

Sports & Entertainment

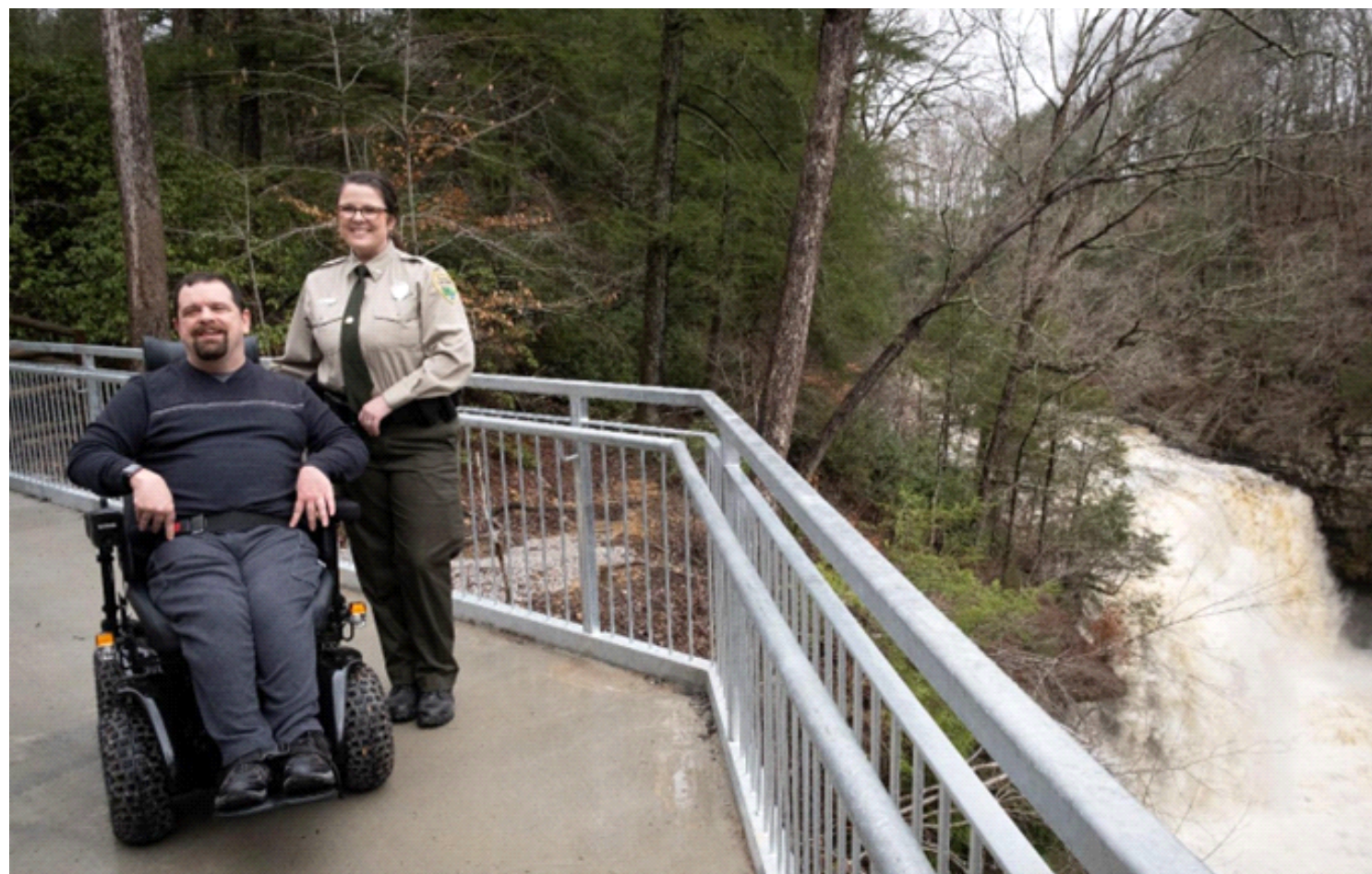
# Tennessee State Parks provide seven new all-terrain parks for electric and non-electric wheelchairs

*Impact increased as Cummins Falls State Park debuts new accessible overlook*

NASHVILLE – Tennessee State Parks recently announced the availability of new all-terrain wheelchairs at seven state parks, enhancing accessibility for visitors and bringing the total of parks with the wheelchairs to 12. The announcement is especially timely at Cummins Falls State Park, which has a new 3,600 sq. ft. ADA accessible overlook at the end of the .4-mile Falls Overlook Trail. Non-electric wheelchairs can also access the overlook.

*“We are delighted to offer this service,” said Greer Tidwell, deputy commissioner of Conservation for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). “We intend to serve every person who wants to visit our parks, and we are dedicated to making the experience the best it can be for everyone. We are grateful to Governor Bill Lee and the Tennessee General Assembly for the funding to make this happen.”*

The announcement of the seven wheelchairs comes on the same day as Disability Advocacy Day in Tennessee. “We are delighted to offer this service,” said Greer Tidwell,



Bradley Styler, who lives within five miles of Cummins Falls State Park, sees the falls for the first time at the new ADA accessible overlook. He is joined here by Ranger Ashley Clark. (Photo/Courtesy: TDEC)

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**The parks offering all-terrain wheelchairs beginning are:**

- Cove Lake State Park
- Cumberland Mountain State Park
- Cummins Falls State Park

- Chickasaw State Park
- Long Hunter State Park
- Natchez Trace State Park
- Warriors’ Path State Park

“We must remove barriers for everyone with disabilities, and these all-terrain wheelchairs are an important step for our parks,” said Rep. Sam Whitson, R-

Franklin, who introduced the resolution declaring today as Disability Advocacy Day. “We want all Tennesseans to enjoy our parks, and the wheelchairs are just one way to show that commitment.”

The wheelchairs announced today follow the availability of wheelchairs at Radnor Lake State

Park, Tims Ford State Park, Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park, Henry Horton State Park, and Booker T. Washington State Park.

All-terrain wheelchairs are designed to navigate a wide range of terrains. They give visitors with limited mobility the opportunity to access and enjoy outdoor recreation that might otherwise be inaccessible. The chairs are free to the public and available for both children and adults. They can be operated independently and offer the option of allowing caretaker control.

It is possible to request an all-terrain chair upon arrival at a park, but it may already be reserved for another guest, so visitors are asked to give advance notice of the need for a chair. TDEC is working to expand access to all-terrain wheelchairs in parks across the state.

Governor Lee has stated the goal of having the “most accessible park system in the nation.” He and the General Assembly appropriated over \$1.2 million for all-terrain wheelchairs to be placed in the parks system, along with \$1.6 million to make improvements to trail accessibility.

For more information about accessibility in Tennessee State Parks visit this link. To make a reservation to utilize an all-terrain wheelchair, visit Tennessee State Parks website.

Email entertainment news and photos to [MSTentertainment@prodigy.net](mailto:MSTentertainment@prodigy.net)

## Showboats games to air on News Talk 98.9 The Roar of Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 19, 2024 – The Showboats are returning to the airwaves in the Memphis area for the 2024 United Football League season. For the second consecutive season, all Memphis Showboats games will air on News Talk 98.9 The Roar of Memphis.

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All three members of this year’s broadcast team are returning from last season. Eli Savoie will handle the play-by-play, while Russell Copeland will provide the color analysis. Tyler Springs will man the sideline and host pregame, halftime and postgame coverage.

“We’re thrilled that our fans will have the opportunity to tune in to News Talk 98.9 for coverage of every Memphis Showboats game this season,” said Steve Macy, Senior Director of Team Business and Event Operations for the Showboats. “Cumulus Radio and News Talk 98.9 have been incredible partners and we have

a first-class team behind the microphones as well.”

All 10 Showboats regular season games will air on News Talk 98.9, as well as any potential postseason games.

In addition to the over-the-air broadcast, fans anywhere in the world can access the Showboats’ broadcasts on the station’s website ([www.newstalk989.com](http://www.newstalk989.com)).

**The following is a look at the Memphis Showboats’ 2024 UFL schedule:**

**Sunday, March 31 - 2 p.m. CT - at Houston Roughnecks**

**Saturday, April 6 - 11 a.m. CT - vs. San Antonio Brahmas**

**Saturday, April 13 - 6 p.m. CT - at Birmingham Stallions**

**Saturday, April 20 - 11:30 a.m. CT - at St. Louis Battlehawks**

**Sunday, April 28 - 2 p.m. CT - vs. Michigan Panthers**

**Saturday, May 4 - 11 a.m. CT - vs. Birmingham Stallions**

**Saturday, May 11 - Noon CT - at Arlington Renegades**

**Saturday, May 18 - 3 p.m. CT - vs. Michigan Panthers**

**Sunday, May 26 - 1:30 p.m. CT - vs. D.C. Defenders**

**Sunday, June 2 - 6 p.m. CT - vs. Houston Roughnecks**



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