

War Eagle



APPRECIATION DAY

4th Annual War Eagle Appreciation Day set for May 15

For Immediate Release: March 31, 2010

The 4th Annual War Eagle Appreciation Day will be held Saturday, May 15th, at Withrow Springs State Park, located about five miles north of Huntsville off of Highway 23, and on the Huntsville Square. This year's event will coincide with the newly created Crossroads of the Ozarks Festival, a crafts fair and music event that will take place on the Huntsville Square from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the same day.

"We are gearing up for another successful event this year," said David Pemberton, Executive Director of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, a sponsor of War Eagle Appreciation Day. "War Eagle Appreciation Day is all about bringing the community together to recognize the benefits we reap from having War Eagle Creek in our area. Our forbears relied on the creek to fuel the economy. Today, our creek continues to play a part since it provides not only recreational opportunities, but it also eventually flows to Beaver Lake, which is our drinking water source. It makes good sense to value the creek and be mindful of its contribution to our quality of life in this area."

War Eagle is a sub-watershed of Beaver Lake Watershed. A watershed is an area of land that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common receiving body or outlet, which in this case is Beaver Lake, the primary source of drinking water for most of Northwest Arkansas. The purpose of the event is to draw attention to the rich history of War Eagle and the many benefits that War Eagle Creek brings to Madison County and Northwest Arkansans.

Headquarters for War Eagle Appreciation Day is Crossbow Pavilion at the park from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the Huntsville Chamber office on the square from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Activities include a family friendly educational float on the War Eagle, with canoes launching from 9 to 11 a.m. A paddling demonstration for beginners will be held from 9:30-10 a.m. The 5-mile float will begin at the Hwy. 412 bridge (across from Ma and Pa's Bent & Dent) and end at Withrow Springs State Park. Shuttle service for canoeists will be available from 8:30-10:30 a.m. The public is invited to visit educational booths from 9-11 a.m. at Crossbow Pavilion and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Huntsville Chamber offices on the square and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Crossroads

of the Ozarks Festival on the square. Educational exhibits will focus on water quality, history of the area, environmental issues, agriculture, and safety. The first annual Crossroads of the Ozarks Festival, sponsored by Huntsville C.A.R.E.S., will be taking place on the square from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be live music and arts and craft booths. The War Eagle Steward Award – recognizing individuals and businesses for positive stewardship efforts benefiting War Eagle Creek and the surrounding area -- will be presented in the afternoon. To make a nomination, contact the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce.

Event partners include the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, Huntsville C.A.R.E.S., Arvest Bank, Ozark Natural Science Center, Arkansas State Parks (Withrow Springs State Park, Hobbs State Park), U.S. Geological Survey, Madison County Search and Rescue, Madison County Solid Waste and Recycling, Madison County Record, Kiwanis Club, Madison Coffee House, Walmart, Ma and Pa's Bent & Dent, Audubon Arkansas, Huntsville Masonic Lodge, and Beaver Water District.

For additional information about War Eagle Appreciation Day, contact the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce at 479-738-6000. To sign up for the float and/or the paddling demonstration, and to reserve a campsite, contact Withrow Springs State Park at 479-559-2593. Or visit www.wareagleriver.org for more information. For information about the Crossroads of the Ozarks Festival, visit www.huntsvillecares.com.