



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Congaree National Park

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Congaree News Release

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Butterfly Count at Congaree National Park - Volunteers Needed

Congaree National Park is seeking volunteer "citizen scientists" of all ages to help with the park's annual Butterfly Count. The 2007 Congaree National Park Butterfly Count will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2007 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Volunteers will meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Harry Hampton Visitor Center. In preparation for the 2007 count, a free butterfly identification skills training session will be offered at Congaree National Park on Saturday June 9th, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Participants will learn tips and techniques for identifying butterfly species as well as methods for attracting butterflies to their own backyard. To register for the training session, the annual count or for more information, please contact: Theresa Yednock, at 803-776-4396, ext. 21, or via email at Theresa_Yednock@nps.gov.

The park's first formal Butterfly Count was conducted nearly 10 years ago in cooperation with the North American Butterfly Association. Comparisons of the results over the years monitor changes in butterfly populations and reveal effects of weather and habitat change on the different species. In some years the butterfly count shows dramatic changes in butterfly populations, while other years indicate little fluctuation in butterfly numbers. Either way, butterfly counters are always curious about what next year's results will be!

Congaree National Park, is located southeast of Columbia, off of Bluff Road (state route 48), in Hopkins, South Carolina. The 26,000 acre park is situated within the floodplain of the Congaree River. Visitors come from all over the world to experience the park's old growth forests, champion sized trees, and rich

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biodiversity. For additional information about current programs or for general information about the park, visit the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/cong>.