



# Waterfalls Weekend Activities March 20th - 22nd

Welcome to Fall Creek Falls' Waterfall Weekend! Our numerous waterfalls, beautiful overlooks, extensive hiking trails, plentiful accommodations, central location, and available educational programs make Fall Creek Falls a convenient hub of activity for the waterfall enthusiast. We encourage you to take advantage of the programs that the staff at Fall Creek Falls has arranged for your enjoyment and enlightenment.

**\*A parent or guardian must accompany youngsters 12 years old and younger.**

## Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

- 6:30pm **Welcome to Waterfalls Weekend** – While you are enjoying the Surf and Turf buffet at the Inn, be sure to stop by the lobby to talk to Matt about the park and the rest of the weekend's events. There will be a rolling slide show of some of the area's key waterfalls and geologic features in the lobby for you to enjoy while you enter and exit the Inn as well.
- 8:00pm **Night Hike to Fall Creek Falls** – Join Matt at the lobby of the Inn for a 4-mile roundtrip jaunt to the Fall Creek Falls Overlook. This walk will be on the paved bike trail around the lake and will be a great opportunity to become acquainted with the night life and sounds around Fall Creek Falls State Park. Please bring a small flashlight.

## Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

- 9:00am **Prater Place Hike (Spring Hike)** – Meet Matt at the Nature Center to carpool to the Prater Place Trail Head. This trail is 2.9 miles one way into Camps Gulf and features beautiful wildflowers in the spring and a small but gorgeous waterfall called Hemlock Falls at the end of the trail. Be prepared for a 6-mile roundtrip hike with a few steep slopes.
- 9:00am **Lost Creek Falls and Wildflowers (Spring Hike)** – Join Stuart at the Nature Center for a visit to our newest state natural area. There will be a 20-mile drive out to the site and then a 1.5-mile hike. The falls there are very nice and a few spring wildflowers should be coming out. This program may take 3-4 hours.

- 10:00am **Waterfall Photography Seminar** – Meet professional landscape photographer John Hargis at the Inn and enjoy an hour long talk on basic photography, composition and special tips on photographing waterfalls. His award winning images are displayed at the Nature Center and throughout the Inn. Mr. Hargis' images have been featured in books, calendars and travel magazines. They also grace homes and businesses across America. After the seminar, we may venture out for a photo shoot and instruction period at one of our overlooks.
- 10:30am **Hike to the Base of Fall Creek Falls** – Meet Jon at the Main Overlook of Fall Creek Falls for a short but strenuous hike to the bottom of the falls. Along the way, we will discuss our park's forest ecology and geology.
- 12:00pm **The Big "6" Hike** – Meet Cara at the Nature Center for 6-mile roundtrip hike to see the 6 most prominent waterfalls at Fall Creek Falls State Park. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes.
- 1:00pm **Cable Trail Hike** – Join Jon at the Nature Center for a short but strenuous hike down the Cable Trail to the bottom of Cane Creek Falls. This is a great opportunity to experience the grandeur of one of our park's most prominent geological features. Wear sturdy shoes and bring along some water.
- 3:00pm **Park Orientation** – Meet Jon at the Nature Center to become more familiar with Fall Creek Falls. This presentation will have a slideshow of the waterfalls and we will discuss park history.

**Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- 9:30am **Natural Bridge Excursion** – Meet Robert at the Nature Center for a short drive to the Wheeler Farm to view some spectacular geologic features. Please provide your own transportation. Carpooling is recommended. This will be a moderately strenuous 2-mile roundtrip hike to a natural bridge and shallow but beautiful waterfall. Wear sturdy shoes or boots and bring along some water.
- 1:00pm **Waterfalls Driving Tour** – Meet Tommy at the Inn for a scenic driving tour of Fall Creek Falls State Park featuring the park's spectacular waterfalls. On this tour, we will see Cane Creek Falls, Rockhouse Creek Falls, Cane Creek Cascades, Raccoon Creek Falls, Fall Creek Falls, and Piney Falls. There is a short walk from the van to waterfalls. The trail to Piney Falls Overlook is rocky, but there are many other gorge overlooks visible from van. There is a limit of 14 and a fee of \$5. You must sign up at the Inn. In case of cancellation, no refunds can be given.

## *Cool Waterfall Fact*



***Do you know that winter is one of the best times to visit Fall Creek Falls State Park if you like scenery? With the leaves off of the trees, new and exciting views can be seen; and when conditions are right you may even see some partially frozen waterfalls! Always exercise caution when icicles are present. Viewing from the top is recommended!***

***Waterfalls are among the many topics discussed in the Fall Creek Falls 2½-day or 5-day Environmental Education Program for school groups. For more information, contact Ranger Matt Brown at [matthew.brown@tn.gov](mailto:matthew.brown@tn.gov).***



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