



Unravel an Adventure



Welcome to the Obed Wild and Scenic River. We know that you will enjoy spending quiet time or thrilling outdoor adventures recreating in the park this summer. The park's 5,000 acres surround 45 miles of rivers and streams that are full of recreational opportunities including hiking, climbing, camping and bird watching.

The Obed Wild and Scenic River includes four principle waterways of the park's watershed, the Obed River, Clear Creek, Daddy's Creek, and the Emory River. These creeks and rivers have been running their course for thousands of years carving into the sandstone and creating spectacular gorges with cliffs up to 400 feet above the streams below. Huge sandstone boulders in the rivers and creeks create challenging whitewater rapids enjoyed by whitewater enthusiasts from around the world. The cliffs of the Obed are world renowned with almost 400 named routes that vary in difficulty from 5.7 to 5.13.

This news guide is designed to help you discover, plan your stay, and enjoy everything your Obed Wild and Scenic River has to offer. Everyone who comes will be seeking their own connection to their park so we have designed the 2015 summer paper around some of the recreational activities available to you. The Obed is all about enjoying the outdoors so dust off your camping gear, hiking boots, climbing gear, and fishing tackle. Spend your summer in the outdoors with us. While you are here, hike The Point Trail, out to the Lilly Overlook or the Cumberland Trail, try your luck fishing miles of pristine river, bring your gear and test yours skills on some of the park's famous climbing routes, or join the rangers on the first Saturday of the month to learn the sport. You can also bring your raft, tube or kayak to enjoy some time on the river.

If you would like to learn more about the park, its resources, and its recreational opportunities you can talk to a ranger at the Obed Wild and Scenic River Visitor Center, or join us on one of our ranger-led programs. Take the opportunity to read this guide so you can make the best use of your time at the Obed Wild and Scenic River.



Welcome to the Obed Wild and Scenic River!

On August 25, 2016, the National Park Service will observe its 100th birthday, and 2016 also marks the 40th Anniversary of the creation of the Obed Wild and Scenic River. As we celebrate these milestones over the course of the intervening months, we invite you to explore the Obed and find new ways to make it *your* National Park.

A variety of outdoor activities await you at the Obed Wild and Scenic River. Kayaking, canoeing and rafting are popular seasonal activities. During the right conditions, the river system includes whitewater runs that range from Class II to Class IV. Rock climbing and bouldering are also available at the park. Hundreds of climbing routes ranging up to 200 feet in length are available. For those who love to fish, the Obed is home to a variety of bass, bluegill, catfish and muskie, among others. If hiking is what you seek you can enjoy several different hiking trails at varying lengths throughout the park, or join a ranger-led hike or program.

If you are looking for ideas, stop at the park's Visitor Center at 208 North Maiden Street in Wartburg and explore the exhibits, pick up information, talk to a ranger, and watch our new park movie titled "Find Yourself Here". After learning more about the park, rangers can direct you to the activities you seek and you can find out what the Obed Wild and Scenic River holds for you. Your experience awaits you. I hope to see you in the park.

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.

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.





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Obed Wild and 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

@ObedWSR

Like us on Facebook as

ObedWSR

Visit our website at

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.

WIFI is available at the Visitor Center.



Front page photos: Lilly Rapid; Lilly Boulderfield by Adam Brimer; Lilly Overlook

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.

NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP DAY AND VOLUNTEER LUNCH

Join us on Saturday, May 16, 2015 for this annual event. Volunteers, scouting groups, and whitewater paddling groups team up to clean up all access to the park. Following the cleanup, a picnic lunch at the Obed Visitor Center is provided to all volunteers.

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.

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Photographers are invited to submit entries for the fourth annual photography exhibit at the Obed Wild and Scenic River Visitor Center. The NPS is looking for striking digital images in one of five categories: action/adventure, artistic, flora/fauna, landscapes, and youth (17 and under). Photos must be submitted by July 21. Gala award celebration will occur on August 21. Submission information and rules and regulations can be found at www.nps.gov/obed.

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. Each month a different speaker shares their memories of life in the vicinity of the river.

HEALTHY HIKES

In celebration of the National Park Service's upcoming Centennial in 2016, the 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 this year. Climbers and any interested volunteers help to pick up trash and do trail maintenance work around the park.

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 official fee free days of 2015:

January 19 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
February 14-16 - President's Day weekend
April 18-19 - Opening weekend of National Park Week
August 25 -- National Park Service's 99th Birthday
September 26 -- National Public Lands Day
November 11 -- Veterans Day



User Fees of Obed Wild and Scenic River

CAMPING FEES

ROCK CREEK CAMPGROUND
ALL SITES 11 SITES
\$7.00-NIGHT (8 PERSON MAX.)*



PERMITS

HOG PERMITS \$5.00*/PERSON

PASSES

INTERAGENCY SENIOR PASS
\$10.00 ONE TIME FEE
INTERAGENCY ACCESS PASS
FREE WITH PROOF OF DISABILITY
INTERAGENCY PARK PASS
\$80.00



INTERAGENCY MILITARY PASS
FREE WITH PROOF OF ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

GET YOUR INTERAGENCY PASS ONLINE AT 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

PERMITTED OUTFITTER

Ace Kayaking School
River Guide
2368 Old Federal Rd
Ocoee, TN 37361
423-716-7666
acekayaking@gmail.com
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. Visit us online at 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. Information can also be found on our website at 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.

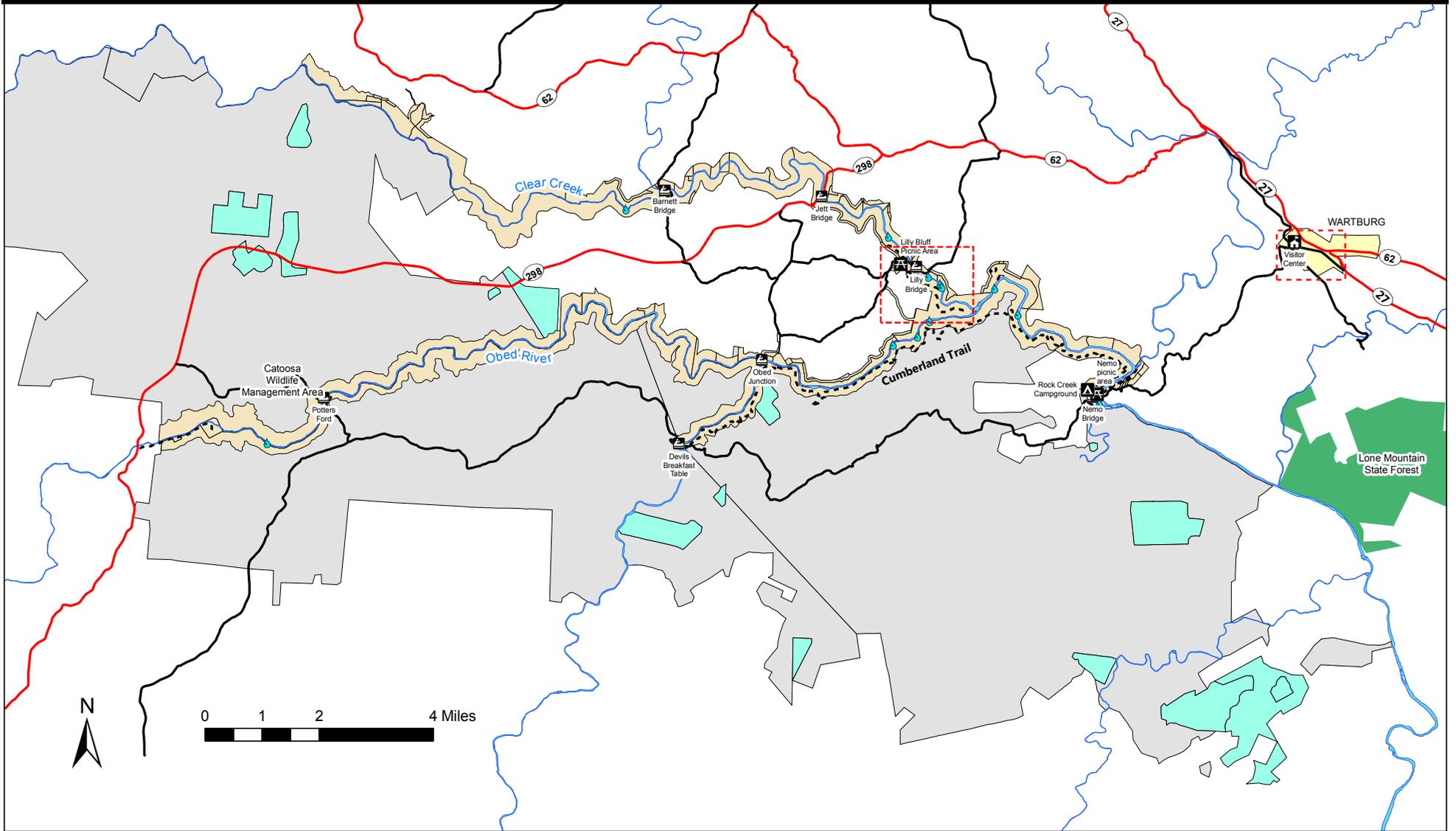


BACKCOUNTRY PERMITS

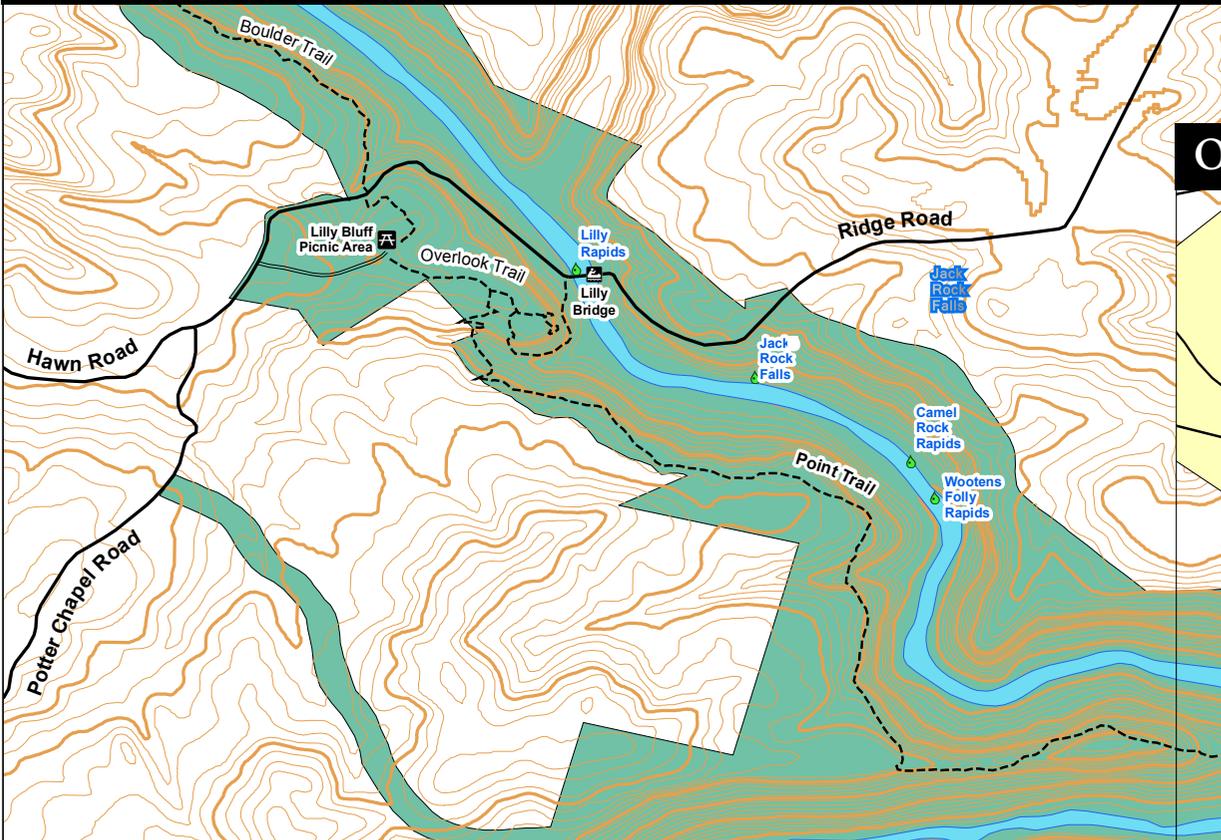
Anyone planning to camp overnight in the backcountry must obtain a free backcountry permit. A permit can be obtained at the Obed Visitor Center or you may download the form online by scanning the QR code here (<http://www.nps.gov/obed/playourvisit/upload/OBRI-Backcountry-Use-Permit.pdf>).



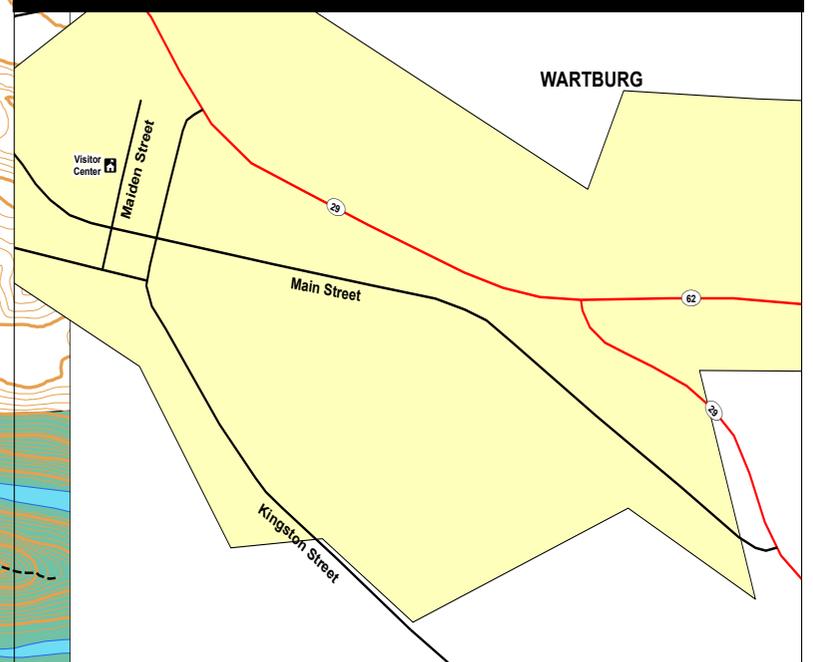
Obed Wild and Scenic River



Lilly Bridge Area



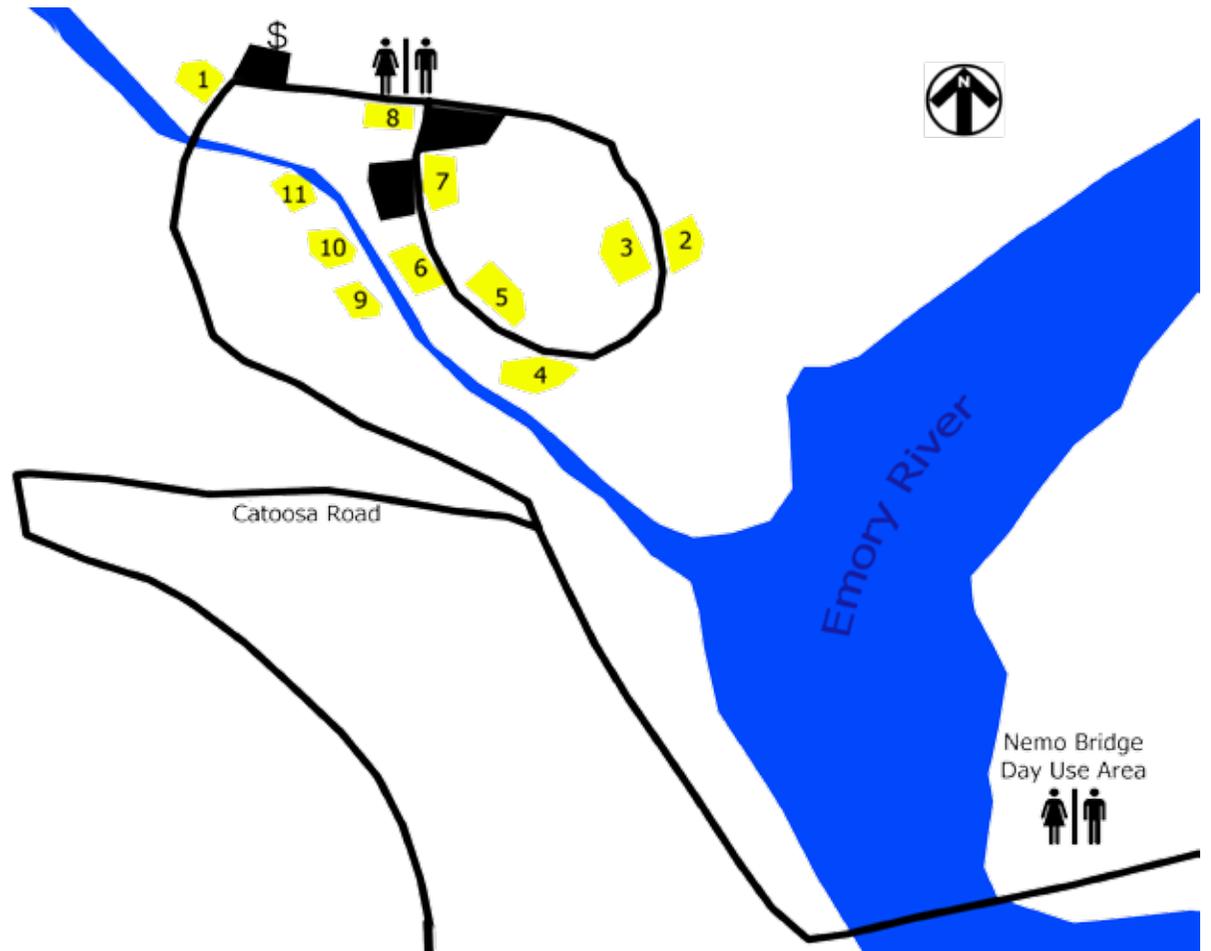
Obed WSR Visitor Center



Hiking Trails of the Obed

	Trail Name	Rating	Distance	Time	Description
1	Point Trail	Moderate	1.9 miles	2 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

Our Park Campground



ROCK CREEK CAMPGROUND

Rock Creek is a primitive campground open year-round and offers eleven campsites at \$7.00 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.

Guided Walks and Talks

Schedules are effective from Memorial Day Weekend until Labor Day 2014.



PROGRAM TITLE	LOCATION	DURATION	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Children's Program This ranger led program will include activities such as: Wildlife of the Obed, Creatures of the Night, Storytime, Insect Discovery, and much more. Meet at the Obed Visitor Center. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate.	Obed Visitor Center	30 minutes						10:30 AM	
Nemo Day Use Program Meet a ranger at the Nemo Day Use Area for programs such as Critters in the Creek, Nature Trail Hike, History Walk on Nemo Bridge, Paddling with a Ranger and much more. Children of all ages are encouraged to participate. NOTE: This program will not be held on the first Saturday of each month.	Nemo Day Use Area	1 - 1 1/2 hours							2:00 PM
Lilly Bluff Trails Excursion Boulder fields, sculpted sandstone cliffs, moist-rich forests and seasonal wildflowers are some of the things you will experience on this ranger led activity. Meet at the Lilly Bluff Overlook Parking Area.	Lilly Bluff Overlook Parking Area	1 hour	2:00 PM					3:00 PM	
Climb with a Ranger The first Saturday of every month meet at Lilly Bridge at 11 a.m. The park will provide all of the gear. All that you need to bring is drinking water, sturdy footwear, a willingness to try new things and a can-do attitude. Depending on participant interests and ability levels, we will travel to one of several different climbing areas around the park and will have participants back to their vehicles by approximately 3 p.m. (ET).	Lilly Bridge	4 hours							11:00 AM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

All programs are free. Above programs schedule is effective from Memorial Day weekend until Labor Day.

Wear sturdy walking shoes for hikes. You may also want to bring along bug spray and drinking water.

All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.

Programs may be cancelled due to high winds or lightning.

Black bears and other wildlife frequent the area; visitors must follow food and garbage storage regulations.

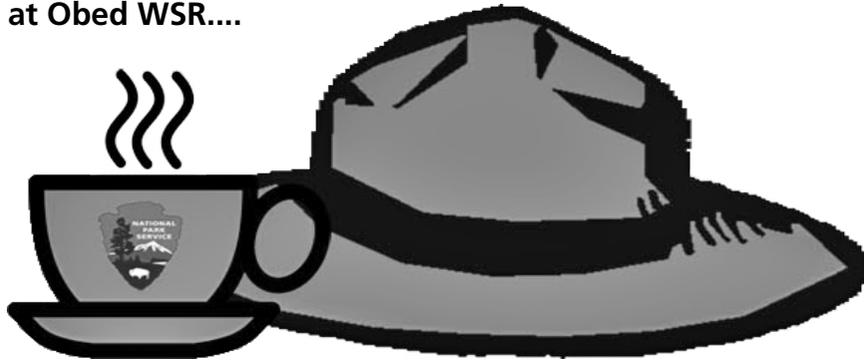
Pets must be restrained on a leash at all times. Owners are expected to clean up pet waste and dispose of it properly.

Inquire at the Visitor Center about other programs offered during the week.



Hey Ranger!

Most commonly asked questions at Obed WSR....



How much does it cost to visit the Obed?

The Obed 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.

How often is the Climb with a Ranger Program?

The Climb with a Ranger Program takes place on the first Saturday of each month. Contact the Visitor Center for more details.

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 the Obed.

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.

What type of license does one need to fish at the Obed?

A Tennessee fishing license is all that is required.

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 there any river outfitters?

Yes. Refer to page 3 under permitted outfitters for more information.

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.

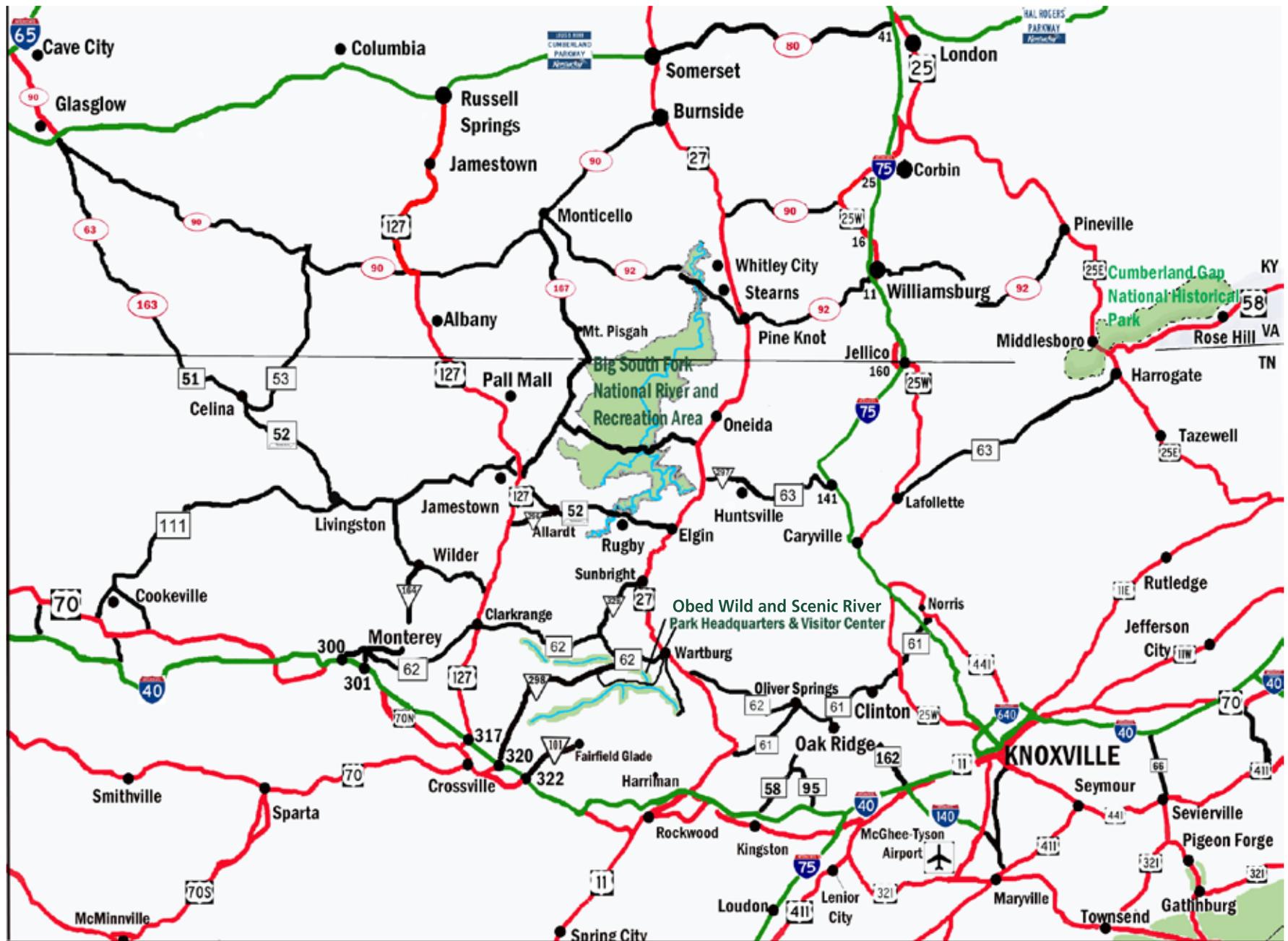
Where are your hiking trails located?

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 and Scenic River

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

Crossville Visitor Center

176 River Otter Drive
Crossville, TN 38571
(931) 787-1755
Memorial Day through Labor Day
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