

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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## News Release

October 10, 2012

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### **Oliver Lee Memorial State Park Hosts Open House October 13, 2012**

ALAMOGORDO, NM – Oliver Lee Memorial State Park announces that it is holding an Open House on October 13, 2012, with events beginning at 10:00 a.m. The public is invited to come enjoy a quiet green oasis of cottonwoods, ash trees and maidenhair fern in the Chihuahuan Desert. Experience the beauty and history of Dog Canyon and discover the natural, cultural and historical resources of Oliver Lee Memorial State Park. Day-use fees are waived for this event.

“Whatever your interests are; there is something for you at our annual Open House,” said Wendy Justice, Park Manager. “This year you can attend a nature walk, tour an historic building and enjoy a night viewing of the stars.”

The program schedule is as follows:

#### **10:00-11:30 a.m. - It's the Water Trail Walk: Meet at Visitor Center**

While walking the Riparian Nature Trail, enjoy the scenic beauty and learn about the water resource at Dog Canyon. Discover the diversity of plants and animals that rely on the Dog Canyon stream. The water at Dog Canyon has enabled people to live here for 10,000 years. Learn how native cultures and early settlers used the canyon's resources.

#### **1:00-4:00 p.m. - Oliver Lee Ranch Open House: Lee Ranch House**

The Oliver Lee Ranch House will be open for extended hours. The ranger staff will be available to facilitate your self-guided tour. The Lee Ranch House was originally built in 1893. Today, the reconstructed home of the Lee family houses period furnishings and displays that provide a window into the history of early ranching in the Tularosa Basin.

#### **7:30-9:00 p.m. - The Milky Way: Meet at Group Shelter**

The Amateur Astronomers Group will sponsor an evening under the stars. Ever wonder why our galaxy is called the Milky Way? Come learn some fun facts and stories about the Milky Way. This bright band of stars stretches from Sagittarius in the southwest to Perseus in the northeast but only represents about one half of our galaxy.

[Oliver Lee Memorial State Park](#) is located eight miles south of Alamogordo on US Hwy 54 and four miles east on Dog Canyon Road. For more information contact Charles Wood at 575-437-8284.

For more information throughout the year call 1-888-NMPARKS or visit the State Parks Division's website at [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com).



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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*

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