

# Florida State Parks Monthly Newsletter

## May is....Older Americans Month



The Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Park Service manages 160 state parks spanning more than 700,000 acres and 100 miles of sandy white beach. These protected areas provide ideal settings for older Americans to take part in low impact resource-based recreation. From swimming in Florida's rivers and springs to birding and fishing or walking and riding on natural scenic trails, Florida's state parks offer year-round outdoor activities to encourage older Americans in "Making Choices for a Healthier Future." An array of volunteer opportunities exist within the Florida Park Service. Older Americans can utilize their skills in event planning, photography, maintenance and organization to help make Florida's state parks the best in the nation.

For more information visit [www.FloridaStateParks.org](http://www.FloridaStateParks.org).

## May 13-19 Celebrate AmeriCorps Week

Read more about the efforts of DEP's Florida Park Service AmeriCorps Team



## **Check out Florida's "Best State Parks to Visit in the Spring" According to about.com**

View a Historic Home and Garden at [Eden Gardens State Park](#)

Canoe Down a Historic River at the [Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park](#)

Enjoy Four Miles of White Sandy Beach [Anastasia State Park](#)

<http://usparks.about.com/od/stateparksus/a/FLspringparks.htm>



## Some of the upcoming events at Florida State Parks

### **TALON ADVENTURE RACE**

#### **Alafia River State Park**

**Date: Saturday – May 5, 2007**

**Description:** 8-12 hour adventure race. The first adventure Race in Tampa is coming back for a 4th year. Challenges will include mountain biking, trail running, paddling, navigation, and few surprise challenges. The race will take place at Alafia River State Park.

**Fees:** For fee information log onto [TampaRaces.com](http://TampaRaces.com)

**Contact:** Contact TampaRaces.com

**Directions:** From the South - Take I-75 North to exit #240. At exit #240, turn Right (East) onto SR 674. Keep straight on SR 674 for approximately 15 miles. Turn Left (North) at flashing light, onto CR 39 for approximately 5 miles. The main park entrance is on the Right side. From the North - Take I-75 South to exit #246. At exit #246, turn Right (East) onto Big Bend Road. Keep straight on Big Bend Road for approximately 1 mile. Turn Right (South) onto U.S. 301. Keep straight on U.S. 301 for approximately 1.5 miles. Turn Left (East) onto CR 672. Follow CR 672 for approximately 12 miles. Turn Left (North) onto CR 39. Keep straight on CR 39 for approximately 1.5 miles. The main park entrance is on the Right side. From the East - Take I-4 West to exit #22. Turn Left onto Park Road. Follow Park Road for approximately 2.5 miles. Bear right onto 39B. Turn Left onto SR 39 (James Redman Parkway). Continue on SR/CR 39 for approximately 15.2 miles. The main park entrance will be on the Left side.

### **PARADE OF GARDENS**

#### **Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park**

**Date: Saturday, May 5th @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Description:** The Parade of Gardens is an annual fundraising event that benefits the Friends of Maclay gardens in their mission to support and promote Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park. The day begins at 10 a.m. with a presentation by Carol Reese who specializes in blending nature with exotics. Carol is an Ornamental Horticulture Specialist with the University of Tennessee. The presentation will focus on collecting exceptional plants and displaying them artistically in one's garden. Following the speaker, lunch will be served on the grounds of the Maclay House overlooking Lake Hall. There will be a silent auction with many varied items to bid on. Participants will then receive their maps and enjoy a self paced tour of the private gardens on the day's tour. Master gardeners will be on hand at each garden to assist participants.

**Fees:** Tickets for the 2007 Parade of Gardens will be \$45.00 for non-Friends members and \$40.00 for Friends members.

**Contact:** (850) 487-4115

**Directions:** Maclay State Gardens is located one half mile north of I-10 on U.S. 319.

## **LAKE LOUISA TRIATHLON SERIES**

### **Lake Louisa State Park**

**Date:** May 10, 2007

**Description:** Swim in Lake Louisa, bike and run along Park Drive and trails. Thursday races are held in the evenings. Advanced registration required.

**Fees:** \$25.00 per race

**Contact:** [www.usantc.com](http://www.usantc.com)

**Directions:** Lake Louisa State Park is located on US 27, seven (7) miles south of State Road 50.

## **'2ND ANNUAL KAYAK FISHING CLASSIC'**

### **Lovers Key State Park**

**Date:** Friday & Saturday - May 11 and May 12, 2007

**Description:** The "2nd Annual Kayak Fishing Classic" will be held at Lovers Key State Park on May 11 and May 12, 2007. The purpose of this tournament is to bring people of all ages together to enjoy the beautiful waters of Southwest Florida while fishing in kayaks and canoes, and to encourage youth anglers to participate. In addition, this is a fundraising event for the Southwest Florida Council, providing Scouting programs to over 25,000 boys and girls in Southwest Florida. The Friends of Lovers Key (FOLKS) are proud sponsors of this event. Please visit [www.kayakfishingclassic.com](http://www.kayakfishingclassic.com) for more information about this exciting event.

Captain's meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Friday, May 11.

**Fees:** Angler Entry Fee: \$75 - per person.

**Contact:** Call the park at: 239-463-4588

**Directions:** Lovers Key is located at 8700 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. The park boundaries are Big Carlos Pass and New Pass. We are 10.5 miles west of I75 on exit 116.

## **FUN PADDLE AND A 5 MILE RACE**

### **Werner-Boyce Salt Springs State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 12th - Both events will start at 10am.

**Description:** As a part of this year's Cotee River Seafood Festival in New Port Richey the Salt Springs Alliance, a friends group for Werner-Boyce Salt Springs State Park will organize and sponsor the first annual kayak event. This year's event will include a two mile, 'Fun Paddle' and a 5 mile 'Race'. Both events will start at 10am on May 12th. The 'Fun Paddle' is for anyone and there will be rental boats available for those with no boat. The charge is \$12.00 and you will get an event T-shirt. Participants will start at the Main Street boat ramp in New Port Richey and paddle along the Pithlachascotee River. The 'Race' will begin in Salt Springs State Park, Port Richey and end at Sims Park in New Port Richey at the site of the Seafood Festival. That event will cost \$12.00 also and participants will get an event T-shirt. In addition there will be two classes of boats, 15ft & under and over 15ft. Trophies/prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places for each division. You may sign up the day of the event starting at 8am or you can pre-register by contacting the park at (727) 816-1890. For more information please contact the park.

**Fees:** Events are \$12.00 each.

**Contact:** Contact the park at (727) 816-1890

**Directions:** The park is located in the Port Richey area of Pasco County. At this time only a start-up kit consisting of a small self-composting restroom, small picnic shelter, information kiosk, and one half mile of nature trail is available to the public from the landward side. It can be reached by turning west off of U.S. Hwy. 19 at Cinema Drive. Cinema Drive dead ends at entrance of start-up kit. The main use area of the park is scheduled to begin construction sometime after the first of the new year. That entrance will be just north of Ridge Road in Port Richey.

### **EARLY BOAT TOUR**

#### **Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park**

**Date: Saturday, May 12 at 8am**

**Description:** Description: Enjoy an early morning sights and sounds as you cruise the scenic Wakulla River. Breakfast is available in the historic Wakulla Springs Lodge.

**Fees:** \$8 Adults, \$6 Children. Reservations suggested.

**Contact:** (850) 224-5950

**Directions:** Traveling East on I-10 to new Exit 196 (old Exit 28). Take SR-263 (Capitol Circle) South 12 miles. Turn right (South) onto US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61(Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance. From West I-10 use new Exit 203(old Exit 30). Take SR-61 (Thomasville Rd) South. Continue on SR-61 thru Tallahassee for 10 miles. Take US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) South for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61(Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance.

### **MOTHER'S DAY BUFFET**

#### **Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park**

**Date: Sunday, May 13 from 11:30am – 2pm**

**Description:** Treat Mom to our sumptuous lunch at the historic Wakulla Springs Lodge. Our Mother's Day Buffet has been a tradition for over 25 years.

**Fees:** Reservations required. Call (850) 224-5950 for reservations and prices.

**Contact:** (850) 224-5950

**Directions:** Traveling East on I-10 to new Exit 196 (old Exit 28). Take SR-263 (Capitol Circle) South 12 miles. Turn right (South) onto US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61(Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance. From West I-10 use new Exit 203(old Exit 30). Take SR-61 (Thomasville Rd) South. Continue on SR-61 thru Tallahassee for 10 miles. Take US-319/SR-61 (Crawfordville Hwy) South for 2 miles. Bear left onto SR-61(Wakulla Springs Rd) for 6 miles. Turn left onto SR-267 at flashing stop light. Turn Right into Park entrance.

## **OLD TIME DANCE**

### **O'Leno State Park**

**Date:** Sunday, May 13th, 2007. 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**Description:** Dance contra, circles and squares to live music by the **Flying Turtles String Band** from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the 1930's Recreation Hall on the banks of the Santa Fe River. Lessons for beginners begin a half hour before the dance.

Dance tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children. (Plus the cost of park admission).

O'Leno State Park is located 6 miles north of High Springs on Hwy. 441.

**Fees:** Dance tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children. (Plus the cost of park admission).

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-454-1853.

**Directions:** O'Leno State Park is located on U.S. 441, six miles north of High Springs.

## **11TH ANNUAL ST. JOHNS RIVER CLEAN-UP**

### **De Leon Springs State Park**

**Date:** May 14, 2007, 8:00a.m - 11:30p.m

**Description:** In conjunction with national river clean-up week, join us for the 11th annual St. Johns river clean up. There are nine different sites to choose from through-out Volusia County. Participants are encouraged to wear sunglasses, a hat, sunscreen, work gloves and comfortable clothing and also bring water. Everyone will receive a free t-shirt. If you need further information please go to <http://volusia.org/cleanup/stjohns.htm> or contact Darrell Abrahamson at 386-736-5927 ext 2424. Pre-registration is preferred.

**Fees:** Free to Participants

**Contact:** Darrell Abrahamson - <http://volusia.org/cleanup/st>

**Directions:** Take US Hwy 17 North from Deland for approximately six miles, following the State Park signs. Turn left onto Ponce DeLeon Blvd and you will travel approximately one mile to the entrance to DeLeon Springs State Park.

## **BIKE ECO-TOUR FORT CLINCH Amelia Island State Park**

**Date:** Friday, May 18th, 2007. 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Description:** Learn about the environment of Ft Clinch State Park, inside and out. Pedal the hard packed sand on the beach past dolphins and scurrying crabs. Stop for a break and swim. Return through the maritime hardwood forest where armadillos, gopher tortoises and painted buntings are frequently seen. Bring footgear, water, sunscreen. Must be at least 5 ft tall and able to ride a bike. Registration and fee required. Go to [Wild Amelia Nature Festival](#). Meeting place: Main Beach in Fernandina Beach, FL.

**Fees:** Registration and fee required.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-277-7274.

**Directions:** Amelia Island State Park is located 7 miles north of Little Talbot Island State Park (or 8 miles south of Fernandina Beach) on S.R. A1A.

## **RESCUED FLORIDA WILDLIFE RETURN FOR A VISIT**

### **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19th. 10:30 a.m.

**Description:**

## **RESCUED FLORIDA WILDLIFE RETURN FOR A VISIT**

From hawks and gopher tortoises to owls and possums, up close and personal is the way Leslie Straub cares for the injured Florida wildlife that find their way to her combination hospital and rescue mission. Join Leslie and her animal friends at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park on Saturday, May 19, at 10:30 a.m. your own close encounter with wild Florida as Leslie introduces some of the creatures she has rescued and tells us how we can help preserve their native habitats.

Leslie is the Director of Florida Wildlife Care, Inc., an organization dedicated to the care and conservation of native wildlife and habitat in Florida. She has helped rehabilitate and release hundreds of injured and orphaned wildlife such as this red-tailed hawk that was the star of the show at her visit to the Rawlings farm last year.

This program is sponsored by the *Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.* Afterwards, stroll around the grounds and meet our resident ducks and chickens and treat yourself to a guided tour of the Rawlings home for a glimpse of the Cracker lifestyle that the author shared with us in *The Yearling*, *Cross Creek* and her other books.

The Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is free and open to the public 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven days a week. There is a \$2.00 per car load entrance fee. The Rawlings House is open for guided tours from October through July on Thursday through Sunday. Tours begin on the hour at 10 and 11 a.m. and 1, 2, 3, and 4 p.m. Tour fees are \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 6 to 12, under 12 free. Group tours may be scheduled by appointment on Tuesday and Wednesday. There are nature trails to explore in the State Park and a picnic area and boat launch in the adjacent county park.

**Fees:** See fee schedule above.

**Contact:** For more information, call 352-466-3672.

**Directions:** Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park is located between Ocala and Gainesville in Cross Creek, at 18700 S. CR 325.

## **5K RACE**

### **Lovers Key State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19th, 2007 7:00AM

**Description:** This unique 5K course winds through a maritime hammock eco-



system and ends on the beach. Proceeds for this event benefit Friends of Lovers Key, a 501(c)(3) that contributes to the park through volunteerism and financial support ([www.friendsofloversonkey.com](http://www.friendsofloversonkey.com)). Registration materials coming soon!

**Fees:** Please check back for fee information.

**Contact:** Contact the park at: 239-463-4588

**Directions:** Lovers Key is located at 8700 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach. The park boundaries are Big Carlos Pass and New Pass. We are 10.5 miles west of I75 on exit 116.

## **"WILD WAYS" NATURE SPOTS TROLLEY TOUR**

### **Fort Clinch State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19th, 2007. 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

**Description:** Hop on 'Polly the Trolley' as Pat highlights local nature and stories popularized by her Wild Ways News-Leader column. Tour goers will ride to different viewing spots in Fort Clinch and stop at different parking places where you will all get out for 15 minute or so walks and nature briefings. This tour will include the marshes, dunes, freshwater pond, beach and woods of Fort Clinch. Participants must be able to walk short distances on boardwalks, the beach etc. Registration and fee required. [Wild Amelia Nature Festival](#). Meeting place:

Atlantic Recreation Center, Fernandina Beach, FL

**Fees:** Registration and fee required.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-251-2320.

**Directions:** Take I-95 to the Fernandina Beach/Callahan exit (Milepost Exit 373 - Old Exit 129), and stay to the right. You will then be traveling east on A1A. (This road becomes 8th Street within the town limits of Fernandina.) Stay on this road, (A1A), for 16 miles until you come to the intersection of 8th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Turn right on Atlantic Avenue and go about two miles, Fort Clinch State Park will be on the left.

## **LAKE LOUISA FIELD DAY**

### **Lake Louisa State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Description:** Sponsored by the Friends of Lake Louisa this is a one day 'Earth Friendly' event for all ages. Designed to create awareness about Florida's fragile ecosystems and the plants and animals within them, it's fun for the whole family. Exhibitors from all over the Central Florida area will be there with displays, live animals, activities for kids, workshops, literature and more.

**Fees:** \$4.00 per vehicle 2-8 occupants \$3.00 per vehicle single occupant

**Contact:** Christy Burch

**Directions:** Lake Louisa State Park is located on US 27, seven (7) miles south of State Road 50.

## **ONE STROKE PAINTING**

### **Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19, 2007. 10:00 a.m. until noon.

**Description:**

**ONE STROKE PAINTING**  
*--Painting-the "One Stroke Way"--*

A Workshop in One Stroke Painting will be taught by Linda Ruwe on May 19, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. This workshop will teach the attendees how to paint one stroke leaves, rose buds, daisies and vines. This class will be for beginners to advanced students

All class supplies will be provided by the instructor as part of the workshop.

The class will meet at Craft Square and will cost \$25.00. Park admission is included in the fee. For more information, call (386) 397-1920.

**Fees:** The class will cost \$25.00. Park admission is included in the fee.

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-397-1920.

**Directions:** Located on U.S. 41 in White Springs. **From I-75 to S.R. 136** (Milepost Exit 439 - Old Exit 84), travel east on S.R. 136 for 3 miles. Turn left on U.S. 41. Park entrance is on the left. **From I-10 to U.S. 41 North** (Milepost Exit 301 - Old Exit 43), travel 9 miles to White Springs. Park entrance is on the left.

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**SEGWAY ADVENTURE: LITTLE TALBOT ISLAND STATE PARK**  
**Amelia Island State Park**

**Date: Saturday, May 19th, 2007. 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.**

**Description:** Enjoy how your powerful yet silent Segway effortlessly takes you on a spectacular 5-mile trip through the forest to the beach. Gliding along a scenic park trail you'll disappear into a maritime hammock of gnarled live oaks, dark red cedars, loblolly pines and sabal palms. Between the hammock and the beach lies a progression of dunes where you're sure to enjoy the exciting "ups and downs" of the trail's rolling terrain. We'll take our midway break on a remote beach that is seldom visited, yet offers some of the most wonderful shelling, birding and photo opportunities on the Atlantic Ocean. Bring flat/sports footwear, must be over 13 yr. and between 100-250 lbs., no experience necessary. Registration and fee required. Go to [Wild Amelia Nature Festival](#). Meeting Place: Little Talbot Island State Park

**Fees:** Registration and fee required.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-251-2320.

**Directions:** Amelia Island State Park is located 7 miles north of Little Talbot Island State Park (or 8 miles south of Fernandina Beach) on S.R. A1A.

**SEGWAY ADVENTURE: LITTLE TALBOT ISLAND STATE PARK**  
**Little Talbot Island State Park**

**Date: Saturday, May 19th, 2007. 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.**

**Description:** Enjoy how your powerful yet silent Segway effortlessly takes you on a spectacular 5-mile trip through the forest to the beach. Gliding along a scenic park trail you'll disappear into a maritime hammock of gnarled live oaks, dark red cedars, loblolly pines and sabal palms. Between the hammock and the beach lies a progression of dunes where you're sure to enjoy the exciting "ups and downs" of



the trail's rolling terrain. We'll take our midway break on a remote beach that is seldom visited, yet offers some of the most wonderful shelling, birding and photo opportunities on the Atlantic Ocean. Bring flat/sports footwear, must be over 13 yr. and between 100-250 lbs., no experience necessary. Registration and fee required. Go to [Wild Amelia Nature Festival](#). Meeting Place: Little Talbot Island State Park

**Fees:** Registration and fee required.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-251-2320.

**Directions:** Take I-95 to Heckscher Drive (Milepost Exit 358A - Old Exit 124A) and then travel east for 17 miles.

### **SEGWAY ADVENTURE: LITTLE TALBOT ISLAND STATE PARK**

#### **Fort Clinch State Park**

**Date:** Saturday, May 19th, 2007. 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

**Description:** Enjoy how your powerful yet silent Segway effortlessly takes you on a spectacular 5-mile trip through the forest to the beach. Gliding along a scenic park trail you'll disappear into a maritime hammock of gnarled live oaks, dark red cedars, loblolly pines and sabal palms. Between the hammock and the beach lies a progression of dunes where you're sure to enjoy the exciting "ups and downs" of the trail's rolling terrain. We'll take our midway break on a remote beach that is seldom visited, yet offers some of the most wonderful shelling, birding and photo opportunities on the Atlantic Ocean. Bring flat/sports footwear, must be over 13 yr. and between 100-250 lbs., no experience necessary. Registration and fee required. Go to [Wild Amelia Nature Festival](#). Meeting Place: Little Talbot Island State Park

**Fees:** Registration and fee required.

**Contact:** For more information, call 904-251-2320.

**Directions:** Take I-95 to the Fernandina Beach/Callahan exit (Milepost Exit 373 - Old Exit 129), and stay to the right. You will then be traveling east on A1A. (This road becomes 8th Street within the town limits of Fernandina.) Stay on this road, (A1A), for 16 miles until you come to the intersection of 8th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Turn right on Atlantic Avenue and go about two miles, Fort Clinch State Park will be on the left

### **FLORIDA FOLK FESTIVAL**

#### **Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park**

**Date:** Friday, Saturday & Sunday, May 25 through May 27, 2007. Gates open at 8:00 a.m.

**Description:** Enjoy the diversity of Florida's culture and history when its residents share their food, music, dance, stories, crafts and work life. Visit Seminole family camp, watch the state fiddling contest and savor ethnic food and church supper favorites. **Pets are not allowed.**

For advance tickets, call 1-877-635-3655 or visit [Florida Folk Festival](#).

**Fees:** Fees to be announced at a later date.

**Contact:** For more information, call 386-397-7005.

**Directions:** Located on U.S. 41 in White Springs. **From I-75 to S.R. 136** (Milepost Exit 439 - Old Exit 84), travel east on S.R. 136 for 3 miles. Turn left on

U.S. 41. Park entrance is on the left. **From I-10 to U.S. 41 North** (Milepost Exit 301 - Old Exit 43), travel 9 miles to White Springs. Park entrance is on the left.

## **WORLD WAR TWO EVENT**

### **Fort Clinch State Park**

**Date:** Saturday and Sunday, May 26 & 27, 2007.

**Description:** Memorial Weekend program in honor of soldiers who fought during WWII. Features military display and memorabilia of the Allies, Axis and Homefront.

**Fees:** Park entrance fee plus \$2.00 per person Fort admission.

**Contact:** Call 904-277-7274 for information.

**Directions:** Take I-95 to the Fernandina Beach/Callahan exit (Milepost Exit 373 - Old Exit 129), and stay to the right. You will then be traveling east on A1A. (This road becomes 8th Street within the town limits of Fernandina.) Stay on this road, (A1A), for 16 miles until you come to the intersection of 8th Street and Atlantic Avenue. Turn right on Atlantic Avenue and go about two miles, Fort Clinch State Park will be on the left.

## **HAWTHORNE TRAIL 10K RUN**

### **Gainesville-Hawthorne State Trail**

**Date:** Saturday, May 26th, 2007. 8:00 a.m.

**Description:** This race is part of the 2006-2007 Florida Track Club Grand Prix Series. Come out and enjoy the scenic beauty of one of Florida's most beautiful rail trails - the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail. No car traffic! Walkers Welcome! The trail takes you past an overlook of Paine's Prairie and over a varied terrain (both hilly and flat). Thank you FROGHAT for helping to make this race possible. Remember, kids under 17 are free (not including t-shirt).

For details and to register, visit [Hawthorne Trail 10K Run](#)

**Fees:** Registration fees apply.

**Contact:** See link above.

**Directions:** Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail State Park starts on S.E. 15th Street and extends to Hawthorne near U.S. 301.

To reach the Boulware Springs trailhead from Gainesville, intersection of University Avenue and Main Street: Travel east on University Avenue and take the right fork onto SR 20. Almost immediately, go south onto SE 15th Street. Travel until you find Boulware Springs City Park on the right. If the road makes a 90 degree left turn, you've passed the park and need to turn around.

To reach the Hawthorne trailhead from Hawthorne: Follow the signs posted on US 301 or CR 2082.

## RED BELLY DAY

### Fanning Springs State Park

**Date:** Saturday, May 26, 2007. 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Description:** Saturday May 26, 2007 marks the 12th annual **Red Belly Day**.

Sponsored by the Dixie County Chamber of Commerce, this event is a traditional favorite of North Florida residents and visitors alike. Musicians will be performing on two stages making this year's event the best ever. Red Belly Day offers activities for the entire family from children activities to craft and food vendors.

Popular with spectators and contestants alike, the Belly Flop contest will begin at the main spring at 1:45 p.m.

Ticket Prices		
	Advanced	Event Day
Adults	\$8.00	\$10.00
Children 6 - 13	\$6.00	\$8.00
Children 5 and Under	Free	Free

Tickets can be purchased at the gate the day of the event or visit [Dixie County Chamber of Commerce](#) for advanced ticket information.

#### **Entertainment**

Confederate Railroad  
Rick Gordon Band  
Dotti South Group  
Crosstyz  
Southland Gospel Quartet  
Underdaws Band  
Philman Family Band  
Will Yearty  
Jordon Bush

The park will be open for visitors not choosing to attend Red Belly Day. Park admission is \$4.00 per carload up to 8 people. Park admission allows access to the swimming and picnic area as well.

**Fees:** See fee schedule above.

**Contact:** For more information, call 352-498-5454.

**Directions:** Fanning Springs State Park is located on U.S. Hwy. 19/98 in the town of Fanning Springs.

