

**CEDAR LAKE FAMILY CAR CAMPING AND KERR ARBORITUM AND
BEECH CREEK HIKES NOVEMBER 7-8, 2009** (as of 10/9/2009)

Description:

Let's enjoy the fall colors at Cedar Lake, OK with a family car camping outing. This will be an EASY outing --perfect for both adults and Sierra Cubs. The adults will hike the Beech Creek Trail for 3 to 4 leisurely miles and at the same time those who choose can join the children (Sierra Cubs) for a one mile hike the Kerr Arboretum. This entire area is just off the Talimena Trail. <http://www.outdoorsok.com/General/Map/Cedar>

Dates:

Saturday, **November 7** and Sunday, **November 8**, 2009. The official beginning will be at noon on Saturday at Group Camp Site # 1 at Cedar Lake, OK. We will caravan to the Kerr Arboretum and then on to the Beech Creek trail leisurely hike before returning for an evening of family camping fun around the campfire. The official end of the trip will be about 11 AM Sunday as we break camp. Also, it is customary when having a Sierra outing in SE OK, to stop at Pete's in Krebs for a group Italian meal in route home. Many of us will travel Friday to the camp site, and all are welcome to camp together Friday night before the official trip/hike begins on Saturday....**Please** let the leader know if you plan to travel to the campground Friday evening

Leaders:

Richard Coker -- richard5823@sbcglobal.net 405 478 1351 625-7087©

Doug Hill -- isawwood925@aol.com 405 476 7222

Jennifer Booker -- jenniferbooker@sierracubs.com 405 823 1266

Number of Participants:

The group campsite can handle 25.

Difficulty: Easy

Suitable for beginners. Specifically, the Beech Creek Trail sometimes follows at the creek edge or in the fertile ground a few hundred feet away. It is a fairly easy hike from the east end of Forest Road K68A to the "Cascades" with small waterfalls and pools. It is/was a well defined trail that has some ups and downs as well as some level areas.

http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/ouachita/maps/documents/TR-32_Beech_Creek_Trail_001.pdf

<http://www.outdoorsok.com/Oklahoma/Cedar>

Saturday November 7 Transportation

We will be meeting at 7:15 am at the Gold Dome (NW 23rd & Western) and be departing no later than 7:30 am. This early departure is necessary because the estimated travel time is 4 hrs Meet at Gold Dome (NW 23rd & Western), departure no later that 7:30 am. Everyone is responsible for their own transportation. As always the Sierra Club encourages carpooling ; but, it is not mandatory. If carpooling, please be prepared to share travel expenses. The Sierra Club suggests that each passenger reimburse the driver \$.10 a mile for gas and wear and tear on the vehicle. (The distance is about 200 miles each way, so about 400 xs \$.10 is \$40 roundtrip.) People not planning to caravan Saturday morning must contact one of the trip leaders to make arrangement to meet at the trail head. **NOTE: If the weather if “iffy”, check <http://oklahoma.sierraclub.org/cimarron/> or call one of the leaders.**

Getting to the Cedar Lake Recreational Area:.

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?1c=Oklahoma+City&1s=OK&1a=NW+23rd+St+%26+N+Western+Ave&1z=73106&1y=US&1l=35.49325&1g=-97.52991&1v=INTERSECTION&2c=Cedar+Lake+Recreation+Site&2s=OK&2y=US&2l=34.779999&2g=-94.676666&2v=CITY>

Directions to Beech Creek Trail System:

Take I-40 east to Exit 308 for US-59 toward Sallisaw/Poteau.
Keep right at the fork, follow signs to Poteau and merge onto S. Kerr Blvd/US 59
Continue to follow US-59 apx 14.8 miles.
Turn left at OK-9 E / US-59 S continues apx. 5.5 miles,
Turn right at US-271 S / US-59 S continues apx. 10.6 miles
Take the US-59-Bypass S ramp. .3 miles
Merge onto US-59 S continue apx. 11.1 miles
Turn left on to US-59 continue apx. 2.6 miles
Turn right to stay on US-59
Turn left onto US-59 / W. 1st St continue apx 2.1 miles
Stay straight to go on to US-59 continue apx 1.6 miles
US-59 becomes US-270 / US 59 continue apx 12.1 miles
Turn **RIGHT** onto **COUNTY ROAD D1540 (Holson Valley Rd)** continue apx. 1.7 miles
Turn **LEFT** onto **A53B** continue apx. .8 mile
Welcome to **CEDAR LAKE RECREATION SITE, OK**
Look for sign leading you to Group Camp site 1.

Bring snacks for the car trip and lunch for the trail. The only stops we will make in route will be restrooms stops that you may possibly grab snacks at, but the plan is to eat lunch in the car or on the trail . A group camp has been reserved and will accommodate up to 25 people. We will provide hot dogs, buns and chili, if you would like to bring a side dish to share or if you prefer to prepare your own meal feel free to. There is a fire pit and currently no fire bans in place for roasting hot dogs. Bring a hot dog roasting stick and firewood if you can. Please inform the leader of any special dietary needs. The fee for the reserved campsite will be split between those that are camping. Total fee for the group site was \$34.

http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/ouachita/maps/documents/RA-06CedarLakeRecArea_001.pdf

Sunday , November Day 9:

Breakfast on your own, followed by a hike along the Cedar Lake trail which is a 3 mile loop. The official end of the trip will be at 11:00 am . On your return trip we will caravan along the Talemnia Trail west and rendezvous at Pete's at Krebs for lunch together. Other options for your return could include a short stop at the Heavener Runestone State Park or Robbers Cave.

Fees and Costs:

Suggested contribution of \$10 for Sierra Newsletter. Group camp site fee of \$34 for Saturday and \$25 for Friday night (total \$59) will be shared between those camping.

Equipment:

- Lightweight, pack able jacket
 - Tent & bedroll
 - Dependable hiking boots / walking shoes
 - Flashlight
 - Raingear and a Hat
 - Sunscreen
 - Sunglasses
 - Warm clothing for the evening
 - Water container
 - Orange clothing (optional, but it is hunting season)
 - Any other "car camping" you might want e.g. camp chair
- : This time of year it is hard to predict weather patterns. It is recommended that each person bring proper clothing for this activity.

Liability Waiver: Every participant will be required to execute a waiver of liability Before beginning the outing. The leader will have forms available at the trailhead.

Emergency Contact: Ouachita National Forest (501) 321-5202