



News and Events June 16

There are not one, but TWO free, historical bicycle tours going on this weekend. See below. Look for the lightning bolt ⚡ to see new events and activities.

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Sign up for the City of Chattanooga's Parks and Recreation Newsletter [here](#).

⚡ Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Ride June 20

Outdoor Chattanooga and [Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park](#) will host a Chickamauga Battlefield historical bicycle tour on Sat., June 20, 9:30 a.m., at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitors Center. Sponsored by the [Friends of the Park](#) and the [Chattanooga Bicycle Club](#), the leisurely 6 to 8-mile ride will feature park history from National Park Service interpretive rangers. Participants should bring their own bicycles. Helmets are required for all riders aged 16 and under and highly recommended for all riders. Free loaner bicycles will be available, by reservation, for riders 5' tall and over. To reserve a loaner bicycle or learn more, call (706) 866-9241.

⚡ Touring Kayak Clinic June 28

Outdoor Chattanooga OutVenture and the Tennessee Aquarium will host a beginner [touring kayak clinic](#) on Sun., June 14, from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Participants will learn proper paddling techniques, how to adjust, enter and exit a boat, safety guidelines and what to do if the boat turns over. Students should dress in clothing that may get wet and bring dry ones in case they want to experience a wet exit first-hand. The class is appropriate for adults and kids ages 14 and older when accompanied by an adult. Class limit is 12. Cost is \$25/\$20 for Aquarium members.

⚡ Online Registration Now Open for Downtown Kayak Tours

Online credit card [registration](#) is now open for Outdoor Chattanooga's [Downtown Kayak Tours](#), happening every Thurs.-Sat., 9:30 a.m. through Aug. 15. The beginner-friendly excursions include basic kayaking instruction and tours of Chattanooga's downtown landmarks, such as Maclellan Island, the museum bluffs, the Passage, and Ross' Landing. For more information, [email Outdoor](#)

[Chattanooga](#) or call (423) 643-6888.

Events

✓ Chattanooga Mountains Stage Race June 19-21

Trail runners will have the chance to test themselves an average of 20 miles per day on Raccoon, Signal, and Lookout Mountains for the [Chattanooga Mountains Stage race](#), happening Fri. - Sun., June 19 - 21. The event, which benefits the Boonies Trail Running Association, is presented by Rock/Creek and Smartwool. [Online registration](#) is now open.

✓ North Chickamauga Creek Gorge Butterfly Count June 20

The [Cumberland Trail State Park](#) will sponsor a [North American Butterfly Association](#)-sanctioned butterfly count in the North Chickamauga Creek Gorge on Sat., June 20 at 11:00 a.m. Volunteers of all ages are needed to conduct a one-day census of all butterflies sighted within the selected count area. No experience is necessary. Volunteers should meet at the main N. Chickamauga Creek parking area, 354 Montlake Rd. in Soddy-Daisy. Contact the Soddy Ranger office of the Cumberland Trail State Park at (423) 332-7394 or the N. Chickamauga Creek Conservancy at (423) 842-1163 for more information.

✓ Free Litespeed Bicycle Demo Rides June, July, Aug.

Litespeed Bicycles and River City Bicycles will bring a fleet of demo bikes to the weekly [Chattanooga Bicycle Club's](#) Red Bank ride on three Tuesday evenings during the summer months. The fleet will be set up in the old Bi-Lo parking lot in Red Bank off of Dayton Blvd. on June 23, July 28, and Aug. 25, from 5 to 8 p.m., weather-permitting. Cyclists should bring helmets, shoes, and pedals, along with a driver's license for collateral.

✓ National Park Night at the Lookouts June 29

[Chattanooga Lookouts](#) vs. Carolina Mudcats at 7:15 p.m. (gates open at 5:30) at downtown Chattanooga's AT&T Field. Tickets are \$4 and 100% of ticket purchases support the Friends of the Park in their efforts to preserve, promote and enhance [Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park](#). The evening will include free hot dogs and drinks for the kids, a Civil War living history encampment at the stadium, special prizes and activities, and Park Superintendent Shawn Bengé will throw out the first pitch. To benefit the Park, all tickets must be purchased in advance at any Northwest Ga. Bank, online at the Friends of the Park [Website](#), or at Outdoor Chattanooga, 200 River St. For more information, [email](#) or call Kay Parish at (423) 400-2738.

✓ Long Range Transportation Plan Meetings June 29 & 30

The [Chattanooga-Hamilton County-North Georgia Transportation Planning Organization](#) will hold public input meetings for the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan on Mon., June 29 and Tues., June 30, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.:
Mon., June 29 – Soddy-Daisy Municipal Building Court Room and Collegedale Municipal Building West Room

Tues., June 30 – Development Resource Center, room 1A, Chattanooga and Constitution Hall, Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga.

For more information, email or call [David Baird](#) at (423) 757-5216.

Kids Time at Hamilton County Parks June & July

[Hamilton County Parks](#) will host a free, weekly "Kids Time" every Thurs., from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Chester Frost Park, June 11 through July 23, for grade school children ages 5 and up. A new activity each week will include presentations on farming, endangered species, and swamp creatures, as well as a nature walk, an ice cream making session. The events are first-come, first-served, except for groups of eight or more, who should make a reservation at (423) 842-6748.

Adventures

Pot Point Nature Trail Hike June 20

On Sat, June 20, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Soddy-Daisy Chapter of the TN Trails Association will lead a 4-mile hike on the [Pot Point Nature Trail](#), which runs along the Tennessee River Gorge near Prentice Cooper State Forest. Although the first mile is uphill and rated moderate, the remainder is downhill or level and rated easy. There are numerous wet areas along the river so waterproof boots are recommended. Email don.deakins@gmail.com to pre-register and get directions to the trail head.

✍ Father's Day Hike in Cherokee National Forest June 20

Tennessee Wild will host a free, public hike on Sat., June 20, in celebration of Fathers' Day. The family fun hike will go 3.4 miles from the Cherohala Skyway to Whigg Meadow. Limit 25 participants and pre-registration is required. Call or [email Nicole Martinez](mailto:Nicole.Martinez@saforest.org) with the [Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition](#) at (828) 252-9223 to register and get specific times and directions.

✍ Berry College Free Historic Bicycle Tours Begin June 20

Berry College, in Rome, Ga. will host a monthly [campus tour by bicycle](#) beginning this Sat., June 20, at 10 a.m. The tours will begin behind Herman Hall, the main administration building. ([Printable map.](#)) The main campus loop is approximately three miles in length and features a mostly flat surface with a few rolling hills. The ride is appropriate for both children and adults. Optional tours of the mountain campus will be offered after the main tour. Tours are scheduled for July 18, Sept. 19, and Oct. 17 (no ride in Aug.). All riders must bring their own bicycles and helmets. For more information or to RSVP, call (706) 368-6775.

News

✍ Riverpark Data Report

In Fall, 2008 – Spring, 2009, Chattanooga Bicycle Coordinator Philip Pugliese and students at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga conducted a Riverwalk Usage Data Project, which surveyed bicycle and pedestrian users of the Tennessee Riverpark. The report was presented this month to both the Hamilton County Commission and the Chattanooga City Council. [Read the report](#)

[here](#).

✍️ **Take a Stand for Chattanooga**

[Stand](#) is a citizen-led visioning effort for the Chattanooga region. If you haven't already done so, please share your ideas about the community's future through a [simple survey](#), which will take only five minutes of your time. The deadline for participation is June 26.

✍️ **Rock/Creek and Patagonia Donate \$1,000 to Lula Lake**

On Mon., June 15, [Rock/Creek](#) and Patagonia announced a \$1,000 donation to the [Lula Lake Land Trust \(LLLLT\)](#), to aid in the completion of a long awaited connector trail to Georgia's Cloudland Canyon State Park. The trust is a non-profit organization that maintains a former mining area as an environmental preserve. Lula Lake is open to the public on the first and last Saturday of each month for hiking, mountain biking, and picnicking.

✍️ **Design a Livable Street Contest**

This spring, "Good" Magazine hosted a ["Design a Livable Street"](#) contest. They challenged people to take a photo of a street or intersection that they knew and hated, and then edit the image to make changes that they would like to see implemented. We could live on any one of the winning streets.

National Recreation Trails Program

Want to get National recognition for your local trail? Apply to have it designated a National Recreation Trail. Go to the [NRT Website](#) for more information. Learn more about the country's newest recreation trails, designated by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, [here](#).

National Park Service Fee-Free Weekends

The [National Park Service](#) will waive entrance fees during three weekends this summer: June 20-21 (Father's Day Weekend), July 18-19, and Aug. 15-16. The fee waiver includes: entrance fees, commercial tour fees, and transportation entrance fees. Other fees such as reservation, camping, tours, concession and fees collected by third parties are not included unless stated otherwise.

Classes and Clinics and Camps

✍️ **Free Bicycle Maintenance Clinics June 18 & 25**

The Trek Store on Manufacturer's Rd. will offer free bicycle maintenance classes on Thurs., June 18 and 25, 7:30 p.m. at the store. The clinics will cover basic bicycle maintenance and flat tire changing. Pre-registration is required. To register, call (423) 648-2100 or email mike@trekstorechattanooga.com.

✍️ **Chattanooga Track Club Marathon Training Program Introduction June 20**

The [Chattanooga Track Club \(CTC\)](#) will launch its annual marathon and half marathon training program on Mon., July 20, in a free introduction session at 6

p.m. at Outdoor Chattanooga, 200 River St., in Coolidge Park. The 16-week program is designed to prepare runners, from beginners to the experienced, for the Chickamauga Battlefield Marathon and Half Marathon (Nov. 14) and other long-distance events. The program is free to CTC members and registrant of the Battlefield Marathon. A \$24 fee applies to all others and includes membership to the Chattanooga Track Club.

✂ Kids Clean Water Workshop June 30

[Hamilton Co. Parks](#) and the [Tennessee Student Environmental Alliance](#) will also co-host a special Kids Clean Water workshop on Tues., June 30, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, for kids in 5th through 8th grades. Cost is \$2 per student. For more information, call (423) 842-6748.

Website of the Week

The [Outdoor Parent](#) contains daily inspiration, advice and resources for people who don't let a small matter like having kids keep them from their outdoor passions.

Last Week's WebSite:

A new [Chattanooga Adventure Guide](#), from the Adventure Collective, offers an overview for activities, family adventures, and resources in the area.

Coming Up . . .

July

- 3 [Bike2Work](#)
- 4 ✂ [Bicycle Valet at Pops on the River](#)
- 9 [Women on the Water](#)
✂ [Women in the Outdoors](#)
- 12 [BMW of Chattanooga Waterfront Triathlon](#)
- 18 [Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Ride](#)
[TN River Gorge Paddle](#)
- 24 [Sunset Kayak Trip](#)

August

- 1 [Nickajack Bat Cave Kayak Trip](#)
- 6 [Full Moon Paddle](#)
- 7 [Bike2Work](#)
- 8 [Greenway 5-Mile Trail Race](#)
[Missionary Ridge Road Race](#)
- 15 [Touring Kayak Clinic](#)
- 19 [Women on the Water](#)
- 22 [Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Ride](#)
✂ [Booker T. Adult and Youth Triathlons](#)
- 29 [Raccoon Mtn. 5K and 10K](#)

September

- 4 [Bike2Work](#)
- 5 [Raisin' Hope Ride](#)
- 12 [Open Arms Bike Challenge](#)
- 19 [Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Ride](#)
[TN River Gorge Overnight Kayak Trip](#)
- 26 [TN River Blueway Canoe and Kayak Race](#)
- 27 [Komen Race for the Cure](#)

October

- 2 [Bike2Work](#)
- 3 [Rock/Creek Stump Jump 50K](#)
[Sequatchie Valley Century](#)
[Tennessee River Rescue](#)
[✓Chattanooga Classic Prostate Cancer Walk](#)
- 6 [The Adoption Tour](#)
- 10 [Chattanooga Head Race](#)
[Joe Johnson Run for Mental Health 10K](#)
- 17 [Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Ride](#)
[Signal Mtn. Road Race and Pie Run](#)
- 24/25 [Dam to Dam Paddle](#)
- 29/30 [Southeastern Water Trails Forum](#)

November

- 6 [Upchuck 50K Trail Race](#)
[Chickamauga Battlefield Marathon, 1/2 Marathon & Jr. Marathon](#)
- 7/8 [Head of the Hooch Rowing Regatta](#)

December

- 12 [Wauhatchie Trail Run](#)
- 19 [Lookout 100K & 10K Trail Race](#)