

SCHEDULE of 2011-2012 RANGER-LED PROGRAMS

At Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park

Saturday	December 24	Wildlife Walk	10 am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	December 31	Beginning Birding Walk and Talk	Amphitheater, 11am
Thursday	January 5	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	January 7-8	Overnight Backpacking Trip	10am @ La Chua trailhead
Saturday	January 14	Florida Crane and Nature Festival.	Guided tours, visit the Festival website.
Thursday	January 19	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	January 21	STARGAZING AT HICKORY RANCH	6:30pm to 9pm *SPECIAL EVENT*
Saturday	January 28	Rim Ramble Hike	8am @ La Chua Trailhead
Thursday	February 2	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	February 4-5	Overnight Backpacking Trip	10 am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	February 11	Paddle with a Ranger (bring your own canoe or kayak)	9am Lake Wauberg
Thursday	February 16	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	February 18	Rim Ramble Hike	8am @ La Chua Trailhead
Saturday	February 25	Chacala on Horseback (bring your own horse)	10 am @ Chacala Trailhead
Thursday	March 1	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	March 3-4	Overnight Backpacking Trip	10am @ La Chua Trailhead
Saturday	March 3	FIRE FEST: Prescribed Fire Festival - Fun and Activities	Main Entrance in Micanopy 10am-4pm *SPECIAL EVENT*
Saturday	March 10	Rim Ramble Hike	8am @ La Chua Trailhead
Thursday	March 15	Gentle Walk	9am @ La Chua Trail
Saturday	March 17	Rim Ramble Hike	8am La Chua Trailhead
Saturday	March 24	Hug a Tree Walk	2pm @ Amphitheater

Space is Limited, Reservations Required.
To Sign Up, Call 466-4100 from 9am to 4pm daily.

*Explore the **REAL** Florida!*



GUIDED WALK DESCRIPTIONS

PRAIRIE RIM RAMBLE

Various Saturdays – November through March

Experience *the Real Florida* by following in the footsteps of noted naturalist and artist William Bartram. The rim ramble is a 3.5 mile, half-day hike led by a ranger. The heavily shaded trail rambles around an array of fragile sinkholes. A panoramic view of the freshwater wetland is seen from Persimmon Point.

20 person limit. Call the Visitor Center at (352) 466-4100 for reservations.

GENTLE WALK AND TALK

1st and 3rd Thursdays – November through March

This gentle walk of approximately one mile will take you to the edge of the flooded prairie basin. Challenge yourself to identify birds, trees, and wildflowers, or just enjoy a peaceful stroll. If lucky, the sandhill cranes, bison, or wild horses may be seen. This walk is suitable for those who aren't real hikers but still want to have an outdoor Paynes Prairie experience. The pace is slow and comfortable and along the way we will stop and talk about what we see. Bring your binoculars, field guides, and water. Be sure to wear sunscreen, closed toe shoes, and a hat or sunglass. A public restroom is available.

10 person limit. Call the Visitor Center at (352) 466-4100 for reservations.

OVERNIGHT BACKPACKING TRIP

First weekend of the month November to March

The overnight trip is a moderately strenuous hike of approximately 6.5 miles over level to slightly rolling terrain (*not recommended for children under 10*). The pack in, pack out hike begins mid-morning Saturday with a 4.5-mile hike to Persimmon Point. Sunday's return hike skirts along a two-mile section of the picturesque north rim of the prairie basin. It concludes around noon Sunday at the starting point.

20 person limit. Call the Visitor Center at (352) 466-4100 for reservations.

\$10 per person

WILDLIFE WALK/EARLY BIRD WALK

Various Saturdays – November through April

Join one of the Preserve's rangers and take a walk on the wild side. This leisurely paced adventure onto the prairie basin provides a wonderful opportunity to observe the unusual plants and magnificent animals that inhabit the vast 21,000-acre preserve. The three-mile walk leads to an observation deck overlooking Alachua Lake. Walk is 3-4 hours.

20 person limit. Call the Visitor Center at (352) 466-4100 for reservations.

RANGER'S CHOICE

Various Saturdays – November through March

These Saturday activities will vary. Program topics may include birding by ear, twelve thousand years of people and the Prairie, trees and tracks of the Preserve, exploring Lake Wauberg by canoe/kayak, riding through time on the Gainesville Hawthorne trail, and more!

20 person limit. Call the Visitor Center at (352) 466-4100 for reservations.



FLORIDA
State Parks
...the Real Florida™

