Welcome to Panola Mountain State Park! In this beautiful setting, conservation meets recreation to provide visitors with a variety of unforgettable experiences. Here you will see Panola Mountain, a pristine, 100-acre granite outcrop, and its unique, untouched ecosystem just a North American deciduous forest. It has been designated a Natural National Landmark due to its outstanding character, rarity, diversity, and value to science and education. It is also a part of the Atlanta Mountain National Heritage Area, a distinctive study area between Atlanta and the North Carolina coast, designated to protect the mountain’s unique ecosystem for future generations. The site includes a restored, native grassland that has been used as an Important Birding Area by the Audubon Society. Look out for the many butterflies and butterflies that live here!

Major Areas of the Park
Panola Mountain consists of two separate properties: Panola Mountain property and Vaughters Farm located 7 miles away. Most of the park is covered in natural habitats with several areas where facilities are clustered. Some areas are open to the public and some areas have limited or permitted access. Areas open the public include: (1) Main Entrance, (2) Lakeside Area, (3) Power-of-Flight Area and (4) Vaughters Farm. Areas with limited or permitted access include: (1) Ranger-led Area, (2) Archery Area, and (3) Bouldering Area.

Main Entrance
Made up of the original land acquired by the state of Georgia in 1974, this side of the park is accessible at the Highway 155 entrance. Here, you will find the nature center, event area, gift shop, hiking trail, picnic shelters and playground. The heavily wooded area serves to protect the ecology of the mountain and to provide educational opportunities for our visitors. Stop by for a visit to the nature center, or bring the whole family out to play and picnic!

Lakeside Area
Enjoy a hike, bike, pedal or picnic with your family. Take in beautiful views on the paved PATH trail that circles the 45-acre Alexander Lake, connecting to the greater 35-mile trail system that goes through the park. Kayaks, and canoes are available on site. The Alexander Lake Pavilion is available for rent and fits 200 people. On this side of the park, you will find the archery range and parking for the primitive hike-in-campsites. Parking is available at the intersection of Alexander Lake and Flat Bridge Road.

Power-of-Flight Area
Be sure to bring your binoculars to walk through this restored, native grassland that has been designated as an Important Birding Area by the Audubon Society. Look out for the many butterflies and butterflies that live here!

Vaughters Farm Area
A beautiful and expansive view of fanned in the midst of an urban landscape, the Vaughters family farm was the last operating dairy in DeKalb County. Its rolling hills and green fields have been preserved for everyone’s enjoyment and as a glimpse into the past. The Vaughters homestead, which was built from locally-sourced granite, still stands overlooking the beliefs.

Located just 7 miles away, across from the Arabia Alliance Office. Starting from the main entrance at Panola, turn left onto GA-155 and travel a very short distance (0.1 mi) before taking your first LEFT onto Vaughters Farm Trail. Go for a distance of 1.9 mi, when you will terminate at a stop sign. Turn RIGHT onto Flat Bridge Road. The road changes its name to Klineville Rd at the bridge. Go across the bridge and continue for 3.5 mi. Once you get to the traffic circle, stay on Klineville Rd by taking the 2nd exit. Continue for 0.6 mi and park the parking area on the RIGHT. If you have already purchased a park pass (daily or annual), there is no need to purchase a second one, just make sure the one you do have is visible. If you do not have one, they can be purchased online or at the Panola Mountain Visitors Center.

Geocaching
Geocaching is a treasure hunt played with a GPS capable device. The idea is to locate hidden container called “caches.” You can track movements of equal or greater value along the way, then sign the logbook at each cache before leaving your experiences online. After obtaining coordinates and hints from the website www.geocaching.com, you can begin searching for the many Geocache Park & Public Sites with hidden caches. Geocaching is the ideal activity for families or anyone looking to try a new outdoor activity.

Tree-Climbing
Tree top excursions are all about learning fun, safely, while exploring the natural environment and learning about ourselves in the process. With a little help from safety ropes (and staff), you can climb into the canopy of a 1000 Southern Red Oak tree. We have different types of clinics, including: Introduction Clinics, Group Event Clinics, ‘Wild Climbing’ and even overnight camping in the trees! We also offer set up camping packages to those with special needs (please make arrangements in advance).

Ranger-Led Area
Because of the rare species of plants that live on Panola Mountain, a guided hike is required to enter the conservation area and go on top of the mountain. While Stone Mountain and Arabia Mountains are both similar geologic features, Panola Mountain has never been quantified, making it the one of the most pristine monocrocks in the Southeastern United States. On the mountain you will find vegetation, sports that are round about the geologic history that should be used to understand how life forms on top of this desert-like terrain. To learn more about us and this unique ecosystem, sign up for a Ranger-led hike by calling or visiting the Nature Center.

Bouldering Areas
You must check-in at the nature center and receive a permit to boulder at Panola Mountain.

Archery Ranges
Want to make use of one of Panola’s most unique recreational opportunities? Panola Mountain has both a static range and a 3D range for your shooting pleasure. The static range has targets set at standard competition lengths, ranging from 10 yard to 60 yards. The 3D range has 21 targets at varying distances, with foam targets in the shape of turkeys, bears and even dinosaurs! Range Passes: $10 adult; $5 youth, annual passes available.

Panola Mountain does not offer archery rentals, so be sure to bring your own bow and arrows (no broadhead arrows allowed). However, equipment is provided if you sign-up for either our Beginner or Intermediate archery class.

Watershed Trail
This trail skirts two branches of a small creek draining the Piedmont Uplands. A watershed describes an area containing a network of streams, rivers, and the underground water table, all draining into a larger body of water.

Major Events
- Campground Trail: Easy - Natural surface - About 0.25 miles
  - Archery Trail: Easy - Natural surface - About 0.5 miles
  - Viewing Platform: Easy - Natural surface - About 0.1 miles
  - Vaughters Farm Trail: Easy - Natural surface - About 1.25 miles
  - Watershed Trail: Easy - Natural surface - About 1.25 miles

Geocaching
- Geocaching: Easy - Natural surface - About 0.5 miles
  - Tree Tops Excursion: Easy - Natural surface - About 0.25 miles

Education Programs
- Ranger-Led Area: Easy - Natural surface - About 1 hour
  - Bouldering Areas: Easy - Natural surface - About 1 hour

Rules
- Do not litter
- Dogs must be kept on a 6’ leash at all times
- Alcohol prohibited on all state park property
- A valid Park Pass must be displayed at all times

Necessary Tips and Etiquette
- Safety Tips & Etiquette: Please contact your itinerary and expected return time.
- Take a map, water, snacks, first aid kit, flashlight, and whistle. Three short blasts on a whistle are known as a call for help.
- Do not stay in the forest. If you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Don’t count on cell phones to work in all areas, but if you do, be able to give details about your location.
- When boating, personal flotation devices should be worn at all times.
- If you become wet or cold, it is important to get dry and warm as quickly as possible.
- When you are alone, bring a flashlight. Today’s hikers can choose from numerous fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly and conserve heat. Many experienced hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture while carrying a fleece pull-over and rain jacket.
- Pack out all trash.
- It is a law to have pets leashed at all times. Please clean up after them also.
- Do not pick flowers, disturb wildlife, or take anything from the park.
- Protect the park and help prevent erosion by staying on marked trails and not wandering off the trails or using shortcuts.

23 April 2020