

From Our Constituent Services Desk...

The National Park Service has been entrusted with the care of our national parks since 1916. Their mission is to “*preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.*”¹ Each April, the National Parks Service celebrates our Nation’s parks with [National Park Week](#). This year it will be held from April 20 to 28 and includes National Junior Range Day and Entrance Fee-Free Day on April 20, Military and Veterans Recognition Day on April 21, and Bark Ranger Day on April 27.

There are 11 National Parks in Georgia providing \$383 million in economic benefit from National Park tourism². Most notably in the 11th Congressional District is the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield was established on February 18, 1917 and was re-designated a national battlefield park on June 26, 1935. Congressman Loudermilk has been a staunch advocate for Kennesaw Mountain and, on March 12, 2019, his Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Park Boundary Adjustment Act was signed into law. Congressman Loudermilk issued the following statement:

“The signing of this bill marks the end of nearly a decade of legislative work, and begins an era of historic preservation at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park...Our Nation has long recognized the importance of preserving historic sites, especially those battlefields where Americans fought and died for our freedoms...I am proud to be a part of these historic properties being added to Kennesaw Mountain Park so they can be visited and learned about for years to come.”

Kennesaw Mountain will be celebrating National Park Week with [Junior Range Day 2019](#) from 10:00 am-12:00 pm on April 20. Ideal for ages 6-10, this free event will include infantry soldier show and tell, 19th century games, drum and fife field music, and an area to make your own rag doll. Registration is required and can be made [online](#).

To kick-off National Park Week, all entrance fees are waived on Saturday, April 20. While fewer than one-third of the national parks charge entrance fees, there are several passes available, including park-specific passes, or annual passes, which offer admission to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites in addition to the parks. The [America the Beautiful – The National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Series](#) include an Annual Pass; **Free** Annual Pass for U.S. Military; 4th Grade Pass; Senior Pass; Access Pass; and Volunteer Pass.

If you have any questions or a specific problem with the National Park Service or U.S. Department of the Interior, please contact our office at caseworkga11@mail.house.gov or 770-429-1776. We look forward to serving you should you need our assistance.

Sources:

1. National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, <https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/index.htm>.
2. National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, <https://www.nps.gov/state/ga/index.htm>.