



Dedicated to Preserving & Protecting the Natural - Cultural Resource of Fall Creek Falls State Park

Campground Growing Pains

Staff Writer

We will be experiencing camping withdraw pains as Fall Creek Falls State Park begins Campground Renovation. The Park is pleased to announce the construction phase of a major campground renovation will begin in December 2008 and should be completed in December 2009.

The project includes the renovation of all remaining sites in Area "B" that were not renovated in Phase 1. Bathhouses #1 and #2 in Area "B" are scheduled to be upgraded and renovated also. Many of the sites in "B" area will be redesigned to allow easier entrance with a more level surface. Area "D" will receive a brand new bathroom as well as upgrades to several sites in that area. Both of these areas will receive new paving of the sites and roadways, additionally there will be limited paving in other areas.

The downside to such a major renovation is the necessity of the total closing of all campsites in the affected areas for the duration of the construction phase. Area "A", "E", and "C" should remain open throughout the project. However it is recommended to check with the park (800-250-8611) prior to your visit to check for last minute changes.

During this renovation process, Fall Creek Falls State Park will not be taking any camping reservations. We expect this "No Reservations" policy to remain in effect for the calendar year 2009 only. The park apologizes for the inconvenience this

will cause our dedicated campers but feel it is necessary due to the large number of "reservation" sites that will be closed.

We are excited about what these renovations will mean to the future of camping at Fall Creek Falls and ask that everyone bear with us during these "improving" times.

Although portions of our campground will be closed throughout 2009 - there are plenty of accommodations just outside the park perimeter. Enjoy the accommodations just outside the parks perimeter :: Cabins, B&B's hotel/motel, off site camping and RV parking, just to name a few.

Please plan accordingly for the Mountaineer Folk Festival - as our on site accommodations will be limited. For a complete listing of local lodging contact the Friends at

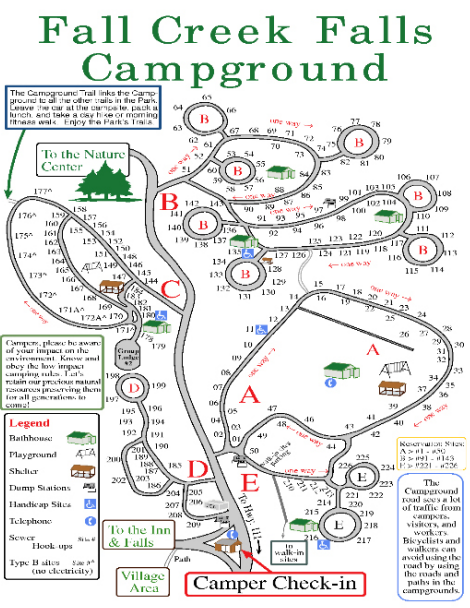


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Now is the perfect opportunity to get involved with your Park and your community. Share your talents and your time as we work together to keep the "Jewel of Tennessee" truly reflecting nature's splendor!

Friends of Fall Creek Falls, Inc.

is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the natural & cultural riches of Fall Creek Falls State Park.



Our purpose is to foster conservation efforts in support of Fall Creek Falls State Park, and to assist the Park in its efforts to better preserve & protect the existing land resources, including but not limited to the many natural, cultural and scenic features while providing assistance in quality recreational & interpretive experiences.

Board News

What's Going On?

Christmas on the Mountain

Although Christmas on the Mountain has come and gone it is no surprise why so many crafters, artisans and local communities look forward to this event each year - it is good wholesome fun for the entire family!

Crafter participation was 100% offering handmade gifts ranging from: quilts, jewelry, crocheted items, woodworking, home baked goodies, soy candles, Native American items, and much more! The Friends had a booth selling products from the Nature Center. This year we had our first ever "Silent Auction" where many found items at ridiculously low prices that made for some wonderful Christmas cheer!

New Committees Forming

Craft - Festival

It is difficult to believe, but we are already in the planning and development stages for the 31st Mountaineer Folk Festival. This year we have the good fortune to have Donna Cunningham as the Volunteer Lead for the Crafter's Committee(s). I would like to encourage each you to lend your time, energy or input as we continue to provide our communities and park guests with the highest quality in craftsmanship, and as always the highest level of quality and culturally significant events. If you have any questions regarding the CRAFTER'S COMMITTEE, please check our web & blog sites for updated information.

www.fallcreekfalls.org

www.fallcreekfalls.ning.com

or you can email Donna directly at donnasc@bledsoe.net

With your help, we can make this

fantastic event :: even better!

Volunteer Coordinator Named

Ron Graham was invited by Stuart Carroll to attend a Friend's meeting to see a presentation regarding the Mid-Cumberland Wilderness Area. Ron took a break from volunteering as a dishwasher/busboy in the Inn Restaurant and by the end of the meeting had volunteered to become the Volunteer Coordinator for the Friends and fill a seat on the Board.

Ron has worked for the State of Tennessee in Nashville for 26 years, most of that time with the Department of Environment and Conservation. He has two boys ages 21 and 17 and can be seen around the area in the company of Sandy Cunningham the Restaurant Manager. Ron's parents loved to camp and Fall Creek Falls became one of his

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Meet the Board

President

Larry Hensley :: Quebeck, TN 38579
unique38579@yahoo.com

Vice President

Cindy Price :: Dunlap, TN 37327
schlcb6@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Cyrus Rhode :: Spencer, TN 38585
turkeytrot@bledsoe.net

Secretary

Roland Creekmore :: Spencer, TN 38585
dustyllynn@blomand.net

Members

Sarah Sherwood Shawn Ramano
Scott Grissom Scott Grissom
Ron Graham

Staff Member: deNise Moore

Park Representative: Stuart Carroll



The Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park, Inc. newsletter is published quarterly. We look forward to your feedback, suggestions and input.



Editors

Cyrus Rhode / Sarah Sherwood

Designer/Staff Writer

deNise Moore

Contributors

Ron Graham Cyrus Rhode deNise Moore

If you would like to contribute information, photos or articles, please contact:

Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park, Inc.
Betty Dunn Nature Center
10821 Park Road
Pikeville, TN 37367

Phone: (423) 881-5708

Email: friendsofpcf@bledsoe.net

Find park information and a schedule of events on our website:

www.fallcreekfalls.org

www.fallcreekfalls.ning.com

Special Events

March 7

FCF Thaw 15km Run & Weekend Excursion

This is a 15km run traversing one of the most beautiful areas in the eastern United States. Entry forms are available from the park. A special package rate has been set for those staying for the Awards Banquet Saturday night. The price includes one night lodging in Fall Creek Inn, the Banquet meal, and breakfast on Sunday morning. Contact Fall Creek Inn for reservations at 1-800-250-8610.

March 21-22

Waterfalls Weekend

We will offer both easy jaunts and strenuous hikes to look at some of the area's beautiful waterfalls. Please call the Nature Center at (423) 881-5708 for more details.

April 4-5

28th Annual Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage

This is a very special weekend! We get to explore the park and see many wildflowers and breathtaking views. A variety of hikes, workshops, driving tours, and slide shows will be offered.

April 11-12

Easter Weekend

Join us in the Village Area for an Easter egg hunt on Saturday. A morning sunrise service will be offered at Mulikan's Overlook on Sunday morning.

April 17-19

Get Back to NATURE(al) Weekend Retreat

Come join us for spring in Tennessee and fun for all athletic ability levels. We'll do everything at this women's adventure retreat: daily yoga, a tea ceremony, paddling canoes or kayaks, cycling on or off road, swimming in natural pools (*weather dependant*) hiking the numerous trails, photography sessions, taking in the astounding beauty and spectacular views while finding some of the best kept secret spots. Not to mention reiki, massage, reflexology + will be available. Our guest speakers will bring ideas for incorporating a healthier lifestyle through exercise / diet / meditation. For more information contact Ann McCormick at ::

wyldeThymefarm@yahoo.com
www.WyldeThymeFarms.ning.com

April 24-25

Star Party 2009

Programs are entry level to professional level. Professional and amateur astronomers will be giving presentations. Dark sky field viewing will be Friday and Saturday night with alternate "bad weather" programs.

information, contact Allen Ball at mistal@bellsouth.net or Lloyd Watkins at watkinslk@comcast.net, or visit www.Cumberland-AstronomicalSociety.org. Please make reservations with Fall Creek Falls Inn at 1-800-250-8610 and ask about the special package deal.

Volunteer Coordinator Named continued from pg 1

favorite camping spots at an early age. Ron is happy to be able to spend so much time now in the Park and knows from his experience with State Government how important volunteers are going to be in the future to be stewards of the natural and cultural resources and enhance environmental education.

Feel free to contact Ron if you are interested in improving the Nature Center, helping build and maintain trails, surveying and monitoring the Park boundaries, assisting with land acquisition, keeping the Park clean, documenting the cultural history of the Park, assisting with Friend's membership drives, raising funds for the Friends, helping with events, developing maps and publications, constructing camps, bridges, signs, etc., or any other ideas that you may wish to champion.

To contact Ron you can email him at rngraham@aol.com, or can call the Nature Center at (423) 881-5708.

If you have ideas, suggestions, complaints WE want to hear from you. Join us and become part of the "Solution!"
friendsofcb@bledsoe.net

Friends of All Creek Falls State Park, Inc. Application for Membership

Our purpose is to foster conservation efforts in support of Fall Creek Falls State Park, and to assist the Park in its efforts to better preserve & protect the existing land resources, including but not limited to the many natural, cultural and scenic features while providing assistance in quality recreational & interpretive experiences. Your membership and donations go toward conservation and education projects in these fragile lands. The conservation projects are an investment in the future. Volunteer hours always needed & appreciated.

Date: _____

Names(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Enclosed you will find my membership dues for the "Friends of Fall Creek Falls." *Please check appropriately.*

Memberships For Year: _____ Renewal: New Member:

Student - \$8.00

Individual - \$15.00

Family - \$25.00

Business/Professional: \$50 +

Corporate/Sponsor: \$100 +

Additional Donations

\$50.00

\$75.00

\$100.00

Other

Please mail checks payable to:

Friends of Fall Creek Falls, Inc.

Betty Dunn Nature Center

10821 Park Road

Pikeville, TN 37367-9316

<http://www.fallcreekfalls.org>

"In the woods we return to reason and faith..." Emerson

Phone: (423) 881-5708
Email: friendsofcf@bledsoe.net
<http://www.fallcreekfalls.org>

Betty Dunn Nature Center
10821 Park Road
Pikeville, TN 37367-9316



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