



Contact:

Beth Hooper

FIND Outdoors

828-883-FIND x228

beth@gofindoutdoors.org

For Immediate Release

November, 2020

FIND Outdoors Now Offers Camping at Lake Russell Through Winter

Mount Airy, GA – FIND Outdoors, a 48-year-old nonprofit based in Pisgah Forest NC and operator of Lake Russell Recreation Area, is pleased to announce the extension of the camping season for Lake Russell through the winter.

The decision to extend the season was a coordinated effort by FIND Outdoors and the Chattahoochee Oconee National Forest in Mount Airy, Georgia. FIND Outdoors Chief Operating Officer Beth Hooper said of the decision, “The campground is a staple in the region and we have received feedback from the public that there is a need for more recreational opportunities during the winter months. We are grateful to the Forest Service for partnering with us to make it happen.”

FIND Outdoors’ mission of education and recreation on public lands dates back to the 1970’s, when the Forest Service began offering small nonprofits the opportunity to bid on their campgrounds as a source of revenue. Over four decades later, FIND now operates over 20 campgrounds, visitor centers and recreation areas in three states, all of which use outdoor, experiential education as a way to tie the sites back to FIND’s mission.

Beginning immediately, the following amenities will be offered for campers at Lake Russell:

- Loop B will be kept open through the winter with one heated bathhouse available.
- Same number of sites available through www.recreation.gov.
- Onsite FIND Outdoors Campground Managers to assist campers as needed.
- Boat launch will remain open.
- Nancytown Day Use Area will be open from 8:00 – 5:00pm daily.

As you’re planning your camping excursion with us this season, FIND asks that you keep in mind that staff will be very limited at Lake Russell until spring. Therefore the campground day use, beach area and pavilions will remain closed to the public until the full campground opens in April.



Hooper concluded, "Winter camping is a great way to extend the season, avoid the large crowds and discover the outdoors in a whole different way. We hope you FIND your way to Lake Russell Campground this winter!"

To learn more about Lake Russell and all of FIND's managed sites and programs, please visit www.gofindoutdoors.org. To make a reservation at Lake Russell this winter, visit www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.

About FIND Outdoors

FIND Outdoors, formerly Cradle of Forestry in America Interpretive Association, is a 48-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit with headquarters in Pisgah Forest, NC at the entrance to Pisgah National Forest. FIND's mission promotes educational, recreational and interpretive opportunities about forest and water resources, natural history, and the Cradle of Forestry in America. FIND Outdoors serves approximately 850,000 visitors each year with over 150 educational and recreational programs, special events, and tours, and manages 21 recreation, education and camping facilities in North Carolina, Georgia and Indiana; offers to the public environmental education programs and forest-related gifts, educational books and other resources; and provides partnership opportunities for the health, safety and education of all forest users on local and regional public and private lands.

