Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area

Become a VIP (Volunteer in Parks)! Big South Fork has an active volunteer program. Join the team and aid in the preservation of the parks natural and cultural resources, help campers as a campground host, or help maintain the parks system of trails. The opportunities abound! You can learn new skills, teach others and stay active and involved. Opportunities at Big South Fork are as diverse as the natural and cultural resources of the park. A VIP application is required. Some positions usually require a time commitment and training which is provided. Apply online at: www.volunteer.gov, or for an application or write to us at:

Volunteer Coordinator/Big South Fork NRRA
4564 Leatherwood Rd., Oneida, TN 37841

Parks Develops Plan to Combat Forest Pests. Obed and Big South Fork are working with other parks in the Cumberland area to develop a plan that provide strategies for managing forest pests within the designated boundaries of the parks. The plan will be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The plan will identify tools to reduce the threats from invasive pests restoring native plant communities and cultural landscapes. For more information, or to provide comments, visit us online at: http://parkplanning.nps.gov/Scoping_FPMEA

Did you know? Big South Fork annually cultivates approximately 8 acres of orchard/timothy grass totaling about 600 bales of hay. The hay feeds park horses throughout the year. Planting and harvesting is done with a tractor or by a team of horses driven by park employees.

For information on events, please contact the Bandy Creek Visitor Center at (423) 286-7275 or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/biso

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Obed Wild and Scenic River

Fifth annual Climbing Expedition on Saturday, July 14th. Beginning climbers and people who wish to learn about the sport of rock climbing are encouraged to attend. No reservations are necessary. Kids (age 10 and up) and adults are welcomed to participate. Helping us out on this day will be members of the East Tennessee Climbers Coalition. This free event will run from 1 p.m. (Eastern time) to 3 p.m. All equipment will be provided. The event will take place at the Lilly Bridge Climbing Area, just off of Ridge Road. Please arrive early to get fitted for harnesses, helmets, and climbing shoes. Call the Visitor Center for more information.

Junior Rangers Wanted! Kids who visit the Obed are in for a treat! Kids can hike, fish, kayak, rock climb, or picnic, just to name a few. Those who stop by the Obed Visitor Center at 208 North Maiden Street in Wartburg, Tennessee, can also complete our Junior Ranger booklet and earn a Junior Ranger badge! If you can’t visit us in person, don’t despair! The National Park Service has put together a Web Ranger program for kids to complete online. The program helps kids explore many of the famous and not-so-famous parks, and gives kids an appreciation for the scenic beauty and historical significance of the parks. Visit http://www.nps.gov/webrangers/

Did you know? Boulders abound in the park. More than a dozen boulders are located along the Boulder Trail and more than 100 boulders located throughout the river’s boundaries. Many rock climbers also enjoy boulder climbing along the Obed.

For information on events, please contact the Visitor Center at (423) 346-6294 or visit us at:

www.nps.gov/obed

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Wally Linder, Park Roads and Trails Supervisor, is driving a team of horses to rake hay which will be used to feed park horses.