



NEWS RELEASE

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Augusta Canal National Heritage Area presents the FIND YOUR PARK FESTIVAL November 5.

The Augusta Canal Find Your Park Festival is three celebrations in one! The full day of fun in the great outdoors officially opens the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area's newest recreational trail, salutes the National Parks' Centennial, and marks Augusta Canal's twentieth anniversary as a national heritage area.

On November 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. activities along the canal's new Mill Village Trail focus on the many ways families can get out and enjoy Augusta's historic canal. The festival includes an array of outdoor events: 5K and 10K foot races; kayak, paddleboard, and fishing demonstrations; yoga classes; guided bike rides; disc golf and other hands-on sports demos. There will be a stroller-roll for parents and their small children and a pet parade for dog walkers. Live music and food trucks with local specialties add to the entertainment.

Organizers are highlighting not only all the outdoor activities available on the Augusta Canal, but also the history and environmental significance of the area. Trolley tours of the mill district neighborhood, exhibits by environmental and community groups and guided walking tours round out the day's events.

Augusta's Gerald Jones Subaru is partnering with Augusta Canal as the presenting Festival sponsor (Subaru is the national sponsor of the NPS Find Your Park centennial.) Festival-goers will be able to check out some of the latest Subaru models and enter to win some great Subaru prizes!

The Basics

What: Augusta Canal's Find Your Park Festival

When: Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Along Augusta Canal's Mill Village Trail between the Lake Olmstead and Mill Village trailheads. Lake Olmstead Trailhead located at 0 Milledge Road (at the end of Lake Olmstead Park); Mill Village Trailhead located at the corner of Eve and Grace Streets (near Salvation Army Kroc Center) Augusta, GA 30904.

Who: Organized by Augusta Canal National Heritage Area. Designated a National Heritage Area in 1996, Augusta Canal NHA is locally managed by the Augusta Canal Authority and is a partner unit of the National Park Service.

Why: Open the new Mill Village Trail. Celebrate 20 years as Augusta Canal National Heritage Area, 100 years of National Parks. Introduce the next generation of users to the Augusta Canal.

How Much: The festival is free, some activities may have small participation fees. Food and beverages will be for sale throughout the day.

Partners & Sponsors: *Presenting Sponsor*-Gerald Jones Subaru; *Partners* -American Environmental and Construction Services , SunTrust Bank. *Second level partner*-W.R. Toole Engineers, *Supporters* VisitAugusta.com, Broadway Bait and Tackle, South Star Trolley

Find out more, sponsor, exhibit or volunteer: Julianna Shurtleff, Development and Volunteer Coordinator for the Augusta Canal National Heritage Area. 706-823-0440 x 8

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