

## HOBBS STATE PARK - CONSERVATION AREA

As Arkansas's largest state park, Hobbs State Park – Conservation Area combines a delicate geological foundation of dissolved limestone features, called karst, such as caves, sinkholes, pits, and crevices with unique local history. A once-flat, limestone sea bed has been uplifted and eroded by creeks, disappearing streams, springs and seeps to form a multifaceted array of hills and hollows. Because of these numerous special features and a diversity of other natural communities, HSP-CA has been labeled a “Natural” park.

For several hundred years Native Americans lived and hunted buffalo, deer, turkey, elk and bear in this area. After the Indian Removal Act of 1830, white settlers moved west from eastern states to benefit from this region's animals, plants, streams, and rivers.

Today, the nearly 12,000 acres of HSP-CA are jointly managed by Arkansas State Parks, Arkansas Natural Heritage, and Arkansas Game and Fish. The park is named after a local businessman and conservationist, Roscoe Hobbs, who owned the property for almost 40 years prior to the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism acquiring the fragmented tract in 1979.

The theme for this park is not one large mountain or lake or river or forest or historical event or the myriad plants and animals. It is some of all of these. It is diversity – “**Hobbs...The Hidden Diversity**”. What can't be seen just driving down the highway is a great abundance of plant and animal species, concealed within the forest, living here both above and underground.

The forest is classified generally as oak-hickory/shortleaf pine (overstory trees) with a composition of approximately 75% hardwood and 25% pine. The understory is thick with dogwood, redbud, sugar maple, low bush blueberry, deer-berry, legumes, and greenbrier. Spice bush is the most prevalent understory plant in the wider based, moist hollows.

The park has a fascinating history centered around the Peter Van Winkle industrial mill complex, large antebellum home, and slave quarters. During the 1870's, the largest steam-driven saw mill in Arkansas operated here, providing huge amounts of lumber for the reconstruction of northwest Arkansas following the Civil War. Most of the lumber for the Victorian-type houses you see today in Fayetteville, Bentonville, and Eureka Springs, as well as the lumber in “Old Main” at the University of Arkansas, came from this mill.

No feature by itself is so noteworthy, but all together in one park, in one corner of the fastest growing region of the state, all form a mosaic of enjoyment. It is from these valuable and unique resources that the park's mission is derived.....that is **To provide enriching educational, and recreational experiences in harmony with resource stewardship.** Balancing the ever-increasing need for recreation while protecting the ecosystem as a whole presents an ongoing challenge for resource management.

Just 10 miles from Rogers and 21 miles from Eureka Springs, the area provides a special resource for many people; hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, and hunters. (Hobbs is the only Arkansas state park that allows hunting.)

If nature exploration or bird watching is for you, then a peaceful hike on our 30 miles of backcountry trails may reveal a hidden spirit of adventure and discovery. Also available is a modern, outdoor gun shooting range with environmentally-friendly bullet traps.

### FACILITIES/RECREATION

#### Within the Park:

**Camping** ♦ Five primitive campsites for backpackers are located on Pigeon Roost Trail. It is a 4-mile hike to these sites. Some overlook Beaver Lake.

**Gun shooting range** ♦ 25, 50, 75, 100 yd. target stands. Covered shooting bench with five stations, including one barrier-free station. Shotguns prohibited, paper targets only, and wooden clothes pins required.

**Managed hunting seasons** ♦ Deer, wild turkey and small game. See state Game & Fish regulations. Special Hobbs permit required for some hunts.

**Nature hikes** ♦ On 3 separate trails; Shaddox Hollow – 1.5 miles, Pigeon Roost – 8.4 miles, and Hidden Diversity Multi-Use Trail – 16 miles. Interpreter-guided tours available.

**Historic trail** ♦ The 1/2 mile Historic Van Winkle Trail is wheelchair accessible with a paved parking lot and tunnel under Hwy 12. Here, on interpretive panels with pictures, the story is told of an early industrial center. Self-guided or group interpreter – guided tours available.

### FACILITIES/RECREATION

#### Outside the Park:

**Lodging** ♦ There are numerous motels and hotels nearby, but none within the park.

**Food Service** ♦ Deli-store type businesses operate near the park.

**Cabins** ♦ There are no cabins within the park, but there is other lodging nearby.

**Camping** ♦ Hundreds of class-A campsites are available at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Beaver Lake as well as at two close private campgrounds.

**Picnicking** ♦ No picnic tables at Hobbs at this time, but many are available at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers facilities on nearby Beaver Lake.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Whether you enjoy trail maintenance, historical or flora and fauna research, program development, interpretive presentations, building trades, grant writing, bird inventories, small mammal surveys, etc., volunteer opportunities are numerous at HSP-CA.

### LOCATION

From Rogers, Arkansas, take U.S. Hwy 12 east 10 miles to the western boundary of the park.

From Eureka Springs, Arkansas take Hwy 23 south to Hwy 12 west. From Eureka Springs, it is 21 miles to the eastern boundary of the park beginning at the Hwy 12/127 intersection.

### For further information on park facility hours, fees, and interpretive programming, contact:

**Hobbs State Park – Conservation Area**

**21392 East Hwy 12**

**Rogers, Arkansas 72756**

**Telephone: (479) 789-2380**

**Fax: (479) 789-5969**

**e-mail: [hobbs@arkansas.com](mailto:hobbs@arkansas.com)**

For information on Arkansas's other fine state parks, contact:

Arkansas State Parks  
One Capitol Mall, 4A-900  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
Telephone: (501) 682-1191  
[www.ArkansasStateParks.com](http://www.ArkansasStateParks.com)



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Arkansas State Parks 2005

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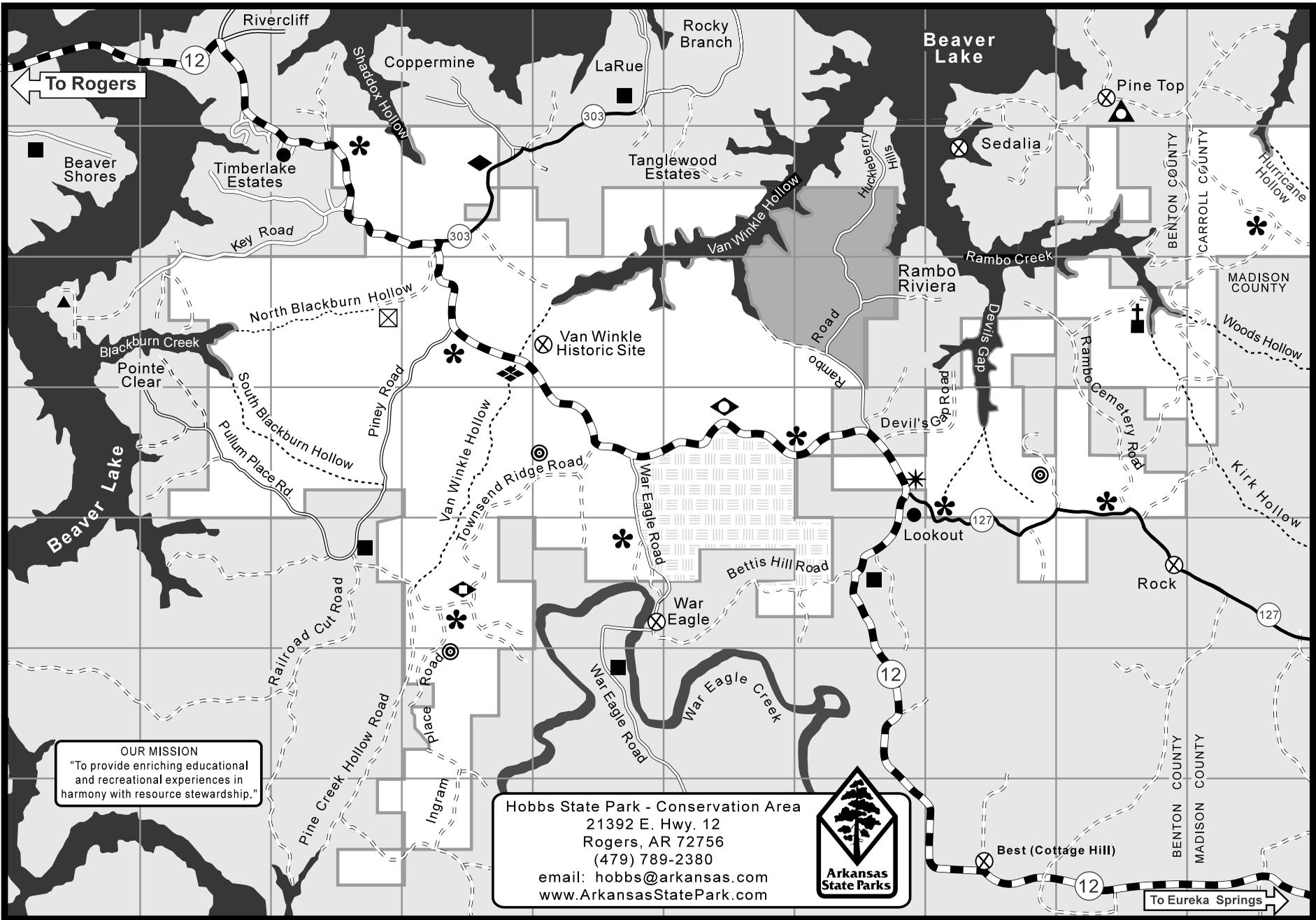


ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM,  
AR NATURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION,  
AR GAME AND FISH COMMISSION



EXPLORE THE BEAUTY & HISTORY OF ARKANSAS!

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**OUR MISSION**  
"To provide enriching educational and recreational experiences in harmony with resource stewardship."

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21392 E. Hwy. 12  
Rogers, AR 72756  
(479) 789-2380  
email: [hobbs@arkansas.com](mailto:hobbs@arkansas.com)  
[www.ArkansasStatePark.com](http://www.ArkansasStatePark.com)



**LEGEND**

- Boundary
- Gun/Muzzle Loading Deer Hunting Prohibited
- Hunting Prohibited
- Park Office
- Barrier-Free Hunting Access
- Information Board
- Historic Van Winkle Trailhead
- Shadox Hollow Trailhead
- Pigeon Roost Trailhead
- Hidden Diversity Multi-Use Trailhead
- Public Firing Range
- Wildlife Check Station
- Historical Community
- Fire Department
- Rambo Cemetery
- Beaver Lake Nursery Pond
- Water Treatment Plant

**ROAD SURFACE**

- Highway 12 (State)
- Surfaced (State)
- Surfaced (County)
- Gravel

Scale: 0 to 1 Mile

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