

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 86

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Panther Creek State Park on winning the Excellence in Facilities Management Award.

WHEREAS, we are pleased to recognize one of our finest State parks and its management and staff, who are committed to promoting and preserving its natural and cultural resources for both the Tennesseans of today and generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Panther Creek State Park in Morristown was recently honored with the Excellence in Facilities Management Award by the Department of Environment and Conservation; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award is part of the annual Tennessee State Parks Awards of Excellence honors and was presented on December 1, 2022, at the Maintenance Management Conference at Paris Landing State Park; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities Management award goes to a park that has demonstrated excellence in the care of the park and its facilities, and honors staff and volunteers at the park for creating a quality customer experience; and

WHEREAS, Panther Creek State Park's management activities include facility maintenance, preventative maintenance, grounds and trail maintenance, cleanliness and upkeep of the park, and documentation of these activities within the facility; and

WHEREAS, during the past year, maintenance staff at Panther Creek removed 184 downed or hazardous trees along park trails; felled and removed thirty-four hazardous trees in highly visited areas; replaced eight trail signs; installed twenty replacement trail markers; and removed overgrowth along six miles of trail; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated maintenance staff of Panther Creek State Park also replaced twenty-five electrical breakers in the campground and replaced six rusted grills, eight damaged fire rings, and lumber on ten warped picnic tables in addition to performing twenty-eight plumbing repairs throughout the park; and

WHEREAS, other accomplishments include the renovation of the Visitor Center; installation of a public bicycle repair station; installation of two new washers and dryers in the campground; assembly and installation of two new park benches adjacent to the tennis courts; and cleaning and spreading of five tons of mulch in flowerbeds; and

WHEREAS, Panther Creek State Park Manager Jason Chadwell and park maintenance staff members Winford Mills, Brandy Hammack, Billie Doll, and Aaron Lawson have distinguished themselves as dedicated conservationists and astute public servants, and they are most deserving of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the management, staff members, and citizens serving Panther Creek State Park upon the park's recognition for Excellence in Facilities Management and extend to them our gratitude for their ongoing commitment to Panther Creek State Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.