

# August-September Georgia State Parks Events

## August 2009 Events - Divided By Region

### NORTHERN GEORGIA

#### **Appalachian Jam**

**Saturdays, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

#### **Dahlonega Gold Museum Historic Site - Dahlonega**

Listen to the sounds and songs of yesteryear. North Georgia's mountain music singers and pickers will appear on the grounds of the historic Dahlonega Gold Museum every Saturday. Enjoy acoustic and old-time strings as the sounds of yesterday fill the air. (706) 864-3513.

#### **Saturday Evening Concert Series**

**Saturdays, August 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29**

#### **Unicoi State Park and Lodge - Helen**

Some of the best musicians in the area perform a variety of music, from Appalachian Mountain to bluegrass to Southern gospel. "Pass-the-hat" donations plus \$5 parking. 800-573-9659 ext. 305.

#### **Visiting Artist Series at Unicoi**

**Saturdays and Sundays, August 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29 and 30**

#### **Unicoi State Park and Lodge - Helen**

Several talented artists and craftspeople from Georgia and surrounding states will demonstrate and have samples of their work for sale. The program lasts each weekend from Memorial Day through mid-November. \$5 parking. 800-573-9659 ext. 305.

#### **Wilderness Survival Weekend**

**Saturday, August 29 through Sunday, August 30, 10a.m.**

#### **Amicalola Falls State Park and Lodge - Dawsonville**

Learn the essentials of surviving in the wilderness. This program is for families and children or anyone interested in learning these skills. Hands on activities as well as discussions and demonstrations will be included. \$5 parking. (706) 265-1969.

### SOUTHERN & CENTRAL GEORGIA

#### **Observatory Open House**

**Saturday, August 29, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.**

#### **Hard Labor Creek State Park - Rutledge**

Georgia State University's Hard Labor Creek Observatory will have an open house one Saturday night a month from March to October. (706) 557-3001.

### COASTAL GEORGIA

#### **Tools and Skills that Built a Colony**

**Saturday, August 29**

#### **Wormsloe Historic Site - Savannah**

Craft demonstrations from the Colonial period, such as woodworking, blacksmithing, candle making, spinning, dyeing, and cooking, will be shown. \$3.50 - \$5.00 (912) 353-3023.

## **METRO ATLANTA**

### **New Manchester History Hike**

**Saturdays, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

#### **Sweetwater Creek State Park - Lithia Springs**

This mile-long hike (easy to moderate) will lead us to the ruins of the Civil War-era New Manchester textile mill and focus on the history of the Sweetwater Creek valley. This historian or ranger-led hike will include going inside the impressive mill ruins and seeing the lovely whitewater rapids (both providing great photo opportunities). \$1-\$2 plus \$5 parking. (770) 732-5871.

### **Frog Slog**

**Tuesdays, August 4, 11, 18, 25, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

#### **Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

Investigate wetlands and streams in search of frogs and salamanders. Be prepared to get wet and bring a flashlight and headlamp, nets, scenes and buckets. Meet in the Alexandar Lake parking area. Fee plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

### **Summer Fly Fishing Clinic**

**Tuesdays, August 4, 18, 25, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

#### **Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

This clinic covers equipment, knot tying, casting, safety and other tricks of the trade. If time permits, participants may stay to catch the "Fish of Fish." Wear long pants and hiking shoes, and bringing snacks, water and sunscreen. Georgia fishing license and park fishing permit required. Register in advance. Fee plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

### **Walk on the Wild Side Twilight Hike**

**Thursdays, August 6, 13, 20, 27, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

#### **Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

Lace up your hiking shoes and come see the nightlife of Panola Mountain. This adventure will introduce you to the evening world of the forest and swamps. We may even have our local night-time denizen, the Barred Owl, join us. Register in advance. Fee plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

## **September 2009 Events - Divided By Region**

## **METRO ATLANTA**

### **"Ruins to Rapids" Full Moon Hike**

**Friday, September 4, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

#### **Sweetwater Creek State Park - Lithia Springs**

This 1.5-mile guided hike is moderately difficult and visits the Civil War-era textile mill ruins of New Manchester and follows the lovely rapids (up to class IV) of Sweetwater Creek. The hike will continue if it is overcast but will be cancelled if raining. Bring a flashlight and sturdy shoes. No children under 6 or dogs please. \$5 plus \$5 parking. (770) 732-5876.

### **Tree Top Excursions: Introduction Climb**

**Saturday, September 5, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.**

#### **Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

Join us "on rope" for an adventure exploring the canopy above. This is an introductory climb to Canopy-Adventure-Research-Educational Technical Tree Climbing (CARE TTC). Participants will use rope and harness for this moderately strenuous activity. Register in advance. \$10 plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

**New Manchester History Hike****Saturdays, September 5, 12, 19, 26 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.****Sweetwater Creek State Park - Lithia Springs**

This mile-long hike (easy to moderate) will lead us to the ruins of the Civil War-era New Manchester textile mill and focus on the history of the Sweetwater Creek valley. This historian or ranger-led hike will include going inside the impressive mill ruins and seeing the lovely whitewater rapids (both providing great photo opportunities). \$5 plus \$5 parking. (770) 732-5871.

**Basic Fly Fishing Clinic****Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.****Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

The two-hour clinic covers equipment, knot tying, casting, safety issues and other tricks of the trade. If time permits participants may stay to catch the "Fish of Fish." Instructors C. H. Brown and Michael Reilley suggest wearing long pants/shorts and hiking shoes, and bringing snacks, water and sun lotion. Georgia fishing license required. Register in advance. \$7 - \$10 plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

**Basic Fly Tying Clinic****Saturday, September 12, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.****Panola Mountain State Park- Stockbridge**

Learn the art of fly tying as instructors introduce you to tools, techniques and tricks of the trade to create realistic flies. Participants will make one fly and possibly more if time permits. Ages 10 and older. Register in advance. \$25 plus \$5 parking. (770) 389-7801.

**Beyond the Basics: Fly Tying Clinic****Saturday, September 12, 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.****Panola Mountain State Park- Stockbridge**

Having learned the art of basic fly tying, now we move beyond the basics. Instructors introduce you to more advanced techniques and tricks of the trade. Participants will make one or more flies such as deer hair flies, or even a hummingbird if time permits. \$35 plus \$3 parking. (770) 389-7801.

**Fall Fling Youth Camp****Weekdays, September 14 through September 18, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.****Panola Mountain State Park - Stockbridge**

Culture, arts, culinary skills and fitness will be found at this day camp for children and adults. The Children's Wellness Network teams up with Georgia State Parks to present hiking, canoeing, organic gardening, yoga and more. [www.fitfunfamilies.homestead.com](http://www.fitfunfamilies.homestead.com) \$80, and a \$25 registration. \$5 parking. (404) 272-7418.

**NORTHERN GEORGIA****Full Moon Suspension Bridge Hike****Thursday, September 3, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.****Tallulah Gorge State Park - Tallulah Falls**

Hike by the light of the full moon to the park's suspension bridge where you will learn about sensory awareness and how animals survive. Register in advance. (706) 754-7981.

**Kids Catfish Rodeo****Saturday, September 5, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.****Cloudland Canyon State Park - Rising Fawn**

Kids 12 and younger can try their hand at landing a catfish in Cloudland's pond. Bring a rod, reels, bait, lunch, water and sunscreen. Parents are encouraged to bait hooks and help cast, but may not fish. \$1 plus \$5 parking. (706) 657-4050.

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**Visiting Artist Series at Unicoi****Saturdays and Sundays, September 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27****Unicoi State Park and Lodge - Helen**

Several talented artists and craftspeople from Georgia and surrounding states will demonstrate and have samples of their work for sale. The program lasts each weekend from Memorial Day through mid-November. \$5 parking. 800-573-9659 ext. 305.

**Mountain Herb Day****Saturday, September 12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.****Smithgall Woods Conservation Area and Lodge - Helen**

Immerse yourself in the rich tradition of healing with medicines made from local plants. A hike to see late summer medicinal plants in the wild and a product demonstration will be included. Register by September 4. \$20 plus \$5 parking. (706) 878-3087.

**Tugaloo Triathlon****Saturday, September 12, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.****Tugaloo State Park- Livonia**

Watch or participate in this invigorating event that includes a 1.5k swim, 42k bike ride and 10k run. [www.gamultisports.org](http://www.gamultisports.org) Entry fee plus \$5 parking. (706) 356-4362.

**Mountain Music Arts & Craft Festival****Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.****Vogel State Park - Blairsville**

This popular event includes Appalachian, bluegrass and gospel music; arts and crafts booths; demonstrations on spinning, blacksmithing and bowl carving; and food concessions provided by Vogel Volunteers. \$2-\$5 plus \$5 parking. (706) 745-2628.

**Outdoor Adventure Day****Saturday, September 26, 10a.m. - 4 p.m.****Unicoi State Park and Lodge - Helen**

Learn how to catch a trout, paddle a canoe, and shoot a shotgun. Try activities like fly tying and casting, bass fishing basics, trout fishing, archery, and BB gun and skeet shooting. There will also be wildlife shows with live snakes and hawks, crossbow demonstrations, hunting dog demonstrations, and hayrides. \$5 parking. 800-573-9659 ext. 305.

**Free Fishing Day****Saturday, September 26****Victoria Bryant State Park - Royston**

No license is required for this special day of free fishing. \$5 parking. (706) 245-6270.

## **SOUTHERN & CENTRAL GEORGIA**

### **Labor Day Weekend on the Lake**

**Saturday, September 5 through Monday, September 7, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

#### **Florence Marina State Park - Florence**

This holiday weekend features reptile programs, fun and games. \$2 plus \$5 parking. (229) 838-4706.

### **Folklife Celebration**

**Saturday, September 5, 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

#### **Jarrell Plantation Historic Site -Juliette**

We celebrate old-time labor, featuring crafts and chores such as spinning, barnyard animal care, cooking on woodstoves, blacksmithing and much more. \$3.50-\$5.00 (478) 986-5172.

### **Swim the Warm Springs**

**Saturday, September 5 through Sunday, September 7, 10 a.m. 4 p.m.**

#### **Roosevelt's Little White House Historic Site - Warm Springs**

Swim in the historic pools built by President F.D. Roosevelt as a place for therapy. Normally kept empty for preservation, the shallow pools will be filled with naturally warm spring water.

Reservations suggested. 1.5-hour swim sessions begin at 10 a.m. Ages 6 and older. Reservations suggested. \$15 adults; \$10 ages 6 to 17. (706) 655-5870.

### **Murder Mystery Weekend**

**Friday, September 11 through Saturday, September 12, 6 p.m.**

#### **Mistletoe State Park - Appling**

Somebody's gonna die. Can you figure out "whodunit"? This weekend activity includes meals, park activities and prizes for the winners. Register by emailing Marilyn Grau at [MGrau@SeniorCitizensCouncil.org](mailto:MGrau@SeniorCitizensCouncil.org) \$39 plus \$5 parking. (706) 868-0120.

### **Gopher Fun Run-Walk**

**Saturday, September 12, 9 a.m.**

#### **General Coffee State Park - Nicholls**

Calling all kids! Come run with the tortoises. In cooperation with the Douglas Coffee County Parks and Recreation Department, kids 6-12 can run or walk through gopher tortoise habitat. Winners will get ribbons. Register in advance. \$5 plus \$5 parking. (912) 383-7332.

### **Remembering World War 11 - Operation Market Garden**

**Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

#### **Roosevelt's Little White House Historic Site - Warm Springs**

Kelly's Zeroes' living-history program will feature displays and exhibits regarding Operation Market Garden, the largest airborne operation in history. Living conditions "On the Home Front" will highlight the role of the homemaker during WWII. \$4-\$7. (706) 655-5870.

### **Observatory Open House**

**Saturday, September 26, 8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.**

#### **Hard Labor Creek State Park - Rutledge**

Georgia State University's Hard Labor Creek Observatory will have an open house one Saturday night a month from March to October. (706) 557-3001.

## **COASTAL GEORGIA**

### **Labor Day Friday**

**Friday, September 4, 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

#### **Skidaway Island State Park - Savannah**

Learn all about coastal reptiles and amphibians, do a froggie craft and be a pirate on a night hike. \$5 parking. (912) 598-2300.

### **Labor Day Saturday**

**Saturday, September 5, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

#### **Skidaway Island State Park - Savannah**

Join in a volleyball game, and other fun family games, crafts, hayrides, a campfire and hoppin' frog hike. \$5 parking. (912) 598-2300.

### **Labor Day at Fort McAllister**

**Saturday, September 5, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

#### **Fort McAllister Historic Park - Richmond Hill**

Civil War labor was much like ours is today. From blacksmith to wood worker, all trades were needed to keep this fort in operation. Learn about Civil War cooking and take part in good old-fashion games. \$3.50 - \$5. \$5 parking. (912) 727-2339.

### **Experience Coastal Georgia Festival**

**Saturday, September 12, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

#### **Crooked River State Park - St. Marys**

This 3rd annual festival will include live animal shows, photo contest and intro to photography class, bird and nature hikes, crafts, games, gardening class, food and more. \$5 parking. (912) 882-8531.

### **Cathead Creek Canoe Excursion**

**Saturday, September 19, 10 a.m.**

#### **Fort King George Historic Site - Darien**

A 3-mile trip through the old rice canals with a variety of plants and wildlife. (Intermediate) \$25.00 per person, all trips include canoes, paddles, and life jackets. Participants are responsible for their own food and other amenities. (912) 437-4770.

### **Garrison Dinner**

**Saturday, September 26**

#### **Fort King George Historic Site - Darien**

Join the Garrison as our British officers dispute with Spanish emissaries sent to protest the presence of Fort King George on the Altamaha River. An evening dinner and debate will take place. RSVP by September 16. \$30. (912) 437-4770.

Key Web Address: [www.GeorgiaStateParks.org](http://www.GeorgiaStateParks.org)