

DeSoto State Park and park partners like Little River Canyon National Preserve, Jacksonville State University Field School, Little River Arts Council 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



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

DeSoto State Park's Campfire Talk Series



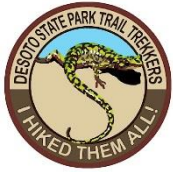
Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held almost every Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto's James L. Wynn Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. All programs are open & free to everyone. *Seating is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

Serious Skills Series

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



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!

September 2020

Zipline Aerial Adventures

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

Date: Open 7 days a week

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

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

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

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

MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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

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

Dates: September 25th-27th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

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

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river



Yoga on the Mountain: Daybreak Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Relax in a beautiful place! Join us for a fun yoga class along the banks of Little River in the DeSoto Falls picnic area.

Experience the peace & quiet of nature as instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new!

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

Date: Friday September 25, 2020

Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area.

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks). Bring mat/towel & water if you wish.

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The ‘Unfinished Bridge’

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 on a moderate hike to the Civilian Conservation Corp's 'unfinished' Bridge. Learn the history of why the CCC left it standing and see several original structures. Moderate hike on Gilliam Loop Trail & old CCC roadbed. Approx.. 4 miles round trip.

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Central Time Zone)

Where: Meet at DeSoto State Park's Lodge Fort Payne, Alabama-. Will carpool short distance to Gillam Loop Trailhead and hike from there.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

October 2020

(*October events subject to change*)

Zipline Aerial Adventures

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

Date: Open 7 days a week

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

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

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

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

MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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

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

Dates: October 2nd-4th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

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

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

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. Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip



Trail Trekker Hike Series: DeSoto Scout Trail Section

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!

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

Date: Sunday, October 4, 2020

Time: 12:00 -5:00 pm (central time zone)

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

Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult.

Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking

MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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

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

Dates: October 9th-11th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

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

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380

www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river



Yoga on the Mountain: Neverland Trail Yoga Hike

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is DeSoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett and park naturalist Brittney Hughes for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses AND hiking along beautiful trails. This hike will be a mix of trail hiking with an outdoor yoga session. Combining hiking and yoga practice in the great outdoors confers benefits unmatched in any other setting. You get the light cardio and strength-building that hiking offers, the toning, flexibility, and relaxation that yoga offers, and the powerful connection to Mother Nature that being outdoors offers.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Wear closed-toe shoes & weather appropriate clothes; bring a hike-friendly yoga mat or towel if you wish (most poses will be standing poses), water and a snack. We will be coming out at dusk for this one, bring a headlamp if you wish.

About the hike: This hike is approximately 3 1/2 miles round trip, moderate. Trail weaves thru hardwood forest with sandstone outcroppings, streams, wetlands, and an old homeplace along the trail.

Date: October 9, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on Co. Rd. 89-will caravan to Lost Falls Trailhead

Fee: \$10.00 per person. Pre-registration is required, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register. See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates



Yoga on the Mountain: Yoga Hike Along Little River

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is DeSoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett and park naturalist Brittney Hughes for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses AND hiking along beautiful trails. This hike will be a mix of trail hiking with an outdoor yoga session. Combining hiking and yoga practice in the great outdoors confers benefits unmatched in any other setting. You get the light cardio and strength-building that hiking offers, the toning, flexibility, and relaxation that yoga offers, and the powerful connection to Mother Nature that being outdoors offers.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Wear closed-toe shoes & weather appropriate clothes; bring a hike-friendly yoga mat or towel if you wish (most poses will be standing poses), water and a snack. We will be coming out at dusk for this one, bring a headlamp if you wish.

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1 1/2 miles round trip, moderate. Trail weaves thru hardwood/pine mix forest with sandstone outcroppings & glades, Rhododendron & Mountain Laurel, a 1930s-era CCC trailside shelter, Indian Falls, & the West Fork of Little River.

Date: October 12, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm

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

Fee: \$10.00 per person. Pre-registration is required, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register. See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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

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

Dates: October 16th-18th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

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

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river



Trail Trekker Hike Series: Neverland/Vizzneyland

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 & Vizzneyland Loop -Hike is approximately 4 1/2 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain.

Date: Friday, October 16, 2020

Time: 12:00-3:00 pm (central time zone)

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

Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking

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 October 15th by 5:00 pm. 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.



Trail Trekker Hike Series: Blue & Orange Trails

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!

Blue & Orange Trails-Hike is approximately 3 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain.

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2020

Time: 12:00 noon-2:00 pm (central time zone)

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

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking

MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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

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

Dates: October 23rd-25th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

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

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river

Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: October 24, 2020

Time: 12:00 noon-2:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

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

Event pending-check back for more details



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 30th-31st, 2020 (Halloween Weekend)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama



Schedule at a Glance:

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

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

Saturday, October 31st - 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, creativity, 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@dcnr.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@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

November 2020



Yoga on the Mountain: Daybreak Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Relax in a beautiful place! Join us for a fun yoga class along the banks of Little River in the DeSoto Falls picnic area.

Experience the peace & quiet of nature as instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new! Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: Friday, November 6, 2020

Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area.

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks). Bring mat/towel & water if you wish.

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates



Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking Demo

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

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

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

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

Date: November 7, 2020

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

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

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

Call 256.997.5025 for email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for details.



Trail Trekker Hike Series: Gilliam Loop Trail/Unfinished Bridge

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 plus short hike to unfinished bridge-Hike is approximately 4.5 miles round trip, moderate along mountainous terrain. No major inclines

Date: Sunday, November 8, 2020

Time: 12:00 -3:30 pm (central time zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Lodge, will caravan to Gilliam Loop Trailhead

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking



Yoga on the Mountain: Daybreak Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Relax in a beautiful place! Join us for a fun yoga class along the banks of Little River in the DeSoto Falls picnic area.

Experience the peace & quiet of nature as instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new!

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

Date: November 8, 2020

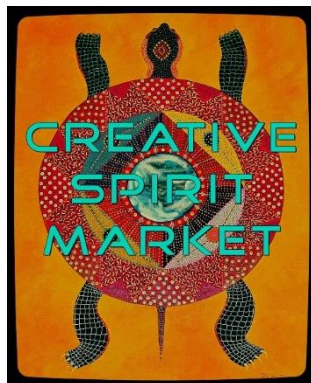
Time: 8:00-9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area.

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks). Bring mat/towel & water if you wish.

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates



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 pick up & take kid's art. 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

Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: November 21, 2020

Time: 9:00 am-11:30 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

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

December 2020

Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: December 12, 2020

Time: 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

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





For even more fun local events, see
www.Alapark.com/Events

DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama
#desotostatepark



Contacts for event planning/programs:

DeSoto State Park	256.997.5025	Brittney M. Hughes Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort
JSU Field Schools	256.845.3548	Niki Wayner fieldschool@jsu.edu www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/
Little River Canyon National Preserve	256.845.9605	Matt Switzer Matt_switzer@nps.gov www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm
Russell Cave National Monument	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson www.nps.gov/ruca