



Carter Caves

State Resort Park



April 11 - 13, 2014

WILDFLOWER PILGRIMAGE



Nature enthusiasts step outside and enjoy the natural wonders of Carter Caves on this weekend. The ridges and valleys around the park are known for a large diversity of tree species, birds and blooming spring wildflowers. Enjoy guided hikes, van tours, canoe trips and workshops that will get you up close to many of these natural attractions found at Carter Caves. Sign ups for specific field trips will be done during onsite registration on Friday evening or Saturday morning of the event weekend.

Camping Will Be Available.



For camping reservations call 888-459-7275.

WORKSHOP PACKAGE

Admission to field trips and workshops Friday Night through Sunday Morning. Sign up for individual field trips will be done onsite.

\$15/adult 13yrs & up
\$10/child 6-12yrs.

WORKSHOP & LODGING PACKAGE

Admission to all workshop programs Friday night - Sunday morning and two nights lodging in Lewis Caveland Lodge.

\$154.⁹⁵ + tax for one adult (single occupancy room)

\$169.⁹⁵ + tax for two adults (double occupancy Room)



Breakfast - 7:00-10:00

Lunch - 11:30-2:00

Dinner - 5:00-8:00

Call 1-800-325-0059 for information and reservations
Carter Caves State Resort Park • 344 Caveland Drive
Olive Hill, Kentucky 41164
PARKS.KY.GOV



FRIDAY APRIL 11, 2014

Friday Early Bird Trip 3:00 PM

A WILDFLOWER, GEO/ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ETHNOBOTANICAL TRIP THROUGH THE ANCIENT PAST OF CARTER CAVES - (Led by Matt Maley) We will travel east of the lodge on the Blue Trail and see the six Carter Caves sandstone outcrops that contain rock shelters used by Indians hundreds to thousands of years ago. A number of wildflowers are present on this trail. From there we will follow the Rockhouse Trail and see the massive sandstone cliffs and stand in the actual places where ancient people camped and marveled at the beauty and serenity of the Neolithic past. Then we will pass down into Wood Hen Hollow and marvel at the ferns and large variety of wildflowers common to Carter Caves. Many of the wildflowers are unique to this environment and soil condition. The trip will cross over and then under the largest "karst" arch in Kentucky where we will see the very unusual water resurgence channel and cave formed by the underground stream. The trip then loops back to the Lodge where we will see fossil evidence of the Mississippian Era Ocean in the rocks which make up the walls, steps and building facing. (This trip is repeated on Sunday morning)

Meets in lodge lobby; No transportation required; Limit 15; Hike Distance less than 1 mile.

Field Trip Registration (6:00-8:00pm) Lobby of Lodge

Friday Night Program 8:00 PM

SPRING FEVER IN THE MOUNTAINS - (Presented by John Tierney) The Spring is a time of rebirth and with the first warm days, we all long to be witness to it.. John Tierney will present a program that highlights the early flowers that make this such an exciting time of year. Join us in the FIELDS FACILITY of the Lodge for this extraordinary evening program about the events of Spring at Carter Caves.

SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2014

Field Trip Registration (8:30 - 9:30am) Lobby of Lodge

Saturday Morning Field Trips 7:30AM

SPRING TIME AND FEATHERED FRIENDS - (Led by Evelyn Morgan) Birds are fascinating, intriguing, and exhibit beautiful colors (especially the males). Do you love to watch birds? Do you wish you could identify some of the birds that live near you? If so, this field trip will teach basic identification along with vocal songs and calls. With spring, it brings many migrating warblers to Carter Caves. Join Evelyn Morgan with the U.S. Forest Service for this excursion. It will definitely give you some basic birding techniques that will help you become a better birder. It is suggested you bring your own binoculars, a bird identification book, wear comfortable shoes, quiet clothing, a hat and sunscreen. Not recommended for young children.

Meets in front of the lodge; No transportation required; Limit 15; Hike Distance 1 mile.

Saturday Morning Field Trips 9:30AM

BACK COUNTRY FLOWER FORAY - (Led by John Tierney) This hike will start at the Welcome Center and cover a small section of the Carter Caves Cross Country Trail. We will jump off the trail onto the old county road and take note of the bountiful flowering plants in this valley along the roadside and back through the playground area to the Welcome Center. This is a relatively easy hike just over a mile long and we have the opportunity to see a profusion of spring wildflowers.

Meets at the Welcome Center; Limit 20. Hike Distance 1.25 miles.

FERNS OF CARTER CAVES – (Led by Alexia Callihan) With a total of 48 fern species, Carter Caves State Resort Park has the highest fern species richness of the surrounding area. This hike will showcase some of the most common ferns of the area as well as some of the rarest and primitive of species. Join in this mild to sometimes moderate trek through Box Canyon of the Cascade Caves area and other fern-rich areas of the park. **A hand lens (jeweler's loop) or a strong magnifying glass is suggested for study of morphological features but is not required.** Experience the beauty and diversity of unfurling fern fronds alongside blossoming spring wildflowers throughout the park. The group will meet at the Welcome Center and from there, we will motorcade 3 1/2 miles to the area.

Meets at the Welcome Center; Transportation Required; Limit 15; Distance approximately 1.5 miles.

VAN WILDFLOWER EXCURSION - (Led by Sam Plummer) This trip is designed to get you to some beautiful areas without much hiking or at least mainly flat land hiking which is hard to find in Eastern KY. We will load up in the van at the lodge and head to some choice locations with lots of blooms along the beautiful Tygart Creek. You might get to see some Virginia Bluebells in flower along the creek. Then we will drive you to a higher elevation above Creeks gorge and take a walk in an area that is rich in sandstone cliff sides, rhododendron and forest woods filled with blooming wildflowers.

Meets at the lodge; No transportation required; Limit 10; Hike Distance 1 mile.

"WILDFLOWERS, LICHENS & MOSS - OH MY" – (Led by Doug Wood) Carter Caves is well known for its diversity in wildflowers and other plants. This hike is new to Wildflower Weekend! During this hike we will see many of those beautiful **blooming flowers, ferns and even trees. Most folks don't pay much attention to the abundance of different mosses and lichens** that can be found growing on the ground on rocks and on trees within the forest. Doug will point out many different species of each during this hike. You will also get a chance to see the parks largest sandstone arch, Fern Bridge. This hike will include multiple stone steps to get you above and below fern bridge and some other hilly terrain but is well worth it. *Meets at the Lodge; Limit 20; Transportation to the cottage area required; Hike distance approximately 1.5 miles.*

Saturday Morning Field Trips 9:30PM (continued)

WILDFLOWERS, PLANTS USED BY NATIVE AMERICANS AND PIONEERS, THE GEOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AT CARTER CAVES - (Led by Matt Maley) Follow the Raven, 3 Bridges, and Rockhouse trails to view the numerous species of wildflowers that are unique to Eastern KY. Discover which plants were used by Native Americans and Pioneers (ethnobotany). Travel back in time to review the geo/archaeology as we walk above, under and through 16 Archaeological Sites inhabited by the Indians hundreds to thousands of years ago and visit the Raven Bridge that may have served as a ceremonial site for ancient visitors to the area. Along with the 30 or so species of Wildflowers we will see a variety of ferns, mosses, lichens and other plants that make up the Carter Caves forest. *Meets at the Lodge; No transportation required. Limit 15. Hike Distance 1.3 miles.*

Saturday Afternoon Field Trips 1:30PM

A VISIT TO CASCADE - (Led by John Tierney) The Cascade area, best known for its cave, also has a 3/4 mile loop trail that passes some of the most unusual geologic features in the park. Cascade Natural Bridge, Box Canyon, and the Wind Tunnel are just some of the names of features that you will see. If there is time, the group may also visit an overlook of the Tygart's Creek Gorge. The trail is steep and rough in places, but is well worth the effort. The group will meet at the Welcome Center and from there, we will motorcade 3 1/2 miles to the area.

Meets at the Welcome Center; Transportation Required; Limit 20; Hike Distance 1 mile.

FOLLOW AN ANCIENT ABORIGINAL PATH IN SEARCH OF WILDFLOWERS AND OTHER PLANTS USED BY NATIVE PEOPLE AND EARLY VISITORS TO THE AREA - (Led by Matt Maley) We will follow an ancient path that tracks along the Cave Branch Creek to discover the many wildflowers and other plants that offer a look back into the history of when native peoples and pioneers traveled through this area. There are more species and numbers of wildflowers in this area than in many other parts of the park. Many of the plants we will see were used for a variety of purposes by the Indians and settlers of this region. We will be passing through an Archaeological Zone which is over 1.5 miles long where the Indians visited and camped to obtain the numerous resources of the area. Additional evidence of the use of these local resources was discovered in 2010 during an Archaeological excavation at the current location of the horse camp. We will look at some of the ancient artifacts in the Cave Branch Creek. In addition, we will look into the west (back) entrance to Bat Cave where legend indicates that Indians and pioneers met and probably camped in what is called the "bedroom" passage or section of the cave.

Meets at lodge lobby; Transportation required; Limit 18; Hike Distance less than 1 mile.

LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS - (Led by Doug Wood) This workshop will begin indoors and will introduce participants to the basics of landscaping projects using native plants. The indoor session will cover intellectual resources available for planning your project, selecting & assessing a potential landscaping site & researching the plants. The next 2.5 hrs will be a field research hike to check out native plants in a variety of habitats. The terrain will range from easy to moderate.

Meets at the lodge; Transportation required; Limit 15; Hike Distance less than 2 miles.

MEDICINAL & EDIBLE PLANTS –18TH CENTURY LORE – (Led by Dianne Anestis) Weather permitting, participants will take an easy-to-moderate walk along the Natural Bridge Trail to see some beautiful blooming flowers and to learn about native plant uses from our past. Some of these remedies are still used in various forms today, and some have been described by modern science to have undesirable effects with better alternatives available. This walk is designed for participants to gain an appreciation of early herbalists' knowledge and experimentation, but it is not a 'do it yourself' course. Distance ~1/2 mile with steps (optional) and a possible creek crossing. Frequent stops for discussion and to admire Natural Bridge, the entrance to Bat Cave, and the wildflowers. *Meet at the Welcome Center; No transportation required; Limit 20; Hike Distance 1/2 mile.*

TREE IDENTIFICATION - (Led by Vanessa Stevens) Trees are found almost everywhere you go, whether you live in an urban or rural area you will always be able to find different tree species. Identifying trees is fun and sometimes challenging especially during the winter when they lose their leaves. We will be identifying tree species by leaf shape, tree growth form, bark, & twig characteristics. The terrain can range from easy to difficult.

Meets in lodge lobby; Transportation required; Limit 20, Hike Distance 1 mile.

SMOKY LAKE CANOE EXCURSION - (Led by Coy Ainsley) This is a leisurely-paced canoe trip on the park's 45-acre lake and a short section of Smoky Creek. We will portage and either take a walk along a section of the 4c's trail into a cove that is rich in wildflowers or we will portage at the dam and take a short walk to see Tygart Creek and an abundance of Virginia Bluebells in bloom. It is possible we will have to cross a section of smoky creek by foot, depending on the water levels you may get your feet wet. We provide canoes, paddles and life vests. We recommend you bring bottled water, sunscreen, sunglasses or a hat. Participants 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Participants must weigh at least 50 pounds to go on the trip. Assistance with loading and unloading the canoes will be required.

Meets at the Welcome Center; Limit 14; A one mile drive to the lakefront may be required.

Mark your Calendar: APRIL 11-12, 2015: Wildflower Weekend

Saturday Night Program

7:00PM - SLIDE SHOW "CRITTERS NEED PLANTS TOO" – (led by Doug Wood) Today we saw many different plants learned about their different characteristics and human uses of plants through time. This slide show will introduce you to why plants are so important to the existence of many living organisms from insects to animals found at Carter Caves. *Meets in the fields facility of the lodge; Duration 1 hour.*

8:00PM - HANDS ON ACTIVITY "FERN PRINTING WORKSHOP" – (led by Dianne Anestis & Coy Ainsley) To compliment the fern ID field trips, participants will be able to preserve the beauty of ferns, exercise their creativity, and take home a memento of their weekend. Participants will use provided ferns (that were gathered off of the Park) to make positive and negative prints. **Fern prints may be made from participant's ferns if their field trips and gathering are off of the Park.** *Meets in the fields facility of the lodge; Duration 1 hour.*

SUNDAY APRIL 13, 2014 Sunday Morning Field Trips 9:30AM

A GEO/ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ETHNOBOTANICAL TRIP THROUGH THE ANCIENT PAST OF CARTER CAVES - (Led by Matt Maley) We will go back to the days when Aboriginal visitors (the Indians) roamed these hills and visit many of the rock shelters where they lived on a seasonal basis. We will see the abundant wildflowers that line the Raven, Rockhouse, and Three Bridges trails and consider the geology that makes this area somewhat unique. Some of the wildflowers here are different than those observed in other parts of the park. We will stand in the actual places where ancient people camped and marveled at the beauty and serenity of the Neolithic past. The trip will cross over and then under the largest "karst" arch in Kentucky where we will see the very unusual water resurgence channel and cave formed by the underground stream. The trip then takes us back to the Lodge where we will see fossil evidence of the Mississippian Era Ocean in the rocks which make up the walls, steps and building facing. (This trip covers some of the area covered during the Friday afternoon trip plus additional and different areas) *Meets in lodge lobby; No transportation required; Limit 16; Hike Distance less than 1 mile. 1hr*

MEDICINAL & EDIBLE PLANTS –18TH CENTURY LORE – (led by Dianne Anestis) Weather permitting, participants will take an easy-to-moderate walk along the Natural Bridge Trail to see some beautiful blooming flowers and to learn about native plant uses from our past. Some of these remedies are still used in various forms today, and some have been described by modern science to have undesirable effects with better alternatives available. This walk is designed for participants to gain an **appreciation of early herbalists' knowledge and experimentation, but it is not a 'do it yourself' course.** Distance ~1/2 mile with steps (optional) and a possible creek crossing. Frequent stops for discussion and to admire Natural Bridge, the entrance to Bat Cave, and the wildflowers. *Meet at the Welcome Center; No transportation required; Limit 20; Distance 1/2 mile.*

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SPRING TIME AND FEATHERED FRIENDS - (Led by Scott Freidhof) "Birds are fascinating, intriguing, and exhibit beautiful colors (especially the males). Do you love to watch birds? Do you wish you could identify some of the birds that live near you? If so, this field trip will teach basic identification along with vocal songs and calls. With spring, it brings many migrating warblers to Carter Caves. Join Scott with the Kentucky Division of Fish and Wildlife for this excursion. It will definitely give you some basic birding techniques that will help you become a better birder. It is suggested you bring your own binoculars, a bird identification book, wear comfortable shoes, quiet clothing, a hat and sunscreen. Not recommended for young children. *Meets in front of the lodge; No transportation required; Limit 15; Distance 1 mile.*

VAN WILDFLOWER EXCURSION - (Led by Sam Plummer) This trip is designed to get you to some beautiful areas without much hiking or at least mainly flat land hiking which is hard to find in Eastern KY. We will load up in the van at the lodge and head to some choice locations with lots of blooms along the beautiful Tygart Creek. Then we will drive you to a higher elevation above Creeks Gorge and take a walk in an area that is rich in sandstone cliff sides, rhododendron and forest woods filled with blooming wildflowers. *Meets at the lodge; No transportation required; Limit 10; Distance 1 mile.*