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## **Free Day-Use - National Public Lands Day September 29, 2007**

**CLEVELAND, TN --- September 24, 2007...** – In recognition of National Public Lands Day, day-use fees will be waived at Cherokee National Forest recreation sites on Saturday, September 29, 2007. This does **not** include overnight fees at campgrounds.

Cherokee National Forest Supervisor, Tom Speaks said, "Our national forests provide healthful, outdoor recreation opportunities for millions of people each year. To encourage visitation and enjoyment of these areas, the Forest Service is offering free day-use at recreation fee sites across the Cherokee National Forest on *National Public Lands Day*. We hope visitors will enjoy their day in the Cherokee National Forest."

The Cherokee National Forest (Forest) covers 640,000 acres in ten East Tennessee counties from Chattanooga to Bristol. The Forest is divided into north and south sections by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and organized into four ranger districts. Approximately 2.8 million people visited recreation sites in the Forest last year to participate in outdoor activities such as hiking, bike riding, boating, swimming, camping, fishing and picnicking. Day-use fees are typically charged at developed boat launches, swim areas, shooting ranges and the Ocoee Whitewater Center.

For Cherokee NF recreation information contact any of the following offices: Forest Supervisor's Office: 2800 N. Ocoee St., Cleveland, TN 37312 - Phone: (423) - 476-9700; Ocoee/Hiwassee Ranger District: 3171 HWY 64 Benton, TN 37307-5823 - Phone (423) 338-3300; Tellico Ranger District: 250 Ranger Station Road, Tellico Plains, TN 37385 - Phone (423) 253-8400; Nolichucky/Unaka Ranger District: 4900 Asheville HWY SR 70, Greeneville, TN 37743 - Phone: (423) 638-4109; Watauga Ranger District: 4400 Unicoi Dr, Unicoi, TN 37692 - Phone (423) 735-1500. Forest website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/cherokee/>.

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**Day-use fees at the following recreation sites in the Cherokee National Forest will be waived September 29, 2007:**

**Ocoee/Hiwassee Ranger District**

1. Chilhowee Recreation Area Day-Use
2. Parksville Launch
3. East Parksville Launch
4. Kings Slough Launch
5. Mac Point Beach
6. Parksville Beach
7. Ocoee Whitewater Center
8. Towee Creek Launch
9. Power House Launch
10. Spring Creek Shooting Range

**Tellico Ranger District**

11. Indian Boundary Day-Use

**Nolichucky/Unaka Ranger District**

12. Bubbling Springs Shooting Range
13. Buffalo Mountain ATV Trail System
14. Rock Creek Recreation Area Day-Use

**Watauga Ranger District**

15. Jacobs Creek Recreation Area Day-Use
16. Pond Mountain Shooting Range
17. Watauga Point Recreation Area Day-Use
18. Shook Branch Launch
19. Rat Branch Launch
20. Little Milligan Launch
21. Scioto Shooting Range
22. Jacobs Creek Shooting Range