



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Old-Growth Bottomland Forest
Research and
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Congaree News Release

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Congaree National Park Fall Lecture Series: 2008 SCHEDULE

The Old-Growth Bottomland Forest Research and Education Center at Congaree National Park is pleased to announce the start of the 2008 Fall Lecture Series. The purpose of this lecture series is to present information about the diverse research projects being conducted at Congaree National Park while providing a forum where scientists, park visitors, volunteers, and the local community can interact. Lectures will take place the first or second Wednesday of each month from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Harry Hampton Visitor Center auditorium at Congaree National Park. Following a presentation by the invited speaker(s), guests will have the opportunity to ask questions or to request additional information. Please come ready to learn and ask questions! All are encouraged to attend. Reservations are not required for attendance and participation. For more information, please contact Theresa Thom at 803-695-0214. The fall schedule for 2008 includes:

Wednesday, September 10, 2008 – *Dragonfly Research at Congaree National Park*

Dr. Wade Worthen, a professor at Furman University, will present recent results from his on-going work related to dragonfly/damselfly habitat use, competition, and predation. He will also offer advice for identifying these incredible invertebrate predators, and inform us about several species newly documented within Congaree National Park.

Wednesday, October 8, 2008 – *Amphibians & Reptiles at Congaree: Conservation Perspectives*

Mr. Steve Bennett, a herpetologist with SC DNR, will discuss various issues surrounding conservation of amphibians and reptiles in the Southeast. He will show photos of amphibians and reptiles found within Congaree National Park, and discuss the challenges many of these species face in a changing environment.

Wednesday, November 5, 2008 – *Champion Trees Living in Congaree National Park*

Did you ever wonder how a tree becomes a champion? NPS Staff will provide information about the State and National champion trees found within Congaree National Park. Highlights about on-going forest ecology research at Congaree will also be presented.

Wednesday, December 3, 2008 – *Freshwater Mussels of the Congaree & Wateree Rivers*

Did you know that 70% of our freshwater mussels are extinct, endangered, or in need of special protection? NPS Staff will summarize inventory work conducted within Congaree National Park on these unique invertebrates; including life cycle, ecology, and threats to these beneficial aquatic invertebrates.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.