

August 18, 2010

Grand Opening of Bogue Chitto State Park & Free Day in the Park Set For August 28

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Office of State Parks is pleased to confirm that Bogue Chitto State Park, located outside of Franklinton, will host its grand opening on Saturday, August 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"This event will be a great way for everyone to celebrate the opening of Bogue Chitto State Park and this wonderful addition to the Office of State Parks" says Dr. Stuart Johnson, Assistant Secretary for the Office of State Parks. "And we are excited to have the opportunity to present this park to the local community and the state."

Along with the ribbon cutting ceremony, Bogue Chitto State Park will hold a free Day in the Park to celebrate the grand opening and to invite visitors into the park for a first look at what the site has to offer. The first 500 guests will receive goodie bags and refreshments will be provided throughout the day. The on-site water playground will be available for guests to enjoy along with shuttle tours of the cabins and facilities led by park staff. Door prizes and interpretive programs will be offered by volunteers and staff.

Bogue Chitto State Park is host to 4 upland cabins and a lodge overlooking a 90-foot bluff, 81 RV camping sites, and a group camp for overnight visitors. The park also provides a visitor center, conference room, and picnic pavilions for guests to enjoy. Daytime and overnight guests have access to all these amenities along with a canoe launch into the Bogue Chitto River, fishing piers, an amphitheater, a water playground, 14 miles of equestrian trails and over 7 miles of nature trails.

Overnight accommodations will begin for campsites on Saturday, August 28 and on Monday, September 1 for the cabins, lodge and group camp. Reservations for the overnight facilities began on Monday, August 16, through the Call Center at 1-877-226-7652 or online at www.ReserveAmerica.com.

Bogue Chitto State Park is located off LA Hwy. 25 in Washington Parish, approximately 8 miles south of Franklinton. Visitors to the park will experience a diversity of natural habitats on one of the most dynamic and scenic river systems in Louisiana. The 1,786-acre site includes small streams, cypress tupelo swamps, a hardwood-forested gorge and upland forests. For more information about Bogue Chitto State Park, visit www.lastateparks.com, call 888-677-7312 toll free or 839-5707 locally.