



April is Prevent Child Abuse Month

Pinwheels for Prevention surround Capitol

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Gov. Matt Bevin with first lady, Glenna, participated in a kickoff event in Louisville earlier this week.

They were joined by the attorneys general of Kentucky and Indiana, other officials and child advocates encouraging everyone to join the battle against child abuse and neglect.

"Every one of us, this is something we should all be passionate about," said Bevin to the crowd gathered at the foot of the Big Four Bridge in Louisville.

The annual Louisville event is sponsored by the Face It campaign, which has the goal of eliminating child abuse in the region by 2023.

Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky (PCAK) is the Commonwealth's statewide child abuse prevention organization. Yesterday the group began placing hundreds of blue and silver foil pinwheels around the Capitol. Each pinwheel in the "Pinwheels for Prevention" display represent 20 victims each.

Prevention works and it is the only cure for child abuse. That's why Child Abuse Prevention Month is an important public awareness campaign to get the word out. PCAK offers parent education and support programs,

professional training and technical assistance, and community-based prevention programs -- all focused on preventing child abuse and neglect.

Pam Darnall, president of Family & Children's Place in Louisville, said child abuse and neglect continue to have tragic outcomes in Kentucky and Indiana. Last year in Kentucky, 10 children died from abuse or neglect and in Indiana, 49 children died, she said.

Preventing child abuse by recognizing and reporting suspected problems is essential and "everyone has a role to play in stopping abuse," she said.

At the Louisville event, Gov. Bevin urged people to reach out to friends or neighbors who seem stressed or overwhelmed by child-rearing responsibilities.

"There are people who need your help," he said. "Introduce yourself to someone in your community who you think needs your help."

Officials said unexplained injuries in a child, children who appear unkempt or poorly cared for or injuries where an explanation seems implausible are all possible signs of abuse.

Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear reminded the crowd that in Kentucky anyone who suspects child abuse is obligated by law to report it. "It is not only your moral obligation, it is your legal duty," Beshear said.

Excerpts from Courier-Journal, 3-31-16.



Anyone who suspects child abuse may report it to the state hotline.

1-877-KYSAFE1
(1-877-597-2331)

Or

www.reportitky.org

Spring Has Sprung!

You know spring is here when the tulips in front of the Capitol start blooming. Give them several more days and they'll be in their full splendor.

Thanks to the Landscape Division for planting nearly 18,000 bulbs!



11th Annual Geocache

Weekend At Lake Cumberland State Resort Park April 22-24

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park will host the 11th Annual Earth Day Geocache Weekend April 22-24. Geocaching is an outdoor sporting activity in which the participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches."

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park has prepared another challenging hunt for everyone, from the novice to the expert cacher. Be prepared for a challenge! Everyone can enjoy the beauty of Lake Cumberland State Resort Park while making sure we keep it clean by "[Cache In Trash Out](#)" and "[Leave No Trace](#)."

The geocache weekend begins Friday evening April 22, and continues through Sunday, April 24. Registration on Friday is from 5:30 to 8 p.m. CDT. Staff will also go over event rules.

Caching will commence promptly at 8 a.m. Saturday and Sunday mornings and will end at noon Sunday. Participants will meet briefly each morning to disseminate coordinates and get their cache packet. You may be able to download the coordinates to your GPS if you have a USB cord with you. Otherwise, you can manually download coordinates.

The registration fee for the weekend is \$30 per couple (any two people) and \$20 per individual; children 12 and under are \$10. Preregistration is not required, but would be greatly appreciated. A limited number of lodge rooms are available at a special rate for the weekend. Call 1-800-325-1709.

Click on this [link](#) to print out a registration form. Please make checks payable to Lake Cumberland State Resort Park.

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park near Jamestown has a lodge, cottages, Rowena Landing Restaurant, disc golf course, indoor pool and hot tub, gift shop, fishing, picnic areas and hiking trails. Lake Cumberland State Resort is 45 miles west of Somerset. Take the Cumberland Parkway to US 127 and go south through Jamestown to reach the park.

Spring is a great time to begin the Kentucky State Parks Geotour, which is available at all 49 Kentucky State Parks. Passports are available at each park for the geotour. More information about the geotour and the permitting process is available at www.parks.ky.gov/geocaching.

More photos from Pinwheels for Prevention ...

