



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](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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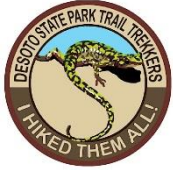
### Serious Skills Series

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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**\*Due to the Covid19 pandemic please note that events & programs are subject to change\***

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# April 2021

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## 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: Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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

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

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 10 to adult. We will be wearing masks at trailhead & social distancing on the trail as much as possible.

Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

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## 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 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.

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: Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

[www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga)

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## **Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning-Country Magnets**

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

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning and painting designs from artist April Blanks, and will work on their choice of designs for 3 magnets to take home. This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: Saturday, April 17, 2021

Time: 10:00-12:00 am and 1:00-3:00 pm (2 class times to choose from)

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

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion-in case of inclement weather the class will be held inside a large room. Masks are required for participants.

Examples of April's work: [www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/](https://www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/)

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## **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! Learn about Little River, an outstanding water source with its clear water & plant & animal life. Discover the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

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: April 17, 2021

Time: 9:00 am-11:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Location given at time of registration.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be wearing masks at trailhead & social distancing on the trail as much as possible.

Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (April 17th-18th)**

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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## **Yoga on the Mountain: Yoga Hike Along Little River**

Interested in starting your day in a positive way? Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is DeSoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett 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.

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: Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Time: 4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store 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](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

[www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (April 24th-25th)**

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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## **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: Saturday, April 24, 2021

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) \$4.00 parking fee to park in picnic area. 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](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga) for class dates

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## Cahaba Lilies

Part of Wildflower Saturday-Presenter: Mike Ezell

Come hear the story of the Shoals Spider Lily, known in Alabama as the Cahaba Lily. This beautiful but imperiled aquatic plant still thrives in isolated populations of the Piedmont Appalachian Mountains. Learn about its history, it's struggle to survive human interventions and the prospects for its survival in our modern world. Presented by Mike Ezell- Naturalist emeritus, Alabama State Parks

Date: Friday, April 30, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Lodge Deck with outdoor seating. In case of rain program will be held at the CCC Pavilion in the picnic area.

Fee: Free & open to everyone; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the program, email [Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov) [www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday)

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# May 2021

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## 29th Annual Wildflower Saturday

Weekend of May 1, 2021

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: Friday, April 30th & Saturday, May 1st

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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## Native Azaleas & Rhododendrons

Part of Wildflower Saturday-Presenter: Patrick Thompson

Join Patrick Thompson from the Donald D. Davis Arboretum in Auburn for a presentation about the native Rhododendrons & wild Azaleas that can be found throughout Alabama. Showy blooms are seen throughout the spring and into the summer presenting a spectacular flower show like

none other. Discover the differences between the Azaleas & rhododendrons and about the many species that can be found regionally. Presented by Patrick Thompson, Arboretum Specialist.

Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Lodge Deck with outdoor seating. In case of rain program will be held at the CCC Pavilion in the picnic area.

Fee: Free & open to everyone; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the program, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) [www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Wildflower-Saturday)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- (May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Dragonflies & Damselflies**

*Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June -October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!*

Dragonflies and damselflies are both predatory flying insects that look primitive and ancient because they are: fossil records show prehistoric species that are quite similar to modern species, although considerably larger. Modern dragonflies and damselflies are most prevalent in warmer regions, but some species can be found in almost every part of the world except for the polar regions. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny, to learn more about the fascinating life-cycle of Alabama's dragonflies and damselflies. Stunning photographs to see!

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

Date: Friday, May 7, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm-9:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- Mother's Day (May 8th-9th)**

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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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.

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: Saturday, May 8, 2021

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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

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

Pre-registration closes May 5th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## So Many Bugs!

*Join us for a fun campfire talk in the great outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June -October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!*

Description: Insects are the most diverse group of animals there are, about a million described species and it's estimated there may be 6 million or more as yet undescribed, accounting for more than half of all life on earth. They are dominant on land, abundant in freshwater, but hardly represented in the sea, where the related Crustacea take over. Join lepidopterist and photographer, Vitaly Charny for an interesting introduction to many of the main family orders of these fascinating creatures.

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

Date: Saturday, May 8, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm-9:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

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## Miller's Bend Paddle Shack

### (May 15th-16th)

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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## **Yoga on the Mountain: DeSoto Falls Basin 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.

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: Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Time: 4:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meeting location disclosed at time of registration  
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](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

[www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga)

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## **Campfire Talk: Nature's Garbagemen: The Wonderful World of Vultures**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

There are 23 vulture species in the world, and at least one type of vulture is found on every continent except Australia and Antarctica. While they are not usually rated as “cute and cuddly” these scavenging birds do our environment a world of good. Vultures are amazing birds, but they are often misunderstood. Learning just how unique these birds are can help you better appreciate their place in the world's avifauna and how important their ongoing conservation is. Mercedes Maddox, Nongame Wildlife Biologist from the AL Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries is our guest speaker for this fun talk.

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2021

Time: 8:00-9:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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## **Campfire Talk: Backyard Habitat for Wildlife**

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



Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Description: Join Mercedes Maddox to learn how to create a wildlife-friendly backyard. Whether you have a plethora of acres or a small fenced-in yard, there are many things you can do to add natural value to your landscape. Mercedes will focus on the three necessities, food, water, and shelter, and explore both artificial and natural ways you can incorporate these into your backyard. With a few key habitat traits, your backyard can turn into your own wildlife refuge.

Date: Friday, May 14, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm-9:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

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## **Series Skills Series: Colonial era Spinning 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.

Being a woman living in the 18-19th century America wasn't an easy life. There were no stores right around the corner to purchase their regular everyday necessities. The women raised families, crops, sheep, goats and planted flax and cotton to make their family was provided for. The sheep and goats were for food and also, just as importantly, clothing. Flax and cotton were also used for profit and for making clothing.

Sandra Jusak has been a living historian for 20 years and a spinner for over 25 years. She will be preparing and spinning fiber into yarn, along with a little bit of history to help you and your family understand what life was like in the forming of our nation.

Come by anytime, no pre-registration required (Please note demo may be postponed due to wet conditions)

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2021

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

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

Fee: Free and open to everyone, stop by anytime for demo. Masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any information, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

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## **Series Skills Series: Chair Weaving Demonstration**

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 Naturalist Brittney Hughes will demonstrate chair caning with reed, weaving the herringbone pattern on a Civilian Conservation Corps-built chair. Come by anytime, no pre-registration required (Please note demo may be postponed due to wet conditions)

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2021

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

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

Fee: Free, come by anytime for demo. Masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any information, call 256.997.5025 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

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## Miller's Bend Paddle Shack

### (May 22nd-23rd)

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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## Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning- Southern

### Mason Jar

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

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning and painting designs from artist April Blanks, and will work on an 8x10 piece featuring a mason jar with cotton bolls. This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: Saturday, May 22, 2021

Time: 9:00 am-12:00 noon

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

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion-in case of inclement weather the class will be held inside a large room. Masks are required for participants.

Examples of April's work: [www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/](http://www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/)

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## Yoga on the Mountain: Dusk to Dark Yoga

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area

Want to end your day in a positive way? Enjoy a yoga class along the banks of Little River, as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time as yoga instructor Destin Padgett guides you with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new! Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: Saturday, May 22, 2021

Time: 5:00-6:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Fall Picnic area, 7 miles from the main park area. Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks) \$4.00 parking fee to park in picnic area. 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](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga) for class dates

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## Park After Dark -Night Walk

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join naturalists Jamie Rogers & Brittney Hughes to get to know the park after dark! You never know what you can discover during the night; we will be using our senses to discover what can be seen, heard, or even smelled on this fun walk!

On this walk we will be on the cabin road & go to the frog pond, near DeSoto's South entrance. All ages welcome, children must be supervised. We will walk from the DeSoto State Park Lodge-short distance, terrain will be a mix of asphalt and dirt road, closed toed shoes are preferred.

Bring a small flashlight or headlamp if you wish (red light preferred) or there will be some flashlights available first come-first served. Please no dogs, as our nighttime friends can be shy.

Date: May 21, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Meet outside DeSoto State Park Lodge

Fee: free and open to everyone. No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household (even outdoors) This hike may be cancelled in case of rain. For any details about the walk, 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: Saturday, May 22, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

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

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

Pre-registration closes May 19th, 2021 -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 (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## Campfire Talk: Herps Around Us

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June -October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Amphibians and reptiles comprise about 17,000 species of vertebrates on this planet, and surprisingly, many species are 'comfortable' living with people. Come & join naturalist Jamie Rogers from Wallace State as she presents this talk about the 'friends' that live among us. After the program, you may choose to go on a night walk to the frog pond (near the Lodge) to listen for fascinating night critters (be sure to bring a flashlight/headlamp!)

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

Date: Saturday, May 22, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (May 29th-30th)**

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.

Boat Shack Hours: 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.

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

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## **June 2021**

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### **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- (June 4th-6th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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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: Saturday, June 5, 2021

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 June 2nd, 2021 -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 (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## **Campfire Talk: Falconry in Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Falconry is the hunting of wild animals in their natural state and habitat by means of a trained bird of prey. Join guest speaker Matt Whitfield to learn about falconry, which is one of the world's oldest forms of hunting. Falconry is currently practiced in many countries around the world. In Alabama, the most commonly used bird is the red-tailed hawk and squirrel is the most commonly pursued game animal. There are currently 58 permitted falconers in the state.

Matt is a licensed Falconer in the State of Alabama and has 2 captive bred Harris Hawk he will be bringing. Come on out to meet them and learn about these beautiful birds!

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

Date: Saturday, June 5, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (June 11th-13th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **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! Learn about Little River, an outstanding water source with its clear water & plant & animal life. Discover the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

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: Friday, June 11, 2021

Time: 9:00-11:30 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Location given at time of registration.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be wearing masks at trailhead & social distancing on the trail as much as possible.

Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

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## **Campfire Talk: iNaturalist 101**

Join guest speaker Mike Ezell, Alabama State Parks Naturalist Emeritus for a presentation introducing iNaturalist, a free phone app that allows everyone to record their observations in nature. Mike will introduce iNaturalist and show all the ways the app can be used, whether on a hike or in your backyard. He will also be able to show participants how to set up the app and make observations. We will also host an iNaturalist walk during the day on Saturday to test your skills! What is iNaturalist?-It is a way for people that are interested in nature to share what they see with others, as well as gaining identifications on species that they may not be familiar with. The app also helps to collect data, collaborating with others to gather information for a common project or purpose (i.e. species lists, bioblitzes, etc.) Users can also access the observational data collected by other iNaturalist users. Bottom line: this app gives you the opportunity to have your own personal naturalist resource whenever you decide to go, as long as your battery is charged!

Date: Friday, June 18, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. We recommend you bring your own smart phone or device & download the app prior (free wifi at Country Store, Lodge, & Nature Center). For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- Father's Day (June 18th-20th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **iNaturalist Walk: Boardwalk Trail**

Join Alabama State Park staff Mike & Brittney for a walk along the ADA-accessible Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trail. Discover what can be observed & recorded using iNaturalist, a free app that can be used to record observations of all sorts of things — plants, animals, and even fungi. Learn how to use the simple app to help contribute to park species lists and about species seen in the park.

What is iNaturalist?-It is a way for people that are interested in nature to share what they see with others, as well as gaining identifications on species that they may not be familiar with. The app also helps to collect data, collaborating with others to gather information for a common project or purpose (i.e. species lists, bioblitzes, etc.) Users can also access the observational data collected by other iNaturalist users. If you've ever wanted to learn more about the plants and animals around you but you didn't have someone along for your hike or walk to ask, you'll want to download iNaturalist. And you can even make observations in your backyard or on the street walking in your neighborhood. Bottom line: this app gives you the opportunity to have your own personal naturalist resource whenever you decide to go, as long as your battery is charged!

Date: Saturday, June 19, 2021

Time: 9:00-11:00

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, AL. Meet at Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. We recommend you bring your own smart phone or device & download the app prior (free wifi at Country Store, Lodge, & Nature Center). For any details about the walk, 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: Thursday, June 24, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

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

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

Pre-registration closes June 21st, 2021 -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 (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## **Tree Ring Printing: Telling Nature's Story**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June -October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Tree rings tell the history of not only trees but of our environment through time as well. By printing tree rings, you can age the tree and capture a piece of history and turn it into art you can take home. Join guest Naturalist Lauren Muncher from Oak Mountain State Park to discover the stories that trees can tell.

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

Date: Friday, June 25, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (June 25th-27th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning-DeSoto Falls**

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

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning and painting designs from artist April Blanks, and will work on making a piece featuring DeSoto State Park's DeSoto Falls (some other design options may be available). This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: Saturday, June 26, 2021

Time: 10:00-12:00 pm OR 1:00-3:00 pm (2 class times to choose from)

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

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion-in case of inclement weather the class will be held inside a large room. Masks are required for participants.

Examples of April's work: [www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/](https://www.facebook.com/Aprils-Woodburnings-310733302340332/)

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## **Scales & Tails**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Join guest Naturalist Lauren Muncher from Oak Mountain State Park for an educational experience about animals that live under the earth all the way up to the sky flying predators. Get an up-close encounter with some 'creature teachers' to understand just some of our natural world and wonders around us!

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

Date: Saturday, June 26, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)



Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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# July 2021

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- Independence Day (July 2nd-4th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Independence Day 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 Thursday, July 1st if needed (Flags are made on white foam boards, participants use natural materials). Flags can be turned in any day that week, Flags MUST be turned in no later than 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 3rd to be judged. (Turn in flags at DeSoto's Country Store) Winners will be announced on DeSoto's facebook page on Saturday July the 3rd. (Winners will be contacted) Open to everyone-Be sure to join in the fun! Free to participate and open to all ages!

Date: July 3, 2021

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

For info, please email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) or call 256.997-5025 for any details.

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (July 9th-11th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (July 16th-18th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **Bald Eagles of Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Join guest naturalist Amanda Glover, from Lake Guntersville State Park for a fun campfire talk about America's national bird & symbol-the American Bald Eagle. Forty-odd years ago, this large bird of prey was in danger of extinction throughout most of its range. Habitat destruction and degradation, illegal shooting, and the contamination of its food source, largely as a consequence of DDT, decimated the eagle population. Habitat protection afforded by the Endangered Species Act, the federal government's banning of DDT, and conservation actions taken by the American public have helped bald eagles make a remarkable recovery. Amanda will talk about Bald Eagle habitat, restoration, identification, & more.

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

Date: Friday, July 16, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Snakes of Northeast Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Join guest naturalist Amanda Glover from Lake Guntersville State Park for a fun campfire talk about the common snake species of NE Alabama, both venomous & non-venomous. Learn how to identify them and what to do if you encounter them or are bitten. Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: Saturday, July 17, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, 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.

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: Saturday, July 17, 2021

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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

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

Pre-registration closes July 14th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## Hikin' for Lichens

*Explore the fascinating world of lichens! Lichens cover 6% of the earth's surface and there are around 20,000 known species. They are capable of growing on any surface that is sufficiently stable and provides just the right microclimate for survival; they grow on rocks, tree bark, branches, on top of other lichens and mosses and also on the soil surface. Lichens are found on every continent on earth, including Antarctica.*

Join Curtis Hansen & DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes to look for lichens around DeSoto State Park. Observe these wonderfully enigmatic organisms and learn basic identification skills of the major growth forms to be able to start identifying these interesting organisms on your own

There will be easy/moderate hiking including climbing on and over boulders. Bring your boots and we'll go hikin' for lichens. We will have hand lenses available, or you may bring your own.

Date: Saturday, June 19, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

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

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 6 to adult. We will be wearing masks at trailhead & social distancing on the trail as much as possible. Email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for more info or to pre-register.

Curtis Hansen is the Curator of Plants at the John D. Freeman Herbarium at Auburn University and has a great interest in native plants, both vascular and non-vascular, of Alabama and the southeast. For nearly 20 years he has been collecting, identifying and documenting the diverse lichen flora of Alabama.

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## Campfire Talk: A World in Miniature: Lichens

*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.*

Lichens cover 6% of the earth's surface and there are around 20,000 known species. They are capable of growing on any surface that is sufficiently stable and provides just the right microclimate for survival; they grow on rocks, tree bark, branches, on top of other lichens and mosses and also on the soil surface. Lichens are found on every continent on earth, including Antarctica. Observe these wonderfully enigmatic organisms and learn basic identification skills of the major growth forms to be able to start identifying these interesting organisms on your own.

Guest Speaker: Curtis Hansen is the Curator of Plants at the John D. Freeman Herbarium at Auburn University and has a great interest in native plants, both vascular and non-vascular, of

Alabama and the southeast. For nearly 20 years he has been collecting, identifying and documenting the diverse lichen flora of Alabama.

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

Date: Saturday, June 19, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, 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: Thursday, July 22, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

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

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

Pre-registration closes July 19th, 2021 -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 (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- (July 23rd-25th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Campfire Talk: Mammals of Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June -October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Alabama is home to 62 native mammals: 22 species of rodents, 16 species of bats, 11 species of carnivores, six species of insectivores, four species of rabbits, one ungulate, one opossum and one armadillo.

Join Amber Baker, Wildlife Biologist from the Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries for an entertaining program featuring the warm-blooded critters that can be seen through-out the state. See a collection of furs & skulls & discover characteristics of each species.

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

Date: Friday July 23, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (July 30th-August 1st)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Park After Dark -Night Walk**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join naturalists Jamie Rogers & Brittney Hughes to get to know the park after dark! You never know what you can discover during the night; we will be using our senses to discover what can be seen, heard, or even smelled on this fun walk!

On this walk we will be on the cabin road & go to the frog pond, near DeSoto's South entrance. All ages welcome, children must be supervised. We will walk from the DeSoto State Park Lodge-short distance, terrain will be a mix of asphalt and dirt road, closed toed shoes are preferred.

Bring a small flashlight or headlamp if you wish (red light preferred) or there will be some flashlights available first come-first served. Please no dogs, as our nighttime friends can be shy.

Date: July 30, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Meet outside DeSoto State Park Lodge

Fee: free and open to everyone. No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household (even outdoors) This hike may be cancelled in case of rain. For any details about the walk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Serious Skills Series: The Art of Woodburning- Christmas in July**

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

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning “writing with fire” dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning from artist April Blanks, and will work on Christmas ornaments to practice basic techniques using a pen-like burning tool and paint. Christmas in July fun!

This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: July 31, 2021

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

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

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dnr.alabama.gov) to sign up or for more info.

This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion-in case of inclement weather the class will be held inside a large room. Masks are required for participants.

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## **Traditional Chair Weaving Workshop**

The craft of chair seat weaving and chair caning has been practiced for centuries and is still a viable craft today, experienced all over the world. Only a few common tools are necessary to repair chair seats, making this a craft that nearly anyone can master with just a little patience and tenacity. Participants will discover how to weave a simple chair bottom, while learning the herringbone pattern using flat reed. Small ladderback chairs will be provided, as well as all tools & supplies.

This class is for ages 12 to adult (please no younger children for safety reasons)

What to Bring: Enthusiasm (all materials and tools needed to complete this project will be provided). Wear comfortable, casual clothing (this craft can get messy), and bring a sack lunch if you wish. This workshop emphasizes the use of hand tools, students should have moderate hand strength.

Date: July 31st, 2021. 1-day class, with an option of a second day to work on project.

Time: 10:00 – 4:00 (CST)

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

Fee: \$150 supply fee. Pre-registration required by July 17th. Space is limited to 5 participants.

Pre-registration required by emailing Brittney Hughes (NOT via Facebook). For details and to pre-register email [Southernchick888@hotmail.com](mailto:Southernchick888@hotmail.com) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](http://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)

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## **Campfire Talk: Owl Prowl**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Ever wonder whooo's going "hoot" in the night? Bring the whole flock and join naturalists Jamie Rogers & Brittney Hughes as we search for our resident owls. Your prowling will begin with learning how these amazing nocturnal predators are adapted to be stealthy at night or during the day, their habitats, and behaviors. After the program, you may choose to go on a night hike through the woods to listen for fascinating night sounds. (be sure to bring a flashlight/headlamp!)

Date: Saturday, July 31, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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# **August 2021**

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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! (reservations recommended early)

Dates: August 5-8, 2021

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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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (August 6th-8th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (August 13th-15th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (August 20th-22nd)**

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. Boat Shack Hours: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.  
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](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **Longleaf Pine Needle Basketry Class**

Learn the basics of pine needle basketry, an old craft with a long history. Join artist Brittney Hughes to learn the basic steps to making a coiled basket from longleaf pine needles. Each participant will learn the basic skills of pine needle basketry and take home their very own creation.  
The art of coiling baskets is universally common to indigenous peoples. Coiling is the technique of creating baskets and art from pine needles and was a part of pre-Columbian Native American crafts. Today, pine needle baskets and art are made primarily for decorative purposes. All materials (pine needles, thread, and small center for basket) will be furnished. Class is for ages 10 and up.  
Date: August 21, 2021  
Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama  
Time: 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CST)  
Fee: \$30 supply fee- Supply fee due day of class  
Pre-registration required by calling or emailing Brittney Hughes (NOT via Facebook); class number is limited in size. For details and to register, 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **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: Sunday, August 22, 2021  
Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm  
Where: DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park)  
Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)  
Pre-registration closes September 15th, 2021 -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 (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack- (August 27-29)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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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: Saturday, August 28, 2021

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 August 25th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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# **September 2021**

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack**

### **(September 3rd-5th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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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.

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: Saturday, September 4, 2021

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

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

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

Pre-registration closes September 1st, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (September 10th-12th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Campfire Talk: Traditional Southern Cooking**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

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

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

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

Date: September 17, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (September 17th-19th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking 101**

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 you can swing by anytime, & the best time 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: Saturday, September 18, 2021

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

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground next to site 93 (gate will open to the public)

Fee: Free & open to everyone. No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the demo, email

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

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## **Campfire Talk: Corn~A truly a-maize-ing Plant!**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone! Join geographer Kelly Gregg in a casual discussion of the origins of Native American corn, how it shaped American culture and cuisine, and how it went on to help feed the world!” Free & open to the public, bring the family along for fresh popcorn over the campfire! Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish.

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021

Time: 8:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: No pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## **Campfire Talk: Hiking 101**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

First time hiker, or one not yet confident on the trails? Join guest naturalist Amanda Glover from Lake Guntersville State Park for some ‘before’ you go’ info; the 10 essentials you will want to carry in your daypack, how to plan your hike, and what to be aware of while out in the Great Outdoors!

Tips to help you feel confident on the trail

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

Date: Friday, September 24, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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## **Miller’s Bend Paddle Shack (September 24th-26th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **White Tailed Deer in Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) are some of the most recognized wildlife in Alabama. They are a common sight along roadsides, in fields, and even in some backyards throughout the state. Deer are common residents of most rural parts of Alabama, as well as many of the urban and suburban areas of the state. Join guest naturalist Amanda Glover from Lake Guntersville State Park to learn more about White-tailed deer.

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

Date: Saturday, September 25, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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: Saturday, August 28, 2021

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 August 25th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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# October 2021

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## Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (October 1st-3rd)

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Campfire Talk: Falconry in Alabama**

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

Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located outside in DeSoto State Park. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (June –October) in our large campfire ring inside the improved campground. Talks are for all ages, & open to everyone!

Falconry is the hunting of wild animals in their natural state and habitat by means of a trained bird of prey. Join guest speaker Matt Whitfield to learn about falconry, which is one of the world's oldest forms of hunting. Falconry is currently practiced in many countries around the world. In Alabama, the most commonly used bird is the red-tailed hawk and squirrel is the most commonly pursued game animal. There are currently 58 permitted falconers in the state.

Matt is a licensed Falconer in the State of Alabama and has 2 captive bred Harris Hawk he will be bringing. Come on out to meet them and learn about these beautiful birds!

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

Date: Saturday, October 2, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (In case of inclement weather will be located in the CCC Pavilion in picnic area)

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; masks are respectfully requested when in proximity of others not in your household. For any details about the talk, email

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (October 8th-10th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (October 15th-17th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

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## **Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (October 22nd-24th)**

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.

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

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: 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.

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

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **Meandering Moonlight 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: Saturday October 23, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

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

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

Pre-registration closes October 20th, 2021 -5:00 p.m. To register, email

Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov. \*\*Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats and what type (single/tandem) requested for the trip. Payment will be required at time of registration\*\*

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# **November 2021**

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## **Creative Spirit Market**

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. 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!

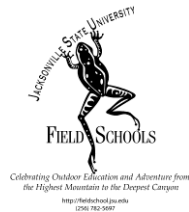
Dates: November 13 & 14, 2021 (Second weekend of November)

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

The market is held near DeSoto State Park's picnic area across from the Country Story on County Road 89. If the weather is chilly, market-goers can enjoy a blazing fire in the stone fireplace in the

CCC pavilion. Dogs on a leash are allowed in the park.  
 There is limited parking in the picnic area, the tennis court area, and in front of the Country Store.  
 If parking anywhere in the picnic area, a \$2 per vehicle fee applies. There is no fee to attend the  
 open-air market. Rain or shine event. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for any details.  
 Artist Entry Info: [www.littleriverartscouncil.org/artist-entry-form](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org/artist-entry-form)  
[www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market](http://www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market) #creativespiritmarket #desotostatepark

# December 2021



**For even more fun events, see**  
[www.Alapark.com/Events](http://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 <a href="mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov">Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov</a> <a href="http://www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort">www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort</a>
JSU Field Schools	256.845.3548	Niki Wayner <a href="mailto:fieldschool@jsu.edu">fieldschool@jsu.edu</a> <a href="http://www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/">www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/</a>



Little River Canyon National Preserve	256.845.9605	Matt Switzer <a href="mailto:Matt_switzer@nps.gov">Matt_switzer@nps.gov</a> <a href="http://www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm">www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm</a>
Russell Cave National Monument	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson <a href="http://www.nps.gov/ruca">www.nps.gov/ruca</a>