

National Park Service Department of the Interior

Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area
Obed Wild & Scenic River



Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area

Park Hires Local Students. Eight local students are working in the park this summer as part of the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). The principal aim of the program is to actively involve students in hands-on experiences that promote work ethics, develop an appreciation for the environment, and learn from the park staff. Training and work projects are designed to help transition students into the workforce by providing them with basic, yet marketable work skills to increase their employment potential. The students are working primarily on trail maintenance at Blue Heron and are also helping with general park improvements, including: clearing park fences; painting gates, trash cans, and signs; picking up trash and litter from park grounds; and cleaning buildings. Each day the students also participate in professional development sessions with park managers, learning skills such as resume writing and interviewing.

And Hires More Students. Thanks to a partnership with the Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Youth Experience Program, Big South Fork hired three individuals for the summer from Scott County and Obed hired one from Morgan County. The students are learning about visitor services and resource stewardship by working at the campground and visitor center, treating Hemlock Woolley Adelgid with the park's botanists, and cataloging photographs and prints with the park's curator. The program targets economically challenged counties around the state and provides work experience and basic job ethics for youth to find success in getting employment. The County Workforce Offices matched the applicants to the jobs, the State of Tennessee provides the funding for their salaries, and the park provides on the job training. Definitely a win-win for everyone!



The 2013 Youth Conservation Corps reports for duty.

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Tom Sawyer Day on July 4th. The fun starts at noon at the Nemo Day Use Area. Bring a lunch and drinks and join us for a day of games and friendly competition, with prizes awarded to the top 3 in each event. Bring your own fishing poles, tackle and bait for the fishing contest. Participation is free and a Tennessee Fishing License is needed for those participants who are 13 years and older. All children must be accompanied by an adult. This program ends at approximately 4 p.m. (Eastern)

Calling All Photographers to submit entries for the 2nd annual photography exhibit at the Obed Wild and Scenic River Visitor Center. Images may show wildlife, plant life, natural landscapes, weather, or people interacting with nature within the Obed Wild and Scenic River. Entries must be received no later than August 19, 2013. Each entry must be accompanied by a completed entry form with all information clearly filled out. Entry forms may be downloaded from the park's website. <http://www.nps.gov/obed>. Entries may be emailed to (obri_information@nps.gov) or dropped off at or mailed to the Park Visitor Center. See the park's website for more details and entry forms.

Paddle with a Ranger on Sunday, July 7. Meet at the Nemo Day Use Area at 12:00 p.m. for a safe and easy way for children (ages 12 and under) to experience the river. Boats, paddles, life jackets and helmets are provided. Children must have a parent or responsible guardian present on the river bank at all times. Participants should dress to get wet and bring sunscreen and insect repellent. Children will receive basic instruction in paddling whitewater canoes and kayaks in the calm water above Nemo Bridge. The program ends around 2:00 p.m. No reservations needed.

Lots more happening! Call the Visitor Centers for information about the new and exciting Interpretive programs happening at both parks.

Bandy Creek Visitor Center at (423) 286-7275

or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/biso

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Obed Visitor Center at (423) 346-6294

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