



Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park News

Spring 2016

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Friends Present UTV to Fall Creek Falls' Rangers



The Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park, Inc. is a volunteer organization committed to fostering the conservation and education efforts of Fall Creek Falls State Park, assisting in the protection and preservation of the park's resources, and assisting the park in providing quality recreational and interpretive programming for the public. The Friends group supports the park every year in various ways such as, volunteerism, purchase of equipment, operating the bookstore in the Nature Center, and promoting park events. This year, the Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park is involved in big things, and they are showing that through volunteer support at events such as the Spring Thaw 15k and equipment purchases that are otherwise unavailable to park staff. One of the purchases recently donated to the rangers at Fall Creek Falls State Park is a fully outfitted and customized Polaris Ranger High Lifter, specifically to be used by the rangers at Fall Creek Falls State Park for the purpose of search and rescue, maintenance of the 30+ miles of trails and access roads that can be accessed by UTV in emergencies, and select special events such as the Spring Thaw and Mountaineer Folk Festival. The Friends group is hoping to resurface the basketball court in the Village Green this year as well, and encourages community support through membership with the group and donations so that their efforts might be a continued success.

Volunteering at the Spring Thaw Race and Another Volunteer Opportunity

The Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park assisted race staff with the Spring Thaw Race which took place on the park on March 6th. A record number of 227 runners/walkers took part in this event. The Friends group assisted with race set-up and manning water stations along the race route.

Another opportunity to volunteer will be Saturday, April 16th at 9am. This project involves helping with trail erosion control on the Chinquapin Ridge Mountain Bike Trail. If you would like to help with this project, please RSVP at friends@fallcreekfalls.org by Wednesday, April 13th for further instructions.

Contact Us

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friends@fallcreekfalls.org

Recent Accomplishments of the Friends



- Purchased a Polaris Ranger High Lifter and trailer for the park rangers at Fall Creek Falls
- Added LED TV to the Nature Center with an electronic slideshow for promoting the park and arts advocacy
- Built 40 benches for the Mountaineer Folk Festival
- Helped with the removal of invasive plants around the lake
- Assisted the state of Tennessee in reroofing the Nature Center through grant money
- Provided staffing for Nature Center at a near full time capacity, aiding in park visitor assistance
- Co-sponsored the Mountaineer Folk Festival and Christmas on the Mountain
- Assisted with funding for new carpet at Group Lodge 1
- Purchased sand for volleyball court in Campground A
- Purchased 2 AEDs for the park
- Much more!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

April 5th – Board Business Meeting – 6:30pm at the Fall Creek Falls State Park Inn
All members of the Friends of Fall Creek Falls State Park are welcome to attend.

April 16th – Tennessee Promise Volunteer Day – This volunteer project will begin at 9am. Volunteers are asked to help with a trail erosion control project on the Chiquapin Ridge Mountain Bike Trail. If you would like to help with this project, please RSVP at friends@fallcreekfalls.org by Wednesday, April 13th for further instructions.