



Ouachita National Forest

Recreation Fee Program Accomplishment Highlights 2017

Updated Swimming Spot

Several spring storm events passed through the Charlton Recreation Area that damaged the swim platform and washed the decking downstream. While forest employees were able to recover a great deal of the decking downstream, they needed recreation fee funds of \$2,000 to purchase construction materials. Using old and new materials, employees rebuilt the swim platform's frame and re-attached the decking for swimmers in time for the summer season.

The swim platform decking is made of an all-weather composite material that prevents the decking from deteriorating from exposure to water. This current decking has remained in good condition for a number of years without showing wear or deterioration of the decking surface.



Recreation Fee Dollars

Recreation fee dollars are an investment in outdoor recreation. They support and enhance:

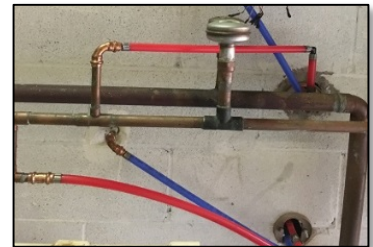
- Public safety
- Recreation site maintenance and improvements
- Educational experiences
- Informational wayside exhibits
- Youth programs and partnerships
- Interpretive programs

Current and future generations benefit as 80-95% of the funds are reinvested in the facilities and services that visitors enjoy, use, and value.



Old Pipes Out - New Pipes In

The forest identified a more cost effective and efficient manner of repairing water lines damaged by the winter's cold temperatures



at Charlton Campground. Staff used a plumbing tubing known as "PEX", which is common in plumbing construction today due to the ease of installation and flexibility of the tubing. The color coded tubing also helps to quickly identify the difference between hot and cold water sources for the facility.

Staff purchased the PEX tubing using recreation fee funds. These funds also helped make the required repairs and will aid in winterizing the structure to prevent future damage to the tubing and pipes.

New Tops and Benches

The forest replaced broken and deteriorated wooden table tops for cooking and benches on many picnic tables using recreation fee funding.

New wooden table tops and benches installed replacing the old deteriorated ones.



Other Accomplishments

- Made additional visitor contact during major holiday weekends.
- Provided additional law enforcement patrols in partnership with counties in developed sites.
- Performed maintenance in day use and campground swimming areas to remove underwater hazards and place sand on the beach areas.
- Maintained and repaired water spigots in the campground areas for visitor use.
- Increased cleaning and trash removal during heavy use periods.
- Improved recreation area signage.
- Maintained and repaired wastewater treatment plant and support fixtures at Cedar Lake Recreation Area.
- Removed hazardous trees from campground areas.



New water spigots replaced worn, damaged, and leaking versions in many campgrounds.



One of the many waterfalls that gush after a rain event .

Regional Map



Contacts

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Revenue & Expenditures

Revenue*	Forest	Region
Recreation Fees	\$239,163	\$7,790,073
Special Uses	\$6,842	\$1,704,464
Interagency Passes	\$17,060	\$528,471
Total	\$263,064	\$10,023,008
Expenditures	Forest	Region
Repair & Maintenance	\$139,318	\$4,625,554
Visitor Services	\$11,923	\$1,400,284
Law Enforcement	\$18,963	\$180,257
Habitat Restoration	\$0	\$304,256
Fee Agreements	\$0	\$55,183
Collections/Overhead	\$27,168	\$1,272,180
Total	\$197,372	\$7,837,714