



BEAR CREEK EDUCATIONAL FOREST 10 - YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT



Saturday, October 24, 2015

- 07:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.** FUN RUN/WALK REGISTRATION – A registration table will be set up near the entrance kiosk.
- 08:05 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.** FUN RUN/WALK – A well-marked, one-mile course of dirt and pavement; Starts from entrance gate.
- 09:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.** WELCOMING CEREMONY – Classroom porch area
- “YOUTH IN THE WILD” PHOTO CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT – Classroom porch area
Photo contest deadline is September 20th. Please visit FloridaForestService.com for rules, entry forms, and helpful photo tips.
- 09:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** FOREST TRAILS & CLASSROOM OPEN - Education Resource Exhibits (inside & outside)
- FRIENDS OF FLORIDA STATE FORESTS SALE (Fundraiser) – Inside the classroom facility – A “hybrid silent-auction/fundraiser” offering new items and gift certificates from area businesses. Funds raised will help support future improvement projects on the Bear Creek Educational Forest.
- TRAILS OPEN – Sparkleberry walking sticks will be offered for hikers to use and keep as a souvenir. A special thanks to Helen & Tom Roth of Spring Canyon, Gadsden County and members of the Magnolia Chapter Native Plant Society!
- SELF-GUIDED HIKES – All hikers will start at the Terry L. Rhodes sign to receive a trail map and access the other trails.
- OTHER OFFERINGS – Appearances by Smokey Bear, food vendor, refreshments, prizes, commemorative tree “cookies” and FREE STUFF!
- 09:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** KIDS STATIONS –Interactive educational sites for elementary school-aged children- BCEF Facility grounds.
- 09:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** FOREST GAMES – BCEF Facility grounds - interactive **forestry** educational sites for older students: 4H, FFA, Scouts, and even adults!
- 10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.** GUIDED HIKES - These hikes will occur concurrently, involving different sections of the Terry L. Rhodes Trail System and will be led by experts in their respective fields. For planning purposes, **all guided hikes require pre-registration by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 16th** (registration instructions at bottom of page**).
- **Adult Tree I.D.** – Limited to 15 adults. Led by Foresters and IFAS/Leon County Extension– Ravine Arboretum Trail
 - **Youth Tree I.D. (8 – 12 years)** – Limited to 15 youth. Led by Professional Foresters – Living Forest and Ravine Trails
 - **Common & Rare Plants** – Limited to 15 adults. Led by FFS Biologist – General Forest Area
- 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** FOREST WAGON RIDES – Multiple two-hour tours of Bear Creek Forest, including parts of Frank Pittman’s Bear Creek Nature Park. **For your safety, all riders must remain securely on board until the end of the ride.**
- 5:00 p.m.** MAIN EVENT ENDS - All vendors, exhibitors and daytime guests must be off the premises by 5:15 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.** MOONLIT HIKE –This is a one-time offering and **requires pre-registration by noon, Saturday, October 24th** (registration instructions below**). Limited to 20 adults and children 8 years or older. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. The hike is led by experienced hikers and involves approximately 1.5 miles on open forest road to our primitive campsite. In addition a special guest will help us appreciate the October Skies of North Florida!

***To register for guided hikes, send an email to Tom.Gilpin@FreshFromFlorida.com and write the title of the desired hike in the “subject” box, and hiker name(s) and phone number(s) in the body of the message. Hikers may also register by calling (850)627-9064 to leave a message with the requested information. In the event that openings remain for Guided Hikes a registration table will be open for sign-in until 1 hour before the hike.*

Florida Forest Service.com
(850) 627-9064