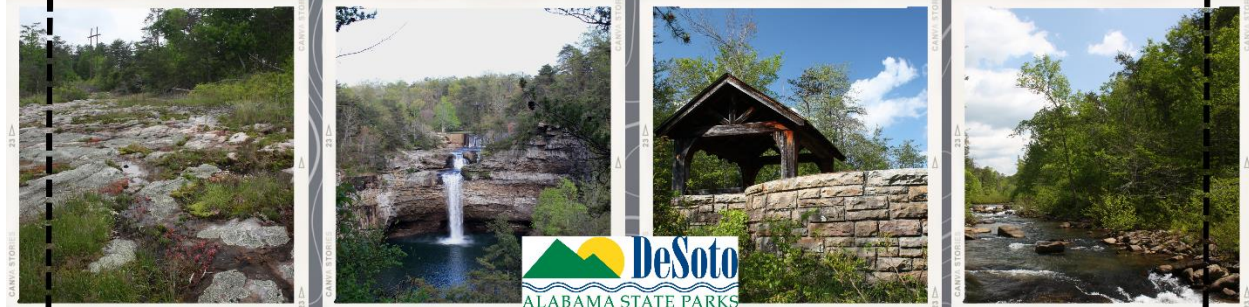


What's Happening in & around DeSoto State Park



DeSoto State Park and park partners like Little River Canyon National Preserve, Jacksonville State University Field School, Little River Arts Council 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!

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



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

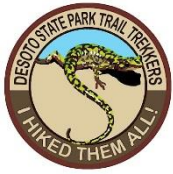
DeSoto State Park's Campfire Talk Series



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.*

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.



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

Hike the designated 23 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!

March 2023

Canyon Kids - Discovery Hike

Join us for a hands on adventure the 1st Thursday each month in 2023! Children (ages 3 years-3rd graders) will want to attend ALL of these hands-on outdoor adventures!

In March we will be exploring the Path to Learning, a 3/4 mile trail, on a Discovery Hike as we engage our senses.

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and neighbors to creatively learn about animals, plants, bugs, and more with JSU Field Schools.

Date: Thursday, March 2, 2023

Time: 10:30 am – 11:30 am (CST)

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

What to Bring: Please wear footwear suitable for hiking, bring water, and sun protection.

Free event. Registration strongly suggested. Limit 15 students.

For more details and for pre-registration, email rmtaylor@jsu.edu or call 256-845-3548.

<https://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools>

Geology of Waterfalls Van Tour & Hike

Join JSU Field School and DeSoto State Park staff on a tour exploring waterfalls of Lookout Mountain as we learn about the geological features that create these amazing waterfalls.

Hikes are easy to moderate on uneven terrain. You will get to see some well-known waterfalls, as well as some hidden treasures.

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

Date: Friday, March 3, 2023

Time: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm (CST)

Where: JSU's Little River Canyon Center, Fort Payne, Alabama. (Within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park)

Fee: \$35 per participant. Pre-registration required by February 13th. Space is limited.

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

be sure to dress appropriately according to seasonal temperatures/ weather.

<https://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools>

Registration:

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20901_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=194&SINGLESTORE=true

Peace of Mind Yoga Class

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join us for a fun yoga class in DeSoto State Park! Instructor Destin Padgett will guide participants with relaxing, alignment-based poses. Perfect for those beginning their yoga practice or for those wanting to try something new! Classes are open to local residents and park visitors alike. No pre-registration required!

Date: March 3, 2023 (CST)

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Inside Benefield Interpretive Center (Nature Center) next to the Country Store on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks, at class) Bring mat or towel. See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for more class dates.

Lost Falls 10K / Half Marathon / 50K

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

From the same directors of Eagle Ridge, Grand Viduta Stage Race, Wade Mountain & Wild Thangs Trail Series, River Monster Trail Run, & the Cathedral Caverns Trail Run. Running Lane Events present the Lost Falls 10K / Half Marathon / 50K

The race is capped at 300 runners.

All runners who sign up will receive a t-shirt, and finisher medal as well as a hot meal post race.

Date: March 11, 2023

Where: Desoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Registration: <https://ultrasignup.com/register.aspx?did=97578>

More info: www.facebook.com/RunningLaneEvents/

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 (or the start of one).

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. Pre-registration is required, as participation is limited to 10 in a class.

Date: Sunday, March 12, 2022

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

<https://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools>

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

Fee: \$30 supply fee- Supply fee due day of class

Pre-registration required by emailing Brittney Hughes (NOT via Facebook); class number is limited in size. For details and to register email Southernchick888@hotmail.com

Art Talks

Little River Arts Council presents an evening of art critique and discussion- this will be free to the public and open discussion is encouraged!

Art is meant to be seen, and discussed! If you are an artist or an art appreciator, this is an evening for you.

Leads another informal conversation about art, why we create it, and how it affects our lives. Mikel Yeakle is an art history buff whose knowledge and enthusiasm for art is engaging and delightful. Having worked as a professional artist all his adult life, Mikel has useful tips for anyone new to selling their work. All are invited to bring their artwork and share their process and inspirations. The conversation is open to anyone who is drawn to art (pun intended) not just creators of art.

Date: March 15, 2023 (Every third Wednesday)

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m. (CST)

Where: Moonlake Community Library, Address: 4607 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: free & open to all! www.littleriverartscouncil.org

#lrac #littleriverartscouncil #art #artdiscussion #arthistory #localartists #alabamaarts #mentone #critique #opendiscussion #mydekalb

Yoga Walk-Dusk to Dark

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park. Walk along the park's boardwalk trail, following Laurel Creek. Listen to the sounds of Azalea Cascade as instructor Destin Padgett guides you in slow & easy yoga poses.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Dress for the weather, and bring a yoga mat or towel, water & snack.

About the walk: The boardwalk trail is ADA-accessible 1,000-foot-long boardwalk with benches along the way. The walk is considered easy, ending at a large platform overlooking Azalea Cascade.

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89 (Nature Center next to Country Store in case of inclement weather)

Fee: \$5.00 per person (cash or check, at class). Pre-registration is appreciated, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult, RSVP here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/ajditxATaX>

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

Park After Dark-Night Walk

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes to get to know the park after dark! You never know what you can discover during the night; we will be using our senses to discover what can be seen, heard, or even smelled on this fun walk!

On this walk we will be on the cabin road & go to the frog pond, near DeSoto's South entrance. All ages welcome, children must be supervised. We will walk from the DeSoto

State Park Lodge-short distance, terrain will be a mix of asphalt and dirt road, closed toed shoes are preferred.

Bring a small flashlight or headlamp if you wish (red light preferred) or there will be some flashlights available first come-first served. Please no dogs, as our nighttime friends can be shy.

Date: March 17, 2022

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Meet outside DeSoto State Park Lodge

Fee: Free and open to everyone. No pre-registration required; This hike may be cancelled in case of rain. For any details about the walk, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

Dutch Oven Campfire Cooking 101

Dutch Oven Cooking Demonstrations will be happening throughout the day. Come and go as you please from 10am to 2pm.

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. The best time to swing by is when food is just coming off the fire!

Date: March 18, 2023

Time: 10:00-2:00 p.m.

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

Fee: Free & open to everyone, no pre-registration required. Come by for free samples!

www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools

Serious Skills Series: Leaf Pounding Class

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.

Leaf pounding is a simple, stunning technique, historically used by Native American women to decorate fabric. Pounding with a rock or a hammer transfers the natural dyes of a leaf to fabric while retaining the design of the original leaf. In this class, join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes on a quick walk to ID leaves that can be used for leaf pounding, then get a chance to unleash your creativity to make a beautiful and unique piece of fabric to take home. Participants can also bring their own fabric like t-shirts, handkerchiefs, pillowcases, etc. as long as it is 100% cotton. This class is for ages 8 to adult.

Date: March 24, 2023

Time: 10:00-12:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$10.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Registration form: <https://forms.office.com/g/Wj4jvSeAmx>

This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion, be prepared for whatever weather conditions are present.

Trail Trekker Hike Series: DeSoto Scout Trail Section

DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama

Can you say "I Hiked Them All"? DeSoto State Park challenges you to become a DeSoto State Park Trail Trekker! Hike the designated 23 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!

DeSoto Scout Trail Section (From aqua trail to yellow trail downstream to Lodge and back) -Hike is approximately 2 miles round trip, moderate to strenuous along rocky mountainous terrain. Some uphill.

Date: March 25, 2023

Time: 10:00 am-1:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on County Road 89

Fee: Free, pre-registration is appreciated so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 10 to adult. Pre-registration form: <https://forms.office.com/g/WRFXQ43Z6s>

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.

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)

www.alapark.com/desoto-state-park/hiking

Yoga Hike Along Little River

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses AND hiking along beautiful trails. This hike will be a mix of trail hiking with an outdoor yoga session. Combining hiking and yoga practice in the great outdoors confers benefits unmatched in any other setting. You get the light cardio and strength-building that hiking offers, the toning, flexibility, and relaxation that yoga offers, and the powerful connection to Mother Nature that being outdoors offers.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Wear closed-toe shoes & weather appropriate clothes; bring a hike-friendly yoga mat or towel if you wish (most poses will be standing poses), water and a snack.

About the hike: This hike is approximately 1 1/2 miles round trip, moderate. Trail weaves along Sharp Branch & the West Fork of Little River thru hardwood/pine mix forest. Moderate dur to rocky terrain

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m.

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

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks) Pre-registration is appreciated, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. RSVP here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/LtpLsFZWW0>

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380.
See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

iNaturalist Hike: Along Little River

Join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes for a hike along the West Fork of Little River to discover what can be observed & recorded using iNaturalist, a free app that can be used to record observations of all sorts of things – plants, animals, and even fungi. Learn how to use the simple app to help contribute to park species lists and about species seen in the park.

What is iNaturalist?-It is a way for people that are interested in nature to share what they see with others, as well as gaining identifications on species that they may not be familiar with. The app also helps to collect data, collaborating with others to gather information for a common project or purpose (i.e. species lists, bioblitzes, etc.) Users can also access the observational data collected by other iNaturalist users. If you've ever wanted to learn more about the plants and animals around you but you didn't have someone along for your hike or walk to ask, you'll want to download iNaturalist. And you can even make observations in your backyard or on the street walking in your neighborhood. Bottom line: this app gives you the opportunity to have your own personal naturalist resource whenever you decide to go, as long as your battery is charged!

Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023

Time: 10:00-12:30 p.m. (CST)

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, AL. Meet at DeSoto's Country Store on County Road 89

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; We recommend you bring your own smart phone or device & download the app prior if you wish (free wifi at Country Store, Lodge, & Nature Center). For any details about the hike, email Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

April 2023

Serious Skills Series: Art of Woodburning-DeSoto Falls

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.

Pyrography or woodburning is the art of decorating wood or other materials, the term meaning "writing with fire" dating back to the 17th century. Participants in this class will learn the basic techniques of decorative wood burning from artist April Blanks, and will work on their own souvenir DeSoto Falls magnet or ornament. Practice basic techniques using a pen-like burning tool and paint.

This class is for ages 14 to adult.

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023

Time: 2 class times available: 9:00-11:00 OR 12:00-2:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$25.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/g/jseYZvSK04>

Plant Discovery Hike

Join JSU Field School staff and DeSoto State Park Naturalist, Brittney Hughes, for a meandering journey within the forest, taking in every opportunity to learn more about the natural world. On this hike we will identify many native plants of the southern Appalachians and will be teaching you how to recognize the species found in the park. Bring a notebook/camera if you wish and discover what can be seen along the trails. All ages welcome

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.

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023

Time: 10:00-12:00

Location: JSU's Little River Canyon Center in Fort Payne (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park). Trail is TBD.

Fee: Free and open to everyone! For details, contact 256-845-3548 (Canyon Center)

Family Pottery Workshop

Join artist Jessica Haigh of Animal House Pottery Create your own wind chimes and "poof pot" (small dish)!

This class is designed for beginners with little or no pottery experience. Participants will create awesome finished products they can be proud of without having to spend long hours on the process.

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2023.

Time: 1pm - 3pm (CST)

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

Pre-registration is required. \$35 per participant. includes: 2lbs of clay, tools, paints, and instruction.No refunds after March 20. For questions please email rmtaylor@jsu.edu or call 256-845-3548. <https://www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools>

Register here -

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20901_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=200&SINGLESTORE=true&fbclid=IwAR0dyvfUEk9Nzy6VdEZOCFCLDHninGNHgvNNCtkGpwnNwLK2EcOfHmI3e5Y

iNaturalist Walk: Boardwalk Trail

Join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes for a walk along the ADA-accessible Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trail. Discover what can be observed & recorded using iNaturalist, a free app that can be used to record observations of all sorts of things – plants, animals, and even fungi. Learn how to use the simple app to help contribute to park species lists and about species seen in the park.

What is iNaturalist?-It is a way for people that are interested in nature to share what they see with others, as well as gaining identifications on species that they may not be familiar with. The app also helps to collect data, collaborating with others to gather information for a common project or purpose (i.e. species lists, bioblitzes, etc.) Users can also access the observational data collected by other iNaturalist users. If you've ever

wanted to learn more about the plants and animals around you but you didn't have someone along for your hike or walk to ask, you'll want to download iNaturalist. And you can even make observations in your backyard or on the street walking in your neighborhood. Bottom line: this app gives you the opportunity to have your own personal naturalist resource whenever you decide to go, as long as your battery is charged!

Date: April 1, 2023

Time: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, AL. Meet at Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89

Fee: Free, no pre-registration required; We recommend you bring your own smart phone or device & download the app prior if you wish (free wifi at Country Store, Lodge, & Nature Center). For any details about the walk, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

Yoga Hike-Gilliam Loop Trail

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park! Join instructor Destin Padgett for a great outdoor experience of strengthening yoga poses AND hiking along beautiful trails. This hike will be a mix of trail hiking with an outdoor yoga session. Combining hiking and yoga practice in the great outdoors confers benefits unmatched in any other setting. You get the light cardio and strength-building that hiking offers, the toning, flexibility, and relaxation that yoga offers, and the powerful connection to Mother Nature that being outdoors offers.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Wear closed-toe shoes & weather appropriate clothes; bring a hike-friendly yoga mat or towel if you wish (most poses will be standing poses), water and a snack.

About the hike: This hike is approximately 3 1/2 miles round trip, moderate. Trail weaves thru mixed hardwoods forest on the Gilliam Loop trail.

Date: Sunday, April 2, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at DeSoto's Lodge & caravan to the Gilliam Loop Trailhead

Fee: 5.00 per participant per class (cash or checks) Pre-registration is appreciated, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult. RSVP here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/dJkAYA1dNH>

If weather is questionable- check with DSP Lodge before coming: 256.845.5380.

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

Canyon Kids - Back Yard Birding

Join us for a hands on adventure the 1st Thursday each month in 2023! Children (ages 3 years-3rd graders) will want to attend ALL of these hands-on outdoor adventures!

In April we will be learning about birds and how to find them in our own backyards.

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and neighbors to creatively learn about animals, plants, bugs, and more with JSU Field Schools.

Date: Thursday, April 6, 2023

Time: 10:30 am – 11:30 am (CST)

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

What to Bring: Please wear footwear suitable for hiking, bring water, and sun protection.

Free event. Registration strongly suggested. Limit 15 students.

For more details and for pre-registration, email rmtaylor@jsu.edu or call 256-845-3548. www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools

Hike with a Naturalist on the Desoto Scout Trail

Join JSU Field School & Desoto State Park Naturalist on a beautiful outdoor adventure hike on the Desoto Scout Trail (DST). This hike is a challenging, arduous and steep 6.5 mile hike. The DST, it connects 2 of the finest parks in the State: Little River Canyon National Preserve and DeSoto State Park. The trail follows the West Fork of Little River and traverses a varied terrain of ridges, valleys, fern glades, rock formations, waterfalls, beside deep pools, riffles, through rhododendron tunnels, creek crossings, swimming holes, and sandy stretches. Come on and enjoy the great outdoors!

Date: April 8, 2023

Where: Meet at the Desoto State Park Country Store on County Road 89. We will caravan to the trail head.

Time: We will leave the Country Store at 9am. Hike will last until 4 pm (CST)

Free event. For details, contact 256-845-3548 (Canyon Center).

www.facebook.com/JSUFieldSchools

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, lunch, 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.

Art Talks

Little River Arts Council presents an evening of art critique and discussion- this will be free to the public and open discussion is encouraged!

Art is meant to be seen, and discussed! If you are an artist or an art appreciator, this is an evening for you.

Leads another informal conversation about art, why we create it, and how it affects our lives. Mikel Yeakle is an art history buff whose knowledge and enthusiasm for art is engaging and delightful. Having worked as a professional artist all his adult life, Mikel has useful tips for anyone new to selling their work. All are invited to bring their artwork and share their process and inspirations. The conversation is open to anyone who is drawn to art (pun intended) not just creators of art.

Date: April 19, 2023 (Every third Wednesday)

Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m. (CST)

Where: Moonlake Community Library, Address: 4607 AL Hwy 117, Mentone, AL 35984

Fee: free & open to all! www.littleriverartscouncil.org

#lrac #littleriverartscouncil #art #artdiscussion #arthistory #localartists #alabamaarts #mentone #critique #opendiscussion #mydekalb

Serious Skills Series: Leaf Pounding Class

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.

Leaf pounding is a simple, stunning technique, historically used by Native American women to decorate fabric. Pounding with a rock or a hammer transfers the natural dyes of a leaf to fabric while retaining the design of the original leaf. In this class, join DeSoto State Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes on a quick walk to ID leaves that can be used for leaf pounding, then get a chance to unleash your creativity to make a beautiful and unique piece of fabric to take home. Participants can also bring their own fabric like t-shirts, handkerchiefs, pillowcases, etc. as long as it is 100% cotton. This class is for ages 8 to adult.

Date: April 15, 2023

Time: 10:00-12:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park in Fort Payne, Alabama (Location disclosed at time of registration)

Fee: \$10.00 -includes all supplies. Class space is limited, pre-registration is required for attendance in this class. Registration form: <https://forms.office.com/g/PpFZZkLSx5>
This class will be held outside under a covered pavilion, be prepared for whatever weather conditions are present.

Civilian Conservation Corps History Hike: Trail Shelter along Little River

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.

Join DSP Staff & volunteers on a moderate hike to the trailside shelter located on the West Fork of Little River. Learn how the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the original structures that you can still see in the park today. Moderate hike along mountainous terrain, rocky terrain. Approximately 1.10 miles round trip

Date: Saturday, April 15, 2023

Time: 2:00-4:00 p.m. (CST)

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

Fee: Free, pre-registration is appreciated so we know how many to expect. Pre-registration form: <https://forms.office.com/g/RmqAhfF68t>

Early Spring Hike in DeSoto State Park

One of the most beautiful times of the year at DeSoto State Park! Join DSP Staff on a moderate meandering hike along the Little River trail to see what species of plants is starting to grow and bloom after a long winter season. We will learn some natural history of the plants, and some medicinal and historical uses as well.

Wonderful views of the West Fork of Little River, Indian Falls, and Lodge Falls along the route. We will stop and eat snacks/lunch along the trail

Date: April 21, 2023

Time: 10:00-1:00 pm

Where: DeSoto State Park, Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Nature Center (Next to DeSoto's Country Store)

Fee: Free, pre-registration is appreciated so we know how many to expect. Pre-registration form: <https://forms.office.com/g/hYqjGzLiUf>

Things to bring: Plenty of water and/or sports drink, 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.

Yoga Walk-Dusk to Dark

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Experience yoga while enjoying the beauty that is Desoto State Park. Walk along the park's boardwalk trail, following Laurel Creek. Listen to the sounds of Azalea Cascade as instructor Destin Padgett guides you in slow & easy yoga poses.

What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Dress for the weather, and bring a yoga mat or towel, water & snack.

About the walk: The boardwalk trail is ADA-accessible 1,000-foot-long boardwalk with benches along the way. The walk is considered easy, ending at a large platform overlooking Azalea Cascade for a relaxing yoga class.

Date: April 21, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89 (Nature Center next to Country Store in case of inclement weather)

Fee: \$5.00 per person (cash or check, at class). Pre-registration is appreciated, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult, RSVP here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/U3QNKFH5R8>

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

Park After Dark-Night Walk

DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama

Join Park Naturalist Brittney Hughes to get to know the park after dark! You never know what you can discover during the night; we will be using our senses to discover what can be seen, heard, or even smelled on this fun walk!

On this walk we will be on the cabin road & go to the frog pond, near DeSoto's South entrance. All ages welcome, children must be supervised. We will walk from the DeSoto State Park Lodge-short distance, terrain will be a mix of asphalt and dirt road, closed toed shoes are preferred.

Bring a small flashlight or headlamp if you wish (red light preferred) or there will be some flashlights available first come-first served. Please no dogs, as our nighttime friends can be shy.

Date: April 21, 2022

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama-Meet outside DeSoto State Park Lodge

Fee: Free and open to everyone. No pre-registration required; This hike may be cancelled in case of rain. For any details about the walk, email

Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov

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What to know: Yoga poses are alignment based which makes them perfect for those beginning or continuing their yoga practice. Dress for the weather, and bring a yoga mat or towel, water & snack.

About the walk: The boardwalk trail is ADA-accessible 1,000-foot-long boardwalk with benches along the way. The walk is considered easy, ending at a large platform overlooking Azalea Cascade for a relaxing yoga class.

Date: April 28, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: DeSoto State Park-Fort Payne, Alabama. Meet at the Talmadge Butler Boardwalk Trailhead on Co. Rd. 89 (Nature Center next to Country Store in case of inclement weather)

Fee: \$5.00 per person (cash or check, at class). Pre-registration is appreciated, so we know how many to expect. Hike is open to ages 8 to adult, RSVP here:

<https://forms.office.com/g/ACGVrnGptw>

See www.alapark.com/DSP-Yoga for class dates

Fly Fishing 101 Workshop

JSU Field Schools

Join Dr. Tim Lindblom to learn the basics to get started on your own fly fishing adventures! We will be discussing what gear is needed, knots, basic fly selection, and casting instructions. Participants will get hands-on experience and the opportunity to make that first catch. Ages 14 and over are welcome. Register today! Spots are extremely limited.

Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023

Time: 3 pm - 6 pm Fee: \$75 per participant OR \$35 for JSU Students with School ID. No refunds after April 14.

Location: JSU's Little River Canyon Center (within 10 miles of DeSoto State Park) All equipment will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own.

Pre-register here:

https://secure.touchnet.net/C20901_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=197&SINGLESTORE=true



the
Field
School



For even more fun events, see
www.alapark.com/Events

DeSoto State Park~Fort Payne, Alabama
#desotostatepark



Contacts for event planning/programs:

DeSoto State Park	256.997.5025	Brittney M. Hughes Brittney.Hughes@dcnr.alabama.gov www.Alapark.com/DeSotoresort
JSU Field Schools	256.845.3548	Rebekah Taylor or Beth Sewell fieldschool@jsu.edu www.jsu.edu/epic/field_schools/
Little River Canyon National Preserve	256.845.9605	www.nps.gov/liri/index.htm
Russell Cave National Monument	256.495.2672	Mary Dawson www.nps.gov/ruca