



**FORSYTHCOUNTY**  
Department of Communications  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**START AN ADVENTURE IN SEPTEMBER**

*Parks and Recreation's Outdoor Division invites citizens  
to climb, hike and more*

**FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia** – September will be filled with adventure programs and nature programs hosted by Forsyth County Park and Recreation's Outdoor Division. Start an adventure in September by signing up to climb, hike and more at Sawnee Mountain Preserve (SMP).

**Adventure Programs**

**Introduction to Tree Climbing**

461520-A: Saturday, September 4; 2 to 5 p.m.; ages 8 and up\*

461520-B: Saturday, September 18; 2 to 5 p.m.; ages 8 and up\*

\*The cost is \$30 for county residents and \$35 for non-county residents.

Climbing a tree can provide fun and a great workout for the entire family. Climbers will be given instruction and guidance while climbing trees at the SMP Visitor Center. All equipment will be provided.

**Tree Top Canopy Walk**

465820-A: Saturday, September 4; 10 a.m. to noon; ages 10 and up

The cost is \$30 for county residents and \$35 for non-county residents.

Using ropes and harnesses, participants will access the suspension bridge, trolley and platforms of the canopy walk at the SMP Visitor Center.

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### **Intro Climbing – Anchor Clinic**

466760-A: Saturday, September 11; 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; ages 16 and up  
The cost is \$45 for county residents and \$54 for non-county residents.

The basics of setting anchor for ropes in a natural environment will be introduced to rock climbing and rappelling enthusiasts. The class will focus on utilizing fixed and natural anchor systems in a top-rope setting and on securing safe anchor set-ups. Minimal amounts of rock climbing and rappelling will be conducted during this class. Participants need to have basic skills in knot tying relevant to rock climbing and rappelling. Previous participation in the beginner rock climbing clinic is encouraged. Meet at the Bettis-Tribble Gap Road entrance of SMP. All gear will be provided, but participants may bring their own harness and helmet.

### **Sawnee Mountain Rock Climbing**

461109-A: Saturday, September 18; noon to 4 p.m.; ages 12 and up  
The cost is \$45 for county residents and \$54 for non-county residents.  
Registration for this class is required four (4) days prior to the class.

Learn basic climbing, belaying, knot tying and safety skills from experienced staff while climbing the outcrops on Sawnee Mountain. Climbing techniques will help climbers climb smarter and not harder. Meet at the Bettis-Tribble Gap Road entrance of SMP.

### **Beginner – Intermediate White Water Weekend**

460214-A: September 25 - 26 (Saturday and Sunday); 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; ages 13 and up  
The cost is \$180 for county residents and \$216 for non-county residents  
Registration for this class is required by September 20.

If you have taken the Intro Kayaking class and the Kayak Roll clinic and are ready to take your skills further, then spend the day with a certified instructor on a white water river and satisfy your thrill for adventure. Equipment and transportation will be provided. Meet at SMP Visitor Center.

### **Nature Programs**

#### **Family Hikes**

466920-A: Saturday, September 4; 1 to 2 p.m.; ages 12 and under must be accompanied by a paying adult  
The cost is \$6 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Join a naturalist on a guided hike along the trails of SMP. Meet at SMP Visitor Center.

#### **Preschool Explorers**

462320-A: September 8 - October 12 (Wednesdays); 10 to 11 a.m.; ages 3 to 5  
The cost is \$50 for county residents and \$60 for non-county residents.

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110 E. Main Street, Suite 210 | Cumming, Georgia 30040 | [www.forsythco.com](http://www.forsythco.com) | TV Forsyth - Comcast Channel 23

Children, along with a parent or caregiver, will enjoy a unique sharing and learning experience with stories, crafts and exploring at the SMP Visitor Center. Each week will feature a new topic.

**Home School Afternoon: Tree ID**

468320-A: Thursday, September 9; 3 to 4:30 p.m.; ages 4 and up

The cost is \$6 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

Trained naturalists will teach area home school students during this class at the SMP Visitor Center. Portions of this class will be held outdoors; please dress accordingly.

**Nature Night for Kids at SMP Visitor Center**

464520-A: Saturday, September 11; 5 to 10 p.m.; ages 6 and up

The cost is \$25 for county residents (additional siblings are \$20 each) and \$30 for non-county residents.

Children will participate in an evening of nature and science activities, eat pizza and watch a movie. Meet at SMP Visitor Center.

**Nature Tales – Grandparents/Grandchild Nature Program: Honeybees**

468220-A: Saturday, September 18; 1 to 2 p.m.; ages 3 to 5

The cost is \$6 for county residents and \$7.20 for non-county residents.

This program will be a time for children and their grandparents to learn about nature together and will feature a story, nature craft activities and a walk. All children must be accompanied by a paying adult. Meet at SMP Visitor Center.

**Teacher Naturalist Training**

460020-A: September 9 - October 7 (Thursdays); 9:30 a.m. to noon; ages 18 and up

Participate in this free training to learn the skills for teaching environmental programs at SMP. Call Carrie Toth at 770.781.2217 for additional information.

The Bettis-Tribble Gap entrance of SMP is located at 2500 Bettis-Tribble Gap Road in Cumming. The SMP Visitor Center is located at 4075 Spot Road in Cumming. Pre-registration is required for all programs. An activity registration form can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department page at [www.forsythco.com](http://www.forsythco.com). Online registration is also available. To receive additional program information, call the Outdoor Division at 770.781.2217.

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