



What: 1st Annual Caddo Lake Earth Day Paddling Regatta

When: Saturday, April 21st, 2012

Register: from 8-10am at Caddo Lake State Park Group Hall. Get your free t-shirt (first 50 registrants), refreshments, trail maps and other info.

Paddle: on one of 6 new paddling trails.

Enjoy: free lunch and activities **at 1pm** at the Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge

For more information: call 903-472-5733 or 903-679-3351, email info@caddolake.us or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/caddo-lake-earth-day-regatta

Community groups, businesses and agencies around Caddo Lake have banded together to create paddling trails through some of the most scenic waterways in Texas. The new Caddo Lake paddling trails will be launched during the 1st annual Caddo Lake Earth Day Regatta, Saturday, April 21st. Paddlers will register for the event at the Group Hall in [Caddo Lake State Park](#), off State Highway 43, about 15 miles northeast of Marshall, TX. (Registrants must stop in at the Park Office and get a free entrance permit for their windshield.) Then put in your canoe or kayak for a beautiful morning on one of 6 new trails. Each has unique features and all are good for birding and photography. Several begin in the little city of Uncertain, on the shores of Caddo Lake. The trails range in length from 4 to 9 miles. They include:

1. Hell's Half Acre – 9 mile up-and-back trail with put in at the State Park. Lovely pond, river, canal and bayou trail.

2. Carter's Chute – 7.7 mile up-and-back trail with put in at Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area launch. A beautiful bayou and swamp trail. Not much boat traffic.
3. Old Folk's Playground – 4.7 mile loop that begins and ends at Crip's Camp in Uncertain. Passes by the National Wildlife Refuge.
4. Turtle Shell – 4.4 mile loop that puts in and ends at Johnson's Ranch Marina in Uncertain. Spectacular lotus blooms in mid to late summer.
5. Cathedral – 4 mile up-and-back trail that begins at Shady Glade Resort in Uncertain. Makes its way through towering, Spanish moss-covered cypress trees.
6. Backwater Jack's - puts in at Backwater Jack's Resort.

*Entry or launch fees may apply to some trails.

After paddling, head over to the [Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge](#) (in car or canoe/kayak) for a free lunch and festivities at 1pm, including birding trail tours lead by the Friends of the Caddo Lake NWR and . Stay and enjoy the area by hiking at the Refuge, the State Park, or the State Wildlife Management Area, take a boat tour, or have dinner at an area restaurant.

Caddo Lake, located in northeast Texas, on the border of Texas and Louisiana, is one of the best examples in the southern United States of a mature baldcypress forest. The area is known for its exceptional wildlife diversity. The "lake" is actually a sprawling maze of bayous and sloughs covering 26,810 acres. The average depth of the lake is 8'-10' with the deep water in the bayou averaging about 20.' Portions of Caddo Lake and its associated wetlands were named "Wetlands of International Importance" under the Ramsar Convention.

Event Sponsors: Greater Caddo Lake Association Texas, Friends of the CLNWR, Caddo Lake Catering, Bulldog Steel, Dennis O'Bryant/Smart Advertising, City of Uncertain, Caddo Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Caddo Lake State Park, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Caddo Lake Institute and Henry Bradbury.

For **accommodation and dining recommendations**, visit:

<http://cityofuncertain.com/>

<http://www.visitmarshalltexas.org/>

<http://www.visitjeffersontexas.com/>