

# Tennessee State Parks 2009 Special Events

November – December

[www.tnstateparks.com](http://www.tnstateparks.com)

In addition to special events, most State Parks offer seasonal hikes, programming and workshops.  
Call a park near you for weekly schedules and workshops.



Step into Adventure at a Tennessee State Park! From the cypress swamps at Meeman-Shelby to the rugged ridgetops of Roan Mountain – Tennessee State Parks have something for everyone. For a complete listing of recreational activities, lodging options and amenities visit our Web site.



## on Going

### Cumberland Trail Sunday Nights 8:30 p.m. EST WDVX 89.9 fm

Join Cumberland Trail State Park Manager Bob Fulcher as he presents rare old-time bluegrass, gospel, rockabilly and more, 1926 to present day, from musicians who were born and raised along the Cumberland Trail. Web cast at [www.WDVX.com](http://www.WDVX.com).

*For more information call: (423) 566-2229.*

### Tims Ford Saturday Night Pickins

Enjoy an evening of bluegrass, country and gospel music at Tims Ford State Park recreation building, from 6 p.m. til 10 p.m. CDT. Bring your instrument and join in, or just sit back and relax.

*For more information call: (931) 962-1183.*

## November

Events are as accurate as possible when posted but may change.

### Harpeth River November 1 Mace Bluff and Pattison Forge Hike

On this strenuous 1/2 mile hike you will enjoy beautiful views of Mound Bottom archaeological site, a petroglyph, and learn about the middle Mississippian Period people and their culture. Also enjoy a moderate 1 mile hike through the Narrows of the Harpeth – this includes a brief history of Montgomery Bells' tunnel and iron forge. Numbers are limited so please call for reservations. Event will be canceled if it rains.

*For more information call: (615) 952-2099.*

### Nathan Bedford Forrest November 6-8 Skirmish with Forrest

Join us for a skirmish with Forrest's Escorts. There will be a target competition with soldiers dressed in traditional North and South uniforms.

*For more information call: (731) 584-2128.*

### Fort Loudoun November 7 & 8 Garrison Weekend

Join us for a weekend when the daily lives of men, women and children of Fort Loudoun are recreated. Visitors will find living history re-enactors in period costume, an 18th century infirmary, soldier's barracks and more!

*For more information call: (423) 884-6217.*

### Devil's Backbone Natural Area November 7 RSVP by November 5

This hike will follow the three mile easy to moderate loop trail through the natural area which is located on the Natchez Trace Parkway near mile marker 394. The trail runs along a high ridge featuring dry, oak-hickory forest and traverses down slope to a moist soil hardwood forest indicative of the Western Highland Rim region of Tennessee. The hike will be cancelled in case of bad weather. The trip leader will interpret the ecology of the natural area so be prepared to learn about the ecology of the region. For descriptions, directions and maps, visit [www.tn.gov/environment/na](http://www.tn.gov/environment/na).

*For more information or to RSVP call Allan Trently: (731) 512-1369.*



**Trails** do more than connect one point to another – they are an invitation, a promise of possibilities. Trails range from easy, paved trails to rugged backcountry trails. Some parks have trails designed for cyclists and mountain bikers. Horseback riding is also welcomed at designated state parks, whether you ride for a day, or stay overnight at a wrangler **camp**.



**Harpeth River      November 9      Hidden Lake Hike**

Join us on a moderate two mile hike and discover the mystery and beauty of Hidden Lake. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Event will be canceled if it rains.

*For more information call: (615) 335-9659.*

**Sgt. Alvin C. York      November 11      Veteran's Day Celebration**

Join the park and the Sgt. York Patriotic Foundation for the Veteran's Day tribute. This very special annual ceremony begins at 11 a.m. CST and pays tribute to all members of the armed forces, both past and present. Events include the presentation of colors, dignitary speeches and music.

*For more information call: (931) 879-3657. [www.sgtyork.org](http://www.sgtyork.org)*

**South Cumberland      November 12      Sunrise Hike to Stone Door**

Join Ranger Jamie at the Stone Door Ranger Station for a brisk morning stroll to the Stone Door overlooks to see the sunrise over the Gulf (weather permitting). This will be a 2-mile round trip hike.

*For more information contact:(931) 924-2980.*

**Sycamore Shoals      November 13-15      Christmas Craft Show**

Opens 10 a.m. EST. Don't miss this tremendously popular craft extravaganza just in time for Christmas. Forty-eight local crafts persons exhibit and demonstrate their talents.

*For more information call: (423) 543-5808.*

**Nathan Bedford Forrest      November 14      Pilot Knob 10K Run**

Join us for the 6th race in the Tennessee Running Tour. This 10K starts at Eva Beach and ends at Pilot Knob Pre-registration deadline is November 7. Basic registration is \$5. All participants that pre-register one week before race events may also order a high quality, long sleeve shirt with Tour logo and specific race name for \$18. Same day registration without shirt is \$12.

*For more information contact Mike Bell with the Jackson Roadrunners at (731) 584-9147.*

**Roan Mountain      November 14      Christmas at the Farmstead**

Join us from 1-4 p.m. at the Miller Farmstead for some old fashioned Yule. Discover how Christmas was celebrated many years ago, before electricity and modern technology. We will have music, hot cider and hot chocolate, traditional snacks and a reading of the original Christmas Story.

*For more information call: (423) 772-0190.*

**Fall Creek Falls      November 14 & 15      Backpacking Trip**

Join us for a 13-mile trek through some of the more remote portions of the park. This hike is for both the novice and experienced backpacker and includes a 2-day guided hike with an overnight camp. There is a \$10 fee and pre-registration is required.

*For more information call: (423) 881-5708.*

**Cumberland Mountain      November 15      S.O.A.R. Program**

Have you ever seen the majestic Bald Eagle, Hawk or Owl in person? Join us at 2 p.m. CST at the recreation hall for a lively and informative presentation by John and Dale Stokes of Save Our American Raptors. The program features a variety of birds; some are free flying which gives an unforgettable close encounter.

*For more information call: (931) 484-6138.*



Let someone else do the cooking this Thanksgiving. Join Tennessee State Parks for a holiday feast with all the trimmings.

Cumberland Mountain

(931) 484-7186

David Crockett

(931) 762-9541

Fall Creek Falls

(423) 881-5241

Henry Horton

(931) 364-2222

Montgomery Bell

(615) 797-3101

Natchez Trace

(731) 968-8176

Paris Landing

(731) 642-4311

Pickwick Landing

(731) 689-3135



**Frozen Head      November 21      Volunteer Trail Day**

Meet at the visitor center at 9 a.m. Bring a daypack with your water, lunch, good pair of hiking boots and wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Specific projects will be determined later but will focus on trail maintenance and repair. Some moderate hiking may be required and we will return at 3 p.m. EST or before.

*For more information call: (423) 346-3318.*

**Sycamore Shoals      November 21 & 22      Thanksgiving Garrison**

Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. EST. Join us as Hardin's Rangers provide a glimpse into the past with an 18th century Thanksgiving at Fort Watauga. Plenty of food and demonstrations.

*For more information call: (423) 543-5808.*

**Harpeth River      November 22      Mound Bottom Tour**

Join us for a moderate one mile ranger led hike into Mound Bottom archaeological site. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Reservations required with a 15 person limit. Canceled if rain.

*For more information call: (615) 335-9659.*

**South Cumberland      November 22      Turkey Tromp**

Meet Ranger Jason at the Buggytop trailhead at to learn about the life and times of our Tennessee turkey. This program involves a mile or two of moderate hiking, so bring water and a snack.

*For more information call: (931) 924-2980.*

**South Cumberland      November 27      Gizzard Day Hike**

Need to work off the extra helping of pumpkin pie? Come hike the 13 mile Fiery Gizzard Trail to work out your senses as well as your body. Meet at the Grundy Forest parking lot with a pack lunch and plenty of water.

*For more information call: (931) 924-2980.*

**Cumberland Mountain      November 28      Plateau Gobbler Gallop**

Join us for the eighth segment of the Tennessee State Parks Running Tour. The race is an 11K (6.8 miles) run through beautiful Cumberland Mountain State Park and the Cumberland Plateau region. Race starts at 11 a.m. CST at the recreation hall. For more information visit: [www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/RunningTour](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/RunningTour), or Tony Cox at the Frostbite Running Club at [Tcox@tntech.edu](mailto:Tcox@tntech.edu) or (615) 773-8785.

*For more information call: (931) 484-6138.*

**Nathan Bedford Forrest      November 28      Lighting of the Knob**

Join us as we kick off the holiday season with the 6th annual Lighting of the Knob. Thousands of lights will decorate the museum, visits with Santa, Christmas choirs playing festive music, lots of food and fellowship. The knob will be officially lit at 6 p.m. CST.

*For more information call: (731) 584-2128.*

**Sycamore Shoals      Winterfest Christmas Tree Exhibit & Art Show**

Month of December Opening Reception November 29 at 1:30 p.m. EST. With an annual Winterfest theme, this event opens with a reception to view the trees, artwork and an opportunity to meet the artists. The exhibit features fraser fir trees decorated by local organizations with handmade ornaments. The Watauga Valley Art League displays the artwork.

*For more information call: (423) 543-5808.*



**Tennessee State**  
Parks are popular places for meetings, banquets, conventions, family reunions and retreats – with facilities capable of hosting groups from as few as 12 people to 1,200. With six Resort Inns, more than 350 cabins and more than 3000 campsites, state parks can accommodate all sizes of budgets and groups.



**David Crockett      Nov. 30 & Dec 2      Christmas in the Park**

Celebrate Christmas with David Crockett State Park! The park will be lit by simple lights and candles and have stations spread throughout the shelters in the park. Transportation between shelters will be by walking and hay ride, and handicap transportation is available. All activities are outside, so dress warm, there will be fires to help warm you. The theme this year will follow the 50th anniversary with the history of the park. So come out with friends and family and enjoy a different trip to the park! Reservations are required, and will be taken beginning November 1. Event times will be from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. CST each night.

**For more information call: (931) 762-9408.**

**December**

**Frozen Head      December 4      Volunteer Trail Day**

Meet at the visitor center at 9 a.m. Bring a daypack with your water, lunch, good pair of hiking boots and wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Specific projects will be determined later but will focus on trail maintenance and repair. Some moderate hiking may be required and we will return at 3 p.m. EST or before.

**For more information call: (423) 346-3318.**

**Sycamore Shoals Christmas at the Carter Mansion  
Friday & Saturday    December 4 & 5    6 p.m. – 9 p.m. EST**

Spend the evening in this 18th century home built on the frontier around 1775 featuring the beautiful interior craftsmanship decorated for Christmas in the style of 1780. Costumed interpreters, candlelight, refreshments and music highlight the evening.

**For more information call: (423) 543-5808.**

**Fall Creek Falls      December 4-6      Christmas on the Mountain**

Join us for a weekend of Yuletide fun, Christmas carols and gifts for the little ones. Activities for children and adults alike include traditional Christmas decorating, tea parties and a three-day mountain craft show. Don't be surprised if Saint Nick drops in!

**For more information call: (423) 881-5708.**

**Fort Loudoun      December 5      Christmas at Fort Loudoun**

This annual event provides visitors with the chance to experience the atmosphere of an 18th century Christmas at a British fortification in the Cherokee territory. The fort building is decorated with traditional greens and re-enactors will be present to demonstrate daily activities. In the evening the fort will be illuminated with candles and luminaries. Refreshments and candlelight tours begin around 6 p.m. EST. The tours will conclude with a rare, nighttime firing of the fort's largest cannon. This is a one-day event and admission is free.

**For more information call: (423) 884-6217.**

**Warriors' Path      December 5      Adopt A Tree**

All area young people are invited to help bring "re-leaf" to Kingsport. We'll be distributing free tree seedlings, to plant in the park and to plant at home. Free. Event held from 10 a.m. - noon EST.

**For more information call: (423) 239-6786.**



Start a holiday tradition in your family with a gift that keeps on giving – a subscription to *The Tennessee Conservationist* magazine. Each issue highlights colorful places and people while sharing natural, cultural and historic treasures unique to Tennessee. Order today and see why over 18,000 people subscribe to *The Tennessee Conservationist*. For holiday specials visit our Web [site](#).



**Did You Know?**  
*The Tennessee Conservationist* Magazine was the American Trails 2008 Outstanding Media Award Winner.

### **Sycamore Shoals Christmas Muster at Fort Watauga**

**Saturday & Sunday December 5 & 6 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. EST**

Ring in the Christmas season with the Company of Overmountain Men as they celebrate with living history demonstrations of the 18th century in the backwoods of Colonial America.

**For more information call: (423) 543-5808.**

### **Paris Landing Dec. 5 & 6 Christmas By the Lake Arts & Crafts Show**

Join us for the annual Christmas by the lake arts and craft show in the Paris Landing State Park Inn December 5th and 6th from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. CST. Handmade crafts will be on sale. There is no charge for parking or to browse and these hand- made crafts make great gifts!

**For more information call: (731) 641-4465.**

### **Cordell Hull Birthplace December 7 Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance**

Join park staff as we remember Pearl Harbor Day. Throughout the day, enjoy a display and slideshow commemorating the day in 1941 that compelled the United States to enter World War Two. Cordell Hull was U.S. Secretary of State during this dark period of American history.

**For more information all: (931) 864-3247.**

### **Cove Lake December 7 Christmas in the Park**

Cove Lake's 25th Christmas in the Park will feature over 2500 luminaries, the Lighting of the Tree, fireworks display, refreshments, children's crafts and activities, caroling, dance team performances, Santa's workshop, live nativity scene, and an appearance from Santa. Admission, activities and refreshments are free of charge. The event will begin at 6 p.m. EST at the park office.

**For more information call: (423) 566-9701.**

### **Cordell Hull Birthplace December 10 Old Fashioned Christmas**

Join park staff as we celebrate the holidays the way they were enjoyed in the late nineteenth century, the time period in which former Secretary of State Cordell Hull lived in the this rural area on the edge of the Cumberland Plateau. Festivities include old fashioned holiday music, lantern-lit trail hikes, refreshments and seasonal decorations in the restored birthplace cabin.

**For more information call: (931) 864-3247.**

### **Chickasaw December 11-13 Annual Christmas Lighting**

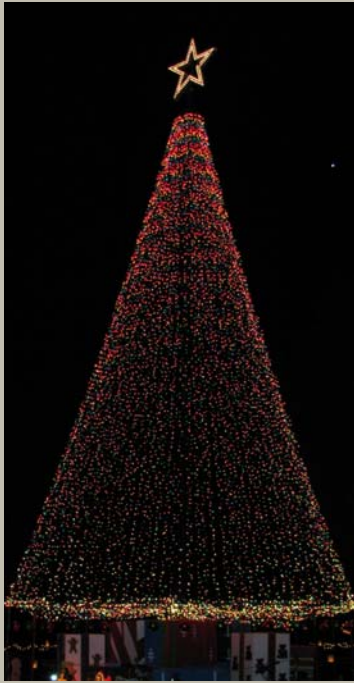
Annual Christmas Lighting hosted by Chickasaw State Park and the Friends of Chickasaw. Auto tours begin nightly at 6:00 and continue until 9:00. There will be countless electric displays throughout the park as well as candle luminaries lining the roadway.

**For more information call: (731) 989-5141.**

### **Davy Crockett Birthplace December 12 Crockett Christmas**

Crockett Christmas is living history that provides visitors with a glimpse of Christmas past on the frontier. The birthplace cabin will be decorated in pioneer spirit. From 2 to 9 p.m. EST traditional music and story telling will be provided along with hot wassail and edibles common to that period. The path to the cabin will be lit by candlelight and a nice warm fire will keep you toasty warm.

**For more information call: (423) 257-2167.**



Holidays are a special time at Tennessee State Parks. Visit Cove Lake for Winter in the Park, or Fall Creek Falls for a weekend of Yuletide fun with Christmas on the Mountain. Learn about the pioneer Christmas spirit at Davy Crockett Birthplace.



**Norris Dam December 12 Annual Holiday Homecoming**

Join us from 5 p.m - 9 p.m. EST for a walk through time discovering early Appalachian life with various rustic park cabins depicting the residents before the dam, the CCC boys and the TVA, with old time holiday music, horse drawn wagon rides, a bakery cabin, a park natural resource cabin with snakes and owls, caroling and holiday treats. Free admission, but donations of non-perishable foods for the local mission will be appreciated. **For more information call: (865) 426-7461.**

**Sgt. Alvin C. York December 12 Christmas in the Valley**

Join us and the Sgt. York Patriotic Foundation for this holiday celebration in York's hometown of Pall Mall. Events will be held at the York General Store and the York Home and include a visit from Santa, choir singing, lantern walk and holiday refreshments and decorations. 5 -8 p.m. CST. [www.sgtyork.org](http://www.sgtyork.org) **For more information call: (931) 879-3657.**

**Rugby State Natural Area December 12 RSVP by December 4 Woodland Weeding**

Come out with a pair of leather work gloves, layered clothes, good shoes, water, and food and spend a few hours helping pull up the dread Japanese spiraea from the woodlands of the Rugby State Natural Area. This will be our second spiraea pull. Our first pull was quite successful and we will just continue downstream from where we left off last time, including looking over our previous work to pull any plants we missed. We'll only work about three hours, so we promise not to wear you out! The weeding will be cancelled in case of bad weather. For descriptions, directions and maps, visit [www.tn.gov/environment/na](http://www.tn.gov/environment/na). Hike Leader: Lisa Huff. **For more information or to RSVP call: (865) 594-5601.**

**Davy Crockett Birthplace December 12 The Pioneer 8K Run**

Join us for an exhilarating run through our park and the Limestone Community. A part of Tennessee State Parks Running Tour, basic registration is \$5. All participants that pre-register one week before race events may also order a high quality, long sleeve shirt with Tour logo and specific race name for \$18. Same day registration without shirt is \$12. **For more Information please contact Mr. Bob Townsend with the State of Franklin Track Club at (423) 257-6188 or (423) 426-6709 or [bobt4@earthlink.net](mailto:bobt4@earthlink.net)**

**Red Clay December 19 Trail of Lights**

Everyone is welcome to come celebrate the holiday spirit with hot food and drink, caroling, music and tour of the park by candlelight. Event is from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. with a \$5 per car admission. Please dress warmly and bring a flashlight. **For more information call: (423) 478-0339.**

**Cedars of Lebanon December TBA Old Time Christmas at the Lodge**

Join friends and family of Cedars during this look back to Christmas season tradition from the 1930s era. Live music, homemade decorations, refreshments and a visit from St. Nicholas will be highlights at Cedar's cozy lodge. **For more information call: (615) 443-2769.**



### Special Winter Rates

November 1, 2009  
through  
February 28, 2010

Take advantage of TN State Parks' **Special Winter Rates** on hundreds of cabins, villas and Resort Inn rooms throughout the state. Cabins are 50% off, Sunday through Thursday with a 2-night minimum. Inn rooms are \$47.95 per night, 7 days a week. Offer is not available during holiday weeks and other restrictions may apply. Special rates not valid with other discounts. Click [here](#) for more information about this and other specials.



Montgomery Bell State Park's new villas offer all the comforts of home in a tranquil setting.

### Warriors' Path      December TBA      Christmas in the Valley

Join Warriors' Path State Park for the second annual Christmas in the Valley. Bring the whole family to learn about the cultural heritage of the Appalachians. Children will have the opportunity to learn and make holiday ornaments from around the world.

**For more information call: (423) 239-8531.**

### Montgomery Bell      December 31      New Years Eve Celebration

Montgomery Bell State Park will host the 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Bash sponsored by the Friends of Montgomery Bell State Park. This event features music, dancing and fun provided by Gino's band performing a variety of live music from the 60's, 70's and now. The ticket package for two people includes tickets to the event, a champagne toast at midnight, a midnight breakfast catered by the Montgomery Bell Restaurant and a room at the Inn for overnight accommodations. The Friends of MBSP will have additional drinks available for purchase at the event. Ticket packages start at \$185 and can be purchased from the Inn at Montgomery Bell State Park. Drink and Party Tickets can be purchased with cash or check only the night of the event. All proceeds of this event will go to support the Friends of MBSP in their efforts to improve Montgomery Bell State Park. This event is 21 and up.

**For more information call: (615) 797-3101.**



**Plan** now to go to Reelfoot Lake State Park's Eagle Tours this January and February. The park encompasses 25,000 acres (15,000 of which are water) and harbors almost every kind of shore and wading bird, as well as the golden and American bald eagles. Plan your trip to see these magnificent birds **today**.

With 53 state parks, 220 trained Park Rangers, and unsurpassed natural, cultural and historical resources, outdoor classroom presentations and park field trips are just a phone call away!

Tennessee State Parks offer seasonal programming, workshops and educational opportunities in or out of the classroom.

Call a park today for weekly schedules or more information.

**TENNESSEE STATE PARKS**  
gift certificates...  
*always a natural choice*

