

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Celebrate *Bubblefest* at Bottomless Lakes State Park

Roswell, NM – Bottomless Lakes State Park is the best way to dive into this Labor Day weekend during the annual *Bubblefest* from August 31-September 2. The event features fun and educational activities for divers and spectators.

“The Bottomless *Bubblefest* attracts scuba club divers from throughout New Mexico and other states because it is an unusual way to test one’s scuba skills while having fun,” said Park Superintendent, Joe Kasuboski.

One of the most popular events is underwater dive poker! Dive poker involves tossing two decks of weighted cards into Lea Lake and divers compete for the best hand. No more than five cards can be held at a time, and divers may discard one of their cards in exchange for a new card, similar to traditional poker. Prizes will be awarded on Sunday for the winning hand.

Bottomless Lakes also offers a variety of fun activities for everyone, and visitors can swim or rent paddleboards and pedal boats to explore Lea Lake. A ranger-led presentation on the flora and fauna of Lea Lake will also be available at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 1, during the park’s weekly “Enchanted Evenings” series.

Bottomless Lakes State Park is a popular scuba diving destination, known for its greenish-blue color that creates the illusion that the lakes are bottomless when in fact they range in depth from 17 feet to 90 feet. The “Mecca” is a large group of springs located 30 feet to 40 feet below the surface of the lakes, producing over 9 million gallons of water a day. Divers may have a chance of spotting the endangered fish species such as the Pecos Pupfish and Mexican Tetra, among others.

To get to Bottomless Lakes State Park from Roswell, head east on US 380 for 12 miles and then south on NM 409 for three miles. For more information, contact Bottomless Lakes State Park at (505) 624-6058, call (888) NMPARKS or log onto 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.