



USDA Forest Service

NOTICE

July 22, 2015

Bear Activity at Parksville Beach Area temporarily closed

The Parksville Beach day-use area in the Cherokee National Forest (Ocoee Ranger District) has been temporarily closed to public use and entry due to black bear activity in the area.

Parksville Beach is a US Forest Service day use area located in Polk County on the north side of Lake Ocoee (Parksville Lake) adjacent to US Highway 64. Access to Parksville Beach is from Hwy 64 approximately 12 miles east of Cleveland, TN.

The Forest Service and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency are working together to address the current bear activity at Parksville Beach. Public cooperation with the temporary closure of Parksville Beach is essential.

Black bears are opportunists and become habituated to areas where food and trash has been improperly discarded or stored and is easily available. Visitors are reminded to:

- **Never** approach a bear – they are wild animals
- **Never** leave food unattended
- **Do not** discard any food scraps on the ground or in streams
- **Store** food in a vehicle or other secure place when not in use
- **Clean** up and carry trash out when departing

For more information about safety around bears visit the *Outdoor Safety in the South* website at: <http://fs.usda.gov/r8> - For local national forest information call the Ocoee Ranger Station at (423) 338-3300.



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