



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 21 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.

For more information on Alabama State Parks, visit [www.alapark.com](http://www.alapark.com)

## 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.*

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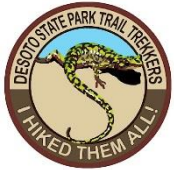
### Serious Skills Series

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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### DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker!

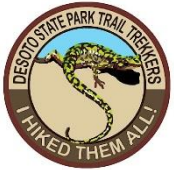


Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

*This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!*

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# January 2020



## Trail Trekker Series: Hike along Laurel Creek

*DeSoto State Park*

Join DeSoto State Park staff on a beautiful outdoor adventure hike through-out the park to see waterfalls along Laurel Creek, big & small. This hike is a moderate 3 mile hike along the orange & blue trails. Come on out and burn those calories while enjoying the Great Outdoors!

Date: Saturday, January 18, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm (CST) to 3:30 pm

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

Fee: Free and open to everyone. For details, contact Brittney Hughes at ([Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov))

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike, and well behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times.

**WEATHER:** As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

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## Season of Winter: Plants and their Remedies

JSU Field School-Little River Canyon National Preserve

Join Field School Instructor, Donna Smith, for the Winter class in the Seasonal Wellness Series. For the beginner to the experienced, this series will assist you in learning more about our native plants, their many uses, and seasonal preparation of your herbal medicine garden.

In this January class of our Seasonal Wellness Series, we will focus on the:

1. Top 10 Winter Ailments and Issues
2. Top 5 Plants for Winter Support
3. 5 Plant Preparations for Your Winter Medicine Cabinet
4. 10 Steps to Begin Planning Your Herbal Garden

Participants will:

1. Gain an understanding of the Winter Season and its specific health issues
2. Be introduced to the plants pertinent to the season
3. Interact with several plant remedies and recipes to stock their home herbal shelf
4. Develop a basic guide to plan for an herbal medicine garden

When: Saturday, January 18, 2020

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

Time: 9 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CST)

Fee: \$25 supply fee, pre-registration required by either calling Dr. Niki at 256-845-3548 or by emailing [jwayner@jsu.edu](mailto:jwayner@jsu.edu)  
Limit 20 students (ages 14 and up) Note: Be sure to bring your lunch for the day, since lunch is not provided.

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## Craft Your Own Paperweight

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. This class is designed for those who really just want see what molten glass is all about - feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into you own design. It is ultimately about the experience, some experimentation and a couple nice paperweights to take home or to the office to show your friends. Check out even more classes and info at [www.orbixhotglass.com](http://www.orbixhotglass.com).

Date: January 18, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$145.00. Pre-registration required, class size is limited to 4. Minimum age is 13 years old with parent Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email [info@orbixhotglass.com](mailto:info@orbixhotglass.com) for details.



## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Green/Chalet Trail Loop

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Green Trail/Chalet trail-Hike as a loop is approximately 1 1/2 miles round trip, moderate rocky terrain.

Date: January 25, 2020

Time: 12:00 noon

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Lodge Lobby

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: January 27, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## Winter Photography Workshop with John Dersham

JSU Field Schools

Come visit Little River Canyon and join Fine Art Photographer John Dersham for a two-day seminar on winter photography. Friday evening, you will be in the classroom learning how to improve your photography by utilizing tried and true compositional rules. In addition, you will learn about lighting and strategies that will provide more visual impact to your pictures. Saturday will be spent in the field putting everything you have learned into action at Little River Falls and at the amazing overlooks of the Scenic Rim road. (Hikes are short and are easy to moderate and optional.)

Dates: Friday evening, January 31st and Saturday, February 1st, 2020

Where: Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, (Bring a day pack with lunch/drinks on Saturday)

Fee: \$20 per person; pre-registration required by calling Dr. Niki at 256-845-3548 (Limit 15 participants) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# February 2020

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## Canyon Kids-Canyon Animals

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and neighbors to creatively learn about animals, plants, bugs, and more with JSU Field Schools. Your children (ages 3 years-4th graders) will want to attend ALL of these hands-on outdoor adventures! Pre-registration is required by the Monday prior to the program by calling Niki Wayner at 256-845-3548. Limited to 15 children per class.

Date: Friday, February 7, 2020

Time: 9:00 am—10:00 am (CST)

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

Fee: \$5; call 256-845-3548 for more details [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## Craft Your Own Paperweight

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. This class is designed for those who really just want see what molten glass is all about - feel the heat, gather from the furnace, sculpt the glass into you own design. It is ultimately about the experience, some experimentation and a couple nice paperweights to take home or to the office to show your friends. Check out even more classes and info at [www.orbixhotglass.com](http://www.orbixhotglass.com).

Date: February 8, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$145.00. Pre-registration required, class size is limited to 4. Minimum age is 13 years old with parent Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email [info@orbixhotglass.com](mailto:info@orbixhotglass.com) for details.

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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.

When: Saturday, February 8, 2020

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama

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

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

Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 12. To register and for details, 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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# Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The CCC Quarry

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 81st Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff & volunteers on a moderate hike to the CCC Quarry. Learn how the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the original structures that you can still see in the park today. Moderate hike along mountainous terrain, some rocky terrain. Approximately 2 miles round trip

Date: February 8, 2020

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm (CST)

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

Fee: Free and open to everyone. For details, contact Brittney Hughes at ([Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov))

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip) for a print-out PDF file of directions to DSP.

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## Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking Demo

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 10:00 am, located at JSU's Little River Canyon Center. This is a demonstration, so the best part is when food is just coming off the fire- drop in whenever you like & check out the food! Taught by DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes.

Date: Sunday, February 9, 2020

Time: 10 am-Until the food runs out

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

Fee: Free, call 256-845-3548 for more details

[www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/](http://www.jsu.edu/epic/canyoncenter/)

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## Blow Your Own Ornament

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. Design and literally “blow” your own ornament with the help of a glass artist. Check out even more classes and info at [www.orbixhotglass.com](http://www.orbixhotglass.com).

Date: February 15, 2020

Time: 9:00am -4:00 pm

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$38.00 per ornament. No pre-registration required. At least 5 years and up. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 or email [info@orbixhotglass.com](mailto:info@orbixhotglass.com) for details.

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## Tumbler Glassblowing Class

Orbix Hot Glass

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. This introductory glassblowing class teaches many fundamentals through the process of making a small tumbler (cup). Plenty of hands-on experience from choosing colors, gathering, paddling, blowing and shaping is gained in this four hour experience.

Class size is maximum of four students so everyone has adequate time at the bench working. Some safety material is provided before the class for you to review. Please join us for some in-depth discovery.

Date: February 22, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (within 30 minutes of DeSoto State Park)

Cost – \$145. 2-4 students. Minimum age is 13 years old with parent.

Call 256.523.3188 or email [info@orbixhotglass.com](mailto:info@orbixhotglass.com) for more information or to make a reservation. Reservations and full payment required.

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## Canyon Concerts: Winter Jazz Dinner Show

**Featuring TAD of Jazz Live in Concert**

Date: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020

Time: Doors open @ 6:00 Show begins @ 7:00

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center-Little River Canyon National Preserve

Fee: Tickets \$50 in advance Reservations must be made by February, 19th. Sponsor a table of 8 for \$350

For more info call (256) 845-3548 Buy your tickets today at [www.canyonconcerts.com](http://www.canyonconcerts.com)

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## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Neverland Loop Trail

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say “I Hiked Them All”? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Neverland Loop Trail -Hike is approximately 3 1/2 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain.

Date: February 15, 2020

Time: 10:00 am-1:00pm (central time zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center, will caravan to Lost Falls Trailhead.

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: February 24, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## Sculpt Your Own Flower Class

Orbix Hot Glass is a glass blowing studio and gallery on Lookout Mountain that offers fine decorative and functional glass, as well as very popular glass blowing classes. Have you ever wanted to actually sit at the gaffer bench and feel what it is like to shape hot glass? In this class, it's all about a hands-on experience in a safe and fun atmosphere with a final product we know you will love. After watching us shape glass into a flower, it's your turn to sit at the bench to a sculpt your own from an array of colors. Our artists are there to step in and lend a hand or guide you as you shape the glass.

Check out even more classes and info at [www.orbixhotglass.com](http://www.orbixhotglass.com) Classes have a minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 5. Class is about an hour in length.

Date: February 29, 2020

Time: 10:30 OR 12:30



Where: Orbix Hot Glass in Fort Payne, Alabama (30 minutes from DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$75.00 per person. Minimum age is 13 & up. Pre-registration is required. Custom reservations can be made for groups anytime. Call 256.523.3188 for details.

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## Feeding Backyard Wildlife

Swing by and create a snack for your wild neighbors! With just pipe cleaners and Cheerios, you can design a fun and funky feeder to delight the birds and squirrels that share your backyard jungle. All materials are provided (this activity is peanut free)

Date: February 29, 2020

Time: 11:00-2:00 pm (CST) Stop by anytime!

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free and open to everyone, Great for all ages! No pre-registration required. For details, call 256.997.5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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# March 2020

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## Waterfalls Hike and Van Tour

Join JSU Field School and Desoto State Park staff on a tour exploring Little River Canyon National Preserve and Desoto State Park waterfalls. Easy to moderate hikes on rocky dirt trails. Will see some well-known waterfalls as well as some hidden treasures. Trip is dependent on water level. Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. We will be stopping at DeSoto State Park's restaurant or please bring lunch.

**WEATHER:** As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Where: Little River Canyon and Desoto State Park. Meet at JSU's Little River Canyon Center. (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Time: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (CST); JSU Van shuttle for tour

Fee: \$25 per person; pre-registration is required by March 2, 2020 by calling Niki Wayner at 256-845-3548 (Limit 9 participants)

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## Take a Hike: Waterfalls Tour & Easy Hike

Join JSU Field School and Desoto State Park staff on a tour exploring Little River Canyon National Preserve and Desoto State Park waterfalls. Easy to moderate hikes on rocky dirt trails. Will see some well-known waterfalls as well as some hidden treasures. Trip is dependent on water level. Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. We will be stopping at DeSoto State Park's restaurant or please bring lunch.

**WEATHER:** As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: Saturday, March 7, 2020

Where: Little River Canyon and Desoto State Park. Meet at JSU's Little River Canyon Center.

Time: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm (CST); JSU Van shuttle for tour

Fee: \$25 per person; pre-registration is required by March 5, 2020 by calling 256-845-3548 (Limit 9 participants)



## LRAC Membership Social & Open House

*Little River Arts Council-Mentone, Alabama*

Join us at our annual Membership Social and Open House on Saturday, March 14, from 5–7:30 p.m. at DeSoto State Park's Lodge! We'll gather in the historic dining room (featuring the beautiful stonework laid by the men of the CCC in the 1930s). The fireplace will be lit and the outside deck will be heated. Hors d'oeuvres will be served, and a cash bar will be available. The full dinner menu and salad bar will be available for purchase.

We will briefly review our activities of 2019 and discuss our plans for 2020. Several artists will demonstrate their skills throughout the evening, and live music will be performed. This event is open to all. We look forward to socializing with our members, as well as with those interested in learning more about the Arts Council!

Date: March 14, 2020

Time: 5:00–7:30 p.m

Where: DeSoto State Park Lodge-1299 Blalock Drive, Fort Payne, AL.

Info: Email [info@littleriverartscouncil.org](mailto:info@littleriverartscouncil.org) or go to [www.littleriverartscouncil.org/events](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org/events)

## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Waterfall Hike

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Join DeSoto State Park & JSU Field School Staff for a fun day of hiking thought-out the park to see some of DeSoto's waterfalls, big & small. See Lost Falls, Laurel Falls, Indian Falls, & more water features like Laurel Creek & the West Fork of Little River. Come on out and burn those calories while enjoying the Great Outdoors!

The trail will be moderate, rugged terrain over approx. 5 to 6 miles. We will utilize the white, silver, & orange trails for this hike.

Date: March 14, 2020

Time: 10:00 am- 3:00 pm (Central Time Zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for details

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

**WEATHER:** Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions:  
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## Trail Trekker Hike Series: DeSoto Scout Trail

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

DeSoto Scout Trail Section (From Lodge to DST exit 2, come back CCC road) -Hike is approx.. 5 miles round trip, moderate to strenuous along rocky mountainous terrain.

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2020

Time: 10:00 am-3:00 pm (central time zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Lodge

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff/lightweight hammock(optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

**WEATHER:** Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions:  
[www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: March 28, 2020

Time: 12:00 noon

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: March 30, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# April 2020

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## Early Spring Hike in DeSoto State Park

One of the most beautiful times of the year at DeSoto State Park! Join DSP Staff on a moderate meandering hike along the Little River trail to see what species of plants is starting to grow and bloom after a long winter season. We will learn some natural history of the plants, and some medicinal and historical uses as well.

Wonderful views of the West Fork of Little River, Indian Falls, and Lodge Falls along the route. Will stop and eat at the Mountain Inn Restaurant in the park to eat lunch, then head back towards the Country Store. Approx. 2 miles round trip, moderate along rocky terrain.

Date: April 4, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Nature Center (Next to DeSoto's Country Store)

Fee: Free and open to everyone. No pre-registration required. For details, contact Brittney Hughes at ([Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov))

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip) for a print-out PDF file of directions to DSP.

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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: April 18, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: April 27, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# May 2020

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## 28th Annual Wildflower Saturday

Weekend of Friday, May 1st & Saturday 2nd, 2020

Wildflower Saturday is an annual event held in DeSoto State Park atop Lookout Mountain in Fort Payne, Alabama, always the first Saturday of May

*Springtime at DeSoto State Park is truly beautiful, with wildflowers & trees blooming around every corner. Join DeSoto State Park staff & guest speakers for a wonderful weekend of learning about the many species of blooming plants found on Lookout Mountain. Choose to stay the whole weekend, or just come for the day to enjoy the hikes and programs.*

Weekend starts off with a welcome social and guest speaker program on Friday night, a day full of hikes to choose from and a guest speaker on Saturday night.

\*Speakers to be announced\*

Dates: May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama  
Fee: Free & Open to everyone. No pre-registration required.  
For more info, see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

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. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

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

Date: May 9, 2020

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, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes May -5:00 p.m. To register, email [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Mentone Rhododendron Festival

Mentone, AL

Savor North Alabama's Spring beauty and enjoy arts and crafts, food, live music and more! Mentone's Rhododendron Festival is held in May each year when the spectacular clusters of showy blooms are abundant. The plants typically can be seen around the third weekend in May, and the best place to view the blooms is on Little River above DeSoto Falls as well as around the mountaintop town. On Saturday and Sunday, Brow Park will be filled with artists and craft makers offering their handmade creations. Admission is free.

Date: May 16-17, 2020

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

Current info: [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: May 16, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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## Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

## DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

Not a morning person? No problem! Bring your thermos and we'll have some fresh coffee waiting for you.

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.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: May 23, 2020

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.



## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Gilliam Loop Trail

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Gilliam Loop Trail-Hike is approximately 3.2 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain.

Date: May 23, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm-3:00pm (central time zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center, will caravan to Lost Falls Trailhead.

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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# June 2020

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

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. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

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

Date: June 6, 2020

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, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes June 4th 5:00pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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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: June 20, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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## Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

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

Date: June 20, 2020



Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: June 27, 2020

Time: 10:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov



## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Along Little River

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!

Aqua/Yellow Trail-Hike is approximately 1 1/2 miles round trip, moderate along rocky terrain.

Date June 27, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

Fee: Free and open to everyone, no pre-registration required.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions:  
[www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: June 29, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# July 2020

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## DeSoto State Park's Annual Independence Day events atop Lookout Mountain

This annual event is fun for both children & adults!

Celebrate Independence Day and enjoy good ol' fashioned fun at DeSoto State Park. Participate in the flag making contest, sit back & enjoy DeSoto's parade, & eat ice cream at the annual ice cream social.

Date: July 3rd & 4th 2020

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

Fee: Free to the Public; Great for all ages!

### Events:

#### Flag-Making Contest

Make your own homemade flag to be judged in this fun contest. All ages are welcome to participate. Materials & flag-making rules will be available at the campground pavilion in the Improved Campground starting July 1st. Flags MUST be turned in no later than 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 4th to be judged. (Turn in flags at DeSoto's Nature Center) Examples of flags from year's past can be seen at the Nature Center. Free to participate and open to all ages!

#### Splish & Splash Pool Party

Join the fun at our 8th Annual Splish & Splash Pool Party! Cool off in our Olympic-size pool, play pool games, eat ice cream, & enter for door prizes!

\$1.00 per person-admission fee.

Friday, July 3, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

### **Independence Day Parade**

This annual event is fun for both children & adults! Decorate your vehicle to show your spirit!

Parade will start at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 4, 2020.

Begins at DeSoto's Park Headquarters & ends in DeSoto's Improved Campground in time for the Ice Cream Social. If you wish to ride along, meet at DeSoto's Park Headquarters at 2:30 pm. We would love to have you join us in celebrating our Country's Independence Day! Free to participate!

### **Ice Cream Social**

Social starts at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 4th, located at the Campground Pavilion in DeSoto's Improved Campground. Sit around & relax, eat ice cream, & meet your fellow guests at DeSoto State Park. Flag-Making Contest winners will be announced at the Ice Cream Social.

You are welcome to bring your own favorite homemade ice cream recipe or other desserts to share with your fellow guests.

Bring your own comfortable camp chair as seating is limited. Free to participate, & open to everyone! Campground gate will be open for you.

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## **Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike**

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: July 12, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip**

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

Not a morning person? No problem! Bring your thermos and we'll have some fresh coffee waiting for you.

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.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: July 18, 2020

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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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: July 18, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: July 27, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# August 2020

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: August 1, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

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. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

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

Date: August 1, 2020

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, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes July 30th 5: 00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## World's Longest Yard Sale

The World's Longest Yard Sale starts each year on the first Thursday in August and continues for 4 days (Thursday thru Sunday.)

Running from Gadsden, Alabama to West Unity, Ohio, this event allows you to travel more than 690-miles of scenic beauty and see tons of yard sales. Get started on your journey by traveling the 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway route from Gadsden, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the most "scenic rural America" in the United States

A section of this popular annual event travels thru DeSoto State Park, so be sure to use the park as your base as you travel to see the sights!

Dates: August 6-9, 2020

For more info, see: [www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/yardsale.shtml](http://www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/yardsale.shtml) OR [www.127yardsale.com/](http://www.127yardsale.com/)

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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.

When: Saturday, August 15, 2020

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama

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

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

Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 12. To register and for more details, call 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

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

Date: August 15, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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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 15, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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# 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.

When: Saturday, August 15, 2020

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama

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

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

Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 12. To register and for more details, call 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

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. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

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

Date: August 29, 2020

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, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes August 27th 5:00 p.m. To register, email [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: August 31, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# September 2020

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Save the Dates!

## Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend

Come and explore our State Parks to celebrate the national event, Girl Scouts Love the State Parks! Over 25,000 Girl Scouts around the USA will be participating with their troops and families. Nature and outdoor activities will be led by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources scientists and naturalists. Your troop or family will bring their own picnic style lunch to enjoy at the park.

More info to come about events in select Alabama State Parks and will be posted on this page

Dates: September 11-13 2020

Info: Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama- [www.facebook.com/GSNCA/](http://www.facebook.com/GSNCA/)

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## Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

Not a morning person? No problem! Bring your thermos and we'll have some fresh coffee waiting for you.

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.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: September 12, 2020

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Boom Days Heritage Celebration



Fort Payne, Alabama

The Boom Days Heritage Celebration, Fort Payne's annual art and music festival, displays citizens of Fort Payne taking a second look at their past and the heritage passed down to them through the arts and crafts of our area. It features dozens of the South's finest visual artists and traditional craftsmen, as well as dozens of the area's most talented musical groups.

Four blocks of the city's downtown district are closed to traffic while art shows occupy Alabama Park and City Park, and a variety of music flows from four outdoor stages. Downtown merchants operate sidewalk sales, and cultural and historical displays are mounted at the Fort Payne Culture & Heritage Center and the Depot Museum.

Dates: September 18-19, 2020

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

For more info, see: [www.boomdays.com](http://www.boomdays.com)

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: September 19, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama (During Boom Days festival)

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 19, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: September 28, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## October 2020

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### Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

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. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

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

Date: October 3, 2020

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, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes October 1st 5:00 pm. To register, email [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip

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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 17, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 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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### ColorFest 2020

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 will be filled with artists and craft makers offering their handmade creations. Admission is free.

Dates: October 17-18, 2020

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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### Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the 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. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

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

Date: October 17, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 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: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes \_\_\_\_\_ To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

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About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: October 24, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email

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

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

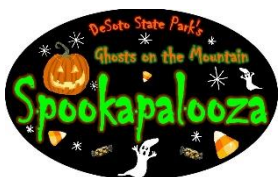
WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: October 26, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)



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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 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 (Halloween Weekend)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

Schedule at a Glance:

Friday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>-6:00 pm Campfire Talk (TBA)

Saturday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>-3:00-5:30 pm Trick or Treating, Improved Campground

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:00 pm Campfire Talk (TBA)



### **Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest**

DeSoto State Park is glad to host the 9th 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 31st 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 31st

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, November 1st

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

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### **Campfire Talk: TBA**

Part of Spookapalooza

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.

Be sure to bring your own comfortable camp chair or blanket, as seating is limited. Great for all ages!

Date: Friday, October 30, 2020

Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will be open to the public) Large CCC Pavilion in the Picnic Area in case of rain

Fee: Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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### **Trick or Treating**

in DeSoto State Park's Improved Campground

Wear your favorite costume if you wish! Candy stations are located through-out the campground, where campers will be handing out candy. DeSoto State Park staff & volunteers will be at the campground pavilion with popcorn, candy, and prizes. Dress up your pets and bring them along! (Always on a leash) Parents must always accompany children. Be sure to swing by the campground pavilion to enjoy popcorn, candy, displays and more!

PLEASE NOTE: In the Improved Campground, the upper & lower loop will be CLOSED TO VEHICLE

TRAFFIC from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Improved campground gates will open at 3:00 pm, no public entry will be allowed prior to 3:00 pm

Parking can be found at the campground bathhouses and along the roadsides in the campground. Please carpool if possible, parking is limited and this event has high visitation. Some parking can be found at the Country Store, and the campground accessed by the short trail behind the Country Store deck. Please be courteous and do not park vehicles on campsites.

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2020

Time: 3:00-5:30 pm (gates will only be open during this time)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama-Improved Campground.

Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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### **Campfire Talk: TBA**

Part of Spookapalooza

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.

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2020

Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will be open to the public) Large CCC Pavilion in the Picnic Area in case of rain

Fee: Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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# November 2020

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## **Creative Spirit Market**

Hosted by DeSoto State Park & Little River Arts Council

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 14 & 15, 2020 (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 apply. Rain or shine event. [www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market)

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

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## 5th Annual Black Friday #OptOutside Hike

Join us for this gathering on Black Friday. Spend the morning hiking in the beautiful Little River Canyon area with our staff. Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: Friday, November 27, 2020

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

Time: TBD

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

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: November 30 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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# December 2020

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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 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 2020

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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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

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Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

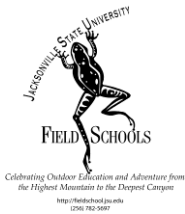
WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: December 28, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

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

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)



**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<br><a href="mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov">Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov</a><br><a href="http://www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort">www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort</a> |
| <b>JSU Field Schools</b>                     | 256.845.3548 | Niki Wayner<br><a href="mailto:fieldschool@jsu.edu">fieldschool@jsu.edu</a><br><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 | Matt Switzer<br><a href="mailto:Matt_switzer@nps.gov">Matt_switzer@nps.gov</a><br><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<br><a href="http://www.nps.gov/ruca">www.nps.gov/ruca</a>                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Seven Pines Survival</b>                  |              | Robert Wilson<br><a href="http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com">www.sevenpinessurvival.com</a>                                                                                                    |