



# Clinton State Park

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2014 SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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## Park News: Kansas State Parks Passport

Kansas State Park Passports are annual vehicle permits that allow Kansans access into any park throughout the state. Passports make enjoying our state parks more affordable and more convenient. With a passport, families can enjoy a year full of adventure and outdoor activities.

Kansans are able to purchase their passports during their motor vehicle registration process either in person, by mail or electronically. During its first year, over 60,000 Kansans purchased these passports.

Passports are valid for one year on the same cycle as each individual's license tags. Passports cost \$15.00 plus a \$0.50 transaction fee collected by the tag office for each as well.



Remember to ask the window clerk at the tag office for a Park Passport when you get new tags or renew your tags. Asking for it helps them ensure they include it with your trans-

action so you can enjoy a year of outdoor fun. You cannot purchase passports at a later date, only when purchasing or renewing tags so it's important to include that friendly reminder when purchasing your tags when you desire a passport as well.

Scan for more information



## Using Local Firewood Prevents Pests

This summer when preparing for your stay at Clinton State Park, consider where your firewood is coming from. Firewood should always be collected and bought from a local source to prevent the spread of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) as well as other invasive pests. Here are a couple ways to do your part:

- Collect small, fallen limbs at Clinton State Park as a local source of firewood instead of bringing firewood from home. Don't feel like tromping through the woods? Many businesses in the Lawrence area sell firewood as well.
- Burn all of the firewood that you collect or buy. Avoid bringing leftover firewood home, or to another location.
- Go to [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info) to learn more about EAB so we can conserve our natural resources for years to come.

# Join Us for OK Kid's Day 2014!



Meeting "Slick"  
Our Coachwhip Snake  
May 16, 2013  
Clinton State Park



Successfully trained  
July 13, 2013  
Clinton State Park

## Saturday August 9th

We're planning our 11th Annual O.K. Kids Day for this summer! Our events are... **Fishing Derby** in the morning, **Archery Program** in the afternoon & **Animal Show-n-Tell** in the evening. These FREE events encourage kids of all ages to get outside and enjoy the great outdoors.

**AUGUST 9TH  
IS FREE PARK  
ENTRY DAY!**

**Free Hot Dog  
Sack Lunch for the  
first 200!**

**Camp while you're here!**  
Make it a family camping trip. Only \$8.00 per tent.

Additional \$11.00 /night—if you want Water & Electricity at your site. There is an additional \$3 transaction fee on all camping transactions.

**Pre-Register Your Child**  
& be entered into extra drawings buy calling the Park Office with your child's name & date of birth.

**Gift Bags  
& Prize Drawings  
for all attendees!**

### **Fishing Derby** 9AM-11AM

Located at Lake Henry  
(Just south of the Park Office)

Learn fish ID's, improve your casting skills and how to bait your hook from the KDWPT Fisheries Dept. After the 20 minute talk, kids will fish for their chance to win a fabulous prize!

**Prizes will be awarded  
for things like:**

- Biggest fish
- Smallest fish
- Most fish
- Weirdest thing caught!

### **Is it your first time fishing?**

We will enter your name into a special first Time Fishermen Contest for a special prize drawing!

**Fishing Poles & Bait  
\*\*\*will be provided\*\*\***  
(You can bring your own equipment if you want!)

### **Archery Target Practice** 2 PM—4 PM

Come join us in trying out ARCHERY! Instructors will be on hand to give your child the knowledge and confidence to try out this exciting sport. All Targets and Equipment provided.

### **Animal Show-N-Tell** 7PM-8PM

Located at Shelter #6  
(Campground #3)

You'll get the chance to have a close up look at our...

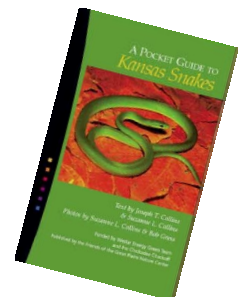
### **LIVE ANIMALS ON DISPLAY!**

We will set up our cages outside and you'll get a special viewing of our awesome critters! We'll talk about everything from our native turtles to Kansas snakes.

Do you know how to identify a venomous snake? We'll talk about the three species that are most common in our part of Kansas (Copperhead and Timber & Massasauga Rattlesnake) and how to avoid them!

**Snake ID Booklet  
\*\*\*to all who attend!**  
\*\*\*

(While supplies last)



# Projects Around the Park

## Swim Beach

Encroaching vegetation, receding water levels, and erosion have worn on the Clinton State Park swim beach for years. Beginning in June 2014, we began reclaiming this favorite feature of our park. AmeriCorps members have accomplished retrenching the main culvert, removing vegetation, and flattening out the beach landscape. This project has many more renovations underway including continued vegetation removal and sand turnover. Visit our swim beach to see what you think! Please adhere to our no pet policy and alcohol free beach regulation. The beach parking area can be found in its own area located between our two campgrounds. You'll park up top and walk behind the shower house, take a short trail to the stairwell and down a flight of stairs.



## Plant Pressing on Bunker

In July 2014, naturalists began pressing plant species that can be found in Clinton State Park. Bunker Hill has provided most of the specimens to date including sunflowers, purple-coneflowers, milkweed, and many more. By preserving plant specimens, we can retain the natural history of our park's flora. If you are interested in amazing wildflower species, please take a walk around Bunker Hill—you may even run into one of our plant collectors!

## Pocket Ranger® Smart Phone App

The Kansas State Parks Pocket Ranger® mobile app by Parks by Nature Network serves as an interactive State Parks tour guide accessible through today's leading mobile devices. It is built with the most up-to-date visitor information, and designed for both the novice outdoorsmen and the more seasoned park goer.

The interactive guide along with the advanced GPS mapping technology provides

park goers with valuable information for planning that perfect trip to any state park, making it easy for anyone to choose an adventure of their choice. The app allows users to keep abreast of weather conditions, view state-surveyed trails, and more—directly from their mobile device!

Scan for Kansas State Parks Pocket Ranger® mobile app!



THE OFFICIAL

# KS

DEPARTMENT OF  
WILDLIFE, PARKS  
& TOURISM

GUIDE

DOWNLOAD  
OUR **FREE**  
MOBILE APP

Pocket Ranger®

# Personal Flotation Device Safety

This summer when you come to the lake, always remember to check safety equipment prior to launch. Personal Flotation Devices can help prevent drownings.

One way to look at PFD's is they are the seatbelts to your boat. With that in mind when someone gets into a car that person makes sure the seatbelt fits them properly and comfortably. The same goes for PFD's. There are numerous styles of PFD's, from the standard orange Type III, to the less restrictive inflatable type III and Type V. When engaged in water sports such as skiing, tubing or riding PWC's the use of a Type III vest style is the most comfortable and provides the best buoyancy to keep you afloat.

When purchasing PFD's for your boat, here are a few things to keep in mind:

Regulations pertaining to your size boat, do I need a Type IV (Throwable?) The size and age of occupants that will be on the boat (CHILDREN UNDER 13 ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A PFD AT ALL TIMES). Do you need to buy medium, large or extra-large? Also how much do you want to spend?

So remember when you hit the lake this summer to double check your PFD's and make sure they are in good serviceable condition (No Cuts or Imperfections). You have the proper number and size for occupants on your boat. Lastly, while on the water make sure your PFD's are not stored in any compartments but within arm's reach of each occupant.

**Have a Safe Fun Summer, and WEAR IT KANSAS!**

**Jon Entwhistle.**

*Natural Resource Officer  
Kansas Department of Wildlife,  
Parks and Tourism*



## Park Regulation Reminders

Most of our state park regulations are not new, but warrant a reminder to all of our visitors as we begin looking forward to the new park season.

- **24 Hour Unattended Camping Unit Policy** —Regulations require camping units not to be unattended for more than 24 hours. When setting up your camping unit, please pay fees at that time. You can pay at the park office, campground host, self-pay station at the park or reserve your space online.
- **GREY WATER DUMPING** — all waste water from camping units (GREY and BLACK tanks) must be disposed of at dump stations only.
- **SPEED LIMIT** — there is a 30 mph speed limit on main park roads. Speed should be reduced even further (15 mph) when entering and driving the individual campground roads. Please take extra care to watch for pedestrians!
- **SWIM BEACH** — no pets allowed, no fishing, no alcohol, no glass containers. Please refer to sign for other regulations.
- **PARKING** — no driving/parking vehicles entirely on grass. Please keep at least 2 wheels on pavement or gravel when parking..
- **PETS** — are allowed at Clinton State Park; however they must be controlled by a leash or chain no longer than 10 ft. in length. Pets are not allowed in any of the state park buildings, unless for assistance purposes. This includes all shower and restroom facilities and the office. This also includes all the state park camping cabins.

With everyone abiding by park regulations, we can continue to provide a safe and family-oriented park and enjoyable visits for all!! Thank You!

# Creature Corner: The Ornate Box Turtle

The Ornate Box Turtle is our state reptile and is pretty fantastic for many reasons. The ornate box turtle is one of two terrestrial turtles in Kansas. This turtle has a hinge on its plastron (lower shell) that allows the turtle to completely withdraw itself into its shell (head, legs, arms, everything!) This adaptation protects the box turtle from predation. Be careful though. If you pick up one of these wild turtles, don't be surprised if it uses the restroom on you! This turtle must completely empty its bladder to be able to withdraw into its shell.

The picture to the right is of a mom and dad ornate box turtle stealing a smooch in front of Southwest Middle School students at Wetland Learners. Male box turtles have a red tint to their eyes and forearms. Female box turtles have a yellow tint to their eyes and forearms.

Be sure to come by our office to see an Ornate Box Turtle shell and five other turtle species!



### A few facts:

- Habitat: prairies—open grasslands, treeless areas
- Active from April to October
- Lays 2-8 eggs in the summer, which hatch in the fall.
- Eats insects, spiders, worms. Loves strawberries and grapes.

**Do you LOVE taking pictures of nature?**  
Send us your photos for the chance to see them in our newsletter, or on our Facebook page!

- Email images to: [ClintonSP@ksoutdoors.com](mailto:ClintonSP@ksoutdoors.com)
- Include your name, date & location of photo in email.
- Participants of all ages are welcome!
- Remember, images **MUST** be taken at the park!

**Submit Your Photos!**



## ORMS: A New Way to Reserve!

**Outdoor Recreation Management System:**

In April of 2012, the state park system began using Reserve America to manage campsite reservation. Frequent patrons of Federal parks may already be familiar with the website. As we go into the third year, the benefits of the program are very apparent.

- Campsite Availability— Website visitors can see which sites are reservable or available for any date.
- Campsite Features— Size, cost, amenities, location and even a picture accompany the listing.
- Reservations— Visitors can make reservations at their convenience.

Reserve a campsite **TODAY** at [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com)!

**(Type in our zip code to find us faster: 66049).**

# 2014 Calendar of Events

<i>Date of Event</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Start Time</i>
August 2	Trail Hawks Members Only Benefit Trail Run	ALL DAY
August 9	Free Vehicle Entrance Day	ALL DAY
August 9	Fishing Derby—OK Kids Day	9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
August 9	Archery Target Practice—OK Kids Day	2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
August 9	Animal Show-N-Tell—OK Kids Day	7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
August 23	KU Super Service Saturday Litter Pickup	Noon to 2 p.m.
September 6	Trail Nerds Assoc. North Shore Trail Race	6 a.m. to 3 p.m.
October 25	Heartland Coursing Dog Field Trials	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
November 16	Irish Road Bowling Benefit	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



# Wildlifer Challenge



Start your journey towards completing 15 outdoor challenges!  
Upon completion, you will be recognized as an official Kansas

The challenges you'll encounter are not hard to complete if you have one ounce of "Wildlifer" spirit inside you. Some challenges may only take you an hour to accomplish, while others may take an entire day. You'll quickly realize that you are not like everyone else! You're busting the norm wide open and living life to the fullest!

**OUR MISSION:** PROVE to you that getting outside—beyond the playgrounds, ball fields and concrete sidewalks—is a blast!

**YOUR MISSION:** PROVE to us that you're not the kind of kid who wastes all of your valuable free time lying around inside the house all day. That's not you. You like the thrill of adventure. The mystery of the unknown. Maybe even a little danger from time to time. You rock!

Exploring the outdoors will make you think for yourself. You have to be creative. Successful. Not because some video game congratulates you on completing another level, but because you PROVE IT TO YOURSELF with what you can do with a little determination and freedom in the wild outdoors!

**MANY of these challenges can be completed right here at Clinton State Park!**

Swim in a Lake • Take a Wildlife Picture • Build a Campfire • Catch a Frog  
Hike a Trail • Bird Watching • Catch a Firefly • Pitch a Tent • Pack a Picnic  
Cover Yourself in Leaves • Catch a Fish • Stargazing and much more!

**Come see us TODAY!**



Register today at [www.kansaswildlifer.com](http://www.kansaswildlifer.com) and **PROVE YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!**

## FRIENDS GROUP INFORMATION.....

Friends Groups support the efforts of many state parks. At some parks, they run the camp store or marina, sell firewood, operate laundry facilities, and many other tasks that make stays at a park more convenient. Members of Friends Groups are simply people who enjoy their local state park and want to help. A Friends Group can be formed under the umbrella of our statewide Friends Group, Wildscape, and can then conduct fund-raising and public relations efforts on behalf of the park. If you have an interest in Clinton State Park developing a Friends Group, please contact the park office at 785-842-8562.



# AmeriCorps Corner



The Kansas Outdoor AmeriCorps Action Team serves the State of Kansas by performing environmental service projects in state parks and local communities. Our program focus is in three areas: to assist emergency management agencies at disaster sites in response and restoration efforts, to restore, develop and mitigate the loss of environmental resources within public-managed lands; and finally to develop new partnerships in outdoor recreation and form outreach support groups through public presentations and education to schools, civic groups and local governments.

On May 30, 2014, AmeriCorps members Emma Donachie, Stephanie Holder, and Colin Jokisch assisted with programs for the Kansas Capital Campout. Promoted by America’s Great Outdoors to highlight June as Great Outdoors Month, Capital Campout aims to teach urban families camping basics and appreciation for the great outdoors. Lead sponsor The Coleman Company© provided gear such as backpacks and sleeping bags for each individual, plus tents that were used for the event. Surrounded by campers, Governor Brownback signed the proclamation designating June as Great Outdoors Month at the camp out.

Clinton State Park AmeriCorps members led four programs over the two-day event. The first program coincided with the Wildlifer Challenge found on page 7. The team led “Catch-a-Bug” where children were given nets to catch a bug which they would later identify. The next program was a night hike led by Colin, Emma, and various other rangers. This night hike took groups of 20 into the trails at MacLennan Park in Topeka. Topics discussed were night wildlife, special adaptations for nocturnal creatures, and utilizing other senses besides vision.

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the team led two separate activities. Colin led “Hike-a-trail” bingo in conjunction with the Wildlifer Challenge. Emma and Stephanie led Campfire Cooking to show alternative methods to outdoor cooking.



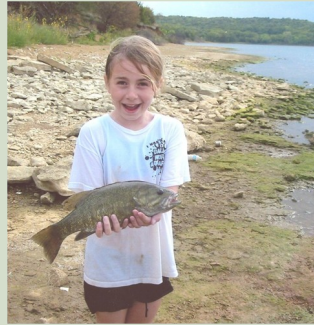


# First Fish Award Program

The First Fish Award program, sponsored by Clinton State Park, is designed to commemorate that special moment in every angler's career, the landing of the first fish. For that moment the size and species has no meaning, only successful capture of that unique fish. The First Fish Award is an attempt to immortalize that moment by presenting budding anglers with a certificate that they can frame identifying the angler, the fish and other details of that special moment.

Get your First Fish Award by submitting the following information :

- Angler's Name  
(as it will appear on award)
- Angler's Age
- Length of Fish Caught
- Weight of Fish Caught
- Date the Fish was Caught
- Where the Fish was Caught



If there is a picture of the angler and the catch, send it along and it will be copied to the certificate. All prints will be returned.

You may also email the information & attach a digital photo copy to [clintonsp@ksoutdoors.com](mailto:clintonsp@ksoutdoors.com).



Get a copy of the application by visiting our website or "Like" us on Facebook!

Mail completed form to:  
Clinton State Park  
First Fish Program  
798 N. 1415 Road  
Lawrence, KS 66049

Visit this website for a detailed listing of individual fish species that can be found at Clinton Lake. <http://kdwpt.state.ks.us/Fishing/Fishing-Forecast>.

## Wildflower Word Search

C R B O J L N H D K S U Y N P  
 O E W O S N Y M T W M A A O R  
 N W X M M S C L E I X S I G I  
 E O L W I R I E L T U Y Y I C  
 F L I A G X T K D S R L R D K  
 L F D Y K C W R D O L E R N L  
 O N J G L E A E L C R A E I E  
 W U R O E C Y G A L V D B D Y  
 E S V D I E G U J Z P P K L P  
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 D L R D O H O A R O X T B S N  
 B O N S H C E Y H B O E S V N  
 M S C Z L E D U K H G J I W P

### WORD BANK

- Sunflower
- Prickly-Pear
- Coneflower
- Daisy
- Morning Glory
- Black-eyed Susan
- Milkweed
- Wild Indigo
- Violet
- Leadplant
- Sweet Clover

