



Winter/Spring 2016 – Program Schedule

Saturday, February 20, 9 am: Longleaf Pine Planting

Help restore the longleaf pine forest at this Centennial Forest planting event in the Big Sandy Creek Unit. Meet at the planting site at 9 am with gloves, work clothes, water, and lunch. Please call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Friday, February 26, 6:30 pm: Night Hike

Engage your senses and learn about nocturnal animals on this 1-mile walk. Bring water, good walking shoes, and a flashlight or headlamp with a red lens. No light-up shoes. Meet at 6:30 pm at the Sundew Trailhead, located 7 miles north of the Big Thicket National Preserve Visitor Center. You can also meet the rangers in the Visitor Center parking lot at 6 pm and caravan to the trailhead.

Sunday, March 6, 1:30 pm: North Turkey Creek Trail Hike

Explore Your Thicket and earn mileage towards your Centennial Club award on this exploration of the north end of the Turkey Creek Trail from FM 1943 to the Pitcher Plant Trail and back. The full round-trip distance, including the Pitcher Plant Trail, is 7 miles; hikers can choose to hike a shorter or longer distance. Meet at the Turkey Creek trailhead on FM 1943, 3.5 miles east of Warren, with water and snacks. Please call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Saturday, March 12, 9 am: Longleaf Pine Planting

Help restore the longleaf pine forest at this Centennial Forest planting event in the Big Sandy Creek Unit. Meet at the planting site at 9 am with gloves, work clothes, water, and lunch. Please call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Friday, March 18, 6 pm: Science Café: Crawfish

Did you know that Texas is home to 43 species of crawfish, including several that are threatened or endangered? Learn about the crawfish of the Big Thicket and ongoing crawfish research at this informal Science Café. This program is held at the Logon Café, 3805 Calder, in Beaumont.

Sunday, March 20, 10 am: Paddling Trip

Join park rangers for a guided canoe trip on the waters of the preserve. This program targets the casual and novice paddler. Canoes, PFDs and paddles will be provided. Trip locations vary and space is limited, so call our visitor center at 409-951-6700 to find each trip location and to register.

Friday, March 25, 7:30 pm: Night Hike

Engage your senses and learn about nocturnal animals on this 1.7-mile walk. Bring water, good walking shoes, and a flashlight or headlamp with a red lens. No light-up shoes. Meet at 7:30 pm at the Kirby Trailhead, located 2.5 miles east of the Big Thicket National Preserve Visitor Center. You can also meet the rangers in the Visitor Center parking lot at 7 pm and caravan to the trailhead.

Sunday, April 3, 1:30 pm: Beech Woods Hike

Earn mileage towards your Centennial Club award on this exploration of the Beech Woods Trail and Beech Creek Unit. Meet at the trailhead on FM 1992, 1.5 miles north of FM 1013; or meet the ranger at the visitor center at 12:30 and caravan to the trailhead. Please call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Saturday, April 16, 9 am: Canyonlands Hike

Explore Your Thicket and earn mileage towards your Centennial Club award on this exploration of the rugged Canyonlands Unit. The 3-mile round-trip hike to the Neches River follows old logging roads and cross-country routes. There may also be an optional longer hike to Crescent Lake. Bring plenty of water and lunch. Meet at the Exxon Mini-Mart in Spurger. Call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Saturday, April 16: National Junior Ranger Day

Join us for fun kids' activities and earn a Junior Ranger badge to celebrate National Junior Ranger Day! More details to come, so check with our visitor center at 409-951-6700 as the date nears.

Sunday, April 17, 10 am: Paddling Trip

Join park rangers for a guided canoe trip on the waters of the preserve. This program targets the casual and novice paddler. Canoes, PFDs and paddles will be provided. Trip locations vary and space is limited, so call our visitor center at 409-951-6700 to find each trip location and to register.

Thursday, April 21, 6:30 pm: Black Bears in the Big Thicket

Learn about the history and ecology of black bears in southeast Texas at this evening program. Meet at the Big Thicket Visitor Center. Approximately 45 minutes.

Friday, April 22, 8 pm: Earth Day! Full Moon Night Hike

Celebrate Earth Day with a full moon night hike on the Sundew Trail. Bring water, good walking shoes, and a flashlight or headlamp with a red lens for this 1-mile walk. No light-up shoes. Meet at 8 pm at the Sundew Trailhead, located 7 miles north of the Big Thicket National Preserve Visitor Center. You can also meet the rangers in the Visitor Center parking lot at 7:30 pm and caravan to the trailhead.

Sunday, May 1, 1:30 pm: Turkey Creek Trail Hike

Earn mileage towards your Centennial Club award on this exploration of the Turkey Creek Trail from the Pitcher Plant Trail to CR 4825 and back. The full round-trip distance is 6 miles; hikers can choose to hike a shorter or longer distance. Meet at the Pitcher Plant Trailhead on CR 4850, two miles south of FM 1943 east of Warren, with water and snacks. Please call the visitor center at 409-951-6700 to register.

Sunday, May 15: Paddling Trip

Join park rangers for a guided canoe trip on the waters of the preserve. This program targets the casual and novice paddler. Canoes, PFDs and paddles will be provided. Trip locations vary and space is limited, so call our visitor center at 409-951-6700 to find each trip location and to register.

Saturday, May 21: National Kids to Parks Day

Join us for fun activities and earn a Junior Ranger badge to celebrate National Kids to Parks Day! More details to come, so check with our visitor center at 409-951-6700 as the date nears.

Friday, May 27, 8:15 pm: Night Hike

Engage your senses and learn about nocturnal animals on this 1.7-mile walk. Bring water, good walking shoes, and a flashlight or headlamp with a red lens. No light-up shoes. Meet at 8:15 pm at the Kirby Trailhead, located 2.5 miles east of the Big Thicket National Preserve Visitor Center. You can also meet the rangers in the Visitor Center parking lot at 8 pm and caravan to the trailhead.

Find additional information on all the preserve's upcoming events and programs on our website at <http://www.nps.gov/bith> on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BigThicketNPS>, or by calling our visitor center at 409-951-6700.

