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# GEORGIA PARK VIEWS

March

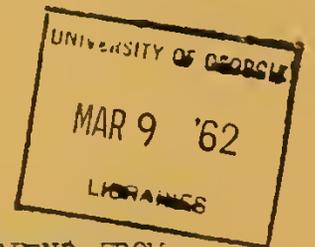
Vol. I

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No. 4



"NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK" MARCH 20-26



"I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY TO DEFEND FROM WASTE THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY—ITS SOIL AND MINERALS, ITS FORESTS, WATER AND WILDLIFE."

# CO-OPERATION



A GOOD SUPERVISOR—is always prepared for any eventuality on his job. With him, ounce of performance is worth a ton of promises, and one of the main yardsticks of his

performance is his ability to PLAN HIS WORK. It is to be understood of course that he knows his business but that is not the main thing. Planning the work and then leading and inspiring his men or women to carry the plan through to successful completion is what is important. Therefore, PLAN YOUR WORK—WORK YOUR PLAN.

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Benjamin Franklin once said, "I early found that when I worked for myself alone, myself alone worked for me, but when I worked for others also, others worked for me."



"SUGGESTION BOX"

Suggestion of the month comes from Wyatt Clark of Red Top Park. He would like to see all permanent employees of the Department have an identification card showing their title and the length of service with the State Park Dept. Thanks Mr. Clark for your thought and interest.

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AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION

The Georgia District of the American Camping Association will meet at Hard Labor Creek Park, March 31 through April 3, 1960.

Registration for Campcraft course will begin at 2 o'clock, Thursday, March 31. The regular meeting will begin Friday, April 1. Health problems, day camping, outdoor education, and many other useful sessions will be held. All group camp Superintendents should make their plans to attend this meeting.

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK - March 20-26

National Wildlife Week which coincides with spring is an appropriate time to consider our national resources. The slogan of Wildlife Week will be "Water-Key to Your Survival." The importance of water is apparent. It must be used intelligently and wisely for the greatest public benefit. This involves careful planning and consideration for all uses, including the intangible of recreation.

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"Any man may make a mistake, but none but a fool will continue in it"

Cicero

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"REMEMBER TO SEND US NEWS FOR PARK VIEWS"

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FREE PUBLICATION

You may obtain a free publication "More Wildlife through Soil and Water Conservation" by writing to your local Soil Conservation Service technician or C. W. Chapman, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, P. O. Box 832, Athens, Ga.

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TENT, STATION WAGON AND TRAILER CAMPING

Beginning March 1, 1960, there will be a small charge for camping permits, and this must be obtained from the Superintendent. The fee is 25¢ per night or \$1 per week for groups under four. For groups over four - 30¢ per night or \$1.25 per week. This fee will apply to all groups except organized national youth groups, such as Scouts, Campfire Girls, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., etc. These groups must have their adult leader to fill out a Pioneer Camping Permit, the camp leader keeping one copy and the park superintendent keeping the other.

The camping permit which will be used by the regular family vacation camping people, will be the same as the new receipt which you received several days ago.

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STATE PARKS

"Some State Parks enable you to look back; some give you a look at the present. One can always look ahead in them as their wonders unfold with the seasons, and they grow better as years pass.

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"No man ever became great or good except through many and great mistakes Gladstone

"So many worlds, so much to do, so little done, such things to be." Tennyson

COMPETITION FOR LAND

Long range predictions - In the next ninety years our population is expected to reach a total of over 400,000,000. National parks and forests alone will increase in visitor days recorded from 1955 - 35,500,000 to 450,000,000 in 2050. These figures indicate the needs and work to be done by recreation and park people.

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SWAMP PROJECT AND WARE PINE FESTIVAL

This festival is set for April 19. The program includes dedication of the swamp project at a site near the Okefenokee Swamp Park. From there the group will go to Laura S. Walker Park. The festival at Laura Walker will include a beauty queen contest to select Miss Pine Queen, a speech by Rep. Blich, a free barbecue, presentation of tree awards and general festivities.

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RECREATION USER

Sportsmen, hikers, mountaineers, fishermen and hunters seek:

1. A variety of natural, exciting, and inaccessible landscapes.
2. Opportunities to be in direct physical contact with the natural environment.
3. Opportunities to challenge their skills, daring and ability to survive under the primitive conditions.
4. Natural areas extensive enough to allow several days of hiking without much civilization.

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NEWS FROM G.R.S.

Mr. Clayton Deavers resigned as president of the Georgia Recreation Society Inc. Mr. Bud Stone of Commerce, Georgia has been named President. Miss Rebecca Hollingworth is membership chairman. Your dues are to be sent to her at 601 City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia. April 18-19-20 are the dates for the Southeastern Recreation Executives Conference.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN MARCH

- 1-4 Southeastern Sports & Boat Sho
- 4-6 Boat Show in Columbus
- 7-8 Boy Scout Exposition
- 9-11-12 Tour of Homes and Gardens Brunswick area.
- 10-13 Savannah Boat Show
- 13 Tour of Homes in Waycross
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 26 Tour of Homes and Gardens, Bainbridge, Ga.
- 26-27 Tour of Homes and Gardens, Columbus, Ga.
- 27 Tour of Homes and Gardens, Thomasville, Ga.
- 31-Apr.3 Georgia Camping Conference, Hard Labor Creek

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Work has started on the extension of the concession at Crooked River Park.

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Senator Dick Russell visited Jeff Davis Park a few months ago.

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"Nature is the living, visible garment of God" - Goethe

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## COMMON SENSE IN GAME MANAGEMENT

The science of game management is a comparatively new one, but the basic laws which govern it are as old as life and deceptively simple. They boil down to this: amount of wildlife equals reproduction minus loss to the environment.

The management of wildlife resources deals with two major problems; one is the production or growing of wildlife, the other is the rationing and use of the surplus of each annual crop.

Our success with the second problem depends on how well we understand the first one. If we know how much wildlife is produced, we can tell how much to use. If we know how to increase wildlife, we shall be able to use more.

Production of wildlife is governed by natural laws as distinguished from the man-made laws which govern the use or taking of wildlife. Natural laws are fixed and unchangeable and are enforced by such basic facts as birth and death and the need of all living things for water, food and shelter. We cannot remake natural laws to suit ourselves; all we can do is to understand them and work with them. To work against them brings certain failure.

Understanding the laws of nature requires study and thinking. To hunters and fishermen and others interested in wild creatures, it is easy and pleasant study, as simple and logical as everyday arithmetic. As in arithmetic we can start with something we know and go on from there. The first thing we know is that we did not produce wildlife. It is here naturally. We did not produce or make it. The next fact is that wildlife, like all living things, requires food water and shelter in order to live.

Only the wild creatures that find enough of the right kind of food water and cover will live. The rest starve or die because they cannot

raise enough young to replace their losses. These natural laws are the basis for one of the most important principles of wildlife management. The principle is called "carrying capacity".

This carrying capacity is simply the amount of wildlife which any piece of land can support or "carry" at one time. The amount and quality of the food, cover and water which determine carrying capacity are, in turn, determined by (1) the kind of soil and its fertility, and (2) the way the land is used.

Fertility is the richness of the soil--the kinds and amounts of food elements, such as iron and calcium nitrogen, contained in the soil in forms that can be used, first by plants and, in turn, by animals. If there isn't enough lime or phosphorous in the soil to grow bones and teeth and to make good blood, the wild animals that live there will be few and unhealthy.

The same is true of domestic animals. If there aren't enough vitamins forthcoming from the soil, the animals will be diseased and will fail to bring forth healthy young.

The best land use is that which produces the greatest benefit for the people while conserving the soil. Some land may be used chiefly for grain while other land, which cannot be cultivated without erosion, must be kept in pasture or meadow.

Still other land, unsuited either for cultivation or grazing, will grow valuable timber. Wildlife, and the food, fur and recreation it yields, may be a valuable by-product.

We have made many mistakes in land use. We have overcropped our fields, overgrazed our pastures, overcut our timber, wasted our soil, silted our streams, destroyed the homes of wildlife.

Fortunately, soil fertility can be built up or conserved, and land use can be

changed for a better balance with nature. Doing this is profitable to the farmer and beneficial to his domestic stock, it helps wildlife by increasing the carrying capacity of the land. Therefore, carrying capacity for wildlife can be increased by the same methods by which the farmer improves his land and crops.

Good wildlife management must be based on good land use.

By W. O. Nagel  
Missouri Game Commission

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### KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL

Psychology is a big and impressive word that causes many people to merely shrug or sneer. But there is one park superintendent who has used psychology effectively in his drive to keep his park--and America--beautiful.

R. G. Baylor, Superintendent of Gold Head Branch State Park at Keystone Heights, Florida, reports wonderful progress in his anti-litter campaign. But Mr. Baylor points out that you can't beat litter simply by remonstrating with people and handing them a bag.

Mr. Baylor was the pioneer in his area with the "bag idea". He calls this, however, "a psychological gimmick that does not work simply by itself." In other words, handing a person a litter bag does not mean he will use it.

"First of all," he says, "the area has to be clean, then the bag says 'This area is clean, won't you help keep it so?' This wording, he says, would be resented by visitors if expressed verbally.

"We started out two years ago with a large hat bag and folded it twice. But once we educated our patrons (smaller bags) now do it all as well."

"This gimmick is useless and a waste of money--and increases litter, too--unless the area is kept free of trash," he wa

It must be a heartening thing to visit Gold Head Branch State Park, as from three to five thousand people do each Sunday. For despite its many facilities and ten miles of road shoulders that a natural litter collectors, Mr. Baylor assures that after a busy day you could put all the litter you find on the Park roadsides in a "Cotton Bull Durham tobacco sack. Honestly!"

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### MAGNOLIA SPRING

Magnolia spring, located in Jenkins County on U. S. Highway 25, is 15 miles south of Waynesboro and 6 miles north of Mill. It contains one of the State's most famous springs, which flows at the rate of 9 million gallons daily.

Magnolia Spring is the site of Camp Lawton, Confederate Prison. The camp was in operation from October to December 1864. It was a gigantic structure covering 42 acres. It was built to confine the thousands of diseased prisoners-of-war to be transferred from the Confederate prison at Andersonville. The site was chosen because of the abundance of clear proximity to the railroad at Lawtonville, about one mile east of the camp.

Although completed in October 1864 and built to confine 40,000 men, only 10,200 were transferred from Andersonville before the camp was abandoned in the wake of Shermans march to the sea.

Although Magnolia Spring is in Jenkins County today, during the Confederacy it was in Burke County. Jenking County was created from portions of Burke and Screven counties, and the site of Magnolia was transferred into the new county of Jenkins.

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GEORGIA BIRDS

Did you know that the Blue Jay's real name is - Cyanocitta Cristata Cristata.

Bird that was formerly a fairly common summer resident in the coastal plain as far north as Augusta. First seen in Georgia in late April and early May until early September. The Mississippi Kite has subdued colors, pale gray beneath, darker above, swift and graceful in the air.

Do you know when you see an Eastern Yellow-throated Warbler? A summer resident in the mountains and foothills of Georgia. Handsome bird. Slate-gray back and bright yellow throat and breast. Male has a loud ringing song, frequently sings for minutes at a time from one spot.

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To enjoy garden work, put on a wide hat and gloves, hold a little trowel in one hand, and tell the man where to dig.

\* \* \* \* \*

And one guy who always goes to the top is a barber.

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Mr. J. M. Crawford, Cloudland Canyon Park is back from the hospital. Glad to hear this good news, hope you are feeling better.

Mrs. Ranze Harper, Jeff Davis, fell and broke her ankle on the first of this month, and is still confined to the bed. Certainly sorry about this accident and we wish you a speedy recovery.

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DOTS AND DASHES

Red Top Mountain - New picnic area completed and grading for 11 new picnic tables has been started.

Walasiyl Inn - Mr. J. W. Searcy will be in charge of the Walasiyl Inn during the 1960 season.

George W. Carver - Living quarters for Park Superintendent has been completed.

Hard Labor Creek - Group Camps, staining of buildings and repairs has been completed.

Seminole - Parking area has been graded and work has begun on clearing the waterfront.

Fort King and Chatuge - Picnic tables will be put in these two park areas before the 1960 season.

A. H. Stephens - Finished redecking swimming dock, relocated playground equipment and all park directional signs have been painted.

Magnolia Springs - Work on the lake has been held up due to bad weather. Work is progressing on picnic shed.

Reidsville - A resolution passed in the 1960 session of the General Assembly officially naming the Reidsville Park. Mr. Carroll Flowers has been named superintendent.

Stephen C. Foster - Mr. George Sirmans has been named superintendent.

Crooked River - Park roads have been reworked by the Georgia Highway Department.

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A SPRING MEETING OF ALL SUPERINTENDENTS HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR APRIL 5 & 6 AT VETERANS MEMORIAL STATE PARK.

SESSIONS HAVE BEEN PLANNED SO THAT ROUTINE MATTERS MAY BE CLEARED UP BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE 1960 SEASON. THERE WILL BE SPECIAL SESSIONS FOR WHICH GUEST SPEAKERS HAVE BEEN INVITED, BUT THERE WILL BE SESSIONS ESPECIALLY FOR PARK SUPERINTENDENTS PARTICIPATION.

THIS MEETING IS BEING PLANNED SO THAT IT WILL BEGIN AT 12 NOON, THE FIRST SESSION BEGINNING AT 1 O'CLOCK APRIL 5. IT WILL ADJOURN AT THE NOON MEAL APRIL 6.

MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE. MORE INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW.



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