

National Park Service Department of the Interior

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



Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Informational Meeting to Discuss Conservation & Tourism Efforts in the Region. The park will host a Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program information session on Tuesday, May 20 at 5 pm in the Bandy Creek Interpretation & Education Building. The meeting will introduce the RTCA program to our local communities surrounding the Big South Fork and Obed and to discuss how the programs may be helpful to ongoing tourism-related planning in the area. The meeting is open to everyone. For more information on RTCA programs, visit <http://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca>.

Park Receives Grant for “Exploring Your Backyard — The Park Next Door” Program.

The National Parks Foundation awarded the park \$20,000 to develop a sustainable, overnight educational camp to be held at Bandy Creek. Funding will be used to purchase equipment, defray costs to the school system, and finish outfitting the new Interpretation & Education building’s classroom with the latest learning technologies.

Other Upcoming Events.

- Wildflower Walks (Yahoo Falls) May 2 & May 3 at 9 am and 1 pm.
- Bird Walk (Blue Heron Mining Community) May 2 at 9 am.
- Myth, Magic & Medicine (Blue Heron Mining Community) May 3 at 1 pm.
- Bandy Creek Pool opens on May 24.



Bandy Creek Pool will be open weekends & holidays (noon - 6)

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Birding Walk on May 3rd. Over 150 bird species have been documented in the Obed and spring is an excellent time to see them. Join Dr. Charles Nicholson for an interesting & informative outing. Chuck is the author of the *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Tennessee* and serves on the board of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. Meet at Lilly Bridge at 8 am. Attendees will receive a handy checklist of Obed’s birds.

Premiere of New Park Movie. To capture the heart of the Obed, the film crew of Silver Fir Media braved ice storms, Class IV rapids and the park’s steeply overhanging cliffs to give visitors a glimpse of the park like never before seen. The result is an intimate look into the heart of the park. Visitors are encouraged to join park staff as they roll out the red carpet for an evening of live music, popcorn and refreshments and the unveiling of a truly unique short film. This free event begins at 5 pm on Friday, May 23 at the Visitor Center. No reservations are required.

Other May Program Highlights.

- Coffee/Climb with a Ranger (Lilly Bridge) May 3 at 10 am.
- Preschool Storytime (Visitor Center) Fridays at 10:30 am.
- Annual River Clean-Up & Volunteer Appreciation Lunch (Visitor Center) May 10 at 8:30 am.
- Memories of the Obed with Pioneer Plateau Paddlers (Visitor Center) May 10 at 2 pm.

Contact the Visitor Centers for information on all the current programs & activities happening in the parks.

Bandy Creek Visitor Center
(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/biso
Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR

The Obed Visitor Center
(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/obed
Twitter@ObedWSR