

Evening Programs

Owl Prowl

Friday February 13, 2009
7:30 p.m.
2 hour guided walk

Imagine you and your date standing in the middle of a primeval forest on a moonless night. A cold night breeze sends a chill down your spine, but what do expect, it is Friday the 13th, the night before Valentine's Day. You shine your flashlight into the underbrush -- something is shining back!*

If you have never experienced the Park at night, this is the program for you! Talk to barred owls and look for flying squirrels, bats, fireflies and other critters that go bump in the night on this 2½-mile walk. But we must warn you - you just might accidentally learn something!

*It's really not scary - bring the whole family (or at least the young ones five and older).

Reservations required. Please call (803) 776-4396 two weeks in advance.

Canoe Tours

Guided Canoe Tours

Every Saturday and Sunday
12:00 p.m.
4 hour guided tour

Explore the heart of Congaree on this four hour expedition. One of our award winning staff of rangers will lead you and your fellow paddlers into wilderness to experience the water-friendly giant bald cypress and tupelo trees. Enjoy the wintertime ambiance of this primeval forest. Bring a snack, a change of clothes and your sense of adventure.

Reservations accepted two weeks in advance. Call (803) 776-4396 ext. 0 reservation.

Congaree National Park does not charge an entrance fee, and all park programs are offered free of charge.



Your National Park

Traveling Rangers

Park Rangers can present programs at your location. Our Park Rangers will talk on a wide range of subjects such as Congaree National Park, "Greening the Parks," or other topics relating to natural history, culture and the environment. Call (803) 776-4396 ext. 10 to arrange for a program.



The National Park Service preserves and protects our cultural and natural history unimpaired for future generations.

For more details about these and other programs, please contact the park :
(803) 776-4396 ext. 0
www.nps.gov/cong



Congaree National Park does not charge an entrance fee, and all park programs are offered free of charge.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Congaree National Park

Winter Programs 2008-09

December, January, February



Congaree National Park
100 National Park Road
Hopkins, SC 29061
(803)776-4396
www.nps.gov/cong

Day Programs

Weston Lake Wilderness Hike

Friday 2:00 p.m.
3 hour guided hike

This 4.5 mile hike will take you on the Weston Lake Loop Trail where you will discover the importance of wilderness.



Birds & Branches

Friday and Sunday
9:30 a.m.
*binoculars encouraged

What is going on up there?
Have you ever wondered what happens up in the forest canopy? Who lives up there? How does the canopy benefit the forest? All ages welcome.

Note: All CNP Programs begin at the Harry Hampton Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. CNP may cancel programs due to weather or park emergencies.

Day Programs

Nature Discovery

Saturday 9:30 a.m.
1.5 hour guided walk

Immerse yourself in the magical experience of this undisturbed, old-growth bottomland forest, its giant trees and immense diversity of wildlife.



Walkin' with the Ranger

Every Day 1 :30 p.m.
1.5 hour guided walk

Come explore the primeval forested floodplain that is Congaree National Park. Experience extraordinarily diverse animal and plant life while walking among the "charismatic mega flora" (a.k.a. BIG TREES!) Come often because, "No two walks are ever the same!"

Congaree National Park does not charge an entrance fee, and all park programs are offered free of charge.

Special Events

Mark Your Calendars!!!

Naturefest *April 19-20, 2009*



Join us for this celebration of Spring! Events will run all weekend long, so grab your family, friends, or enlighten your neighbors with a trip to Congaree National Park for two of the "funnest days in Midstate!"

Congaree National Park's *Salute to Backyard Bird Count* *Days.*

February 13-16 is National Backyard Bird Count Weekend. To help you prepare for this event, park staff will present programs on bird identification, bird house and bird feeder building. Details are still being worked out at this time and more information will follow. Check our website for the latest on this newest park program.

But in the meantime, you may want to include Congaree in your Saturday morning plans for January 24, 31 and February 7.

Special Events

Freshwater Mussels of the *Congaree and Wateree Rivers* *December 3, 2008*

Thursday 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Dr. Theresa Thom

Freshwater mussels are often an indicator of the environmental stability of a river. The park's own Dr. Theresa Thom will share her research on these unique invertebrates and talk about the important roles these little known creatures play in the rivers of the Midlands and Coastal Plain of South Carolina.

2008 Congaree Christmas Bird *Count*

Sunday, December 14, 2008

7:00 a.m. until
Join area ornithologists and ornithological wannabes in counting the birds of Congaree National Park
Call for details

BigTree Hike *Sunday, December 21, 2008*

10:00 a.m. to 3:00p.m
Ranger Stuart Greeter will lead this hike to several of the "big trees" in the Park. Learn how the "Champion Tree" process works. The secrets of how champions are determined and even how to nominate a tree will be revealed. Who knows, maybe you will identify the next state champion.

Pack a drink and lunch and wear your hiking boots - this is a 5-6 mile hike.