

Cost of the Field Trips is included with Registration.

Jones Ecological Research Center Tour

Start Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 | Start Time: 7:30 AM | End Time: 4:30 PM

Jones Ecological Research Center Tour: This informative tour will begin with a visit to the Jones Ecological Research Center (<http://www.jonesctr.org/>). Participants will learn about the importance of long-term hydrologic data and the effects of forest restoration on regional water management. The tour will continue with a visit to the University of GA's Stripling Irrigation Research Park (<https://striplingpark.org/>) where participants will learn about the research being conducted in the field of precision irrigation and precision agriculture. The tour will depart from the hotels at 7:30 am and return around 4:30 pm with a lunch break at the Jones Ecological Center.

Okefenokee Swamp Tour

Start Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 | Start Time: 7:30 AM | End Time: 4:30 PM

Okefenokee Swamp Tour: This tour will leave Tifton at 07:30 am and drive to the Stephen Foster State Park near Fargo, GA. There we will have two options for enjoying the swamp. Option 1 is to paddle around the waterways of the swamp in kayaks or canoes for about 4 hours. We will see a variety of habitats including cypress forests and likely many birds, alligators, and other wildlife. We will also visit the remnants of the logging town on Billy's Island. Option 2 is to take a 90 minute ranger-led tour of the swamp on a large motorboat. On this tour you will learn about the history and nature of the swamp from a professional. The remaining time can be spent walking the park's trails or enjoying the view of the alligators that hang around the boat ramp. Deer and wild turkeys are seen frequently along the trails. Snacks and drinks are available at the ranger station. We will have lunch at the park and return to Tifton around 4:30 pm.

Regional Agriculture and Research Tour

Start Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 | Start Time: 7:30 AM | End Time: 4:00 PM

Regional Agriculture and Research Tour: This tour will focus on regional agricultural production and local research. The tour will include stops at local farms to discuss what issues farmers are facing in tackling tradeoffs between sustainability and production, a stop at a local cotton ginning facility, a visit to a historic regional Plantation. The tour will also include stops at several of the research study sites monitored by the Southeast Watershed Research Laboratory of the USDA-ARS in Tifton, GA. The tour will begin at 7:30 am and end around 4:30 pm with a lunch break at the Little River Plantation.

Santa Fe River Spring-Hopping Tour

Start Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 | Start Time: 7:30 AM | End Time: 4:30 PM

Santa Fe River Spring-Hopping Tour: This tour will leave Tifton at 07:30 am, with a two-hour drive to the Santa Fe River near Santa Fe, FL. This tour will involve a guided four-and-a-half-hour canoe trip down the Santa Fe River in northern Florida. Participants will paddle down nine miles of the river, learn about the Santa Fe's natural and historical features, and visit several of the second order magnitude springs along the river. The Santa Fe River flows at around 2mph making the skill level accessible to beginner paddlers. Lunch will also be included. The group will return to Tifton around 4:30 pm.