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Mission Statement

Lake Charles State Park exists to promote tourism by providing high quality services and facilities to all park visitors while preserving the resources within its boundaries. Our interpretive mission is to allow visitors to experience nature through supervised recreational pursuits and environmental education programming.



Lake Charles and Lake Charles State Park

Our educational emphasis is the natural resources of the temperate forests existing in the Ozark Mountains Natural Division of Arkansas. Specific activities include studies of the forest and lake environments of Lake Charles State Park. We demonstrate to your students through hands-on activities that the resources where they live are unique, interesting and have value. Plus, many of our programs teach or reinforce your specific educational framework requirements.

Lake Charles initially began in 1956 as a plan for a series of smaller dams to control flooding in the Flat Creek Watershed. Soon after, the plan was expanded to include fish and wildlife enhancement for migratory waterfowl in the 10,000 acre Shirey Bay/Rainey-Brake Wildlife Management Area below the lake. New legislation in 1962 added cost sharing for a recreational component to the project. When constructed in the 1960's, 645-acre Lake Charles was the first of its kind and size in the nation.

Lake Charles State Park was made a part of the Arkansas State Parks system in 1967, after completion of the lake. Forty acres were leased from the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission to establish the park. An additional eighty acres were purchased at a later date to complete the park's development. Lake Charles was named in honor of Charles Clayton Snapp, the individual who had the dream and initiative to pursue the construction of this facility.



HOW

to schedule a visit to Lake Charles State park

The Lake Charles State Park staff invites you and your students to visit the park. Teachers love Arkansas's state parks because the parks are places where students can apply what the teacher has taught in the classroom. Many of our programs support the state curriculum strands, and we are happy to work with you to develop customized programs to meet your curriculum needs or the special needs of your students. Some, but not all, of our program locations are accessible. Arkansas State Parks takes pride in its varied programs for school groups and its support and services for teachers. With advance notice and curriculum guidelines from the teacher, our staff will plan educational experiences that are exciting, and reinforce your classroom goals.

These pages describe our current program offerings and explain how to make your reservations to make the most of your visit to the park.



Planning your visit to Lake Charles State Park

Please schedule your visit to the park a minimum of one week in advance by calling the park Visitor Center at (870) 878-6595 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. You may also want to visit the Arkansas State Park's website at www.ArkansasStateParks.com then click on the Teachers, Schools and Volunteers area and fill out the on-line reservation form. This avoids conflicts with other visiting school groups and allows us to serve you better. Allow 45 minutes to an hour for each program. Upon arrival of the park, check in at the Visitor Center, allow time for restroom breaks and visits to the gift shop when students disembark from the bus. Discuss your arrangements with park personnel, since some restrooms are closed during cold weather.

When you call to schedule your visit, please have the following information ready:

- * Your name
- * The school name and address
- * Address, phone number and email of contact person and teacher
- * The number of students and the grade level
- * Your preferred and alternate trip dates
- * Your time of arrival
- * The time available for the program
- * Your educational objectives for the visit
- * Accommodations needed for students with disabilities
- * Any fees are paid upon entrance to the park - there are no fees for most programs and activities, but pavilion rentals and barge tours are cost items.

Preview Visit

It is recommended that the teacher make a preview visit to the park. This will provide contact with the park personnel and allow you to become familiar with locations of restrooms, water fountains, exhibits, classrooms, audiovisual services, trails, and the accessibility of the site.

Ideas for preparing yourself before the field trip:

- * Visit the park before your trip with colleagues and chaperones.
- * Identify parking, lunch area, playground area, and restroom locations.
- * Consider attending one of our teacher workshops offered in early August. These workshops take you to Lake Charles, Powhatan Courthouse and Old Davidsonville State Parks.
- * Explore the outdoor areas you plan to visit. Consider designing activities with the park staff that relate to your classroom studies.

Studies have shown that students learn more when they know the plan for the day: where they will be, what will be expected of them, and when they will return. Lack of this basic information often causes worry about “what happens next,” to the point they cannot concentrate on your educational mission.

Be sure your students know:

- * The time and date of departure
- * Educational objective of the field trip
- * Lunch
- * Rules (of teacher and the park)
- * Parental permission forms as required by the school
- * Field trip supplies (camera, notebook, pencils, etc.)
- * Special assignments/worksheets
- * Point of departure
- * Necessary expenses
- * Appropriate dress
- * Available free time
- * The time they will return to school

Prepare Your Students

Once you have explained the mechanics of the trip, prepare your students for field trip learning with classroom activities related to what they will be doing at the park. The park staff can help you design appropriate pre and post-visit activities. Some of these pre and post activities may already be available at the park depending on the program topic you have chosen.

Chaperones

It is important that students, whether working as a class or in small groups, have proper supervision. Arkansas law requires one chaperone for every ten students (bus drivers qualify). All chaperones should clearly understand their disciplinary duties and stay with the students during the field trip. Most of our programs are free, however, when there is a fee involved, chaperones are admitted at the school group rate (teachers are admitted free).

Discipline

Class discipline is the teacher’s responsibility. Please explain to all students that appropriate, orderly behavior is expected during their visit. Use simple rules of respect for park resources and courtesy toward each other, keeping in mind that other visitors may be at the park at the same time. **All plants, minerals, animals, fossils, and artifacts are protected by state law and should not be disturbed or removed.**



Inclement Weather

In bad weather, Lake Charles State Park has a screened pavilion that can accommodate groups of 150 or less. Inclement weather may require rescheduling or changes in activity plans. Check with the park before visiting in such weather. Notify the park immediately if circumstances require you to cancel your visit.

Lunch and Other Services

Your school group can bring lunches or use one of the barbecue grills in the picnic area. Lake Charles State Park does have a screened-in pavilion available for rent and reservations are required. Soda machines are conveniently located and chips, candy, and bagged ice are for sale at the Visitor Center.

A playground meeting ADA requirements is located in the picnic area. It has swings, slides, a climber and other play units. Also nearby is a full-size volleyball court.

Location

From U.S. 67 at Hoxie, travel 8 miles north on U.S. 63 to Black Rock, then drive 6 miles south on Arkansas Highway 25 or, from State Highway 167 at Cave City, travel 25 miles east on State Highways 230 and 25 to the park.

Lake Charles State Park

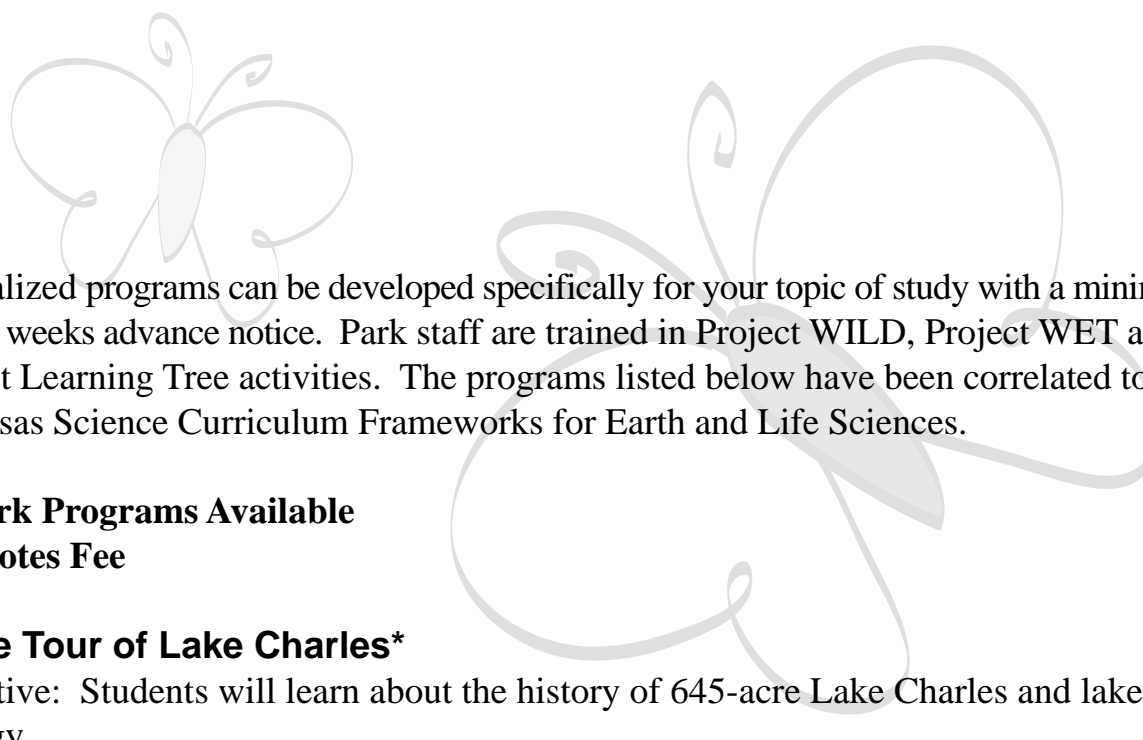
3705 Highway 25
Powhatan, AR 72458

Telephone: (870) 878-6595

Fax: (870) 878-6348

Email: Lakecharles@arkansas.com

Web: www.ArkansasStateParks.com



Specialized programs can be developed specifically for your topic of study with a minimum of two weeks advance notice. Park staff are trained in Project WILD, Project WET and Project Learning Tree activities. The programs listed below have been correlated to the Arkansas Science Curriculum Frameworks for Earth and Life Sciences.

In-Park Programs Available

*** Denotes Fee**

Barge Tour of Lake Charles*

Objective: Students will learn about the history of 645-acre Lake Charles and lake ecology.

Grades: 3 - 8

Length: 1 - 1 1/2 hour

Special Conditions: Maximum 10 people/students per tour. Fee required.

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.3.1 Understand the varied uses of water.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (use and misuse).
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change environments in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.
- LS.3.4 Explore careers related to life sciences.

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.1.1 Identify the components of Earth (rocks, water, and air) and their properties.
- ES.2.4 Understand the effects of weathering and erosion on Earth's surface.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.
- LS.3.5 Investigate a variety of careers related to life sciences.

Butterflies & Blooms Trail Hike

Objective: Students will walk this 1/3-mile long trail that meanders through wildflowers and wildlife habitat that changes each week through the season. Wildlife, including birds and butterflies, can be viewed throughout the trail. This area is continually changing so each visit is a unique experience.

Grades: 3 - 8

Length: Approximately 1 hour

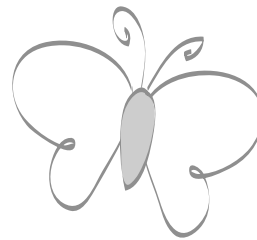
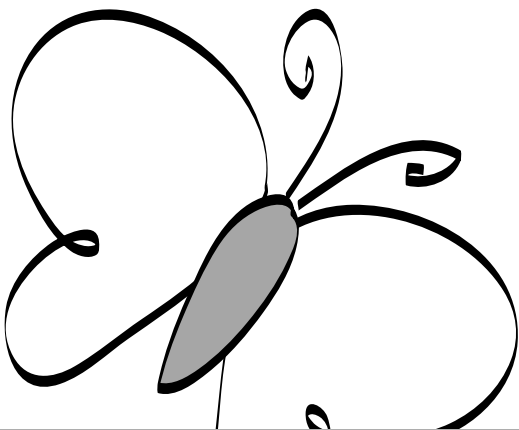
Special Conditions: The best time to view this trail is May - September.

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.1 Recognize and classify different types of Earth materials.
- ES.2.2 Describe major features of the Earth's surface and how it is affected by natural changes.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of material taken from the Earth.
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.5 Explain life cycles of various organisms. (plants)
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.





Cedar Trail Hike

Objective: Students will walk this 1 1/4 mile paved trail that extends along a portion of Lake Charles shoreline. This trail has a variety of trees, plants and aquatic wildlife to view.

Grades: 3 - 8

Length: Approximately 1 hour

Special Conditions: Portions of this trail is accessible

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.1 Recognize and classify different types of Earth materials.
- ES.2.2 Describe major features of the Earth's surface and how it is affected by natural changes.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials to be taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (use and misuse).
- ES.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change environments in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.1.1 Identify the components of Earth (rocks, water, and air) and their properties.
- ES.2.4 Understand the effects of weathering and erosion on the Earth's surface.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.

Tour the Nature Center

Objective: Students will tour the Nature Center and see what types of animals are inside. Animals usually include snakes, lizards, and turtles.

Grades: K-8

Length: Approximately 20 minutes

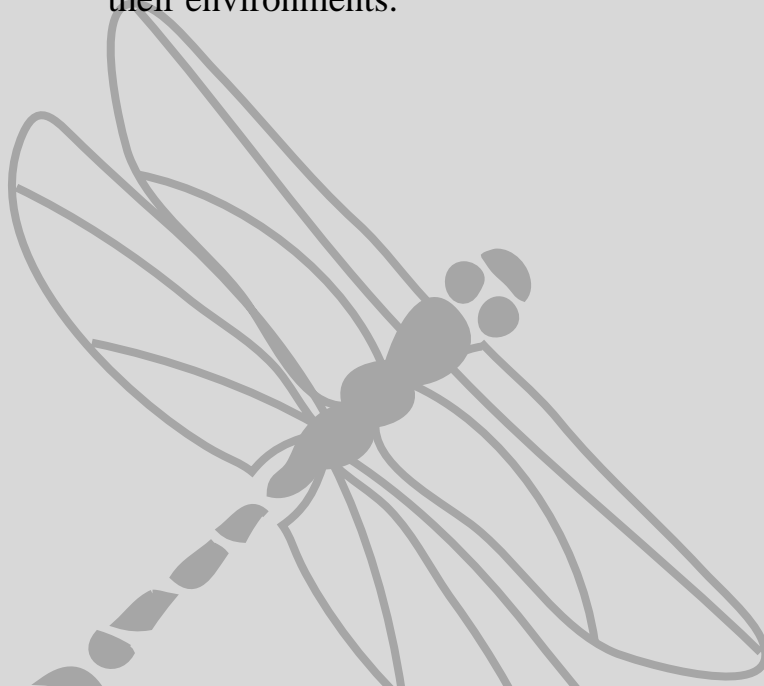
Special Conditions: Class size is limited to 15 students at a time. This program is only offered May through September.

K-4 Frameworks:

- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.7 Understand that offspring are similar to their parents.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.2.10 Understand that organisms are interdependent.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.3 Arrange organisms into groups according to similarities and differences.
- LS.2.4 Identify the requirements for living organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explain the life cycles of various organisms.
- LS.2.7 Describe how heredity and environment influence/determine characteristics of an organism.
- LS.2.8 Recognize that reproduction is a characteristic of all living organisms and is essential to the continuation of life.
- LS.2.9 Explain how characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environments.



White Oak Trail Hike

Objective: Students will hike this 1.5-mile loop trail that meanders across intermittent streams and along the lake shoreline. Students will encounter limestone rock formations, sinkholes and mixed hardwood forests - including White Oaks.

Grades: 3 - 8

Length: 1.5 miles - Allow 1 1/2 to 2 hours for this program.

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.1 Recognize and classify different types of Earth materials.
- ES.2.2 Describe major features of the Earth's surface and how it is effected by natural changes.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (use and misuse).
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.1.1 Identify the components of Earth (rocks, water, and air) and their properties.
- ES.1.5 Identify and classify rocks and minerals.
- ES.2.4 Understand the effects of weathering and erosion on Earth's surface.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of populations relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.



Bio-Dilemmas

ANHC Natural Diversity in Arkansas Guide

Objective: Students will be able to examine their own values and beliefs related to biological diversity and environmental problems that appear in the six natural divisions of Arkansas; students will evaluate actions they might take that could have an impact on the biotic and abiotic elements of the natural divisions; and students will practice working together toward a common solution.

Grades: 7-8

Length: 45 minutes

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.2.5 Describe and model the natural divisions of Arkansas.
- ES.3.2 Apply multiple strategies to problem solving.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.

Black Bears of Arkansas

AG&FC Arkansas Black Bear Guide

Objective: Students will learn various information about the history and habitat of black bears in Arkansas.

Grades: K-6

Length: 30-45 minutes

K-4 Frameworks:

- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.3 Identify and investigate the functions of body systems in organisms.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.7 Understand that offspring are similar to their parents.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.2.10 Understand that organisms are interdependent.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.3 Arrange organisms into groups according to similarities and differences.
- LS.2.4 Identify the requirements for living organisms.
- LS.2.9 Explain how characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environments.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.

Migration Headache

Project WILD Activity

Objective: Students will list limiting factors affecting habitats and populations of migrating water birds; predict the effects of such limiting factors; describe the effects of habitat loss and degradation on populations of migrating water birds; and make inferences about the importance of suitable habitat for migrating water birds.

Grades: 4-8

Length: 30-45 minutes

Special Conditions: Requires large playing field or gymnasium.

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.5 Investigate seasonal changes in weather and factors which affect weather.
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.2.9 Define and describe a food chain and food web.
- LS.2.10 Understand that organisms are interdependent.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.4 Identify the requirements for living organisms.
- LS.2.7 Describe how heredity and environment influence/determine characteristics of an organism.
- LS.2.9 Explain how characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environments.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.

There's Something Fishy Going On

Objective: Students will learn what type of fish are found in Lake Charles and what types of habitats they prefer.

Grades: 4-8

Length: 20-30 minutes

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.3.1 Understand the varied uses of water.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (uses and misuses).
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.7 Understand that offspring are similar to their parents.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.3 Arrange organisms into groups according to similarities and differences.
- LS.2.4 Identify the requirements for living organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explain life cycles of various organisms.
- LS.2.9 Explain how characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environments.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.



Web It!

ANHC Natural Diversity in Arkansas Guide

Objective: Students will identify the components of a food web with emphasis on Arkansas organisms; examine the multiple interdependent relationships of food web components; and understand the effect of a disturbance on the complexity of a food web.

Grades: 4-8

Length: 30-45 minutes

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.3 Identify the natural divisions of Arkansas.
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.9 Define and describe a food chain and food web.
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change environments in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.

5-8 Frameworks:

- LS.2.4 Identify the requirements for living organisms.
- LS.2.9 Explain how characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environments.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.

Who Polluted the Lake?

Objective: Students will learn the benefits and uses of the lake and the hypothetical sources of pollution. Hands-on demonstration.

Grades: 3-8

Length: 30-45 minutes

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.3.1 Understand the varied uses of water.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (uses and misuses).
- LS.2.10 Understand that organisms are interdependent.
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change environments in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.1.3 Generate conclusions based on evidence acquired through experimentation.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.1.3 Conduct investigative science through use of the scientific method.
- LS.2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.

Wildflowers in Bloom! (Audiovisual)

Objective: This program will teach students about the types of wildflowers that bloom in the park. Focusing on the Butterflies & Blooms Trail that was established in 2001.

Grades: 3 - 8

Length: 20 minutes

K-4 Frameworks:

- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change environments in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.

5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.2.5 Explain life cycles of various organisms.



Arkansas State Park's Traveling Educational Nature Trailer, (TENT), provides a mobile center for learning and sharing knowledge about the "Natural State", Arkansas, as well as, camping and outdoor experiences for students. This trailer is loaded with camping gear, outdoor activity equipment and educational materials for a group of up to 25 people. If your students would enjoy camping in state parks and learning camp set-up, outdoor cooking, and participating in hikes, tours, wildlife watching and other activities, the TENT is for you.

There is a small fee for use of the TENT. Total cost varies with food service and other expenses in creating a custom camping experience for your group. To reserve a TENT contact Lake Charles State Park. Make reservations well in advance, and have a second and third option dates available. Reservations are based upon availability.

K-4 Frameworks:

- ES.2.1 Recognize and classify different types of Earth materials.
- ES.2.2 Describe major features of the Earth's surface and how it is affected by natural changes.
- ES.2.3 Identify the natural divisions of Arkansas.
- ES.3.1 Understand the varied uses of water.
- ES.3.2 Describe uses and conservation of materials taken from the Earth.
- ES.3.3 Identify the effects humans have on the environment (use and misuse).
- LS.2.1 Identify and compare characteristics of living and nonliving things.
- LS.2.4 Recognize patterns and characteristics of organisms.
- LS.2.5 Explore the life cycles of organisms.
- LS.2.8 Identify the features of plants and animals that enable them to live in different environments.
- LS.2.9 Define and describe a food chain and food web.
- LS.2.10 Understand that organisms are interdependent.
- LS.3.3 Identify that humans change the environment in ways that can be beneficial or detrimental for themselves and other organisms.



5-8 Frameworks:

- ES.1.1 Identify the components of Earth (rocks, water, and air) and their properties.
- ES.2.4 Understand the effects of weathering and erosion on the Earth's surface.
- ES.2.5 Describe and model the natural divisions of Arkansas.
- ES.3.2 Apply multiple strategies to problem solving.
- ES.3.3 Use appropriate equipment, tools, techniques, etc. in science investigation.
- ES.3.6 Analyze the effect of human activity on Earth... and demonstrate the methods of conservation and recycling of Earth's resources.
- ES.3.8 Illustrate the positive and negative effects of human use of natural resources on Earth.
- LS.1.4 Generate conclusions based on evidence acquired through experimentation.
- LS.2.3 Arrange organisms into groups according to similarities and differences.
- LS.2.9 Explain how physical and behavioral characteristics of organisms help them adapt and survive in their environment.
- LS.2.11 Analyze ecosystems in terms of population relationships, food webs, energy flow, and biotic succession.
- LS. 2.12 Evaluate human impact on the environment.

Written by Nikki Cherry, Assistant Superintendent, Lake Charles State Park

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Greg Butts, Director Arkansas State Parks

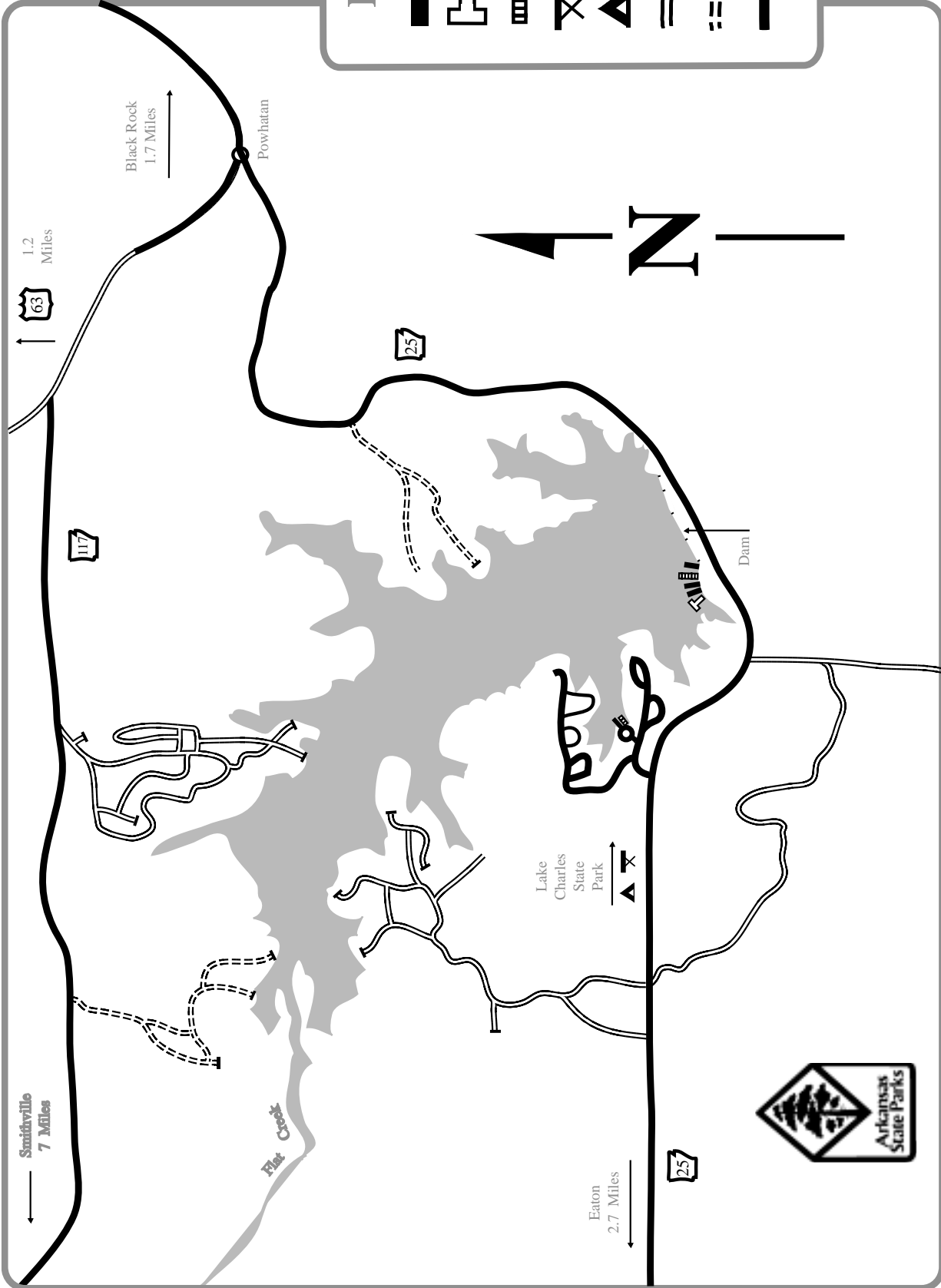
Jay Miller, Administrator, Program Services Section

**Monte Fuller, Superintendent,
Lake Charles State Park**

**Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism
State Parks Division
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1191
www.ArkansasStateParks.com**

First edition, 2002

Lake Charles





Lake Charles State Park School Group Reservation Form



Contact Information:

School Name: _____ Contact Person: _____

School Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

of Students: _____ # of Teachers/Chaperones: _____

Dates of Field Trip:
1st Choice: _____ 2nd Choice: _____ 3rd Choice: _____

Arrival Time: _____ Departure Time: _____

Program Request:

In - Park Programs Only

_____ Barge Tour of Lake Charles (Contact park for current pricing) = \$ _____

_____ Butterflies & Blooms Trail Hike _____ Cedar Trail Hike

_____ Tour the Nature Center _____ White Oak Trail Hike

In-School or In-Park Programs

_____ Bio-Dilemmas _____ Black Bears of Arkansas

_____ Migration Headache _____ There's Something Fishy Going On

_____ Web It! _____ Who Polluted the Lake?

_____ Wildflowers in Bloom!

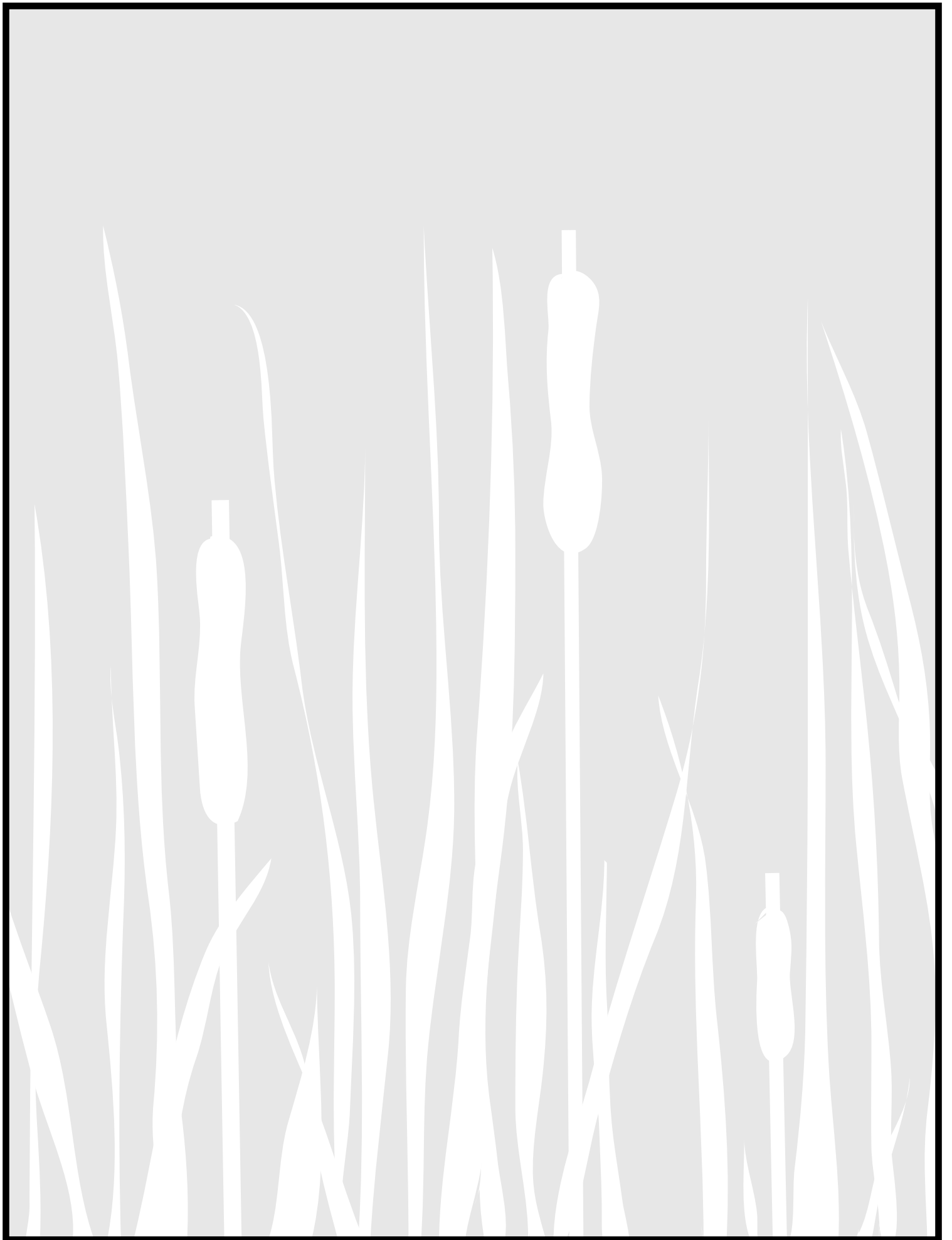
Special Programs:

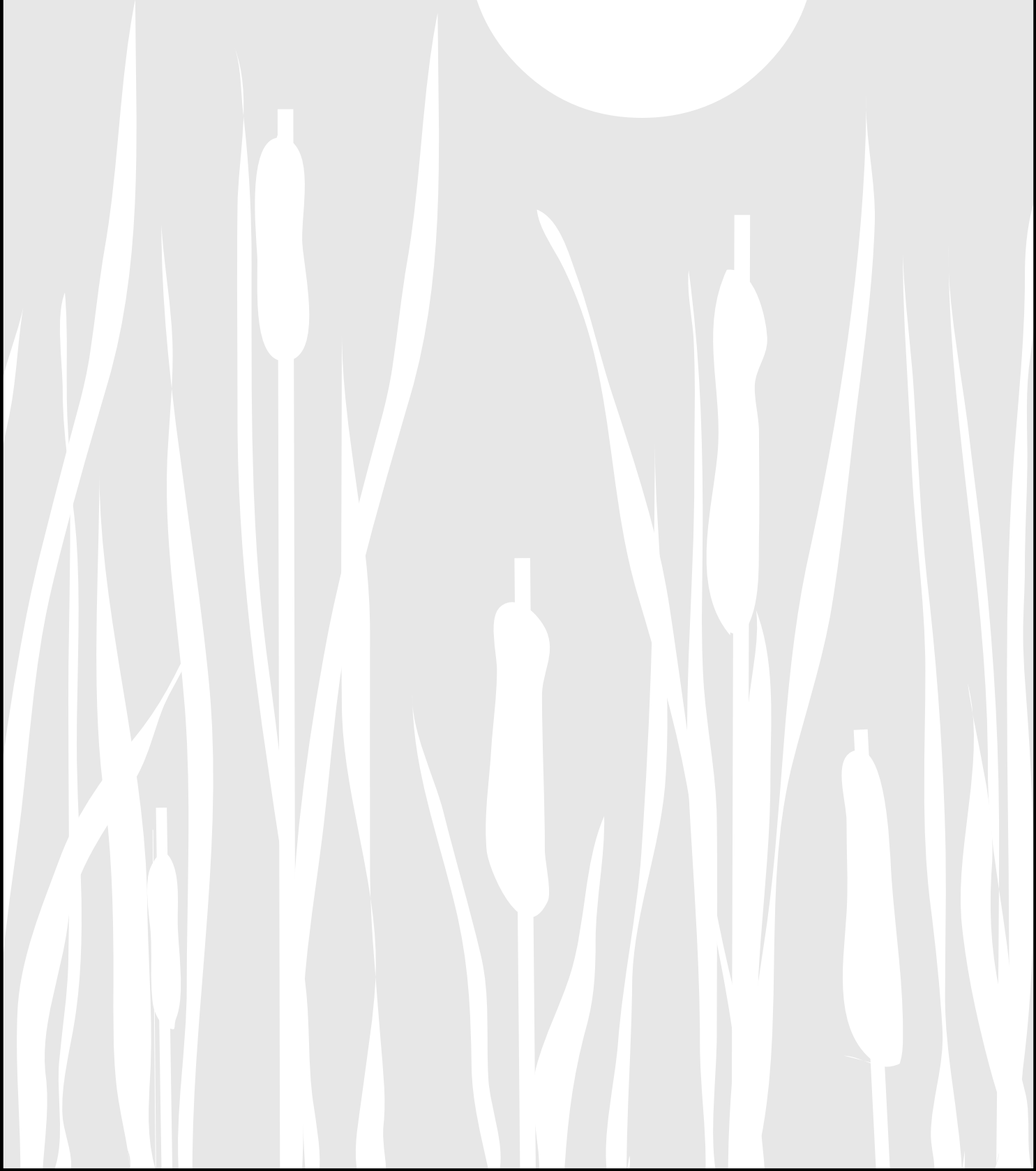
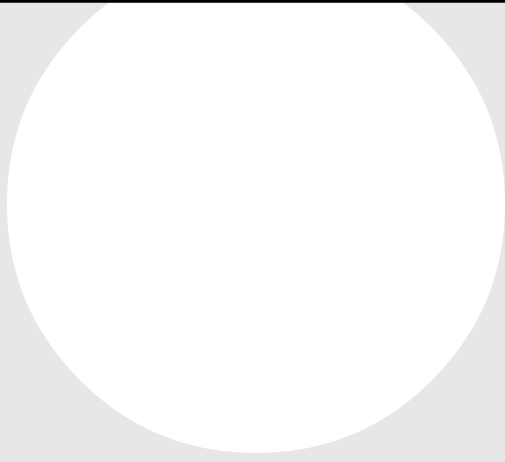
_____ I am interested in a specific program or topic not listed above. I would like a program on _____.

I am interested in a program using the Traveling Education Nature Trailer. Please contact me with further information. _____

Please list any special accommodations or needs your class may have: _____

Return this form to: Lake Charles State Park, 3705 Highway 25, Powhatan, AR
Phone: (870) 878-6595 Fax: (870) 878-6348







Lake Charles State Park

3705 Highway 25

Powhatan, AR 72458

Phone: (870) 878-6595

Fax: (870) 878-6348

Email: lakecharles@arkansas.com

www.ArkansasStateParks.com