

2022

**Union Parish
Chamber of Commerce**



Christmas in the Park
Lake D'Arbonne State Park



CAMPER
WELCOME PACKAGE

Design by CLAUDIA

Welcome to Christmas in the Park. This event is sponsored by the Union Parish Chamber of Commerce and the Louisiana Department of State Parks. Premier sponsor for the 2022 Christmas in the Park is the Union General Hospital.

This experience will be the first of a future series of celebrations that commemorates the holiest Holiday of the Christian Faith. While we want to celebrate this wonderful event in a respectful manner we also plan to make the park lighting a wonderful event for children of all ages.

Campers are encouraged to decorate in any manner they desire but please remember that the fun must be fun and appropriate for all that come to the park to enjoy the holiday with us. So hang the lights, light the fire, sit back and welcome the visitors with all the joy and grandeur of the Christmas Season.

SITE ASSIGNMENT: Sites are assigned through “gooutdoorslouisiana.com” or “lastateparks.com. Standard sites are \$20.00 a night and \$28.00 a night Friday and Saturday. Premium sites are \$25.00 a night and \$33.00 a night Friday and Saturday. Please be sure that you occupy the site that was assigned to you. In-state senior citizens will receive a 50% discount.

HOOKUPS: All sites have 20, 30 and 50 amp service. Water is available to all sites. Sewage is only available to seven sites. If you see what appears to be a sewer connection and is painted blue, PLEASE DO NOT CONNECT YOUR SEWER HOSE TO IT. This connection houses the fresh water master valve and is not for sewage.

CHECK-IN: All campers should be checked in to provide adequate time to set up and decorate. Some campers are moving in as early and can then enjoy the community of campers. If for any reason you are unable to get set up, please let us know and we will have campers available to assist you.

SECURITY: Security will be provided by the Union Parish Sheriff’s Department and volunteers. If you experience an emergency, call 911. Pafford Ambulance Service will be available and will be dispatched from Farmerville if required. Patients will initially be transported to Union General Hospital. This is located approximately 6 miles from the park.

MEET AND GREETs: There may be several meet and greet events prior to and during the celebration. While many of these will be informal gatherings. Other formal gatherings will be communicated to the campers after the campers arrive. Location of the venues will be the campground pavilion which is located in the middle of the campground.

THEME NIGHTS: For those that want to participate, there will be theme nights during the Christmas event. The following is the theme night sequence. Remember, it is not required that you participate but campers and visitors are invited to do so.

First Saturday night: Open, this is the first night and dress code is general.

Sunday Night: Ugly sweater night.

Monday Night through Thursday Night: Open—general dress.

Friday Night - Plaid (Pull out your best Norman Rockwell card garb)

Saturday night: Christmas Pajamas.

Again this is not a requirements but will add to the fun.

PAVILION: The park pavilion is located in the middle of the camp ground. This structure is large with park tables and has 120 volt receptacles at each corner. The pavilion is reserved for Every Night we are having the event. If a group would like to reserve the site or if the site will be the location of a camper get-together, please contact Dianne Davidson, Union General Hospital Camping Rep. or Tom and Bonnie Fields at camp sight 51 to use the facility. Reservations will not be taken at the park office. Also, different churches in the area host Sunday morning services for the campers at 9:00 AM at the pavilion.

DRIVE THROUGH: The gates will open at 5:30. Cars will traverse from the park entrance to the campground then upon exiting the campground cars will travel to the tennis courts and sponsor decorations then on to the FEMA field near the launch ramp and the food vendors. (See the time table and map on page 6.)

Santa and his helpers will be available on the first Saturday and Sunday and the following Friday and Saturday. They will be onsite from 5:30 to 8:30 on these nights. Local churches will provide caroling at during Santa's visit at the Gingerbread House at the FEMA Field.

SITE CLEANLINESS: We want to make this a fun experience for both the campers and the drive-through guest. Please Keep you camp site clean and free of litter. If you are outside and walking through the camp area and see a piece of litter on the ground, please make the effort to pick it up. To repeat a phrase from my Boy Scout Handbook from a hundred years ago, "Have no one say it, and say it with shame, that it was all beautiful before you came".

HIKING TRAILS: DarBonne State parks has a series of hiking trails available for the campers. There is a good chance that the campers will encounter wildlife while in the park. Please do not disturb the animals. Penny has a food feeder at the park entrance and it is common to see deer and squirrels feeding at that location. If you have any questions about the trails and/or wildlife, please see Penny at the park office. A map of the trails is on page 7.

DISC GOLF: DarBonne State Park has a Disc Golf Course. This can be a lot of fun for those staying in the campground while waiting for the drive through to open. A Disc Golf map is attached on page 8.

KAYAK RENTAL: For those that are adventurous and would like to spend a little time on the water, Kayaks can be rented. See the park office to rent the kayaks. The kayaks are located at the boat launch area at the FEMA Field.

FISHING: For those that have a current fishing license, two fishing piers are located in the camping area. Please keep small children attended if they are on the pier.

REMINDER: The whole purpose of this experience is to have fun and pass the good feelings of the seasons to those that are traveling through the campground. Please make it a fun event for all.

FIRES AND FIREWOOD: Fires are allowed at campsites and firepits are provided at each site. The firepits have cooking grates that will allow campers to cook outdoors. There are no other campsite provided grills. Please be careful with all fires. Firewood can not be purchased at the park. Either bring your own or scavenge pine wood from the park. Storms hit the park a year ago and there is a lot of wood on the ground. Also, if several campers would like to share split wood, a rick can be purchased for \$125.00 a rick from Freddy Hanson at 608-8137. He does not deliver. Several stores in town also sell firewood in small easy to carry bundles.

ENJOY THE LOCAL MERCHANTS: A list of local merchants is available for people traveling through the community. The list will be handed to the campers when they check in. If you are staying in the park during the day, take time to visit the local businesses.

Also, a local museum is located at 211 North Main Street. A permanent collection of American artifacts is on display plus other seasonal exhibits.

PAINT YOUR ROCK: Last year Marie Schilling from Kentwood left a special Christmas in the Park painted rock at hidden locations withing campsites. What a wonderful experience it was to find one of these symbols of friendship. For those that want to participate in this fun event, please bring your painted rocks and quietly with stealth hide a rock to welcome in the holiday season. Identifying your name is optional. The spirit is what counts.

UNION PARISH SYNERGIES: Last year our Christmas in the State Park was a wonderful and successful event. In 2022, this will become a Gala Event as more Union Parish Christmas events will coordinate with the Park Event. During the day of Saturday, December 3rd, Farmerville will host its annual Christmas on the Square. During that time the town of Spearsville will hold its Christmas in the Park celebration. Spearsville is located approximately 15 miles north of Farmerville. In the evening Farmerville will have its' Christmas Tree Lighting in the center of town and then hold the annual Christmas Parade; an event that has been with the community since the early 1950s. Visitors from the celebration in Farmerville and Spearsville will be encouraged to drive through the park and continue with the seasonal festivities.

WHILE VISITING UNION PARISH: If you would like to experience our community, there are numerous opportunities to see what Union Parish has to offer. Visit the park entrance for maps and brochures or stop by the Chamber Office on main street and request information on places to visit, eat and browse for merchandise. Christmas provides an opportunity for shoppers to obtain that special seasonal item.















For those that want to spend time browsing, start at the museum and then walk up the street to the Library which is one of the most progressive institutions of its type in the state.

PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND FELLOW CAMPERS.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK TRAFFIC FLOW MAP

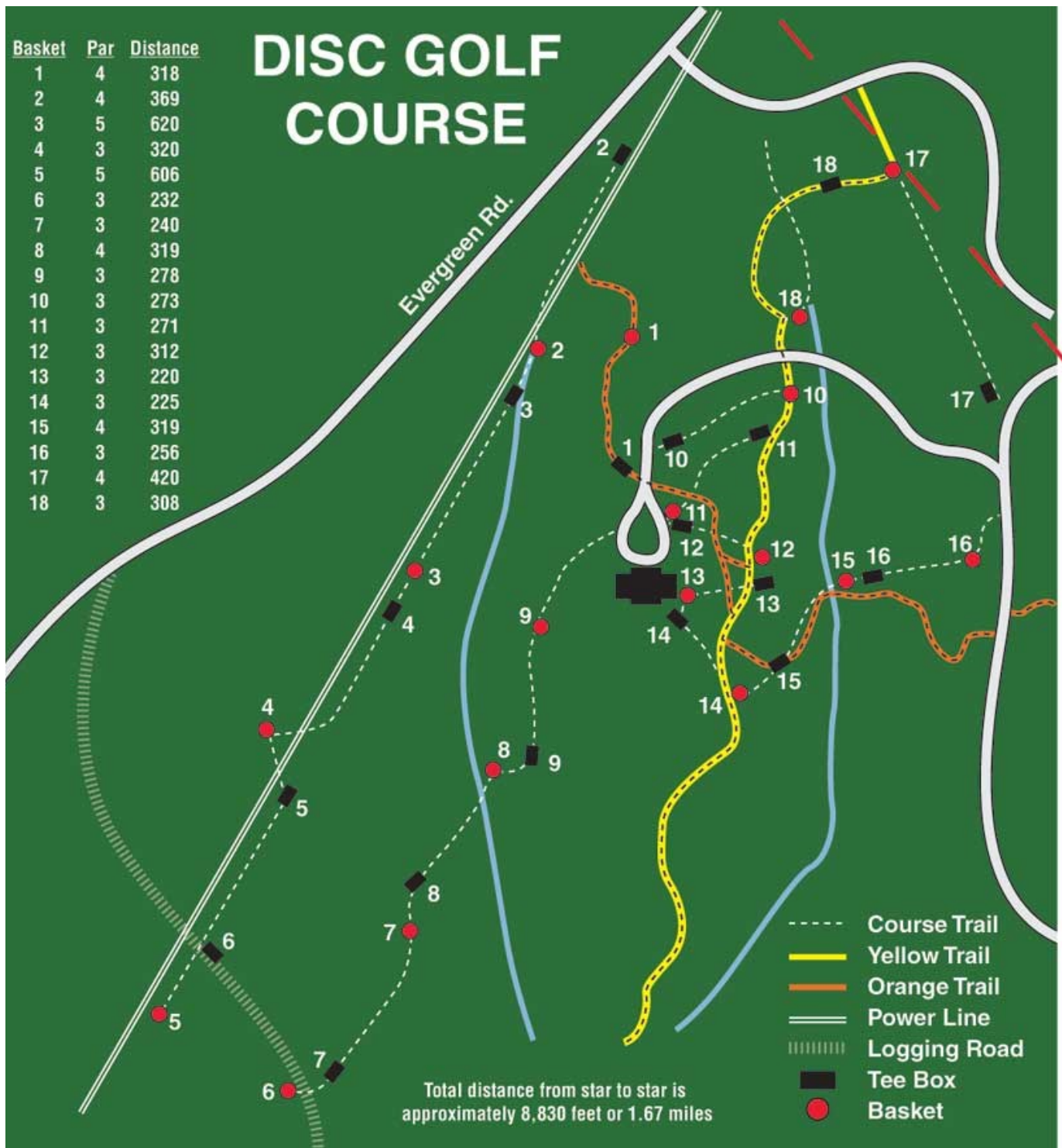
Legend

-  Comfort Station
-  Laundry
-  Dump Station
-  Picnic Area
-  Handicapped
-  Playground
-  Buildings
-  Cypress Bend Trail (4 miles)
-  Woodland Trail (1 mile)
-  Big Horn Trail (1 mile)
-  Owl Heaven Trail (1 1/2 mile)
-  Tall Pines Trail (1 1/2 mile)
-  Service Trail
-  Streams



Basket	Par	Distance
1	4	318
2	4	369
3	5	620
4	3	320
5	5	606
6	3	232
7	3	240
8	4	319
9	3	278
10	3	273
11	3	271
12	3	312
13	3	220
14	3	225
15	4	319
16	3	256
17	4	420
18	3	308

DISC GOLF COURSE



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

ACTIVITY TIMING SHEET

DRIVE THROUGH: SAT DECEMBER 3RD THROUGH SAT DECEMBER 10TH.

GATE OPENS 5:30.

GATE CLOSES 9:00

FEMA FIELD: FOOD COURT AND CRAFT CENTER. SAT DEC. 3RD THROUGH SAT DEC. 10TH.

OPENS AT 5:30

CLOSES AT 10:00

NOTE- FOOD VENDORS CAN OPEN EARLY TO FEED CAMPERS. VENDORS OPTION. THIS WILL NOT BE IDENTIFIED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC BUT WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE CAMPERS.

SANTA CLAUSE, CHARACTERS AND GINGERBREAD HOUSE. SAT DEC 3RD, SUN DEC 4TH, FRI DEC 9TH, S AT DEC 10TH

OPENS AT 6:00 CLOSSES AT 9:00

CHOIR AND CAROLS. SAT DEC 3RD, SUN DEC 4TH, FRI DEC 9TH, SAT DEC 10TH

BEGIN CAROLS AT 6:00

CAROLERS DEPART AT 9:00

CAMPGROUND SHOW: SAT DECEMBER 3RD THROUGH SAT DECEMBER 10TH.

LIT UP AND READY AT 5:15 DRIVE THROUGH BEGINS AT 5:30

LAST CAR SHOULD ENTER CAMPGROUND 9:15

SHUT DOWN AT 9:30 OR LATER AT CAMPDER DESCRETION.

ELVES ARRIVE NLT 5:15.

SECURITY ON SITE:

ARRIVE AT 5:00

PATROL DEPARTS 10:00

DEPOSIT SECURITY DEPARTS 10:30