

# 8th Annual Standing Stone State Park's

# SPRING NATURALIST



# April 15, 16, & 17, 2011

Standing Stone State Park  
1674 Standing Stone Hwy.  
Hilham, TN 38568

931-823-6347



FRIENDS  
OF  
STANDING STONE STATE PARK

Spring weather is always unpredictable. Please check the local weather forecast before you leave home and prepare to join us rain or shine for three days of fun and learning about the natural and cultural beauties of Standing Stone State Park. Other items to consider for an enjoyable day/night at the park: comfortable, but sturdy shoes/boots, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, flashlight, jacket, water to carry with you, field guides, binoculars, food, and snacks.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>

- 5:30 P.M. Registration / Welcome:** Registration is open all evening at the Recreational Hall. Food vendor selling snacks and drinks will be on site.
- 6:00 P.M. LIVE! Birds of Prey:** Be sure to come early for this workshop! This LIVE presentation on birds of prey is hosted by David Haggard, Tennessee State Parks' West Tennessee Regional Interpretive Specialist and is sure to fill up fast. David will showcase an American Bald Eagle and various birds of prey and demonstrate each bird's unique abilities. David will also discuss birds of prey adaptations, predator/prey relationships, specific characteristics, natural histories, and the personal histories of each bird. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 7:00 P.M. SNAKES ALIVE! Snakes of Tennessee:** Uncover the secrets behind some of Tennessee's most misunderstood creatures and find out what makes snakes super! Join Ray Jordan, Tennessee Technological University's Herpetological Professor, for a live, first-hand look at some of Tennessee's most exceptional creatures. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 8:15 P.M. Chemistry Magic Show:** Is it Chemistry or is it Magic? Come see Dr. Dan Swartling, the Chemistry Wizard / Chemistry Professor from Tennessee Technological University as he demonstrates his super powers! This program is great for children and curious adults of all ages. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*

### Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

- 6:30 A.M. Registration:** Registration and information booth is open all day at the Recreational Hall. For your convenience, the Friends of Standing Stone State Park and the park's marble club, Tennessee Knucklers, will be on site selling food, drinks, and snacks to benefit several youth marble players' trip to the National Marbles Tournament in Wildwood, New Jersey in June.
- 7:00 A.M. Early Birding:** Richard Connors, Assistant Biologist for Tennessee State Parks, will lead us on an early morning walk into the woods for a glimpse at these fluttering wonders. Richard will help you with identification of the local and hard-to-see migrating bird species. Bring your binoculars and field guides. *Meet at Park Recreational Hall and be prepared to carpool to a site of Richard's choice.*
- 9:00 A.M. Rambling for Wildflowers:** Join long time park friend and nature enthusiast, Mary Lynn Dodson, as she will lead us on a fun and enlightening look at the park's beautiful wildflowers. Remember, wild plants and flowers are protected in the Park, so please don't pick the flowers! *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall and carpool to the Overton Lodge. (This will be an easy roadside hike and is great for anyone that wishes to participate.)*
- 10:00 A.M. Wildflower Photography Workshop with Jack Carman:** Would you like to take home your memories of Standing Stone's beautiful wildflowers? Join Jack Carman, renowned for his wildflower photography, for a photo field session. Jack Carman is the recipient of numerous photography awards and noted author of Wildflowers of Tennessee, Tennessee's first color photographic field guide. Jack will provide helpful hints on how to capture the beauty of wildflowers with photography, a must for wildflower devotees. *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 10:00 A.M. Scavenger Hunt:** Come with me to the great outdoors! We're going on a scavenger hunt!! Join park friend, John Williford, for an all nature scavenger hunt. *Meet at Shelter # 1*
- 10:00 A.M. Annual Wildflower Walk:** Come view some of the most beautiful native wildflower species in Standing Stone State Park. Join Ray Jordan, Professor of Biology at Tennessee Technological University, and a host of other wildflower enthusiasts for the annual wildflower walk. This is a rugged hike to view these springtime gems. Bring your field guide. *Meet at Shelter #2 (Due to narrow trail, this session will be limited to 25 participants.)*
- 11:00 A.M. Wild Edible Plants:** Prickly pear jelly. Yum! Persimmon cake. Yum! Is your mouth watering yet? Sample some foods from the forest and learn about edible plants with naturalist/author/wild foods expert Sharen Bracy. *Meet indoors at the Park's Tea Room*
- 11:00 A.M. Make a Bluebird Box:** Come help the bluebird population here at Standing Stone State Park and at your home. We will be building a bluebird box for your own backyard, or you may donate it to the park. Bluebird kits are limited and on a first come first serve basis. *Meet at Shelter # 1*
- 12:00 P.M. Lunch:** For your convenience, the Friends of Standing Stone State Park and the park's marble club, the Tennessee Knucklers, will be on site selling food, drinks, and snacks to benefit several youth marble players' trip to the National Marbles Tournament in Wildwood, New Jersey in June.
- Ice Cream:** Dr. Dan Swartling, Chemistry Professor from Tennessee Technological University, will be making his award winning dessert, Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream, for all to enjoy. Ice Cream is FREE!!!! *Ice Cream is limited and on a first come first serve basis. Meet at the Park Recreational Hall*

- 12:30 P.M.**      **Geological History:** In this presentation Mr. Robert Brewer, Biology Associate Professor at Cleveland State Community College, will provide use the opportunity to travel back millions of years to understand the landscape of today. We'll start with a short slide presentation and finish with a hike to nearby creek drains for hands on work in nature's laboratory. *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 1:00 P.M.**      **I WANT BLUEBIRDS!!!** Join John Bass, Park Ranger at Montgomery Bell State Park, and learn how you can help increase Tennessee's Eastern Bluebird population. John will be sharing first-hand experience, tips, and tricks on how to attract this beautiful species to your yard. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 1:00 P.M.**      **Nature Games:** Come with me to the great outdoors! We're going to have some good old fashion fun in the Park! Join park friend, Rebekah Sims, for a great time outside. *Meet at Shelter # 1*
- 1:00 P.M.**      **Edible Plants Hike:** The woods of Standing Stone State Park are full of many tasty treats! Join naturalist/author/wild foods expert Sharen Bracy as she takes you for a walk to look for edible plants in the Park. *Meet at the Park's Tea Room.*
- 2:00 P.M.**      **Birds of Prey:** David Haggard, the Tennessee State Parks' West Tennessee Regional Interpretive Specialist, is making a return visit to entertain and educate us with his Birds of Prey program that features, among others, a bald eagle, providing visitors with the rare opportunity to see one of these majestic creatures from just a few feet away. *Indoors at the Park Recreational*
- 2:00 P.M.**      **Marble Games:** Are you a "Mibster"? Have you ever "Plunked" your marble? To learn the answers to these questions and a whole lot more, meet Jeff Kimmell, National Marbles Champion and current Standing Stone State Park marbles coach, and knuckle down for an hour packed with snoogers, plunking, lagging, and just plain marble fun. Program will include adult and kids' games and demonstrations. *Meet at Shelter #1*
- 2:00 P.M.**      **Dazzling Butterfly & Dragonfly Hike:** Come with Richard Connors, Assistant Biologist for Tennessee State Parks, on a walk to learn about the various types of butterflies and dragonflies inhabiting Standing Stone State Park. *Meet at Shelter # 2*
- 3:00 P.M.**      **SNAKES ALIVE! Snakes of Tennessee:** Be sure to come early for this workshop and uncover the secrets behind some of Tennessee's most misunderstood creatures and find out what makes snakes super! Join Ray Jordan, Tennessee Technological University's Herpetological Professor, for a live, first-hand look at some of Tennessee's most exceptional creatures. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 3:00 P.M.**      **TWRA Update on Wild Hogs:** Join Ben Layton, TWRA Regional Big Game Biologist, who will (for an) update us on the status of wild hogs in Tennessee. Mr. Layton will discuss problems, control efforts, and control techniques for feral hogs and wild boar. *Meet at Shelter #1.*
- 4:15 P.M.**      **The CCC and Tennessee State Parks:** Known as Roosevelt's Tree Army, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is credited with having an enormous impact on many national and state parks. What was life like in a CCC camp? What did these young men do that was so important and enduring? Join Dr. Philip Smartt, Associate Professor of Natural Resource Management at the University of Tennessee at Martin, for a one of a kind program that looks at the history of the CCC and pays particular attention to the influence on Tennessee State Parks. The role of other related New Deal programs will also be discussed. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- 5:15 P.M.**      **Dragonflies and Damselflies in Tennessee State Parks:** Come learn about the beautiful dragonfly species that live in all areas of Tennessee in a slide show presented by Richard Connors, naturalist, photographer, and former president of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. Along with beautiful photographs, Mr. Connors will discuss the biology of dragonflies and damselflies and explain how these creatures are the beautiful and beneficial jewels of Tennessee. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 6:15 P.M.**      **Dinner:** A small dinner, provided by Standing Stone State Park and the Friends of Standing Stone, will be available at Shelter #1 (the Park Tea Room if cool and/or rainy). Meals are limited and on a first come first serve basis. Options include pulled pork, hotdogs, veggie burgers and sides of chips, vinegar slaw, baked beans, cookies, and tea or water.
- 7:30 P.M.**      **Wildflowers of Tennessee:** Tennessee host a beautiful variety of wildflowers and Standing Stone is home to many of these lovely specimens. Join Jack Carman, renowned wildflower photographer, for a look at his collection of Tennessee's most precious gems. Jack is the author of Wildflowers of Tennessee, Tennessee's first full color photographic field guide. Within the pages of Wildflowers of Tennessee, more than 780 color photographs are included of our local favorites and many less known varieties. This workshop is a must for the wildflower enthusiast! Signed copies of Wildflowers of Tennessee will be on sale during this program. *Meet indoors at Park Recreational Hall*
- 8:30 P.M.**      **Nighttime Herp Survey:** Nighttime is the right time to explore the world of reptiles and amphibians! Join Mr. Robert Brewer, Biology Associate Professor at Cleveland State Community College, on a hunt for herp species in the Park. Carpooling is recommended as we travel with Robert over park back roads in search of the nighttime herp! *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall.*

### Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

- 7:00 A.M.**      **Early Birding:** John Froeschauer, Tennessee State Parks' Middle Tennessee Regional Interpretive Specialist, will lead us on an early morning walk into the woods for a glimpse at these fluttering wonders. John will help you with identification of the local and hard-to-see migrating bird species. Bring your binoculars and field guides. *Meet at Park Recreational Hall and be prepared to carpool to site of John's choice.*
- 10:30 A.M.**      **SSSP Butterfly Garden Project:** Come see what 's exciting and new to Standing Stone State Park. Join John Froeschauer, Tennessee State Parks' Middle Tennessee Regional Interpretive Specialist, to learn more about the new Butterfly Fly Garden project that is just now underway. *Meet at Park Recreational Hall*
- 12:00 P.M.**      **Farewell**

### PARK GENERAL INFORMATION

**How to Find Us:** Take exit 288 off I-40 (Livingston/Sparta exit), Highway 111 North to Livingston, Highway 52 West to the entrance of the park. Highway 136 is the main park road.

**About STANDING STONE STATE PARK:** Standing Stone State Park and Forest covers nearly 11,000 acres on the Cumberland Plateau of north-central Tennessee. The quaint and rustic park is noted for its outstanding scenery, spring wildflowers, fossils and other natural diversity. The park takes its name from the Standing Stone, an eight-foot tall rock standing upright on a sandstone ledge, which was supposedly used as a boundary line between two separate Indian nations. When the rock fell, the Indians placed a portion of it upon an improvised monument to preserve it. The stone is still preserved in Monterey, Tennessee.

Standing Stone State Park also has many recreational opportunities including fishing and boating on the 69 acre park lake, a swimming pool, tennis, basketball, ping-pong, marbles, horseshoes, volleyball, and softball. There are ten miles of hiking trails winding through the wild woods of Standing Stone. Hikers will observe much diversity in plant and animal life from the trails as they trek across bridges. Trails are open year round. Over night camping is not allowed on any of the trails. Standing Stone offers a 36-site campground and many different cabins to rent.

For more information call the Park Interpretive Specialist, Shawn Hughes at 931-823-6347, 1-800-713-5157, or please visit our website:

<http://tennessee.gov/environment/parks/StandingStone/>



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