



DeSoto State Park and park partners like Little River Canyon National Preserve, Jacksonville State University Field School, Little River Arts Council, Seven Pines Survival and more, team up to bring you many fun events throughout the year.

Campfire Talks, Classes, Demonstrations, Guided Interpretive or Fitness Hikes, Tours, Outdoor Adventures, Workshops.....topics covering art, science, nature, and much more!

Most programs are free or charge a small supply fee.

DeSoto State Park also adds community events such as classes, festivals, workshops, local craft shows, etc to our calendar so that we can help our guests and visitors make their visit to Lookout Mountain, Alabama even more memorable.

For more events on Lookout Mountain, see [www.discoverlookoutmountain.com](http://www.discoverlookoutmountain.com)



Alabama State Parks, a division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, operates and maintains 21 parks encompassing approximately 48,000 acres of land and water. These parks rely on visitor fees and the support of other partners like local communities to fund the majority of their operations.

For more information on Alabama State Parks, visit [www.alapark.com](http://www.alapark.com)

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## DeSoto State Park's Campfire Talk Series



Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held almost every Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto's James L. Wynn Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. All programs are open & free to everyone. *Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable chair if you wish. In case of bad weather, programs are moved inside.*

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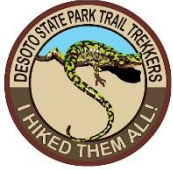
### Serious Skills Series

Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.



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### DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker!



Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch!

*This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Each month there will be a different hike so you can start marking them off towards your patch!*

any info about session, contact DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes: [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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# June 2020

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## Black Bears Q & A Session

DeSoto State Park Lodge-Deck

Did you know Black Bears are Alabama's State Mammal?

Black Bears can be seen in DeSoto State Park and in our local area, and we would like to answer any questions you may have about black bears. Please join us at the DeSoto State Park Lodge on Saturday, June 27th at 6pm to learn more about bears, ask questions, and hear about current local black bear research. This Q & A session will be outdoors on the deck so that we can all maintain social distancing. (bring your own chair if you wish)

We especially want to impart the message that as a community we can become bear-wise together, which is important not only to this research project but the health of the bears themselves. (Bring in those bird feeders and other food sources!)

If you are unable to join us on June 27th, we will have a follow-up Facebook post with a Q & A session. We hope to see ya'll there!

Date: Saturday, June 27, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park Lodge-Deck

Fee: Free & open to everyone. Limited seating, bring your own chair if you wish, as this program will be outside on the Lodge deck (in case of rain, program might be cancelled so be sure to check with the park before coming-256.845.5380) For any info about session, contact DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes: [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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# July 2020

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# Zipline Aerial Adventures

In DeSoto State Park has partnered with Screaming Eagle Ziplines and Aerial Adventures to offer a sky trail in the trees. Get a bird's eye view of the forest floor below and of the unusual rock formations. Enjoy six ziplines that range from 100 to 350 ft in length and seven sky bridges that range from 50 to 150 in length. A spiral staircase tower begins the trek and allows for a bird's eye view from up to 55 ft in the air. All adventure seekers will have great views and a fun and exhilarating aerial challenge. Make some special memories & enjoy a real adventure! Must wear a closed toed shoe to participate on the aerial adventure tours.

Date: Open 7 days a week

Times: 9:00am, 10:00am, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm, 4:00pm (Central Time Zone)

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne. Country Store & Information Center- On County Road 89 (DeKalb County)

Fee: \$49.00 (\$53.90 after taxes). Ages 8 to adult. Minimum weight: 50 lbs, Max weights: Girls 250 lbs and under. Guys 285 lbs and under.

For more details, email [info@desotoziplines.com](mailto:info@desotoziplines.com) Call Screaming Eagle for reservations: 256-886-3761

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## Fort Payne's Fourth of July Celebration

Fort Payne's annual Independence Day celebration brings together the community for an evening of great music, and fireworks. This year the fireworks will be choreographed to music broadcast during the actual shooting of the fireworks on local radio stations. Please note: This year you are asked to watch from your car. Tune your radios to WVSM Radio 103.1 FM, Wzob 1250 AM 1 Country, 98-3 Wild Country or 101-7 The Torch, to listen to the choreographed music during the fireworks.

Date: July 2, 2020 (rain date July 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Time: 9:00 pm

Where: Around Fort Payne Sports Complex Parking Lot

Address: 4501 Gault Ave N & 45th Street-Fort Payne, Alabama 35967

Info: [www.facebook.com/fortpaynechamber](https://www.facebook.com/fortpaynechamber)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: July 4th-5th, 2020

Times: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Independence Day Flag-Making Contest

Make your own homemade flag to be judged in this fun contest. All ages are welcome to participate. Materials & flag-making rules will be available at the campground pavilion in the Improved Campground starting July 2<sup>nd</sup> if needed (Flags are made on white foam boards). Flags MUST be turned in no later than 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 4th to be judged. (Turn in flags at DeSoto's Country Store) Winners will be announced on DeSoto's facebook page on Saturday July the 4th. (Winners will be contacted) Open to everyone-Be sure to join in the fun! Free to participate and open to all ages!

Date: July 4, 2020

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

For info, please email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) or call 256.997-5025 for any details.

Rules & Regulations: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2020-06/DSP%20Independence%20Day%20Flag%20making%20rules%20&%20regs%202020.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2020-06/DSP%20Independence%20Day%20Flag%20making%20rules%20&%20regs%202020.pdf)

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Dates: July 11th-12th, 2020

Times: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: July 11, 2020

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 noon

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Location given at time of registration.

Fee: **Free, pre-registration is required** so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be social distancing on the trail as much as possible and limiting the number of hikers. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: July 18th-19th, 2020

Time: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Learn about this outstanding

water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. What to bring: Appropriate clothing, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: July 18, 2020

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes July 16<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Trail Trekker Hike Series: Along Little River

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 22 miles of trails in DeSoto, (whether on your own or in a group, no time limit) and collect your prize, a Trail Trekkers Patch. Just log your hikes in the Trail Trekker log and record the date for each trail listed. Sign completed form and turn in to DeSoto State Park Country Store or Lodge to receive your patch.

This hike series is designed for those that prefer some company out on the trails with experienced park staff or volunteers. Start marking them off towards your patch today!

Aqua/Yellow Trail-Hike is approximately 1 1/2 miles round trip, moderate along rocky terrain.

Date July 18, 2020

Time: 5:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89. Meet on grassy area behind the store.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be social distancing on the trail as much as possible. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

For listing of all hikes planned so far, see [www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking](http://www.alapark.com/parks/desoto-state-park/hiking)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: July 25th-26th, 2020

Time: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: 'The 'Unfinished Bridge'

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 81st Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff on a moderate hike to the Civilian Conservation Corp's 'unfinished' Bridge. Learn the history of why the CCC left it standing and see several original structures. Moderate hike on Gilliam Loop Trail & old CCC roadbed. Approx. 4 miles round trip.

Date: Saturday, July 25, 2020

Time: 5:00 p.m. (Central Time Zone)

Where: Meet in front of DeSoto State Park's Lodge Fort Payne, Alabama-. Will drive short distance to Gillam Loop Trailhead and hike from there.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. We will be social distancing on the trail as much as possible. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip) for a print-out PDF file of directions to DSP.

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## Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: Sunday, July 26, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes June 18th by 5:00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## August 2020

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**\*August programs subject to change\***

### MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

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Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: August 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Time: Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380

[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy



side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: August 1, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: August 1, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes July 30th 5: 00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## World's Longest Yard Sale

The World's Longest Yard Sale starts each year on the first Thursday in August and continues for 4 days (Thursday thru Sunday.)

Running from Gadsden, Alabama to West Unity, Ohio, this event allows you to travel more than 690-miles of scenic beauty and see tons of yard sales. Get started on your journey by traveling the 93-mile Lookout Mountain Parkway route from Gadsden, Alabama to Chattanooga, Tennessee for the most "scenic rural America" in the United States

A section of this popular annual event travels thru DeSoto State Park, so be sure to use the park as your base as you travel to see the sights!

Dates: August 6-9, 2020

For more info, see: [www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/yardsale.shtml](http://www.discoverlookoutmountain.com/yardsale.shtml) OR [www.127yardsale.com/](http://www.127yardsale.com/)

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Dates: August 7th-9th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST). Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Friday (if available) Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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Dates: August 14th-16th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

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Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

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## Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

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What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: August 15, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes August 13<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200 classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October. There is a kid zone in the City Park, music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and great food vendors.

Date: August 15, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. Info: [www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/](http://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/)

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## Longleaf Pine Needle Basketry Class

Learn the basics of pine needle basketry, an old craft with a long history.

Join artist Brittney Hughes to learn the basic steps to making a coiled basket from longleaf pine needles. Each participant will learn the basic skills of pine needle basketry and take home their very own creation.

The art of coiling baskets is universally common to indigenous peoples. Coiling is the technique of creating baskets and art from pine needles and was a part of pre-Columbian Native American crafts. Today, pine needle baskets and art are made primarily for decorative purposes.

All materials (pine needles, thread, and small center for basket) will be furnished. Class is for ages 10 and up.

When: Saturday, August 15, 2020

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne, Alabama

Time: 10 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (CST)

Fee: \$25 supply fee- Supply fee due day of class

Pre-registration required; class number is limited to 12. To register and for more details, call 256-997-5025 or email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: August 21st-23rd, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: August 29, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes August 27th 5:00 p.m. To register, email [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: August 28th-30th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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# September 2020

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: September 4th-6th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: September 6, 2020

Time: 10:00 am-12:30 noon

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

Save the Dates!

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## Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend

Come and explore our State Parks to celebrate the national event, Girl Scouts Love the State Parks! Over 25,000 Girl Scouts around the USA will be participating with their troops and families. Nature and outdoor activities will be led by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources scientists and naturalists. Your troop or family will bring their own picnic style lunch to enjoy at the park.

More info to come about events in select Alabama State Parks and will be posted on this page

Dates: September 11-13 2020

Info: Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama- [www.facebook.com/GSNCA/](https://www.facebook.com/GSNCA/)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: September 11th-13th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

# Daybreak Flatwater Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided morning paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

Not a morning person? No problem! Bring your thermos and we'll have some fresh coffee waiting for you.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: September 12, 2020

Time: 7:00 am-10:00 am

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes September 10<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## Boom Days Heritage Celebration

Fort Payne, Alabama

The Boom Days Heritage Celebration, Fort Payne's annual art and music festival, displays citizens of Fort Payne taking a second look at their past and the heritage passed down to them through the arts and crafts of our area. It features dozens of the South's finest visual artists and traditional craftsmen, as well as dozens of the area's most talented musical groups.

Four blocks of the city's downtown district are closed to traffic while art shows occupy Alabama Park and City Park, and a variety of music flows from four outdoor stages. Downtown merchants operate sidewalk sales, and cultural and historical displays are mounted at the Fort Payne Culture & Heritage Center and the Depot Museum.

Dates: September 18-19, 2020

Where: Fort Payne, Alabama (Within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For more info, see: [www.boomdays.com](http://www.boomdays.com)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: September 18th-20th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: September 19, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The CCC Quarry

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 81st Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff & volunteers on a moderate hike to the CCC Quarry. Learn how the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the original structures that you can still see in the park today. Moderate hike along mountainous terrain, some rocky terrain. Approximately 2 miles round trip

Date: September 19, 2020

Time: 1:00-3:00 pm (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at Country Store & Information Center on County Road 89

Fee: Free and open to everyone. For details, contact Brittney Hughes at ([Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov))

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well-behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)



Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip) for a print-out PDF file of directions to DSP.

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## Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In

Fort Payne, Alabama (During Boom Days festival)

The Third Saturday Sunset Cruise-In is a great car show, featuring over 200 classic vehicles on display in Fort Payne's historic downtown district. This is a monthly event starting in April and ending in October. There is a kid zone in the City Park, music across the street from DeKalb Theatre and great food vendors.

Date: September 19, 2020

Time: 5:00-9:00 pm

Where: Downtown Fort Payne, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Free & open to everyone. Info: [www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/](https://www.facebook.com/3rdSaturdayFortPayneAl/)

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: September 25th-27th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corel's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: The 'Unfinished Bridge'

The Civilian Conservation Corps was one of the better known and most successful of the New Deal programs following the Great Depression; one that did a lot of good for forests, recreation, and the men for whom it provided short-term jobs. Between 1933 and 1942, an average of 30 camps operated across Alabama. CCC boys helped fight fires, reforest lands, protect the state's then newly acquired national forests and build roads and recreational facilities in Alabama State Parks.

In celebration of DeSoto State Park's 81st Anniversary of its dedication day in 1939, join DSP Staff on a moderate hike to the Civilian Conservation Corp's 'unfinished' Bridge. Learn the history of why the CCC left it standing and see several original structures. Moderate hike on Gilliam Loop Trail & old CCC roadbed. Approx.. 4 miles round trip.

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (Central Time Zone)

Where: Meet at DeSoto State Park's Lodge Fort Payne, Alabama-. Will carpool short distance to Gillam Loop Trailhead and hike from there.

Fee: Free and open to everyone. For details, contact Brittney Hughes at (Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended) Trail may be wet. Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. No age restrictions on this hike and well behaved dogs are allowed on a leash at all times.

WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the Park Lodge before leaving home (256.845.5380)

Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see [www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip](http://www.alapark.com/DSP-Plan-Your-Trip) for a print-out PDF file of directions to DSP.

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# October 2020

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: October 2nd-4th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Meandering Moonlight Paddle Trip

DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided moonlight paddle trip on scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Enjoy this flatwater paddle as the sun goes down and the full moon comes up. Experience the peace & quiet of the gloaming-time!

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 3 to 3 1/2-hour period and includes kayak, paddle, & personal flotation device. Weight limits: 300 pounds for singles & 450 for tandems. Ages 8 to adult

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: October 3, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (2 person-tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes October 1st 5:00 pm. To register, email [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip

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## **MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK**

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: October 9th-11th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380

[www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK**

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: October 16th-18th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## **ColorFest 2020**

Mentone, Alabama

Savor North Alabama's autumn beauty and enjoy arts and crafts, food, live music and more! Mentone has been a mountain getaway for tourists since the 1800s. In October, bright sunshine and clear mountain air makes Mentone a good base to see the fall colors surrounding these natural treasures. There are many other places and things to do, including visiting the local stores and eateries. On Saturday and Sunday, Brow Park will be filled with artists and craft makers offering their handmade creations. Admission is free.

Dates: October 17-18, 2020

Where: Mentone, Alabama (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For details, see [www.facebook.com/MentoneAlabamaFestivals](https://www.facebook.com/MentoneAlabamaFestivals)

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## **Sunset Simmer-Down Paddle Trip**

### DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Alabama

DeSoto State Park staff offers this relaxing guided sunset paddle trip on the scenic Little River. Enjoy the peace and quiet of nature as we paddle upstream on the 'coke bottle clear' waters of the West Fork of Little River. Learn about this outstanding water source with its clear water, plant & animal life, and about the history of the area around DeSoto Falls in Dekalb County, Alabama.

What to know: This trip is approximately 4 miles round trip on flatwater, spans a 4-hour period and includes kayak & personal flotation device.

What to bring: Appropriate clothing, headlamp or flashlight, bug spray, snacks, and drinking water.

Date: October 17, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm-8:00 pm

Where: Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area-Miller's Bend Paddle Shack (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -84.589668

Fee: \$30.00 for single kayak rental (tandem kayaks are available on a limited basis for \$50.00)

Pre-registration closes October 15<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 pm. To register, email: [Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Paige.Norsworthy@dcnr.alabama.gov). Please provide date of paddle, a phone number; indicate number of boats, and what type requested for the trip.

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## MILLER'S BEND PADDLE SHACK

DeSoto State Park-Alabama

Miller's Bend Paddle Shack in DeSoto Falls Picnic Area will be open this weekend, to help you begin your scenic kayak trip up the West Fork of Little River.

Rent sit-on-top kayaks to enjoy a peaceful flatwater paddle on Little River overlooking beautiful DeSoto Falls. Your adventure can be up to 4 miles round trip, or as long as you want to make it! Paddle trips are perfect for individuals or groups. Life vests & paddles are provided.

Dates: October 23rd-25th, 2020

Time: Friday: 2:00-6:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10:00-6:00 pm (CST).

Kayaks are also available by reservation Monday-Thursday: Appointment only during the times of 10 AM-6 PM, \$50 Minimum

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. DeSoto Falls Picnic Area, 7 miles from the main park area of DeSoto State Park.

Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Opens for the Season: March 21st-October 25th, 2020

Fee: Single sit-on-top kayak: \$15.00 per hour. Tandem sit-on-top kayak: \$25.00 per hour. Corcl's: \$10 per hour.

Call DeSoto State Park's Lodge for info-256.845.5380 [www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river](http://www.alapark.com/kayak-little-river)

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## Hernando's Adventure Storytime Hike

Join Park Ranger Michael Langston on a hike along the Azalea Cascade Interpretive Trail in DeSoto State Park. Hike along and stop at points along the trail to hear the tale of a little raccoon named Hernando. Hernando is a little on the lazy side...and he gets left behind while his mother and siblings are off hunting for food. He awakens some time later to find himself alone...and hungry...and not really sure what to do!

About the book: Hernando's Adventure is a short book for children in which the ways of the woods are explained so that kids from pre-school to elementary school can understand them.

About the hike: Trail is approx. .7 of a mile long on slightly rocky terrain (not suitable for strollers) Bring snacks/drinks/daypack if you wish.

Date: October 24, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store & Information Center on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, open to all age children & their family. No-pre registration required. For any details email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov)

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## Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: October 24, 2020

Time: 12:00 noon-2:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email

[Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)



## Spookapalooza! in DeSoto State Park

Treats, Fun, & Games!

Join the staff and volunteers of Alabama State Parks, JSU Field Schools, & the National Park Service for a weekend of fun events guaranteed to run shivers up and down your spine! Trick or treating, live animals, storytelling, and more are in store during this popular annual event. Grab your favorite costume, bring the family, and come stay with us!

All events are free to the public & great for all ages! More details to come.

Date: October 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 (Halloween Weekend)

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama

### Schedule at a Glance:

Friday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>-6:00 pm Campfire Talk (TBA)

Saturday, Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>-3:00-5:30 pm Trick or Treating, Improved Campground

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:00 pm Campfire Talk (TBA)



### Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest

DeSoto State Park is glad to host the 9th Annual Spookapalooza Pumpkin Carving Contest! Entries will be judged on overall appearance, creativeness, neatness, and originality. Entries can have any theme or design, i.e., Halloween, nature, fall season, etc. All ages may enter contest.

Date: Entries must be turned in no later than 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> to be judged. Turn in at the Nature Center, next to the Country Store. Winners will be announced at the Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground, 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama.

All entries will be on display during DSP's Spookapalooza festivities.

Entries may be picked up at the DSP Country Store on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

Fee: Free and Open to all ages. Call 256.997.5025 for details

### Campfire Talk: TBA

Part of Spookapalooza

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto State Park.

Be sure to bring your own comfortable camp chair or blanket, as seating is limited. Great for all ages!

Date: Friday, October 30, 2020

Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will be open to the public) Large CCC Pavilion in the Picnic Area in case of rain

Fee: Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

### Trick or Treating

in DeSoto State Park's Improved Campground

Wear your favorite costume if you wish! Candy stations are located through-out the campground, where campers will be handing out candy. DeSoto State Park staff & volunteers will be at the campground pavilion with popcorn, candy, and prizes. Dress up your pets and bring them along! (Always on a leash) Parents must always accompany children. Be sure to swing by the campground pavilion to enjoy popcorn, candy, displays and more!

PLEASE NOTE: In the Improved Campground, the upper & lower loop will be CLOSED TO VEHICLE TRAFFIC from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Improved campground gates will open at 3:00 pm, no public entry will be allowed prior to 3:00 pm

Parking can be found at the campground bathhouses and along the roadsides in the campground. Please carpool if possible, parking is limited and this event has high visitation. Some parking can be found at the Country Store, and the campground accessed by the short trail behind the Country Store deck. Please be courteous and do not park vehicles on campsites.

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2020  
Time: 3:00-5:30 pm (gates will only be open during this time)  
Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama-Improved Campground.  
Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email  
Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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### **Campfire Talk: TBA**

Part of Spookapalooza

Join us for a fun campfire talk in the Great Outdoors! Campfire Talks are a series of educational & entertaining programs located in the great outdoors. Campfire programs are held many Friday & Saturday evening (May –October) in DeSoto State Park.

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2020

Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will be open to the public) Large CCC Pavilion in the Picnic Area in case of rain

Fee: Free & open to everyone. Great for all ages. Call 256.845.0051 or email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for any details.

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# November 2020

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## **Serious Skills Series: Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking Demo**



Hosted by DeSoto State Park. The Serious Skills series is a variety of classes and workshops that provide opportunities to discover a hidden talent or learn a new skill for personal enrichment. Classes are open to local residents, overnight guests and park visitors.

Dutch ovens have been in use for hundreds of years; especially when our country was expanding and families were on the move. Unable to bring their large cook stoves with them, women learned how to cook entire meals from stews & soups to bread & desserts, in their Dutch ovens. Learn the basics about Dutch ovens, how to clean & care for your cookware, AND cook (& eat!) dinner & dessert at the same time!

Starts around 4:00 p.m, located at the DeSoto State Park Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground. This is a demonstration, so the best part is when food is just coming off the fire!

Seating is limited, so bring your own comfortable camp chair if you wish. Drop in whenever you like & check out the food!

Date: November 7, 2020

Time: 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Campfire Ring in the Improved Campground (gate will open to the public)

Fee: Free & open to everyone; Great for all ages!

Call 256.997.5025 for email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov for details.

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## **Creative Spirit Market**

Hosted by DeSoto State Park & Little River Arts Council

Adding a new twist to a typical art fair, this event is designed as an open air showcase, with artist demonstrations, locally & regionally created fine & folk art, premium hand-crafted goods, live acoustic music, as well as interactive kid's art area. Shoppers can browse and watch artists in their creative process, listen to music, plus purchase goods from fine and folk artists such as painters, potters, quilters, weavers & basket makers, fabric spinners, culinary artists and craftsmen. Some unique and one-of-a-kind gifts will be available for purchase. Stop by and get some early gift-shopping in!

Dates: November 14 & 15, 2020 (Second weekend of November)

Times: 10:00 am-3:00 pm each day

Location: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Country Store/Picnic Area on County Road 89



Fee: Event is free & open to everyone. If parking in the picnic area, 2.00 per vehicle apply. Rain or shine event. [www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org/creative-spirit-market)  
FAQ: [www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market](http://www.alapark.com/creative-spirit-market)

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## **Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: November 21, 2020

Time: 9:00 am-11:30 am

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

Using a GPS or Phone to navigate to Desoto State Park can be unreliable. Please see our website for driving directions: [www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf](http://www.alapark.com/sites/default/files/2019-03/DSP%20Revised%20Driving%20Directions.pdf)

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# **December 2020**

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## **Merrityme Artisan Market**

Mentone, Alabama

Hosted by Little River Arts Council and Moon Lake Baptist Church. All proceeds to benefit Moon Lake Elementary School

Shoppers can browse unique and one-of-a-kind gifts by local artisans, listen to music, & visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Free gift wrapping available. Stop by, get some gift-shopping in, and support your local artists and makers!

Date: December 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 2020

Time: 10am-4pm each day

Where: Moon Lake Baptist Church- Inside Arlene Fowler Youth Center (4671 AL-117, Mentone, AL 35984) Within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park

Info: Entry to market is free & open to everyone. [www.littleriverartscouncil.org](http://www.littleriverartscouncil.org)

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## **Adventure Hike-DeSoto Falls Basin**

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Set out on an adventure hike with DeSoto State Park staff to the bottom of one of Alabama's tallest waterfalls, DeSoto Falls!

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1.5 miles total but considered moderate to strenuous due to the mountainous terrain and elevation. Will be hiking on rocky terrain down to the West Fork of Little River and walking upstream to the view of DeSoto Falls.

Date: December 12, 2020

Time: 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto Falls Picnic Area (about 7 miles from main park area of DeSoto State Park) Coordinates: 34.549124, -85.589668.

Fee: Free, pre-registration is required so to know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult.

Email [Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov) for more info or to pre-register.

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks/lunch, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended)

WEATHER: Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather. As with all outdoor events, if it is stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please call the park before you leave home to check if the hike is still on (256.845.0051)

Please note: Hike conditions will be posted the day before the hike on DeSoto's Facebook page

Directions to Desoto State Park:

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## Hike with a Naturalist Series

JSU Field School

Join the JSU Field School staff on these monthly hikes as we hit the trail and explore Little River Canyon National Preserve. Trails will be determined and announced closer to time and hike time will be dependent on trail (stay tuned to FB for further details)

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, snacks, hiking poles/staff (optional), sturdy shoes (open toe shoes are not recommended). Please be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/weather.

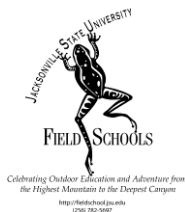
WEATHER: As with all outdoor events, if it's raining/stormy or very poor trail conditions, we may have to cancel. If the weather is questionable, please check with the park before leaving home. Please make every effort to arrive early or on time so that you do not hold up the group.

Date: December 28, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

For details contact 256-845-3548 (Niki or Beth) [www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools](https://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools)



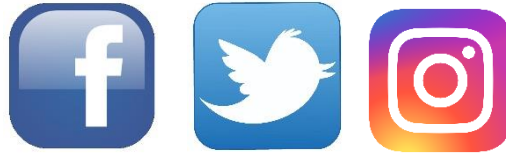
# For even more fun local events, see

[www.alapark.com/Events](http://www.alapark.com/Events)



# DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama

## #desotostatepark



### Contacts for event planning/programs:

|                                              |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>DeSoto State Park</b>                     | 256.997.5025 | Brittney M. Hughes<br><a href="mailto:Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov">Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov</a><br><a href="http://www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort">www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort</a> |
| <b>JSU Field Schools</b>                     | 256.845.3548 | Niki Wayner<br><a href="mailto:fieldschool@jsu.edu">fieldschool@jsu.edu</a><br><a href="http://www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/">www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/</a>                            |
| <b>Little River Canyon National Preserve</b> | 256.845.9605 | Matt Switzer<br><a href="mailto:Matt_switzer@nps.gov">Matt_switzer@nps.gov</a><br><a href="http://www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm">www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm</a>                                   |
| <b>Russell Cave National Monument</b>        | 256.495.2672 | Mary Dawson<br><a href="http://www.nps.gov/ruca">www.nps.gov/ruca</a>                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Seven Pines Survival</b>                  |              | Robert Wilson<br><a href="http://www.sevenpinessurvival.com">www.sevenpinessurvival.com</a>                                                                                                    |