

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Enjoy National Kids to Parks Day at a New Mexico State Park

Santa Fe, NM – Celebrate National Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 18, 2013 at a New Mexico State Park! For the third consecutive year, the National Park Trust and organizations such as America’s State Parks, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children & Nature Network, the National Wildlife Federation, and the U.S. Department of the Interior are coming together to celebrate the great outdoors.

Several New Mexico State Parks will have a series of kid-friendly programs and events on May 18th. “We hope that families will get their kids out to learn and have fun in a State Park,” said Director Tommy Mutz. “This will be the kick-off to a great season of family events at parks statewide.”

The following is a schedule of events for May 18:

Cerrillos Hills State Park – 2:00 PM-4:00 PM

“BATS!” Join guest presenter, Justin Stevenson, and learn about bats, their role in the environment and how they are more closely related to humans than the mice they resemble. Contact (505) 474-0195.

Heron Lake State Park – 8:00 AM–5:00 PM

“Boating Safety Education Course” – Kids are encouraged to take the boating safety education course provided by New Mexico State Parks Division. All motorboat, personal watercraft and sailboat operators born on or after January 1, 1989 must complete such a course to operate on New Mexico waters. Kids can learn from experienced officers how to safely boat. Contact (575) 588-7470.

Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park – 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

“Endangered Species Day” - Learn about the three Chihuahuan Desert endangered species exhibited at the park: Mexican Gray wolves, Bolson Tortoises, and Thick-billed Parrots. Free children's activities in the Visitor Center. Contact (575) 887-5516.

Pancho Villa State Park – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

“Columbus Historic Sites Walk” – Bring your kids to historic Pancho Villa State Park for a guided tour through the historic sites at Pancho Villa State Park and the village of Columbus. Learn about this park’s unique history in the Pancho Villa exhibit hall. Contact (575) 531-2711.

Rockhound State Park – 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

“Music in the Park” – After a tour of Pancho Villa, bring the family to Rockhound State Park to enjoy “The Enchanting Cowboy,” Mike Moutox, who will deliver cowboy poetry and country music. Contact (575) 546-6182.

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Conditions are Right for Adventure at Your New Mexico State Parks!



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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