



## Colorful Splendor



Welcome to Obed Wild & Scenic River. The days are getting shorter, and the air is getting cooler, but there's still plenty to see and do in the fall/winter months, and we know you are going to enjoy seeing the seasons change during your visit here.

Fall is a time of transition for Obed. The park's vibrant fall foliage peaks in late October, and once the leaves are gone, unobstructed views of panoramic vistas and detailed ice sculptures cannot help but be noticed. Wildlife is busy getting ready for the winter months by preparing their dens, growing out their winter coats, and storing up enough food to last them through spring. They can often times be clearly seen during this time of year, but please respect wildlife and observe them from a distance.

The temperatures during this time of year are ideal for taking in the park's 5,000 acres by hiking its 20+ miles of trails, and along 45 miles of stunning free-flowing rivers and streams. Fall is also a great time for camping at Rock Creek Campground, which is open year-round. Be sure to check the weather forecast ahead of time and pack accordingly to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience regardless of your activity.

Take the opportunity to read this guide, so you can make the best use of your time at Obed Wild & Scenic River. If you would like to learn more about the park, its resources, and its recreational opportunities, you can talk with a park ranger at the Obed Visitor Center in Wartburg, join us on one of our free ranger-led programs, or visit us online at [www.nps.gov/obed](http://www.nps.gov/obed).



### Welcome to the Obed Wild & Scenic River!

A visit to Obed can begin a lifetime of experiences exploring your National Park System. In 2016, the National Park Service will celebrate its 100th birthday. As we engage the next generation of park visitors, supports, and advocates, we invite you to Find Your Park.

Myriad outdoor activities and adventures are available. Whether it's kayaking Class II to Class IV rapids, rock climbing the hundreds of climbing routes, hiking the many miles of trails, which take you to breath-taking overlooks, or fishing for bass, bluegill, and muskie, Obed Wild & Scenic River will leave you wanting to return for more.

In addition to Obed, Tennessee boasts 12 other national park sites. Each of these special places shares a unique story, preserves a part of our collective history, or offers an opportunity to view incredible landscapes.

As you **Find Your Park** and discover what these places mean to you, whether it is Obed Wild & Scenic River, Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area, or your neighborhood green space, take a moment to think about what makes these places so special. Explore Obed, explore Tennessee, and explore the 400+ national park sites all across the country, in all 50 states.

If you are unsure how, or where to begin your next adventure, please stop by the visitor center and talk to watch our award-winning orientation film, and get the latest news and information about the park from our knowledgeable staff.

I hope you've found your park at Obed Wild & Scenic River.

Niki Stephanie Nicholas  
Superintendent

### 4 Park Map

This map shows how to get to the most popular points of interest in our park.

### 6 Walks and Talks Schedule

Find out when the next ranger program will take place and join us.

### 7 Hey Ranger!

See what the commonly asked questions are for the park. See if your questions are answered here.





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Obed Wild & Scenic River

### Mailing Address

PO Box 429  
Wartburg, TN 37887

### E-mail

obri\_information@nps.gov

### Park Headquarters

(423) 346-6294



### STAY CONNECTED WITH US

Follow us on Twitter

@ObedNPS

Like us on Facebook as

ObedWSR

Visit our website at

[www.nps.gov/obed](http://www.nps.gov/obed)

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



**Free WIFI is available at the Visitor Center.**



Front page photos: Fall Forest Canopy; Nemo Bridge; Point Trail Arch.

# Events Calendar

All events are Eastern Time. All interpretive programs are subject to change. Contact Obed Wild and Scenic River Visitor Center at (423) 346-6294 for program details.

## ASTRONOMY/DARK SKIES PROGRAM

Constantly changing East Tennessee weather prevails opportunities for short notice programs calibrating the wonders of the heavens and the value of the park's dark skies. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter for details.

## MEMORIES OF THE OBED

This free program is held inside the Obed Visitor Center, located at 208 North Maiden Street in downtown Wartburg, and is part of a series of regular programs that explores the unique river-related memories of local individuals. Different speakers are scheduled to share their memories of life in the vicinity of the river. Check with the Obed Visitor Center for upcoming dates and times.

## HEALTHY HIKES

In celebration of the National Park Service's upcoming Centennial in 2016, the monthly Obed Healthy Hikes provide the public with ranger-led activities that allow park visitors the opportunity to further discover our national parks. Check with the Obed Visitor Center for upcoming dates and times.

## PRIMITIVE BOW/WEAPONRY WORKSHOPS

The Obed Wild and Scenic River, in partnership with bowyer Travis Gosnell, hosts a primitive bow workshop each month. Visitors who attend the primitive bow workshop will have the opportunity to help in the process of building a primitive bow and ask Travis questions about other primitive weapons.

## COFFEE AND CLIMB WITH A RANGER PROGRAM

On the first Saturday of each month, the Climb with a Ranger program introduces rock climbing to individuals who have always wanted to try the activity but who did not know where to begin. All necessary gear is provided. Depending on interests and ability levels, participants will travel with rangers to one of several different climbing areas around the park. Would be rock climbers of all ages are encouraged to attend. These programs will be held regardless of weather conditions. Attend one program or both. No reservations are necessary for these free events.

## OBED PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

The Obed Wild and Scenic River hosts a preschool story time event every Friday morning, beginning at 10:30 a.m. (ET). Story time lasts for about 30 minutes. All preschool children (and their parents or guardians) are invited to attend. Children are encouraged to bring their favorite book to be read by a ranger and a pillow or blanket if desired. This is a free event, and no reservations are required.

## ADOPT-A-CRAG

This annual event will occur on September 12, 2015. Climbers and any interested volunteers help to pick up trash and do trail maintenance work around the park.

# BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER

Obed WSR has a Junior Ranger book and a cool cloth patch for you to earn for your jacket or book bag. Kids from age 4 to 12 are invited to use this book to explore Obed with Obediah, the Owl. Many activities will help you learn about animals, plants, rocks, and rivers.



# Fee Free Days at Obed

On a variety of holidays, as well as the annual "National Park Week," entrance fees are waived at all National Parks. Learn more about fee free days in the national parks at <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm>.

Although Obed does not collect entrance fees, we do have use fees. The park's superintendent is in support of fee free days for camping at Rock Creek Campground. The following dates are the remaining official fee free days of 2015:

September 26 -- National Public Lands Day  
November 11 -- Veterans Day

Fee Free Days for 2016 will be announced in late December.



## User Fees of Obed Wild & Scenic River

### CAMPING FEES

ROCK CREEK CAMPGROUND  
ALL SITES 11 SITES  
\$7-NIGHT (8 PERSON MAX.)\*



### PERMITS

HOG PERMITS \$5\*/PERSON

### PASSES

INTERAGENCY SENIOR PASS  
\$10 ONE TIME FEE

INTERAGENCY ACCESS PASS  
FREE WITH PROOF OF DISABILITY

INTERAGENCY PARK PASS  
\$80

INTERAGENCY MILITARY PASS  
FREE WITH PROOF OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

GET YOUR INTERAGENCY PASS ONLINE AT [store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html](http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html) or at one of our visitor centers.

\*Holders of the Interagency Golden Age/Access Passports pay only half the fee.



### CONCESSIONAIRE

Eastern National  
Bookstore  
(423) 346-6295  
[www.eparks.com/store](http://www.eparks.com/store)

### PERMITTED OUTFITTER

Ace Kayaking School  
River Guide  
2368 Old Federal Rd  
Ocoee, TN 37361  
865-385-3204  
[acekayaking@gmail.com](mailto:acekayaking@gmail.com)  
[www.acekayaking.com](http://www.acekayaking.com)

## LOST AND FOUND

Report any lost items to rangers at the Obed Visitor Center located at 208 North Maiden Street in downtown Wartburg, Tennessee. Found items should be turned in at this location as well.

## Be a part of our team... become a volunteer

For information on how you can become a National Park Service volunteer, contact Volunteer Coordinator Veronica Greear at (423) 346-6294, or email us at [obri\\_information@nps.gov](mailto:obri_information@nps.gov). Visit us online at [www.nps.gov/obed/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/obed/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm) to see all of the wonderful opportunities that are available.



## Having a race, or getting married?



Special events in the park such as river races or weddings require a special use permit. If you need more information about how to obtain a special use permit, contact the Fee Program Manager, Letitia Neal at 423-569-2404 ext. 240 or by email at [tish\\_neal@nps.gov](mailto:tish_neal@nps.gov). Information can also be found on our website at [www.nps.gov/obed/playourvisit/permits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/obed/playourvisit/permits.htm).

## Pets

Pets are allowed within the park. However, in order to protect your pet and the park's wildlife, all pets must be kept on a leash (no longer than 6 feet) at all times even if you have your dog with you when riding a horse. Be sure to clean up after your pet.

Before coming to the park make sure your pet is up to date on all vaccinations including rabies. Pets should have identification and rabies tags on their collars. Make sure you check for ticks on you and your pet after visiting the park.

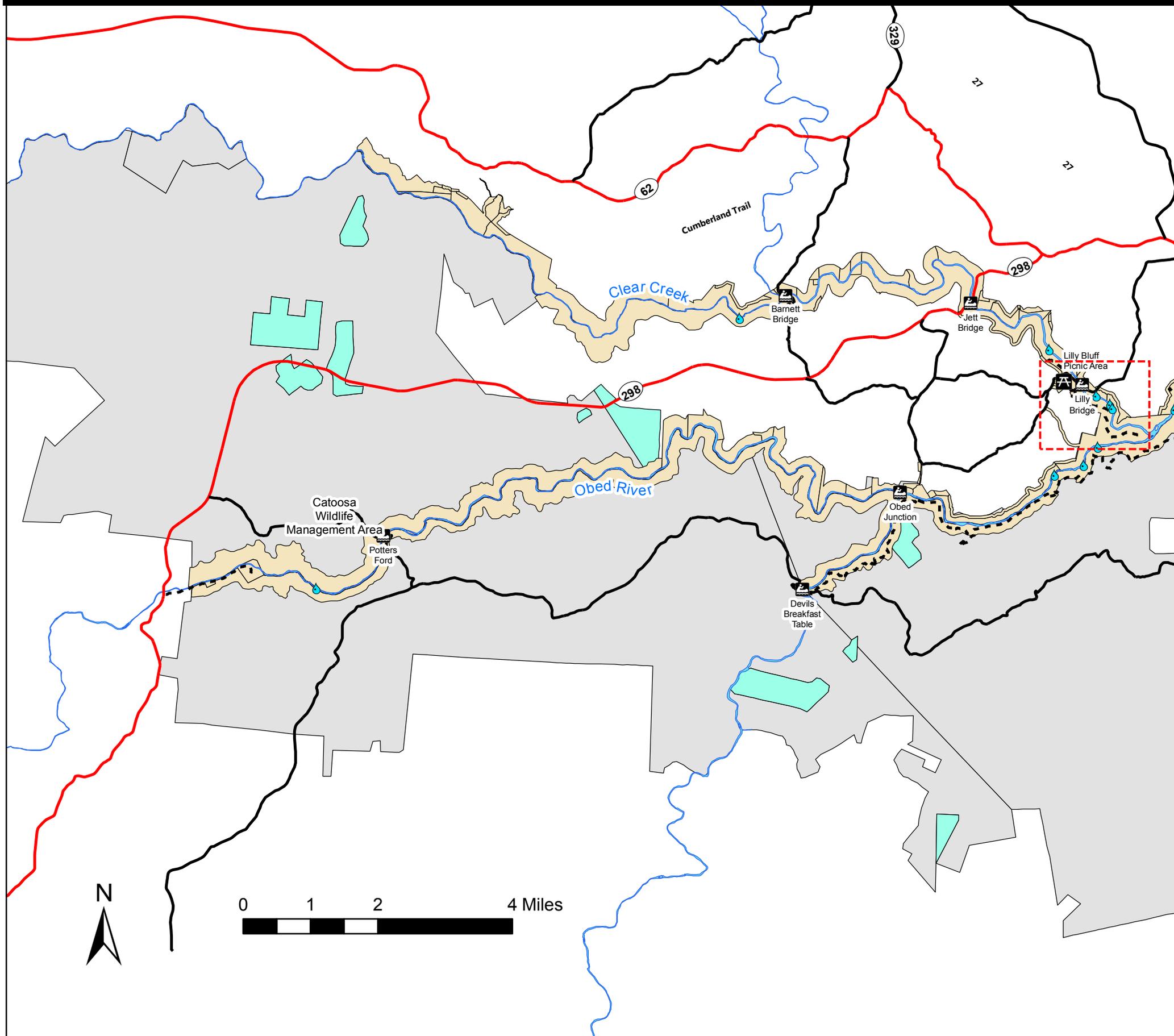


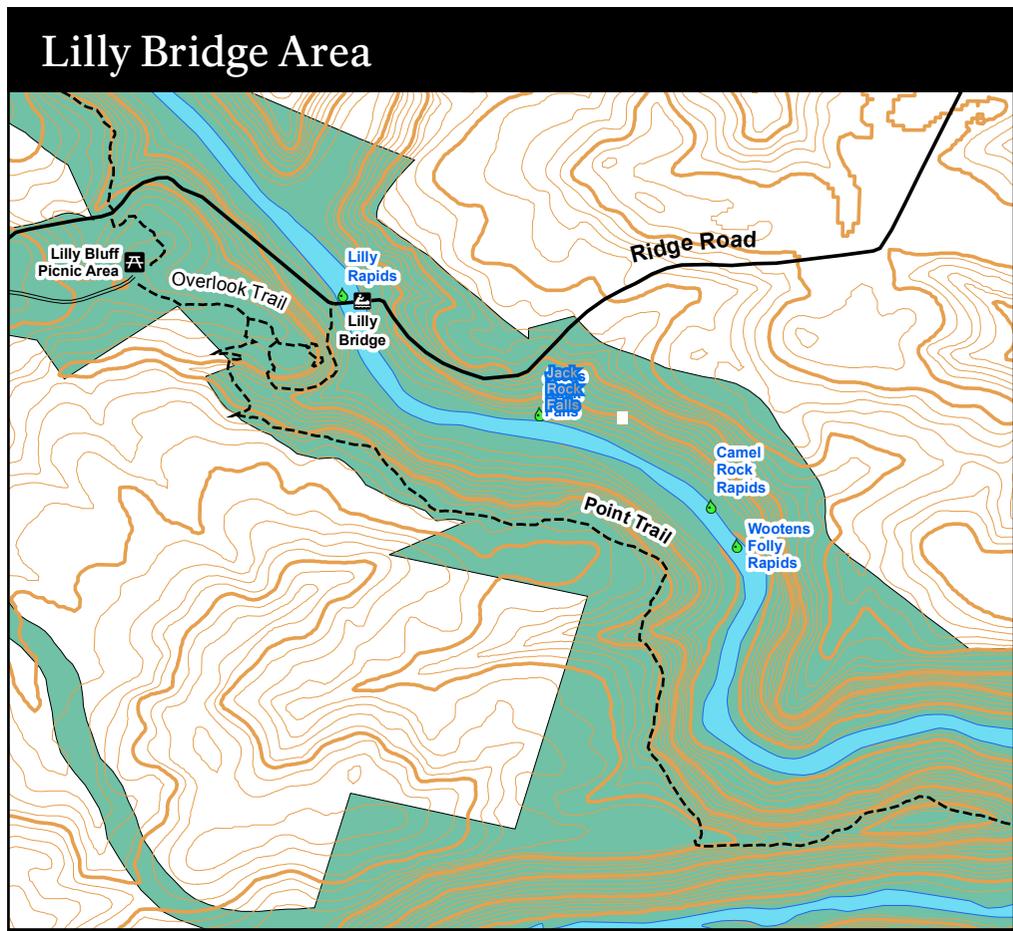
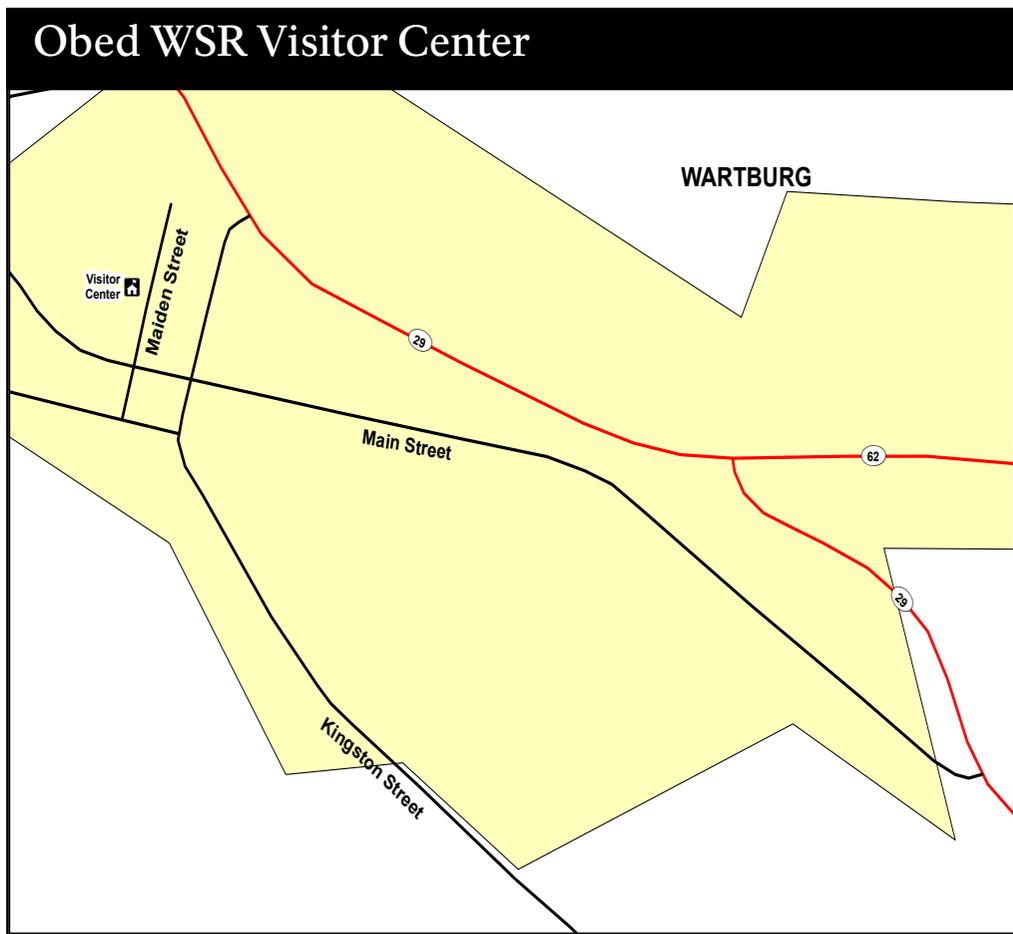
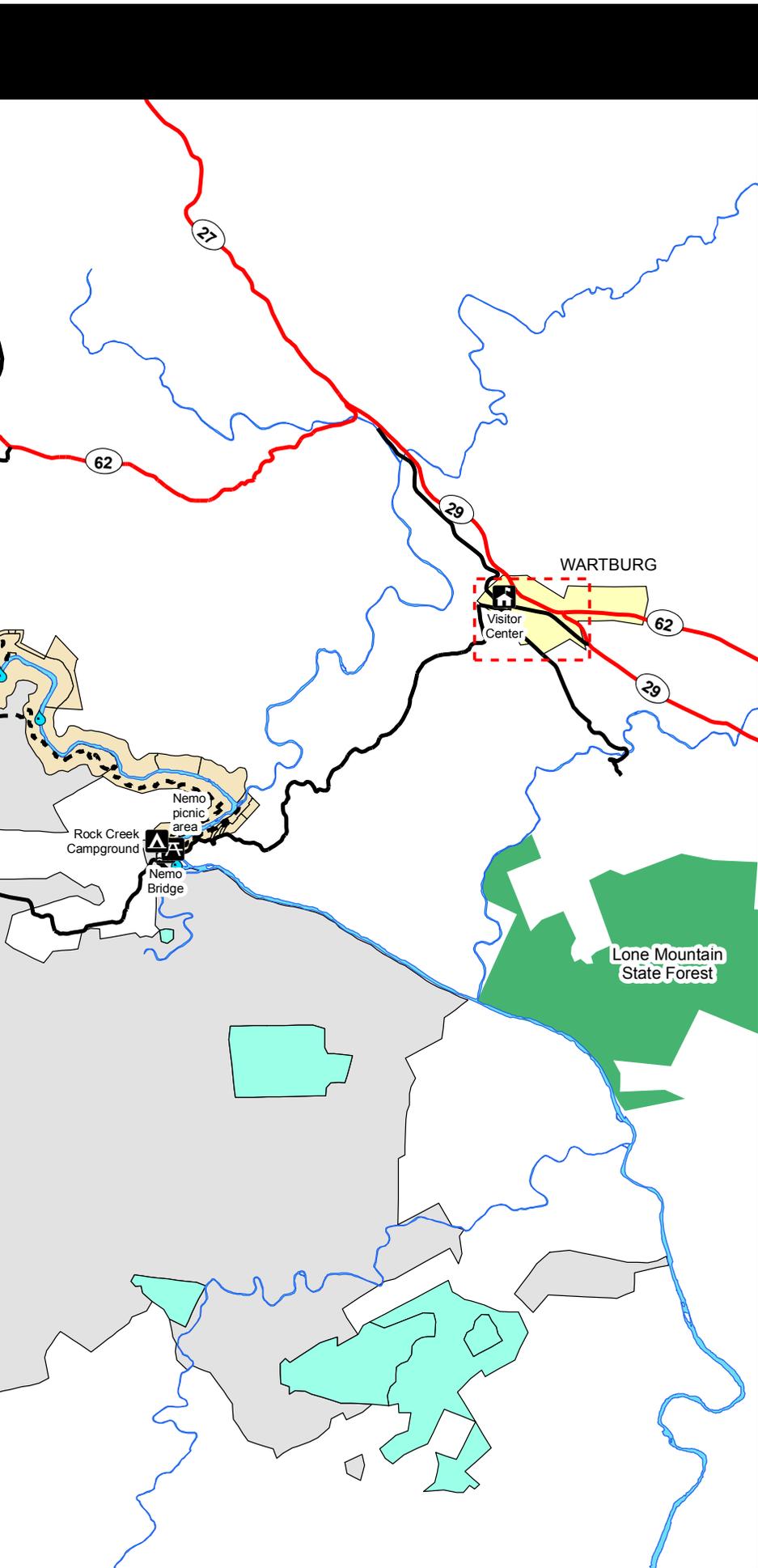
## BACKCOUNTRY PERMITS

Anyone planning to camp overnight in the backcountry must obtain a free backcountry permit. A permit can be obtained at the Obed Visitor Center or you may download the form online by scanning the QR code here (<http://www.nps.gov/obed/playourvisit/upload/OBRI-Backcountry-Use-Permit.pdf>).



# Obed Wild & Scenic River





# Hiking Trails of the Obed

	Trail Name	Rating	Distance	Time	Description
1	Point Trail	Moderate	1.9 miles	3 hours round trip	This trail culminates on the narrow, exposed ridge that separates the Obed River from Clear Creek before the two flow together.
2	Bridge Trail	Moderate	.3 mile	15-20 minutes	This trail follows steep terrain from Lilly Bridge to the Overlook Trail.
3	Overlook Trail	Easy	.3 mile	10 minutes	Flat stroll through Hemlock forest to a great overlook of the Clear Creek Gorge.
4	Boulder Field Trail	Easy/Moderate	.2 mile	10 minutes	Trail leaves the Lilly Bluff Overlook parking area and winds through huge boulders and impressive stands of Hemlock.
5	Nature Loop	Moderate	1 mile round trip	30 minutes	Trail leaves from Rock Creek parking area and follows the Cumberland Trail to loop back to parking area. Portions of this trail follow the river.
6	Alley Ford	Moderate/Difficult	2.6 miles	2 1/2 hours	Trail follows the Cumberland Trail to an old popular river ford site.
7	Devil's Breakfast Table - Rock Creek	Difficult	14.2 miles	8 hours minimum	This trail passes through rugged terrain and offers numerous overlooks of the river canyon. Large portions of this trail are within the Catoosa Wildlife Management Area and are subject to periodic closures
8	Nemo to Wartburg Trail	Easy/Moderate	2.6 miles round trip	2 hours	This trail leaves from Rock Creek parking area, crosses over the historic iron Nemo Bridge, and reaches a stunning overlook of the Obed at its confluence with the Emory River.

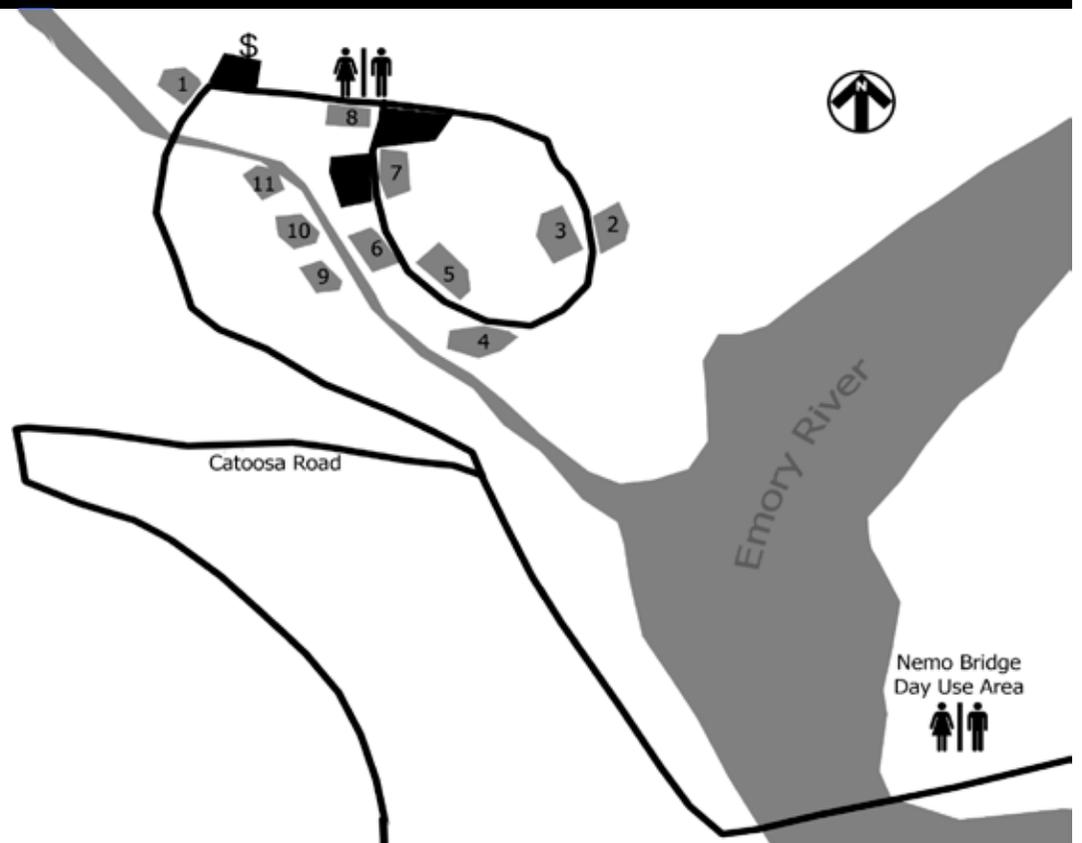
## Our Park Campground



### ROCK CREEK CAMPGROUND

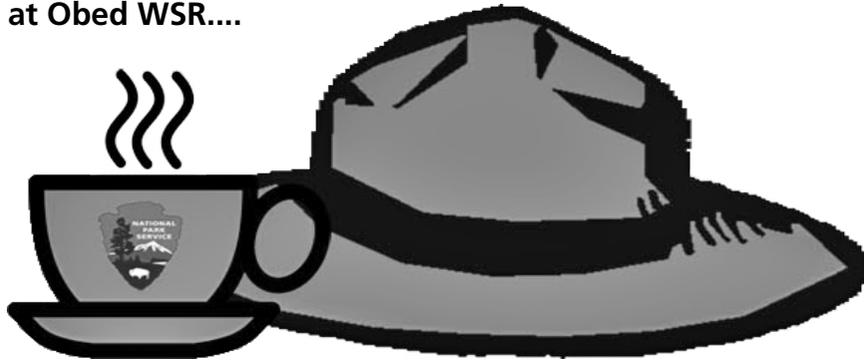
Rock Creek is a primitive campground open year-round and offers eleven campsites at \$7 per night. There is a newly updated vault toilet facility as well as food storage lockers and wildlife-proof garbage cans throughout the campground to use. No drinking water is located at this area. For more information, call (423) 346-6294.

***Experience all that Obed has to offer by staying a while.***



# Hey Ranger!

Most commonly asked questions at Obed WSR....



## Can I bring firewood from home into the park?

Only if the firewood is from Morgan or Cumberland Counties, otherwise wood is available from local suppliers.

## What type of fish can be caught at the Obed?

Smallmouth and largemouth bass, bluegills, catfish, and even an occasional muskie can be caught at Obed.

## How much does it cost to visit the Obed?

Obed WSR is free to all visitors year round. For those wishing to camp overnight at the Rock Creek Campground, the fee is \$7 per night and is payable at the campground. The campground is run on a first-come, first-served arrangement. No reservations are needed.

## Is backcountry camping allowed in the park?

Yes. A free backcountry camping permit is required and can be obtained at the Obed Visitor Center or online. See page 3 for more information.

## What is the best time of year to see the Obed?

You can find something of interest every time of the year. However, many people come during the spring to kayak the river. Many others come during the fall to view the wide variety of leaves changing colors. Avid campers populate our Rock Creek Campground most often during the summer months.

## Is ginseng allowed to be collected within the park?

No. It is illegal for any person to dig, harvest, collect or remove wild ginseng from any park owned lands.

## Can I bring my dog to the Obed?

Certainly. However, all pets must remain on a leash of no more than six feet in length. Never leave your pet unattended.

## Where is the Obed Visitor Center located?

The Obed Visitor Center is located at 208 N. Maiden Street in downtown Wartburg, Tennessee. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET daily.

## What holidays is the park closed?

The Obed WSR is open all year round. However the Visitor Center is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

## Where are the recycle bins located?

They can be found at the Obed Visitor Center, Rock Creek Campground, Nemo Day Use Area, and the Lilly Bluff Parking Lot.

## How many rock climbing routes does the Obed have?

The Obed currently has almost 400 different rock climbing routes, ranging from sport and traditional climbing to bouldering.

## Do you have a park movie?

Yes. The Obed park movie is shown upon request inside the Obed Visitor Center. It is about 15 minutes long.

## Are there restroom facilities in the park?

Yes. Restroom facilities can be found at the Nemo, Lilly Bridge, Lilly Bluff, Jett, and Barnett sections of the park.

## Are glass containers allowed in the park?

Not within 100 feet of any stream or river.

## What classification of rapids are available at the Obed?

The various sections of the Obed WSR run from a Class II to a Class IV rapid. The sections include Clear Creek, Daddys Creek, the Emory River, and the Obed River.

## Where can I enjoy a picnic lunch at the Obed?

Many people picnic at the Nemo section of the park, where picnic tables and small grilling stations are located. Still others enjoy taking a bag lunch to Lilly Bluff and enjoying the scenery at the Overlook while eating.

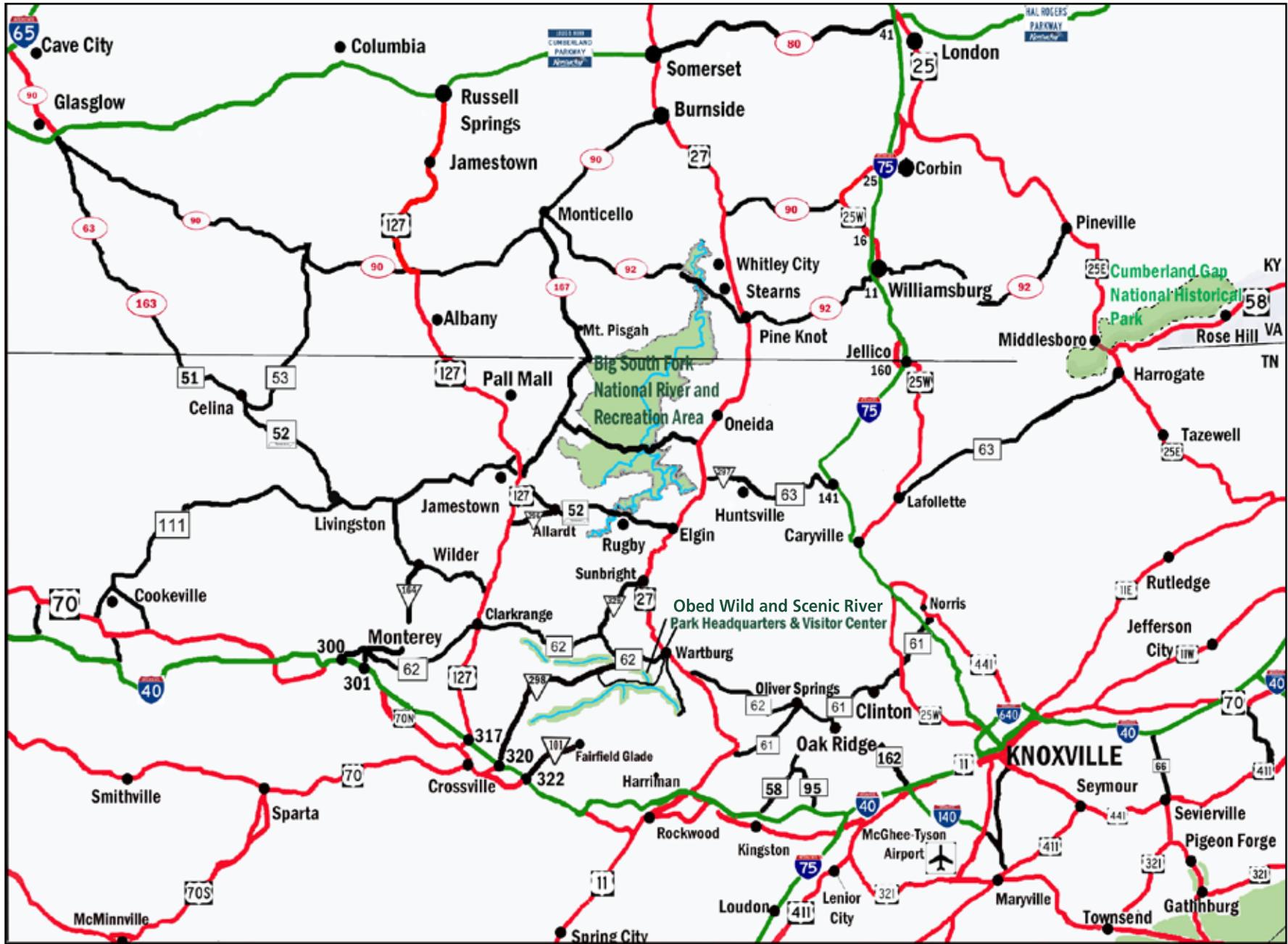
## Where are your hiking trails located?

Most of Obed's hiking trails are located at the Lilly Bluff section of the park. They include the Overlook Trail, the Point Trail, the Bridge Trail, and the Boulder Trail. Several trails can also be found at the Nemo section of the park. They include the Emory River Nature Trail, and our section of the Cumberland Trail.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Obed Wild and Scenic River  
PO Box 429  
Wartburg, TN 37841



**Obed Wild & Scenic River**

PO Box 428  
208 N. Maiden Street  
Wartburg, TN  
(423) 346-6294  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET  
Open daily.

**Crossville Visitor Center**

176 River Otter Drive  
Crossville, TN 38571  
(931) 787-1755  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT  
Saturdays and Sundays



SCAN THIS CODE  
for directions from website

**DIAL 911**  
for EMERGENCIES

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Morgan County Ambulance  
Wartburg, TN  
(423) 346-6601

Morgan County Sheriff  
Wartburg, TN  
(423) 346-6262

Morgan County Medical Center  
224 Old Mill Road  
Wartburg, TN  
(423) 346-6221

Roane Medical Center  
412 Devonia Street  
Harriman, TN  
(865) 882-1323

Ambulatory Care Center  
1236 Knoxville Hwy  
Wartburg, TN  
(423) 346-5566