

First Day Hike Activities - James River Walk & Jones-Stewart Mansion Tours

Date: 01/01/2018
Time: 10:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.
Location: Visitor Center/Jones-Stewart Historic Area
Description: First Day Hike is a nationwide event featuring tons of hiking programs aimed at kicking off 2018 in the serenity of nature. Chippokes has some programs to jumpstart your new year's resolutions:

10 to 11 a.m.- Waterfowl Prowl - this 1 mile hike will take visitors on a journey to our shores in search of our visiting feathered friends. The hike will start at the visitor center and follow our paved "College Run" trail down to the beach where we will search for the birds. There is one hill that can be a challenge, but as the trail is paved, strollers and wheelchairs will have access.

1 to 2:30 p.m. - James River Walk - The hike will be about 3 miles round trip long grassy, sandy, and hilly terrain. Meet at the Jones-Stewart Mansion Parking Lot. Due to the terrain, the hike is not accessible to strollers and wheelchairs.

Noon to 4 p.m. - Jones-Stewart Mansion Tours - Warm up inside the mansion and take a tour before, during, or after the James River Walk. The last tour begins at 3:15 p.m. The tour will include a short walk through the first floor, then up the staircase and through the second floor. Meet on the back porch of the mansion.

No parking fee. Participate in the New Year Challenge and First Day Hikes Photo Contest. Details here: <http://bit.ly/vspfdh2018> .
Extra Event Fee: No
Children Allowed: Yes

Eagle Walk

Date: 01/06/2018
Time: 10:00 a.m. To 11:00 a.m.
Location: Meet in front of Visitor Center
Description: Majestically soaring through the sky, the bald eagle is a symbol of power and strength. However, this hasn't always been the case. Bring your favorite binoculars as we take a short hike to discover more about these beautiful creatures and their recovery from the brink of extinction. Along the way we'll view and discuss other large birds that live near the river that can often be confused with the eagle.

The park can provide binoculars for guests to borrow, but supplies are limited.
Extra Event Fee: No
Children Allowed: Yes

River House Tour

Date: 01/06/2018
Time: 1:00 p.m. To 1:30 p.m.
Location: Farm and Forestry Museum Parking Lot
Description: Take a peek inside this mesmerizing structure. The program will guide visitors through the rooms inside the River House, and will focus on how the dwelling fit into the property's history. Participants will discover how the things left behind in the River House reveal details about the people who inhabited it.

Extra Event Fee: No
Children Allowed: Yes

Jones-Stewart Mansion Tours

Date: 01/06-07/2018
Time: 2:00 p.m. To 3:30 p.m.
Location: Meet on the Back Porch of the Jones-Stewart Mansion
Description: The Jones-Stewart Mansion is a stunning example of an antebellum plantation house, built in 1854. The home offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of the Jones and Stewart families. Enjoy the antique furniture, books, light fixtures, and domestic wares that are on display. Allow 30-40 minutes per tour. If a Tour in Progress sign is posted, enjoy the porches, formal garden, and Brick Kitchen while you wait for the next tour. The last tour starts promptly at 3:30 p.m. Visitors who wish to tour the mansion when it is closed can call 757-294-3439 to schedule a private tour. Please schedule private tours a month before the date that you want the tour.

Extra Event Fee: No
Children Allowed: Yes