural world and what it has to teach. You will learn hands-on skills to help you understand and inhabit the natural world around you. Meet other families with the same interests, share skills and stories, children will get to make new friends, learn important social skills, play outside, play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

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Date: October 1, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.

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## Plant Discovery Hike

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join naturalist Robert Wilson “The Traveling Herbalist” from Seven Pines Survival for an experiential journey within the forest, taking in every opportunity to learn more about the natural world. On this meandering hike Robert will identify many native plants of the southern Appalachians and will be teaching you how to recognize the natives found in the park. Journey through out DeSoto State Park to see what can be seen along the trail.

Easy to moderate meandering hike. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, the hike may be cancelled. If the weather is questionable, please call ahead to make sure the hike is a go.

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2019

Time: 9:00 am (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto’s Country Store on County Road 89 (Porch)

Fee: Free and open to everyone! Have questions? Email Robert at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call 209-559-0040  
[www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## 8th Annual Canyon Half Marathon

The Little River Canyon Center will host its eighth annual “Little River Half Marathon.” This certified 13.1 mile course follows the rim of the canyon before winding its way through the area’s beautiful farm country. The half marathon will feature water stations, music, ample law enforcement, shirts, trophies, finishing metals, and much more.

Proceeds go to outdoor education programs and local conservation efforts at Little River Canyon National Preserve.

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2019

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Time: 8:00 am (CST)

Fee: pre-registration required; Info: [www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/little-river-canyon-half-marathon.html](http://www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/little-river-canyon-half-marathon.html)

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## Serious Skills Series: Making Outdoor Lotion

*Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.*

Join Robert Wilson "The Traveling Herbalist" from Seven Pines Survival for a class on making your own outdoor lotion to help protect you from the sun, insects, and poison ivy made from different types of wild plants that can be harvested throughout the year. We will go over the plants, how to harvest them ethically, what they are used for, and how to process them to add to our lotion. You will get to take home some for yourself and learn how to make this for yourself or to sell to others.

Date: Sunday, October 6, 2019

Time: 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store & Information Center

Fee: \$20.00 per person. Pre-registration is required. Call 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

About Seven Pine Survival [www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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## Campfire Talk: Traditional Southern Cooking

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors!

*Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (May – October) in DeSoto State Park.*

There's just something about Southern food. As cliché as it may sound, there's an innate sense of character and soul to it. Authentic Southern cooking is as diverse and multicultural as the regions in the South and the families who live there. Southern cooks have always creatively drawn upon the mix of cultures that compose the South, starting with Native Americans, Europeans and Africans.

Come help food enthusiast (he likes to eat) Dr. Kelly Gregg in an exploration of the "Where?", "When?", "Who?" and "What?" of Southern Cooking. Bring your ideas and opinions and together we'll have some fun talking about what makes "real" Southern Food.

Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: Friday, October 11, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, next to campsite 93. Gate will open 30 minutes before program starts. (Held in nature center in case of inclement weather)

Fee: Free to the Public; Great for all ages! For details, 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Campfire Talk: Corn~A truly a-maizing Plant!

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evenings (May –October) in DeSoto State Park. Join geographer Kelly Gregg in a casual discussion of the origins of Native American corn, how it shaped American culture and cuisine, and how it went on to help feed the world!” Free & open to the public, bring the family along for fresh popcorn! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: October 12, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park’s Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (next to site 93, gate will open to the public)

(In case of inclement weather will be located in Nature Center)

Call 256.997.5025 OR email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for details.

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## **Dog Daze**

Little River Canyon Center-Fort Payne, Alabama

Bring your dogs and human family to this event where the Canyon Center staff features dog games, and presentations on all topics canine such as dog adoption, dog advocacy, service dogs, and much more! More details to come!

Date: Saturday, October 12, 2019

Time: 11:00-3:00 pm

Where: JSU’s Little River Canyon Center (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: Free; call 256-845-3548 for more details/schedule (Niki Wayner)

[www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## **Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking Demo**

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.

Dutch ovens have been in use for hundreds of years; especially when our country was expanding and families were on the move. Unable to bring their large cook stoves with them, women learned how to cook entire meals from stews & soups to bread & desserts, in their Dutch ovens. Learn the basics about Dutch ovens, how to clean & care for your cookware, AND cook (& eat!) dinner & dessert at the same time!

Starts around 4:00 p.m, located at the DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. This is a demonstration, so the best part is when food is just coming off the fire!

Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. Drop in whenever you like & check out the food!

Date: October 12, 2019

Time: 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will open to the public)

Fee: Free & open to everyone; Great for all ages!

Call 256.997.5025 for email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for details.

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## **Women’s Guided Backpacking Trip for Beginners**

In DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Have you ever wanted to get into backpacking, but you were not sure where to start? If so, this trip has everything you need to get started-learn all you need to know so that you can head out on your own outdoor adventure! A Fall backpacking class just for women, and a great class for beginners/intermediate.



This class will center around teaching participants the basic skills need to backpack. This includes pitching and striking camp, fire craft, water processing, proper camping etiquettes, food & bear safety, and map reading basics. There are different sleeping options to try: tent, hammock, or shelter. Instructor will also demonstrate making your own backpacking food and cooking on the camp fire.

Hiking is moderate, about 4 1/2 miles round trip. Sign up for this fun trip soon!

Date: October 12th & 13th 2019 (1-night trip)

Time: check in 9 AM on 12th; check out the morning of October 13th

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Nature Center, next to the Country Store on County Road 89.

Cost: \$85.00 per person– includes all food & supplies.

Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited. Have questions? Call 209-559-0040 or Email Robert Wilson (Seven Pines Survival) for more details:

sps@sevenpinessurvival.com

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## Meandering Moonlight Guided Paddle

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems

What to bring: headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Sunday, October 13, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes October 11th. call 256.997.5025(leave a voicemail) or email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov to pre-register. Please indicate number of boats needed and what type.

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## Outdoor Classroom

With Seven Pines Survival

All ages and for the whole family, this is an outdoor adventure with learning, exploration, skills, and good fun outside. You can expect spending the day outside participating with nature and getting a chance to learn from the natural world and what it has to teach. You will learn hands-on skills to help you understand and inhabit the natural world around you. Meet other families with the same interests, share skills and stories, children will get to make new friends, learn important social skills, play outside, play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

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Date: October 15, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.

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## **The Linger Longer Pop-Up Art Series: Eugenia Johnston Watercolor**

Little River Arts Council will showcase a local artist at the Mentone Inn pavilion from May through October. Artists will be at the pavilion with art demonstrations and work for sale from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., but they are welcome to “linger longer” if they so choose.

About Eugenia: [www.facebook.com/eugenia.johnston.art](http://www.facebook.com/eugenia.johnston.art)

Date: October 19, 2019

Time: 10:00-1:00 pm

Where: Linger Longer Pavilion-Behind Mentone Inn in Mentone, AL (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) Address: 6139 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: Free & open to everyone! For any details, email: [info@littleriverartscouncil.org](mailto:info@littleriverartscouncil.org)  
[www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

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## **ColorFest 2019**

Mentone, Alabama

Savor North Alabama's autumn beauty and enjoy arts and crafts, food, live music and more! Mentone has been a mountain getaway for tourists since the 1800s. In October, bright sunshine and clear mountain air makes Mentone a good base to see the fall colors surrounding these natural treasures. There are many other places and things to do, including visiting the local stores and eateries. On Saturday and Sunday, Brow Park & the site of the old Mentone Springs Hotel will be filled with artists and craft makers offering their handmade creations. Admission is free.

Dates: Saturday, October 19-20th, 2019

Where: Mentone, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For details, see [www.facebook.com/MentoneAlabamaFestivals](http://www.facebook.com/MentoneAlabamaFestivals)

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## **Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In**

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200 classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October. There is a kid zone in the City Park, music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and great food vendors.

Date: October 19, 2019

Time: 5:00-8:30 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. Info: [www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/](http://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/)

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## **Spookapalooza! in DeSoto State Park**

Treats, Fun, & Games!

Join the staff and volunteers of Alabama State Parks, JSU Field Schools, & the National Park Service for a weekend of fun events guaranteed to run shivers up and down your spine! Trick or treating, live animals, storytelling, and more are in store during this popular annual event. Grab your favorite costume, bring the family, and come stay with us!

All events are free to the public & great for all ages! More details to come.

Date: October 25th- 26th, 2019 (Halloween Weekend)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

Call 256.997.5025 or see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Spookapalooza) for complete details.

## Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest

DeSoto State Park is glad to host the 8th Annual Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest! Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativeness, neatness, and originality. Entries can have any theme or design, i.e., Halloween, nature, fall season, etc. All ages may enter contest.

Date: Entries must be turned in no later than 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 26th to be judged. Turn in at the Nature Center, next to the Country Store. Winners will be announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 26th

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama.

All entries will be on display during DSP's Spookapalooza festivities.

Entries may be picked up at the DSP Country Store on Sunday, October 27th

Fee: Free and Open to all ages. Call 256.997.5025 for details

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# November 2019

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## Little River Quilt of Color Paddle

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided flatwater paddle on scenic Little River, all while surrounded by changing colors of fall foliage. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. The leaves will be turning, and this particular weekend in Autumn should be spectacular with color.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems.

What to bring: Headlamp or flashlight, weather appropriate clothing, camera, snacks, drinking water etc.

Dates: Friday, November 1, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm-5:30 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes October 30th. Call 256.997.5025 (leave a voicemail) or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to pre-register. Please leave a phone number, indicate number of boats and what type requested.

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## Little River Quilt of Color Paddle

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided flatwater paddle on scenic Little River, all while surrounded by changing colors of fall foliage. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. The leaves will be turning, and this particular weekend in Autumn should be spectacular with color.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems.

What to bring: Headlamp or flashlight, weather appropriate clothing, camera, snacks, drinking water etc.

Dates: Saturday, November 2, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm-5:30 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes October 30th. Call 256.997.5025 (leave a voicemail) or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to pre-register. Please leave a phone number, indicate number of boats and what type requested.

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## Canyon Fest 11th Annual

Join JSU's Little River Canyon Center for this 11th annual celebration of nature! Enjoy live music, nature & arts activities, nature & arts demonstrations, great food, vendors, children's activities & fun at this festival designed to celebrate our natural world.

Date: Saturday, November 2, 2019

Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, AL (10 miles from DeSoto State Park)

Fee: No Fee; Donations welcome Call 256-782-5697 or email [fieldschool@jsu.edu](mailto:fieldschool@jsu.edu) for more details.

[www.facebook.com/Little-River-Canyon-Center](https://www.facebook.com/Little-River-Canyon-Center)

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## Little River Quilt of Color Paddle

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided flatwater paddle on scenic Little River, all while surrounded by changing colors of fall foliage. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. The leaves will be turning, and this particular weekend in Autumn should be spectacular with color.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Groups are small and intimate and range from 2 to 10 participants. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems.

What to bring: Headlamp or flashlight, weather appropriate clothing, camera, snacks, drinking water etc.

Dates: Sunday, November 3, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm-5:30 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$25.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis)

Pre-registration closes October 30th. Call 256.997.5025 (leave a voicemail) or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to pre-register. Please leave a phone number, indicate number of boats and what type requested.

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play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

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Date: November 6, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.

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## **Creative Spirit Market**

Hosted by Little River Arts Council & DeSoto State Park

Adding a new twist to a typical art fair, this event is designed as an open air showcase, with artist demonstrations, locally & regionally created fine & folk art, premium hand-crafted goods, live acoustic music, as well as interactive kid's art area. Shoppers can browse and watch artists in their creative process, listen to music, plus purchase goods from fine and folk artists such as painters, potters, quilters, weavers & basket makers, fabric spinners, culinary artists and craftsmen. Some unique and one-of-a-kind gifts will be available for purchase. Stop by and get some early gift-shopping in!

Dates: November 9th-10th 2019 (Second weekend of November)

Times: 10:00 am-3:00 pm each day

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store/Picnic Area on County Road 89

Fee: Event is free & open to everyone. If parking in the picnic area, 2.00 per vehicle applies. Rain or shine event. [www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

FAQ: [www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market](http://www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market)

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## **Guided Backpacking Trip for Beginners**

In DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Have you always wanted to get into backpacking? Here is a great way to start!

Learn all you need to know so that you can head out on your own outdoor adventure! A Fall backpacking class, and a great class for beginners/intermediate.

Topics to learn: backpacking essentials, camping items to choose and use, fire building, cooking, etiquettes, pitching and striking camp, setting up a tent or hammock, and more! Hiking is moderate, about a mile one-way to backpacking campsite. Sign up for this fun trip soon!

Date: November 16th-17th 2019 (1-night trip)

Time: check in 9 AM on 16th; check out the morning of November 17th

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Nature Center, next to the Country Store on County Road 89.

Cost: \$85.00 per person– includes all food & supplies.

Pre-registration is required, as class size is limited. Have questions? Call 209-559-0040 or Email Robert Wilson (seven Pines Survival) for more details:

[sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com)

About Seven Pine Survival [www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park](http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com/desoto-state-park)

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# Outdoor Classroom

With Seven Pines Survival

All ages and for the whole family, this is an outdoor adventure with learning, exploration, skills, and good fun outside. You can expect spending the day outside participating with nature and getting a chance to learn from the natural world and what it has to teach. You will learn hands-on skills to help you understand and inhabit the natural world around you. Meet other families with the same interests, share skills and stories, children will get to make new friends, learn important social skills, play outside, play games that encourage learning and using their senses as well with teamwork and communication skills. Parents will have a chance to meet and learn from other parents, learn how to do outdoor activities in a safe and productive way, and have the opportunity to pass on what they know to not only their kids but other families.

This event is organized by Seven Pines Survival with your teacher Robert Wilson “The Traveling Herbalist” which has been teaching outdoor, hands on and environmentally friendly educational skills to kids and families since 2014. Our practice with outdoor education and hands on teaching have led to a good partnership with multiple State Parks, Youth Organizations, schools, and other non-profits.

Date: November 20, 2019

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm (4hrs)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: \$5 for single child and parent or \$10 for the whole family. To pre-register, contact: Seven Pines Survival, Robert Wilson at [sps@sevenpinessurvival.com](mailto:sps@sevenpinessurvival.com) or Call (209) 559 – 0040. Minimum class size required.

What to bring: outdoor clothes (weather dependent), closed toe shoes, water bottle, snacks, lunch, and a blanket to sit on.



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## Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning- Winter Ornaments

Hosted by DeSoto State Park

The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests, and park visitors. Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning “writing with fire” dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning from artist April Blanks, and will work on Christmas ornaments to practice basic techniques using a pen-like burning tool and paint. This class is for ages 14 to adult

Date: Saturday, November 23, 2019

Time: 2 class times available: 10:00-12:00 noon OR 1:00-3:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Workshop space is limited to 10, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Call 256.997.5025 or email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

Examples of April's work:

[www.facebook.com/april.blanks.3/media\\_set?set=a.890856767625243&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/april.blanks.3/media_set?set=a.890856767625243&type=3)

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# December 2019

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## Merrityme Artisan Market

Mentone, Alabama

Hosted by Little River Arts Council and Moon Lake Baptist Church. All proceeds to benefit Moon Lake Elementary School

Shoppers can browse unique and one-of-a-kind gifts by local artisans, listen to music, & visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Free gift wrapping available. Stop by, get some gift-shopping in, and support your local artists and makers!

Date: December 13th & 14th, 2019

Time: 10am-4pm each day

Where: Moon Lake Baptist Church- Inside Arlene Fowler Youth Center (4671 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984) Within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park

Info: Entry to market is free & open to everyone. [www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

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### Calling all Artisans!

This is a perfect opportunity for artists to exhibit and sell their original works of art locally! It's time to show and sell the work that you've made this year, and what better place to do it than at Merrityme Artisan Market. We are inviting artists, musicians, craftsmen, and makers to join us for this fun event!

10x10 spaces are \$20 for both days. All of the proceeds from the booth fees will benefit Moon Lake Elementary School.

Entry info: [www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org) (events)

**TBA**



For even more fun local events,  
see

[www.Alapark.com/Events](http://www.Alapark.com/Events)

DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama  
#desotostatepark



**Contacts for event planning/programs:**

<b>DeSoto State Park</b>	256.997.5025	Brittney M. Hughes <a href="mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov">Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov</a> <a href="http://www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort">www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort</a>
<b>JSU Field Schools</b>	256.782.5697	Niki Wayner <a href="mailto:fieldschool@jsu.edu">fieldschool@jsu.edu</a> <a href="http://www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/">www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/</a>
<b>Little River Canyon National Preserve</b>	256.845.9605	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm">www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm</a>
<b>Russell Cave National Monument</b>	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson <a href="http://www.nps.gov/ruca">www.nps.gov/ruca</a>
<b>Seven Pines Survival</b>		Robert Wilson <a href="http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com">www.sevenpinessurvival.com</a>