

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Halloween Activities at New Mexico State Parks

Santa Fe, NM – Sugarite Canyon and Heron Lake State Parks are hosting fun Halloween events on **Saturday, October 25, 2014**. Bring the family to one of these spooky programs!

Sugarite Canyon State Park

Little trick-or-treaters can learn about not-so-scary wild creatures at the fun and educational *Halloween Trail* at Sugarite Canyon State Park near Raton, NM, from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

“People want exciting and safe Halloween events for their kids,” said Pat Walsh, regional interpretive ranger for State Parks. “This is a great opportunity for families to have some Halloween fun while the kids find out more about wildlife.”

Space is limited and advance registration is required for this event. Families interested in participating can register by calling the park at 505-445-5607.

The program is designed for families with children ages 4-10, yet all are welcome. Guides will lead groups on a short trail around the Sugarite Visitor Center to meet talking characters such as Black Bear, Cougar, Spider and Weed Witch.

The Halloween Trail – adapted from an event at Lookout Mountain Nature Center in Golden, CO – helps kids learn how to be safe around wild animals. Also, a character unique to Sugarite, the Ghost Miner, explains why it is important to leave Sugarite Coal Camp artifacts where they lay. Participants receive simple take-home activities and finish the program with apple cider and popcorn.

Regular park fees apply. In addition, to help cover event expenses, donations are welcome and can be made to the Friends of Sugarite Canyon.

Heron Lake State Park

The Halloween Haunted Hayride at Heron Lake State Park near Chama, NM is from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Group Shelter. Local Friends of Heron/El Vado, along with the park, have a great evening planned for all ages. The fun includes educational exhibits, food, fun and games, and the scariest haunted hayride around!

According to Park Ranger Specialist Robert Smith, nearly 300 people enjoyed last year's Halloween Haunted Hayride. "This annual, family-friendly event is catching on," he said. "Everyone has a great time and we look forward to the community participating this year."

Regular park fees apply. Additional donations are welcome and can be made to the Friends of Heron Lake.

For more information about State Parks visit www.nmparks.com or call toll free at 1-888-NMPARKS.

Conditions are Right for Adventure at New Mexico State Parks!

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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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