



Big Thicket National Preserve Sat. & Sun. Spring Activities 2009



All NPS Activities are Free! Call 951-6701 for more information

March

Saturday March 7

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Saturday March 14

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Saturday March 21

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River - Special Themes Trip, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join local birder, David Baker, and learn how to identify local and migratory birds along the Neches River corridor aboard the Cardinal. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Sunday March 22

Opossum; 10:00-11:00 am; Put the 'O' in Opossum and learn about its lifestyle in the wild and your backyard. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday March 28

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

April

Saturday April 4

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Sunday April 5

Animals for Neighbors; 10:00-11:00 am; Learn where animals and humans meet on common ground; how we interact with one another in both good and bad ways. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday April 11

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River - Special Themes Trip, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Ranger Leslie Dubey on the Lamar University pontoon boat for "Bears, Beavers, and Bobcats" an exploration of the various wildlife inhabitants of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Saturday April 11

Kids Wilderness Survival; 2:00-4:00 pm; Learn some ways to stay safe and alive if you get lost. Park Rangers will also give parents tips on preparing for outdoor activities. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Sunday April 12

Kids Wilderness Survival; 2:00-4:00pm; Learn some ways to stay safe and alive if you get lost. Park Rangers will also give parents tips on preparing for outdoor activities. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday April 18

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Saturday April 18

Night Hike; 7:00-9:00 pm; Ever wonder what goes bump in the night or who's singing that chorus? Meet the Ranger at the Kirby Nature Trail on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Sunday April 19

Wild Flower Walk; 1:00-3:00 pm; See some of the blooming beauties the Big Thicket woods hold, and start learning to identify some yourself. Meet the Ranger at the Sundew Trail off FM 2827, fifteen miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69. Visit www.nps.gov/bith to view park map.

Saturday April 25

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Sunday April 26

Survivor; 11:00am-2:00 pm; Ages 12 and up; Get off the beaten paths, amp up your outdoor experience - learn how to survive off the grid and in the Big Thicket backcountry. Bring a lunch and water. Meet at the Kirby Nature Trail on FM 420.

May

Saturday May 2

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Sunday May 3

Animals for Neighbors; 10:00-11:00 am; Learn where animals and humans meet on common ground; how we interact with one another in both good and bad ways. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday May 9

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Sunday May 10

Canoe Salt Water Barrier north into Cooks Lake; Explore the cypress sloughs and learn some history of the Neches River just north of Beaumont. Meet the ranger at 9:00 a.m. with your canoe or kayak at the Saltwater Barrier. Call 409-951-6701 for equipment rental information, directions, and/or reservations. Pack a lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. Expect to be out past noon.

Saturday May 16

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River - Special Themes Trip, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Listen to musicians from Sweet Sound Dulcimer House as they exhibit and perform aboard the Lamar University pontoon boat as it cruises along the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907; for information about Sweet Sound Dulcimer House visit <http://www.dulcimerhouse.com/index.html>

Saturday May 16

Canoe Neches River at Timber slough Rd; Bring or rent your own canoe and explore the Neches river and many sand bars along it north of Silsbee. Meet at the end of Timber Slough Rd (road conditions may be rough) at 9:00 a.m. Pack a lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. Call for directions and reservations 409-951-6701

Sunday May 17

Night Hike; 7:00-9:00 pm; Ever wonder what goes bump in the night or who's singing that chorus? Meet the Ranger at the Kirby Nature Trail on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday May 23

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10 am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907

Saturday May 23

Skins and Skulls; 10:00-11:00 am; See, touch, and learn about the natural history of Big Thicket animals. Meet at the Visitor Center on FM 420, seven miles north of Kountze on US Hwy 69.

Saturday May 30

Cardinal Cruise on the Neches River, 10am, \$15, under 6 yrs \$5 Join Rangers on the Lamar University pontoon boat for a 2 hour exploration of the river, sloughs, and history of the Neches River. Advanced reservations are not needed for Saturday excursions. For group reservations and information call: 409-880-8907