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Boating

The park has a free launch ramp on the Mississippi River and a year-round boat ramp on 125-acre Poplar Tree Lake. Kayaks, pedal boats, paddleboards, canoes and jon boats available for rent at the boat dock from March through November. Personally owned boats are allowed on the lakes for a small launch fee; gasoline motors are allowed at no wake. Contact the park visitor center for hours and days of operation as well as information about guided canoe and pontoon boat programs.



Planned Programs

Interpretive programs are offered both in the park and off-site. Topics cover a range of historical, cultural and natural subjects from Long Hunters to the Civil War to live raptor and reptiles programs. Guided hikes, pontoon and canoe floats are offered seasonally.

Disc Golf Course

The park is home to one of the largest and most beautiful disc-golf courses in the Southeast. The 36-hole, wooded course is divided into two 18-hole courses that offer beginners and advanced players a challenging game. Visitors can find disc golf accessories at stores near the park and at the visitor center.

Camping

Open year-round, the campground has 49 wooded sites; each equipped with a picnic table, grill, and water and 20-, 30-, 50-amp electrical hook-ups. The sites can accommodate up to 40-foot RVs. A primitive campground is available to groups. Scout groups with a service project, please call the park. Reservations may be made up to a year in advance.



Bike Trails

The bike trail is a well-marked, five-mile intermediate trail with a little bit of everything: flat areas, smooth pavement, switchbacks, and some great turns. It has good elevation gain without being too steep. Most of the trail is along a paved closed road, before narrowing to drop off the Chickasaw Bluffs. While the trail is rideable with a road bike, a cross bike or mountain bike would be a better choice. We are in the process of creating a new mountain bike trail.



Gift Shop

The park's gift shop has Tennessee handicrafts, books on area history, wildlife and plant guides, T-shirts and hats.

Nearby State Parks

- T.O. Fuller State Park - 30 miles

Annual Park Events

- Spring - Natural Areas Celebration Week
- Spring - Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Summer - Deep Swamp Canoe Floats
- Summer - Guided Hikes
- Summer - Live Birds of Prey and Reptile Programs
- Summer - Sunset Pontoon Boat Cruises
- June - Kids Fishing Rodeo
- June - Junior Ranger Camps
- November - Fall Festival



Directions

From Interstate 40: take exit 2-A, turn right, go six stoplights to Watkins road (this is Highway 388), turn left and go until the road dead-ends. Turn left, go one mile to a four-way stop, Shelby Forest General Store and turn right, go one mile, turn left into the park.



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The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Department of Environment and Conservation for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 1-800-848-0298.

Hours of Operation

7:00 AM to 10:00 PM CT - Park

Please call the park for Visitor Center hours.

Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park

910 Riddick Road
Millington, TN 38053
901-876-5215 / 800-471-5293

Tennessee State Parks

William R. Snodgrass TN Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
888-867-2757

www.tnstateparks.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and Friends of the Forest assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy.



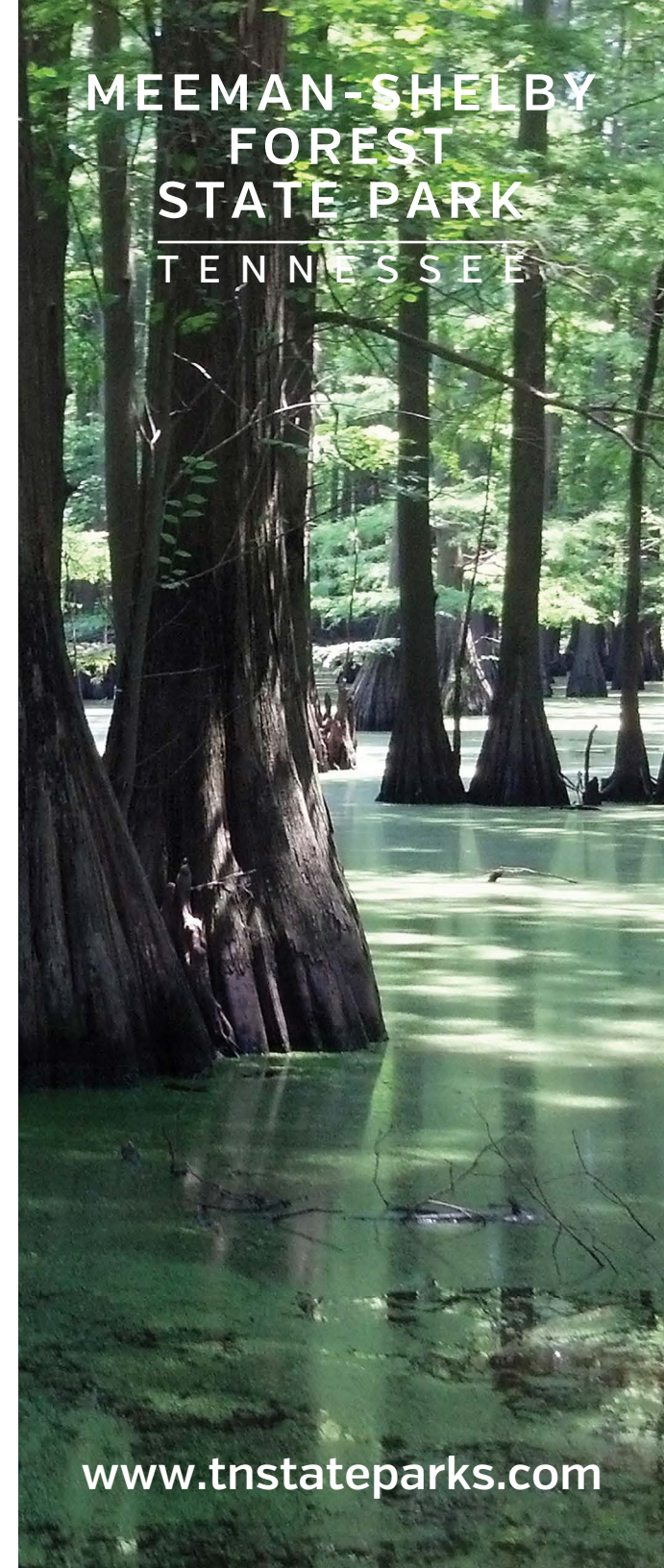
To learn more about the Friends of the Forest visit shelbyfriends.org.



T E N N E S S E E
State Parks

MEEMAN-SHELBY
FOREST
STATE PARK
TENNESSEE

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Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park is a 12,539-acre hardwood bottomland area bordering the Mississippi River 13 miles north of Memphis featuring mature Bald Cypress and Tupelo swamp. Most of the facilities are on top of the majestic Chickasaw Bluffs. There are nine state champion trees as well as endangered and protected plants. Wildlife is plentiful throughout the forest. Over 200 species of birds, including the American Bald Eagle, can be seen. The area is a favorite for bird-watchers.

Cabins

Meeman Shelby has six two-bedroom cabins situated along the shoreline of Poplar Tree Lake in a heavily wooded section of the park. The cabins are ideal for family vacations or fishing parties and sleep six people. Cabins have a fully equipped kitchen and firewood supplied during the winter months. Picnic tables and grills are located nearby for outdoor enjoyment by the lake and one cabin is pet friendly. Cabins can be reserved up to one year in advance and reservations can be made online and by calling the park.



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Group Camp

The park's group camp, located on 25-acre Piersol Lake, can accommodate up to 140 people. Available from April through October, the camp is rented by the week only during the summer months, and on weekends at other times. A deposit is required; reservations should be made well in advance.

Fishing

Year-round fishing is available on the Mississippi River and the park's two lakes, Poplar Tree Lake [125 acre] and Piersol Lake [25 acre]. Both lakes offer catches of bass, bluegill, redear sunfish and catfish. A special lake permit fee is required and a launch fee is charged for personal jon boats, canoes and kayaks. Poplar Tree Lake provides bank and boat fishing while Piersol Lake offers primarily boat fishing.

Nature Center

The nature center is open Friday-Sunday from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM CT from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend and by appointment in other seasons. Exhibits include wildlife, bird, natural history displays.

Meeting Rooms

The park has an 800 sq. ft. meeting room with tables and chairs to seat 50. It is available year-round. Reservations need to be made in advance.

Horseback Riding

The eight mile horse trail, open to horses and hikers, meanders along a bluff with the largest loop overlooking Poplar Tree Lake. Visitors must bring their own horse. The horse trail closes for inclement weather and wet conditions. Please call 901-876-5215 to see if the trail is open. Trail and topography maps are available at the visitors center.

Hiking

Meeman-Shelby Forest offers more than 20 miles of trails that wind throughout the park. Trails range from moderate to very rugged and some are multi-use. Trail and topography maps are available at the visitors center.



Picnic Shelters and Playgrounds

Scattered throughout the park are 100 picnic tables and grills. Each is conveniently located near restrooms, water fountains and playgrounds. Several picnic pavilions and an air-conditioned building that can accommodate 100 people are available for rent from April to October.

